

**WANDSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**SOUTHFIELDS WARD “LET’S TALK” “Drop in” Session**

**Held at Sheringdale School, Standen Road, SW18**  
**on Tuesday 6th March 2018 at 7.30 pm**

**PRESENT**

**Council Members**

Southfield Ward Members: Councillor Caddy, Humphries and Walsh

Councillor Ravi Govindia, Leader of the Council

Councillor Simon Hogg, Leader of the Opposition

**Council Officers**

**Environment and Community Services Department**

Elen Richards - Team Leader (West Team) Planning and Transport

Nick Calder - Head of Development Management (Wandsworth)

Mike Singham – Waste Strategy Manager

Henry Cheung – Head of Inspection and Enforcement

Nick O’Donnell – Assistant Director (Traffic and Engineering)

David Tidley - Transport Strategy Manager

Camillus Donnelly – Head of Network Management

**Housing and Regeneration Department**

Sharron Lecky – Area Housing Manager

**Chief Executive’s Group**

Gareth Jones - Democratic Services

Anna Sadler – Community Engagement Manager

Matt Maher – Head of Community and Partnerships

Jamie Endrizzi - Community Safety Officer

Lorinda Freint – Business and Enterprise Manager

**Children’s Services Department (Wandsworth)**

Adam Wells – Head of Pupil Services

Approximately 40 members of the public attended

## **ISSUES AND RESPONSES**

### **PLANNING**

#### **1. Bike Sheds**

Q. why are house owners within Conservation Areas (CA) allowed to build bike sheds (and other unsightly structures) in their front gardens.

A. Advised that being in a CA doesn't necessarily mean that development cannot take place but any development must either preserve or enhance the CA, which is fully considered in the assessment of the application. Advised that the scale and appearance of any structures of this nature are important in our assessment of the impact on CAs and that these are more commonplace today as more people require secure parking for bikes and for storing bins.

#### **2. Party Walls**

Q. Query raised on party wall agreements.

A. Resident directed to link on Council's website.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/party-wall-etc-act-1996-guidance>

#### **3. Parking outside Sainsbury's**

Q. Situation regarding parking bay outside Sainsbury's.

A. A condition of the permission for development of the site is for details to be provided of the parking/servicing for the site which has not yet been submitted for our consideration. Resident directed to David Tidley (Transport) to advise further.

#### **4. Application on Elsenham Street**

Q. Concerns raised regarding a current planning application at 150 Elsenham Street (Planning Reference No. 2018/0209) in particular that it would lead to the loss of a dwelling in favour of 3 flats.

A. Advised of the policy position on this and that it is still being considered by officers. The level of objections received means that if it was to be recommended for approval then it would have to be determined by the Planning Applications Committee.

#### **5. 130 Brookwood Road**

Q. Concerns raised regarding off street parking at 130 Brookwood Road in front of the shop. It appears that this is happening without first obtaining the requisite highways authority or possibly planning permission.

A. There was no action requested but it was for clarity to understand whether any type of permission would be required for this.

#### **6. Sunny News**

The issue of the imminent closure of Sunny News was raised, despite attempts to save the shop and looking at options of relocating to another premises, the proprietor would be leaving the area.

## **WASTE SERVICES**

### **7. Recycling related web content**

Q. A resident claimed that the Council's website said labels and glue must be removed from containers before recycling.

A. I assured them that this was not necessary- only significant food remains must be rinsed off. I have checked the web content and couldn't see anything about removing labels and glue from containers.

### **8. First Mile**

A local businessman said he was recently offered 100 free waste bags by First Mile (no contract).

### **9. Household waste collection**

A resident complimented the continuing collections despite the snow last week.

### **10. Recycling / Fly-tipping / dustbin lid replacement**

Q. A resident questioned whether the material we collect really is recycled.

A. It is (contamination elements aside) and that dumping it would not make any commercial sense. They also said that people keep fly-tipping near their house (but declined to give the location) and that dustbin lids are not being replaced properly/reliably.

### **11. Re-usable nappies**

Q. Why don't we support the Real Nappies for London voucher scheme.

A. I advised that the Council supports their usage regardless and outlined the potential financial benefits of using them along with details of my own personal experience. Also, that the Council's new focus on plastics could conceivably result in improved encouragement to residents to use them. She was well versed in support for real nappies in North London via the North London Waste Authority and at one point suggested that she might move there to take advantage of it!

### **12. Litter**

Q. Concerns raised over the amount of litter on-street.

A. I advised that all roads are scheduled to be swept at least weekly and that if the work was not being completed to standard reliably, that by encouraging residents to report this would help us to remediate this.

### **13. Waste collection / recycling sacks**

A resident of a flat above a shop complimented the service but said that they rarely receive scheduled clear sack deliveries so have to order them, often prompted by seeing the deliveries to nearby houses. He also said that the sacks are too thin.

### **14. Street sweeping / recycling sacks / ordering recycling sacks**

Q. Street sweeping in Hambledon Road was poor and suggested that litter issues in the area may relate to reduced cleansing frequencies. Wimbledon Park Road between Hambledon Road and Gatwick Road is perhaps the worst stretch, especially following waste collection, with most litter being in the channel. She also said that the recycling sacks are too thin and that telephone options don't cover ordering recycling sacks

A. This is correct in that the message directs you to use the web form or collect them from the Town Hall (the Council did have a "Sack Hotline" number but not anymore).

### **15. Replacing dustbin lids**

Councillor Walsh said that the main waste related issue people raised with him on doorsteps was dustbin lids not being replaced reliably.

## **HOUSING**

No matters were raised.

## **INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT**

### **16. Scaffolding Licences**

Q. General enquiry made regarding scaffolding licences.

A. Resident asked to email further details, the matter is now under investigation.

## **TRAFFIC AND ENGINEERING**

### **17. Quietways**

Q. Interest in Granville Road – planned Quietway and changes with junction of Merton Road.

A. Explained that there will be an area wide traffic study (reporting to the Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee in June) that will look to reduce the volume of traffic on this road and hopefully create a safer environment.

### **18. Parking Charges**

Q. Resident claimed they were overcharged for a parking permit – Should have been charged £1.25 each for a pack of 10 but charged £2.50 each.

A. Passed on to parking permits team with resident's details.

### **19. Merton Road/Replingham Road Junction**

Q. Issue of need for right hand filter when travelling along Merton Road into Replingham Road. Leads to perceived safety issue and alleged dangerous driving.

A. Site engineer will investigate and report back to resident.

## **20. Pirbright Road/Petition**

Q. Concerns over parking availability on Pirbright Road and passing space issues.

A. Explained possible options to them and asked that they refer to the Council's website to see process for submitting a petition.

<https://democracy.wandsworth.gov.uk/ielogon.aspx?lp=1&RPID=9090020&HPID=9090020&Forms=1>

## **21. E-petitions**

Q. Resident asked for an update on the traffic and parking related e-petitions submitted last year.

A. Explained this would be covered in a report to the Council's Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee in June.

## **22. RoadWatch/20mph Speed Limit**

A. Updated resident on the latest situation with 20mph speed restrictions and further Borough wide consultation later this year.

A. In response to speed concerns on Wimbledon Park Road, referred to a Committee report in 2017 that outlined measures that have now been delivered along with future plans for this road.

Q. Concerns over speeding motorcyclist on Astonville Street.

A. Speed enforcement was a matter for the Police and would require more specific information to follow up.

Q. A Sutherland Grove resident was happy with Community RoadWatch programme but wanted more publicity for the scheme, they also requested a speed cushion on Merton Road and had concerns over the knock-on effects of the Pulborough Road Lorry Ban on Granville Road.

A. The speed cushion request would be considered as part of a wider area traffic study and the lorry ban situation would be monitored.

## **CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

No issues were raised.

## **BUSINESS AND ENTERPRISE**

### **23. Southfields Public Realm Scheme**

Residents raised issues regarding the loss of parking and the lack of consultation with businesses relating to the proposed scheme.

## **24. Postal Delivery Problems**

25<sup>th</sup> March a meeting is being held at St Barnabas Church regarding problems with postal deliveries in the area. Royal Mail has been asked to attend but are not responding.

### **Issues raised with Ward Councillors**

## **25. 493 Bus Service**

Q. Can bus 493 be more frequent.

A. Councillor Caddy will refer to the Passenger Transport Liaison Group.

## **26. Southfields Public Realm Scheme**

Q. Can flowers/greenery be incorporated in the improvement scheme.

A. This has already been fed in.

## **27. Replingham Road Parking**

Q Can we have free parking in Replingham Road.

A. Raised previously with Officers.

## **28. Post Office**

Q. Can we sort out the look of the post office before Wimbledon fortnight.

## **29. Speeding**

A. Can we address speeding

Q. Councillor Caddy explained the Community Roadwatch scheme and the use of a speed gun in this context.

(To take part in Community RoadWatch, or to suggest a residential area where there are community concerns around speeding, please contact [CommunityRoadwatch-.Wandsworth@met.pnn.police.uk](mailto:CommunityRoadwatch-.Wandsworth@met.pnn.police.uk). )

## **SUGGESTIONS/FEEDBACK**

### **Meeting Format**

A resident who has attended previous Let's Talk meetings said that while she liked being given direct advice to her query, she preferred a format that allowed her to hear what other issues residents of the Ward would raise with Members and felt that she didn't get as much out of the meeting. This view was reflected by other residents in comments placed in the suggestion box, although two had also commented that they had enjoyed the event, one didn't feel confident enough to speak up in a formal

meeting setting, and liked being able to discuss issues on a one to one basis with Officers.

### **King George's Park Tennis Court Floodlights**

Q. A resident asked why the floodlights on the tennis courts in King George's Park were left on sometimes until 11pm when the courts closed at 9pm.

A. The floodlights should be off at 9pm, this may be a faulty timer issue and will be investigated. However, the floodlights at the neighbouring Wandle Recreation Centre are in operation until 10.45pm (Monday to Friday).

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