

Minutes of Cabinet Petitions Committee

Wednesday, 4 October 2023 at 5.00 pm
at Annexe 1 - Sandwell Council House, Oldbury

Present: Councillor Millard (Chair);
Councillors Hackett and Padda.

Observing: Councillors Anandou and Fenton.

In attendance: Robin Weare (Assistant Director - Highways); Alex Oxley (Capital Projects Manager); Johane (Committee and Constitutional Services Lead Officer), Connor Robinson (Democratic Services Officer). and John Swann (Democratic Services Officer).

21/21 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Rollins.

22/21 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

23/21 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 September 2023 be received as a correct record.



24/21 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.

Meeting ended at 5.56pm

Contact: democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Petition Received From	Action Taken/Proposed
1. Residents of Oldacre Road, requesting parking restrictions for non-residents during school pick- up/ drop- off times.	Following representations from petitioners, officers were requested to explore options and recommendations that address the parking challenges for residents of Oldcare Road. An update would be provided to a future meeting.
2. Residents in and around Hancox Street, requesting double yellow lines for part of Hancox Street.	Following representations from petitioners, officers were requested to investigate options for addressing the parking challenges raised by residents of Hancox Street, including the possibility of putting double yellow lines. An update would be provided to a future meeting.
3. Residents requesting the protection of the Albright Mosaic Mural located at Langley Baths.	Following representations from petitioners, officers were requested to explore options that would assist the residents in saving Albright Mosaic Mural. Residents undertook to follow up leads they had on moving the mosaic in the limited timeframes available as 14 November 2023 was the deadline. The Council had been quoted £56,300 for removing the mural. The figure excluded the costs for transportation, repair, and restoration. The estimated cost to the Council was found to be prohibitive and there was no funding available for the activity. The Committee agreed that officers would continue to support the residents in their own efforts to mobilise resources as well as in accessing the site. It was approved that the petition be closed. The head petitioner had been informed.

<p>4. Residents in and around Gospel Oak Road, Tipton, requesting the creation of a car park on Gospel Oak Road.</p>	<p>This matter was being investigated by officers and an update would be submitted to a future meeting.</p>
<p>5. Residents in and around Europa Close, West Bromwich, concerning the proposed cycle lane.</p>	<p>Following representations made by the petitioners in relation to their concerns around the consultation process and the cycle route proposals, officers had submitted a report to the Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board. An update would be submitted to a future meeting.</p>
<p>6. Residents in and around Wellington Road requesting the easing of traffic problems.</p>	<p>Petitioners had raised concerns regarding parking problems in the area. A request to utilise a nearby plot of land in the area to ease parking had been made. An update will be submitted to a future meeting.</p>

<p>7. Residents of Thomas Cox Wharf and Alexandra Grange, Tipton, requesting adoption of roads.</p>	<p>The responsibility to progress the adoption of any new roads on a development fell solely on the land owner (typically the Developer) who must initially offer any new roads to the Authority for adoption and, importantly, enter into a legal adoption agreement with the Local Highway Authority (typically an agreement under Section 38 of the Highway Act). The Council had no powers to force a developer to enter into any adoption agreement.</p> <p>In this instance, the Developer had given the Authority every impression that it was going to enter into the necessary Section 38 agreement for adoption on numerous occasions and took discussions well beyond the cut off time allowable to undertake enforcement under Section 220. However, the Developer did not complete the necessary Section 38 agreements for the adoption of the roads, or complete the necessary process. Consequently, the roads on these sites were retained as private roads. Following representations by Shaun Bailey MP in support of the residents proposing that a collaborative approach would be the way forward, the Committee requested that officers undertake further investigation into the matter considering all options available and respond to all of the issues raised in the correspondence that had been submitted over a period of time. An update would be submitted to a future meeting.</p>
<p>8. Residents of Park Lane West, Tipton, requesting residents parking outside nos. 173-184.</p>	<p>This matter was being investigated by officers and an update would be submitted to a future meeting.</p>

<p>9. Residents of Yew Tree and Charlemont Estates concerning the withdrawal of the no. 45 bus service.</p>	<p>Transport for West Midlands had advised that it was now funding the 45 bus service which would continue to be operated by Diamond Bus and remained unchanged. However, the Committee understood that this proposal was for a six month period and therefore requested clarification be sought from TfWM as to future provision. An update would be submitted to a future meeting.</p>
<p>10. Residents of Dartmouth Street. West Bromwich, requesting a parking permit scheme.</p>	<p>Following further discussions with petitioners, it was agreed that the Council's Highways department would begin work to consider the introduction of a resident parking scheme for Dartmouth Street. Time limits in relation to free parking on the street would also be reviewed. An update would be provided to a future meeting.</p>
<p>11. Residents in and around Wolverhampton Road regarding concerns around road safety.</p>	<p>A study and outline business case were being developed for the corridor along the length of the A4123 by Transport for West Midlands. The study would consider improvements relating to road safety, walking, cycling and bus movement along the route and would be implemented in phases over several years. The junction of the Wolverhampton Road and Queensway would be considered as part of the route improvement scheme. The junction was placed sixth on the list of priorities and had not met the criteria for major funding during this financial year. However, the area would be considered for a road safety scheme to offer additional advance warning to motorists. There was capital funding available each year for the implementation of road safety improvements. It was noted that the Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board may wish to receive a briefing on the subject matter. It was approved that the petition be closed. The head petitioner had been informed.</p>

