

WANDSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

WEST PUTNEY WARD “LET’S TALK” MEETING

**Held at ARK Putney Academy, Pullman Gardens, SW15 on
Tuesday, 18th October 2016 at 7.30 p.m.**

PRESENT

Council Members

West Putney Ward Members: Councillors Mrs. J. Cooper, Lewer and Mrs. Sutters (In the Chair)

Councillor Hogg (opposition group leader)

Council Officers

Environment and Community Services Department

Mr. Steve Lane - Parking, Engineering and Highways

Ms. Elen Richards – Planning and Development

Mr. Mike Singham – Waste Services

Mr. Nick O'Donnell – Assistant Director Traffic and Engineering

Mr. Martin Hoare – Head of Engineering Group 3

Mr. Camillus Donnelly – Head of Network Management

Mr. Henry Cheung - Head of Inspection & Enforcement

Housing and Community Services Department

Ms. Anne Brown– Deputy Area Housing Manager

Mr. Mark Hickey – Deputy Estate Services Manager

Chief Executive's Group

Mr. Peter Sass – Head of Executive and Committee Services

Mr. Gareth Jones- Committee Services

Children's Services Department (Wandsworth)

Mr. Mike Bright – Head of Planning and Capital Development

Mr. Dave Sharp – Head of Construction and Maintenance

Residents

Approximately 30 members of the public.

INTRODUCTION

The Chairman, Councillor Mrs. Sutters, welcomed residents to the meeting and explained the format of the meeting. Apologies were given on behalf of Councillor

Govindia, the Leader of the Council, who was unable to attend the meeting due to another engagement with representatives from Apple regarding the creation of 3,500 new jobs at Battersea Power Station.

The Chairman and Councillors Mrs. J. Cooper, Lewer and Hogg, along with the officers present, then introduced themselves.

The Chairman then invited questions and comments from the residents.

ISSUES, RESPONSES AND ACTION

1. Rubbish and Parking Enforcement on the Ashburton Estate

Question/Comment - The Chairman of the Ashburton Sheltered Housing scheme raised an issue with the location of the recycling bank at Boyd Court (to the side of the club room), which had become a dumping ground. He also mentioned the lack of parking enforcement on the estate.

Response – Mr. Singham undertook to investigate further but added that it was likely that this was housing land and they would be responsible for the removal of fly tipping at this location, he asked that if anyone witnessed flytipping they should make a note of registration numbers of any vehicle involved and provide as much evidence as possible to the Council's enforcement team. Councillor Mrs. Sutters said she would speak to the resident at the end of the meeting, Mr. Lane said he would also speak to him after the meeting to get details of where there were problems with illegal parking which he would pass on to the Council's parking enforcement contractor.

(Post meeting – Following further discussions with the resident, the enforcement contractor will carry out regular visits to the Ashburton South Housing estate particularly in and around Cortis Road in relation to vehicles not displaying valid housing estate permits. Also illegal parking in the resident's disabled bay and footway parking would be monitored.)

2. Controlled Parking Zone

Question/Comment- A resident of Granard Avenue asked if they could have 2 hour parking restrictions in the road instead of "All Day". Also, parking charges were too high.

Response – Councillor Mrs. Sutters explained that a parking sub zone would need to be created if Granard Avenue was to be excluded from the all day restrictions in Zone 3, she would be happy to work with him if the residents wanted it. Mr. Lane added that residents can request a review of the parking restrictions and this should be in the form of a petition. He added that parking charges had not increased since 2014.

3. Street Cleaning

Question/Comment A resident of Malbrook Road explained that he had not had cause to contact the Council in the 26 years that he had lived there but in the past two months there had been no street cleaning following the bin collections in the area at the junction of Howard's Lane.

Response Mr. Singham explained that there had been no recent change in contractor, that all streets should be swept thoroughly on the day after bin collection and that if the sweeping is not completed to a satisfactory standard, a single report to the Council should result in this being put right by the end of the following day. Councillor Mrs. Sutters said she was aware of similar complaints and would monitor the area. Councillor Hogg thanked the resident for attending and raising the matter he said that with the income from parking charges and council tax that the Council could do better.

4. Litter Bins

Question/Comment A resident of Dover House Road asked why the litter bins had been removed, as this only leads to more littering which the Council has to pick up and this was a false economy. She had raised this before but had not had a response.

Response Councillor Mrs. Sutters explained that the removal of the litter bins was not a cost saving measure but to prevent fly tipping around the bins, if this was not successful then the decision would be reviewed. She advised residents to always copy in their Ward Councillors to complaints made to the Council and they would make sure the issues were dealt with.

(Mr. Singham spoke to the resident after the meeting and explained the position – the Council will only provide litter bins on streets cleansed daily (including the headway of Dover House Road. If residents want litter bins elsewhere they should contact their Ward Councillors in the first instance.)

5. Putney Leisure Centre

Question/Comment A resident of Coalecroft Road who had lived there for 40 years complimented the bin collection service, however, her daughter had made a complaint about the poor state and the cost of using Putney Leisure Centre, which she said had been ignored.

Response Councillor Mrs. J. Cooper thought the issues regarding the state of the leisure centre had been resolved as she had raised this a year ago. Councillor Hogg added that the leisure centres made money and were not being subsidised so they should be investing in maintaining the facilities and keeping down the cost of admission. Councillor Mrs. Sutters explained that there were concessionary rates for the unemployed, elderly etc. Councillor Lewer undertook to raise this again with the Leisure Centre.

6. Speeding/20 m.p.h. zones

Question/Comment A resident of Solna Avenue complained of speeding traffic and construction traffic using the road as a route to the Eliot School development site.

Response Mr. Hoare said he hadn't appreciated that it was possible to speed in Solna Avenue as it was such a short street, he said he would speak further with the resident at the end of the meeting and he would check the construction rules as he thought construction vehicles were not allowed to use Solna Avenue.

Question/Comment A resident asked if there had been any enforcement or prosecutions for speeding in the 20 m.p.h. zones.

Response Councillor Mrs. J. Cooper explained that as part of the community road watch scheme they had caught 44 motorists speeding on Saturday morning and they had been sent warning letters. Prosecutions would follow.

7. Street Drinking

Question/Comment - A resident of Lutterell Avenue was concerned about street drinking in the old burial ground (off Upper Richmond Road) and the bench in Charlwood Avenue.

Response – Councillor Mrs. Sutters explained that no alcohol zones could be applied and enforced and Councillor Mrs. J. Cooper informed her that this problem had been successfully resolved on the Ashburton Estate and she would follow up on the problem areas raised by the resident.

8. Sign Clutter

Question/Comment– A resident complained that there was too much unnecessary signage. At the bottom of Gwendolen Avenue at the junction with Upper Richmond Road he said there were about 15 signs. Another resident added that there were 8 very old "Watch Your Speed" signs on Genoa Avenue.

Response – Mr. Hoare said it was Council policy to reduce street clutter and if they were not regulatory signs they could be removed. The "watch your speed" signs could be removed. Councillor Mrs. Sutters added that some signage was necessary as it helped people to navigate.

9. Dover House Estate Greens

Question/Comment A resident raised the importance of maintaining the greens on the Dover House Estate. She added that the current contractor was better than the previous one, however, they tended to mow the grass without removing the litter first. She had removed rubbish from the grassed areas to the highway so that it would be collected. Also, some of the metal railings were broken.

Response Councillor Mrs. J. Cooper explained that the rubbish should be removed before the grass was mown and she would speak to the Housing Contract Manager about this. She also asked the resident to pass on the details of fly tip locations to

her, she confirmed that funding options for repairing the railings were being considered.

10. Paving, gully's, pot holes

Question/Comment A resident of Westleigh Avenue complained that the road and pavements along Westleigh Avenue between Carslake Road and Putney Hill were a disgrace. New paving had been replaced by asphalt and there were problems with the gully's and drains.

Response Mr. Cheung explained that regular pavement inspections are carried out and he agreed that he would undertake a walkabout of the area to investigate the matters raised. Councillor Mrs. Sutters explained that a number of temporary repairs had to be carried out during construction works on the Eliot School site but once construction works had been completed permanent repairs would be made.

11. Lorries loading/unloading

Question/Comment A resident asked if there was any information on what was going on with the lorries unloading from one vehicle on to another in Westleigh Avenue. The lorries did not display company names but she had taken photographs and their registration numbers.

Response Councillor Mrs. Sutters explained that it was a mystery as to what they were doing but the unloading from one vehicle on to another was not a crime in itself.

12. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Funding Opportunities

Question/Comment A resident asked if there was any CIL funding available for West Putney and if so what was it being spent on.

Response Councillor Mrs. J. Cooper explained that some funding would be used to carry out repairs to the railings along Putney Park Lane. Councillor Mrs. Sutters added that improvements were planned for Dover House Parade and implementing traffic calming measures on Putney Park Lane, narrowing the carriageway and enlarging the verges but welcomed any further suggestions.

13. No fee Cash Machines

Question/Response A Tildesley Road resident complained that there were no free to use cash machines on Tildesley Road. She also mentioned a problem with dog fouling on the Ashburton Estate and the children's play area was in need of refurbishment.

Response Councillor Mrs. Sutters explained that the Council had no control over the location of no fee cash machines and officers would speak to her at the end of the meeting regarding the other issues that she had raised.

(Ms. Brown spoke to the resident after the meeting and explained about dog byelaws in operation on the Ashburton Estate and asked her to contact the Council's animal

welfare officers about residents exercising dogs on the communal areas. Estate Services will inspect the play area.)

CLOSE OF MEETING

Councillor Mrs. Sutters thanked residents for attending the meeting and invited them to stay and speak further with Councillors and officers about matters they had raised or to approach them with individual queries.

The meeting ended at 9.07 p.m.

Gareth Jones (020 8871 7520)