

Cabinet Petitions Committee

**7th August 2019 at 5.00pm
at the Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

Present: Councillors Crompton (Chair), Lloyd and Taylor.

7/19 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 27th June, 2019 be confirmed as a correct record.

8/19 Progress Report

Details were submitted of petitions received and of the action taken or proposed in each case, as detailed in the Appendix.

Resolved that the action taken or proposed, as detailed in the second column of the Appendix, be approved.

(Meeting ended at 5.32pm)

Contact Officer: Shane Parkes
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Appendix

Petition Received From	Action Taken/Proposed
1. Residents of Herbert Road, Smethwick requesting a residents parking scheme.	This matter was being investigated by officers within Highways and an update would be submitted to a future meeting of the Cabinet Petitions Committee.
2. Residents of Dagger Lane, West Bromwich requesting a residents parking scheme.	The request included numbers 16-38 (evens) Dagger Lane, however, officers would have to consider property numbers 2–14, as parking would be displaced. There was not enough on-street space available for one vehicle per household. Issues of parents parking had also been raised. Where schemes had been introduced near schools these were often shared use to allow parents to pick up and drop off. No further action was proposed. The head petitioner had been informed.
3. Residents in the vicinity of Grafton Road/Kestrel Road, Oldbury requesting a locked gateway at the entrances leading to garages to the rear of properties.	This matter was being investigated by officers within Neighbourhoods and an update would be submitted to a future meeting of the Cabinet Petitions Committee.
4. Residents of View Point, Tividale requesting installation of night and day gates in the gulley located at View Point.	This matter was being investigated and an update would be submitted to a future meeting of the Cabinet Petitions Committee.
5. Residents of the Hateley Heath area requesting that the SAPA building on Hateley Heath estate be brought back into use for the community.	Further to the initial update provided to the Committee, an update on the condition of the building had been received. The general condition of the building was ok, with no asbestos issues identified. Electrical works to the value of £2,400 had been identified. The heating system was beyond repair and a replacement system would cost in the region of £17,000.

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	<p>The total estimated building work was therefore estimated to be in the region of £20,000. Officers were currently awaiting a business case in order to move the matter forward. An update would be provided to a future meeting of the Cabinet Petitions Committee.</p>
<p>6. Residents of Wheatsheaf Road Estate, Tividale requesting a mini bus service following the removal of the 121 bus service.</p>	<p>The role of Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) was to promote public transport within the West Midlands and provide roadside infrastructure (bus stops and shelters) and passenger information (such as timetables and journey planning). The majority of bus services were provided by private bus operators on a “for profit basis” meaning they only operated services which generated enough fares to cover the cost of operation. Although TfWM was not directly responsible for providing bus services, they worked closely with local bus operators to champion the needs of local people and aimed to bring about a positive resolution in response to queries where possible. Following receipt of the petition, the issue of bus services for Wheatsheaf Road was raised with the bus operator National Express West Midlands (NXWM). Although the operator had considered the request again, NXWM confirmed it was unable to consider re-routing service 12A via Wheatsheaf Road. In addition to discussions with NXWM, TfWM also carried out an assessment of the local area, in order to ensure that residents were within a reasonable distance of the existing bus network. In some situations, it was possible for TfWM to consider providing public funding for bus links where residents were located a significant distance from the bus network however,</p>

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	<p>the proximity of residents along Wheatsheaf Road to the existing bus services meant this option did not apply. In looking at the other options available to people living along Wheatsheaf Road where services on Darby's Hill Road were difficult to reach, the Ring and Ride service represented an alternative for residents to consider. The Ring and Ride service had continued to operate normally for customers since the Accessible Transport Group became insolvent in March 2019. TfWM was working very closely with the Administrator to secure a long term sustainable future for Ring and Ride and residents could be assured that the service could provide a helpful and reliable link should they need it. Following representations from a local ward member and concerns that the whole estate had not been taken into consideration in relation to proximity to existing bus services, the Chair requested that the matter be referred back to TfWM and also to the relevant Cabinet Member to look at options available. An update would be provided to a future meeting of the Cabinet Petitions Committee.</p>
<p>7. Residents of Speaker's Close, Tividale requesting installation of night and day gates in the gully located at the end of Speaker's Close.</p>	<p>Officers had been requested by the Committee to investigate the feasibility of installing gating on Council owned land and undertake the necessary consultation. An update would be provided to a future meeting of the Cabinet Petitions Committee.</p>
<p>8. Residents in the vicinity of Pages Lane/service user's requesting traffic calming/20mph speed limit in Pages Lane, Great Barr.</p>	<p>This matter was being investigated by officers within Highways. An update would be provided to the Cabinet Petitions Committee at a future meeting.</p>

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9. Residents of The Broadway, West Bromwich requesting to gate off The Wallface, Hill Top	Officers had been requested by the Committee to investigate the possibility of providing gating. An update would be provided to a future meeting of the Cabinet Petitions Committee.
10. Various road users/ residents requesting traffic light system at the junction of Park Lane/Manor House Road and Hobs Road/Hawthorn Road, Wednesbury.	Funding for road safety schemes such as traffic signals was prioritised where injury accidents were occurring. A five-year injury accident analysis showed there had been 3 recorded injury accidents during this period. This was low when compared to other locations being considered for major traffic calming schemes. Although this junction did not meet the criteria for the installation of traffic signals a road safety scheme to implement additional carriageway markings and vehicle activated speed signs either side of the junction would be undertaken to help to warn drivers and reduce vehicle speeds on the approach to the junction. The Committee requested the junction be monitored to ensure that the traffic calming measures made a difference. An update would be provided to a future meeting of the Cabinet Petitions Committee.
11. Residents of Cheshire Road, Smethwick requesting a one-way system Cheshire Road.	Funding available for traffic calming schemes was targeted in areas where injury accidents were occurring. A five-year injury accident analysis for Cheshire Road showed there had not been any recorded injury accidents during this period. The introduction of a one-way scheme would lead to an increase in vehicle speeds and could result in an increase of injury accidents. Highways would therefore not recommend changes to the road layout at Cheshire Road. The head petitioner had been informed.