

Minutes of Cabinet Petitions Committee

**Wednesday, 18 January 2023 at 5.00 pm
at Council Chamber, Oldbury Council House**

Present: Councillor Hackett (Chair);
Councillors Rollins and Hughes.

Observers: Councillors Simms and E M Giles.

In attendance: Ben Percival (Assistant Director - Contracts, Projects, Strategy & Policy); Anthony Lloyd (Democratic Services Officer) and Trisha Newton (Deputy Democratic Services Manager).

1/21 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2/21 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3/21 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2022 be received.

4/21 Progress Report

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



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

Appendix

Petition Received From	Action Taken/Proposed
1. Residents of Sandwell in opposition to the proposed garden waste charges.	Two-thirds of Councils nationally already charged for garden waste collections, reflecting the need to put non-statutory services on a sustainable and affordable footing. The recent resident survey indicated that while many residents were willing to consider paying for services. At £35 per year the charge had been set below both the national average of £40 and the West Midlands Average of £38. Between increased income and reduced costs, charging for green waste collection could save Sandwell in excess of £2million a year. Currently the typical Sandwell garden waste bin was less than half full when it came to collection day. By moving to a subscription service both collections and costs were moved to households that were actively using the service. This would reduce the number of crews required to collect the garden waste improving efficiency and reducing carbon emissions. In addition, a scheme to support residents to compost at home would be launched in the early spring. The head petitioner had been informed.
2. Convenience Store Customers, Toll End Road, Smethwick, requesting a ramp outside the store to enable easy access for customers.	This matter was being investigated by officers and an update would be submitted to a future meeting.
3. Residents of Lightwoods Hill, Smethwick, requesting traffic calming measures.	The proposed road safety scheme had been altered in accordance with objections received to the initial proposal. Further objections had been received and

	were being considered by the Cabinet Member for Environment. A further report would be submitted to a future meeting.
4. Residents in and around Europa Close, West Bromwich concerning the proposed cycle lane between Europa Avenue and Sandwell Valley.	Following representations by the head petitioner regarding the consultation process and the proposed cycle route, officers were asked to report back to the next meeting of the Committee outlining the consultation process and scheme details. Consideration would also be given to presenting a report to the relevant Scrutiny Board.
5. Residents of Hales Crescent, Smethwick requesting for the removal of a large portion of grass area and for further parking bays to be identified, including designated disabled spaces.	Officers would engage with residents to further understand their concerns. APCOA had reviewed all of the Penalty Charge Notices issues to ensure they were issued correctly.
6. Users of Carnegie Building, Tipton requesting community usage of the Carnegie Building.	Tipton Carnegie Building formed part of a council plan around locally based council services subject to the outcomes of the ongoing Customer Journey Programme Board. Updates to the Committee would be provided in due course.
7. Residents of Sandgate Road/ Woodhall Close, Tipton requesting closure of the access road to 7-11 Waring Road due to crime/ASB.	Officers advised that the number of anti social behaviour incidents at Waring Road did not provide a solid basis for closing the road and no further action would be taken. The head petitioner had been informed.

Meeting ended at 5.32 pm

Contact: democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk