

**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**  
**HOUSING MANAGEMENT PANEL: NORTH AREA**

**7.00pm 18 AUGUST 2021**

**VIRTUAL MEETING - ZOOM**

**MINUTES**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** Fowler (Chair), Knight, and John

**Officers:** Michael Raywood, Rebecca Mann, Ododo Dafe, Janet Dowdell, and Thomas Bald

**Representatives:** Ian Beck, Des Jones, Jim Hornsby, Bridghdelynne Stewart, and Heather Hayes

**1 WELCOME, APOLOGIES, AND INTRODUCTIONS**

1.1 Apologies from Tony Griffin.

**2 ACTIONS AND MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

2.2 It was raised that Sam Warren was supposed to provide a response regarding the double yellow lines on Brentwood Road.

2.3 Michael Raywood updated that the grass verges on Horton Road are going to be removed and tarmacked to provide more parking spaces, and he would chase Rachel Chasseaud for a response about putting in CCTV to Roedale Court to combat fly tipping.

**RESOLVED:** Michael Raywood to chase Rachel Chasseaud for a response about fly tipping in Roedale Court.

**3 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

There were none.

**4 INTRODUCTION TO CLLR ZOË JOHN**

4.1 Cllr John introduced herself to the Panel and suggested a walk around of the area in September.

**5 RESPONSES TO RESIDENT'S QUESTIONS***Overgrown Brambles at the Bottom of Davey Drive*

**5.1** Ian Beck raised that the response proposed a partial solution of cutting them back, but not a full solution such as destroying them.

**5.2** Councillor Knight and Michael Raywood raised that the shops around Mouslecoomb have been transformed from cutting back brambles and planting more flowers and bushes.

*Grass Cutting*

**5.3** Ian Beck raised that he is happy with the response, and how things are being handled in Hollingdean.

**5.4** Heather Hayes raised that whilst the grass was being cut in Waldron Avenue, some of the wooden planters were destroyed, and was informed by Cllr Fowler she would contact highways to see if anything could be done about weeds growing on pavements.

**5.5** Jim Hornsby raised that whilst cutting grass between Brentwood Road and Burstead close, the grass cutting machine cuts into the earth, collides with walls, and leaves dead grass all over the fresh grass.

**5.6** Cllr Knight raised that grass cutting is a huge issue in Mouslecoomb and Bevendean, and overgrown grass makes the space look untidy and unkept.

*Estate Development Budget – Communication*

**5.7** Ian Beck raised that there has been a lack of communication regarding all EDB bids. Rebecca Mann confirmed she would contact someone to get in touch with Ian Beck.

**5.8** Heather Hayes raised that noticeboards have been installed around Coldean, and asked for Councillor's details to put in them.

*Hollingdean Window Replacements*

**5.9** Ian Beck raised that there haven't been window replacements in the houses in Hollingdean since the 1980s, and should be replaced properly as a major work and brought forward. Ododo Dafe responded that window works can't be brought forward due to the schedule prioritising urgent projects, but the work will start in the next financial year.

**5.10** Ian Beck raised that the flats are being prioritised over the houses in Hollingdean. Ododo Dafe confirmed she would contact Geof Gage to get more information about which houses the survey included.

**6 HOUSING COMMITTEE WORKPLAN PROGRESS UPDATE AND HOUSING PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 1 2021/22**

**6.1** Ododo Dafe summarised the report starting on page 29 of the Agenda.

**6.2** Heather Hayes raised that COVID has forced many people onto universal credit. Ododo Dafe responded that there is support within the Council as well as Money Advice Plus and Job Centre Plus to help people in this situation.

**6.3** Cllr Knight raised that there are loads of complaints from people about repairs not being done properly. Ododo Dafe responded that everything is being done to carry out repairs properly but there are barriers to this such as ensuring there are sufficient contractors whilst building up the Council workforce.

**6.4** Ododo Dafe confirmed that as Eddie Wilson no longer works for the Council, all enquiries should go to herself or Justine Harris.

**6.5** Ian Beck raised that recently the repairs hotline has been efficient and helpful.

**6.6** Councillor John was informed that realistic new targets are being thought of, and due to the current difficulties, such as the repairs contract, these may take the form of reduction targets, and in 9 – 12 months things should be back to how they were pre-COVID.

**6.7** Councillor John raised that a resident had been calling the repairs line due to flooding, but there was no logging of cases from repeat calls. Ododo Dafe confirmed that the repairs hotline should be logging cases and she would find out why that happened and get back to Cllr John.

**6.8** Jim Hornsby raised that a mix of leaseholders and tenants work well together living in the same blocks, and that it is important to keep the cost of repairs down as much as possible, given that leaseholders pay a large sum of the repair costs.

**RESOLVED:** Ododo Dafe to find out what happened with the repairs hotline case and report back to Cllr John.

## **7 POSITIVE COMMUNITY NEWS**

**7.1** Heather Hayes raised that there has been new exercise equipment installed in Haig Park with positive reviews from residents.

**7.2** Cllr Knight raised that a play park at the end of Goodwood Way is being planned to be built.

**7.3** Cllr Fowler raised that she attended Windmill Young Actors at the Hollingdean Community Centre who have funding to continue the project for another year.

**7.4** Cllr Fowler raised that she went on a walk around the area and pointed out areas such as the bottom of Davey Drive and the verges where it would look nice to have wildflowers and trees, Michael Raywood confirmed he'd contact Rob Walker to check the progress on this project.

**RESOLVED:** Michael Raywood to contact Rob Walker about the planting of trees and wildflowers.

**8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**8.1** Cllr Knight confirmed she'd be in contact with Bridghdelynnne Stewart regarding her matter for Any Other Business.

**8.2** Ian Beck reaffirmed that an answer was needed about installing CCTV in Roedale Court to combat fly tipping.

The meeting concluded at 9.04pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of