

EASTLEIGH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 15 September 2020 (7:00 pm – 9:52 pm)

PRESENT:

Councillor Campbell (Chairman); Councillors Bourne, Clarke, Bicknell, Doguie, Irish, Mann and Tyson-Payne

Also in attendance: Councillor Atkinson

RESOLVED ITEMS (SUBJECT TO QUESTIONS ONLY)

117. MINUTES

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2020 be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

118. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in relation to items of business on the agenda.

119. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation on this occasion.

120. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair paid tribute to Councillor Paul Bicknell, thanked him for his dedication and commitment to the role and introduced Councillor Alex Bourne as Vice-Chair. The Chair reported that Councillor Rosemary Reynolds had stepped down and expressed thanks for her service to the town. Residents were reassured that whilst elections would not take place until May 2021, Eastleigh North was still well served by Councillor Tyson-Payne and Councillor Clarke.

It was reported that Eastleigh had been voted the fifth best location in the United Kingdom to raise a family which was a great achievement.

The Play Area Improvement Programme continues. Construction had started on the play area and landscaping project at Pirelli Park. Two new play areas at the North Stoneham development were on track for completion at the end of September which included a large natural play area. The play area at Lawn Road Recreation Ground had started and was due to be completed in the Spring. Grantham Road and Leigh Road

Recreation play areas had been deep cleaned and new colour safety surfaces were installed. This was well received by local children and families.

The Visual Arts Programme was delivered by The Point with live music, street performers, graffiti art and a monster trail. The programme runs until the end of September.

The seventh annual film festival was taking place at Itchen Valley Country Park and was being delivered as a drive-in cinema.

121. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT

Consideration was given to a report by the Local Area Manager (Agenda item 6) that contained recommendations for expenditure from the Committee's capital and revenue budget. It was highlighted that due to the cancellation of the bandstand summer concerts the funds for the town centre support measures in response to Covid-19 would come from revenue reserve and £1500 would come from the savings in the revenue budget. Councillors welcomed the events that were being held in the town centre.

RESOLVED –

- (1) £57,000 was allocated for improvements to Lawn Road Play Area project from developers' contributions;**
- (2) £40,840 was allocated for improvements to local GP Surgeries from developers' contributions;**
- (3) £15,000 was allocated to the conversion of Market Street South Play Area to Residents Parking from developers' contributions. It was also agreed that the decision to proceed with the works be delegated to the Local Area Manager in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee, subject to the findings of a resident consultation exercise;**
- (4) £12,800 was allocated for improvements to Leigh Road Recreation Ground Play Area from developers' contributions;**
- (5) £8,600 was allocated for improvements to Grantham Green Play Area from developers' contributions;**
- (6) £17,700 was allocated for town centre support measures in response to Covid-19 from the revenue budget, as follows:**
 - £11,500 for town centre events;**
 - £5,700 for hanging baskets across the town centre; and**
 - £500 toward a new chalet servery to support The Point's Summer Social programme.**

122. CLOSURE OF HIGH STREET AND MARKET STREET PETITION

The Eastleigh Local Area Committee considered a petition from the Eastleigh Town Centre Action Group (ETCAG) with regards to the closure of High Street and Market Street to allow for social distancing. The wording of the petition was as follows:

“We petition Eastleigh Borough Council to reverse their decision to make the car parking bays on Leigh Road Disabled Only and to re-open Market Street and High Street to traffic.

The independent small businesses who have managed to make it through the Covid-19 Lockdown will not survive an extended period where our customers are unable to park for a short period close to the shops and pop in.

Please sign the petition to keep Eastleigh Town Centre open!”

[NOTES: Three members of the Eastleigh Town Centre Action Group addressed the Committee and outlined their concerns over the negative impact on shops, reduction in customer footfall, lack of need as the pavements already allowed for social distancing, less mobile residents struggled to negotiate the town centre and the negative impact for businesses that opened later in the evening.]

123. EASTLEIGH TOWN CENTRE COVID RECOVERY PLAN UPDATE

The Sustainable Transport Planner presented the report to the Committee and highlighted that since its introduction, the scheme had been monitored to evaluate the impact of the road closures on town centre businesses and visitor numbers.

RESOLVED –

That the Committee considered the content of the report and supported:

(1) The proposal to keep Market Street and High Street including a section of Wells Place closed until 21 April 2021;

(2) A recommendation to Cabinet to approve the introduction of a ‘buy one hour get one hour free’ offer for all pay and display car parks in the town centre when a ticket is purchased using RingGo, the contactless payment system. This will initially be for the period until 1 January 2021;

(3) A recommendation to Cabinet to approve the proposal to remove the 3-hour tariff at Wells Place car park;

(4) The proposal to introduce an exemption to the Temporary Traffic Regulation Order for funeral processions in Market Street and High Street to the Temporary Traffic Regulation Order; and

(5) The proposal to introduce a bus stand at the junction of Wells Road and Hanns Way.

[NOTES: (A) Two written statements were received and Councillor Margaret Atkinson spoke live in objection to the road closures and raised concerns over the inappropriate car parking for quick visits to the town centre and for individuals that were less mobile which made it less accessible, lack of need as people were not using the road to walk on, businesses were struggling due to lack of visitors to the town centre, delivery issues to shops not being resolved, issues for the safety of emergency vehicles at night, lack of support for night time businesses. (B) Two written statements were received in support of the road closures stating that it allowed people to social distance and feel safer whilst shopping in the town centre, parking was adequate as other shopping centres in surrounding areas had been pedestrianised effectively, less cars in the town centre promoted better air quality. (C) Two written statements were received in support of the re-opening of the car boot sale in Eastleigh stating that it attracted people into the town centre, other car boot sales were open, help the community spirit.]

124. NEWTOWN AREA CONTROLLED PARKING ZONE (CPZ) TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

The Committee considered a report by the Traffic Management Engineer (Agenda item 9) which detailed a proposal to introduce Permit Holder Only Parking bays in Mount View and Ashton Gardens, with additional no waiting at any time restrictions at the junction of Ashton Gardens and Mill Street, in front of the lay-bys.

RESOLVED –

That the Eastleigh Local Area Committee approved:

- (1) The Traffic Order was made as advertised, subject to changes which were as follows;**
- (2) The proposals along the eastern side of Mount View to introduce ‘Permit Holder Only Parking’ were withdrawn;**
- (3) No waiting at any time restrictions at the junction of Ashton Gardens and Mill Street be introduced as advertised;**
- (4) A ‘Parking for 2 hours no return within 2 hours’ restriction was included within the proposed ‘Permit Holder Only’ parking**

bays which run from 8am to 8pm Monday to Saturday in the lay-by's on both sides of the western arm of Ashton Gardens; and

(5) £6,797.14 was allocated for these works from developers' contribution.

125. PLANNING APPEALS

The Head of Legal Services reported:-

(a) that the following appeals had been lodged:-

Eastleigh Service Station, 109 Southampton Road, Eastleigh, SO50 5QT

Appeal against the display of a free standing digital advertising board (A/20/87493)

(b) that the following appeals had been dismissed:-

22 Maypole Villas, Eastleigh, SO50 4LN

Appeal against the Council's refusal to grant permission for the erection of a garage to the frontage of the property. (H/20/87334)

RESOLVED -

That the report be noted.

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