

Minutes of Cabinet Petitions Committee

**Wednesday 8 November 2023 at 5:05pm
at Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

Present: Councillor Khatun (Acting Chair);
Councillors Hartwell and Padda.

Observing: Councillors Dhatt, Piper and Williams.

In attendance: Trisha Newton (Democratic Service Deputy Manager);
Johane Gandiwa (Committee and Constitutional
Services Lead Officer).

21/23 **Apologies**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Millard.

22/23 **Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

23/23 **Minutes**

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 October 2023 be received as a correct record.

20/23

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 5.46pm

Appendix 1

Petition Received From	Action Taken/Proposed
<p>1. Residents in the vicinity of Abbey Road Schools (Abbey) requesting for a Puffin Crossing to replace the Zebra Crossing at Abbey Road Schools.</p>	<p>Following representations from petitioners, officers would be requested to investigate options and make recommendations on the request to replace the Zebra Crossing at Abbey Road School. An update would be provided to a future meeting.</p>
<p>2. Residents of Herbert Street in West Bromwich Central requesting for the easing of parking restrictions</p>	<p>Following representations from petitioners, officers would be requested to investigate options relating to the feasibility of modifying the parking restrictions on Herbert Street so that they apply only between the specified hours from Monday to Saturday. The Police would also be requested to provide a report. Consideration would also be made as to whether Local Area Budget for Tipton could be used to address the matter. An update would be provided to a future meeting.</p>
<p>3. Residents of Eastfield Road, Tipton (Princes End) requesting the closing of a right- of- of way route/ footpath between Eastfield and Field Road</p>	<p>Following representations from petitioners, officers would be requested to investigate the request to close right- of- of way route/ footpath between Eastfield and Field Road. An update would be provided to a future meeting.</p>
<p>4. Residents of Oldacre Road, requesting parking restrictions for non-residents during school pick- up/ drop- off times.</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>5. Residents in and around Hancox Street, requesting double yellow lines for part of Hancox Street.</p>	<p>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.</p>

<p>6. 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>7. 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 pot of land in the area to ease parking had been made. An update will be submitted to a future meeting.</p>
<p>8. 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. 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</p>

	the issues raised in the correspondence that had been submitted over a period of time. An update would be submitted to a future meeting.
9. Residents of Park Lane West, Tipton, requesting residents parking outside Nos. 173-184.	This matter was being investigated by officers and an update would be submitted to a future meeting.
10. Residents of Yew Tree and Charlemont Estates concerning the withdrawal of the no. 45 bus service.	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.
11. Residents of Dartmouth Street. West Bromwich, requesting a parking permit scheme.	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.
12. Residents in and around Europa Close, West Bromwich (West Bromwich Central)	Following representations made by the petitioners in relation to their concerns around the consultation process and the cycle route proposals, a report was submitted to Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board (ESTE). The ESTE Scrutiny Board considered the matter at its meeting on 3 October 2023 following a site visit and passed the following recommendation: 'That in connection with the Europa Avenue Cycle Path Consultation, the following findings of the Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board Working Group, in relation to

whether sufficient and appropriate consultation had been carried out in line with existing council policies, practices and procedures, be approved by the Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board:-

(1) That having listened and considered the views of local residents, the Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Board:-

(a) note that the Working Group are satisfied that consultation on the Europa Avenue cycle path, which was carried out both online and by letter drops to households, was conducted in accordance with Council processes, however, communication with residents could have been improved further;

(b) note that in future, where simultaneous improvement works are being carried out within the vicinity by different departments, internal communication between departments should be undertaken to avoid confusion and disruption to residents;

(c) suggest that the Council consider all platforms, including Citizen space and neighbourhood forums, for communicating with residents, taking into consideration digital deprivation across the borough;

(d) acknowledge that the Overview and Scrutiny function should be used to consider matters of strategic importance within the borough and not local ward issues in order to ensure value is added.'

It was approved that the petition be closed. The head petitioner had been informed.