

**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**  
**HOUSING MANAGEMENT PANEL: NORTH AREA**  
**7.00pm 16 FEBRUARY 2022 VIRTUAL - ZOOM**  
**MINUTES**

**Present**

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

**Resident Representatives:** Ian Beck, Des Jones, Heather Hayes, Tony Graham, Catherine Lawrence, Jim Hornsby,

**Officers:** Thomas Bald, Michael Raywood, Grant Ritchie, Justine Harris, Clare Nichols, Sam Warren, Pien Kuipers.

**Guests:** Sarah Brooker-Lewis (Local Democracy Reporter)

**1 WELCOME, APOLOGIES & INTRODUCTIONS**

Apologies from Tony Griffin.

**2 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

There were none.

**3 ACTIONS & MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**3.1** Jim Hornsby and Tony Graham to be added to the apologies from the last meeting.

**3.2** Ian Beck raised that the overgrowth on Davey Drive needs to be cut down again. Michael Raywood responded that a contractor has agreed to cut a metre of overgrowth, and also to put a temporary parking ban on the slope to allow the correct machinery to access the overgrowth.

**3.3** Tony Graham was informed that the double yellow lines would go ahead after the 21 days as long as no one objected to it.

**3.4** Heather Hayes raised that she hadn't heard from Martin Reid about the collection of some asbestos tiles, and Grant Ritchie agreed to organise the collection once he had received the address.

**RESOLVED:**

The minutes of the previous meeting on the 15 December were agreed as an accurate record.

Grant Ritchie to organise the collection of asbestos tiles from outside Heather Hayes' property.

## 4 RESPONSES TO RESIDENTS QUESTIONS

### *Fly Tipping*

**4.1** Ian Beck raised that there is now a sign at Roedale Court that says the bin area is for use only by residents.

### *Parking on Davey Drive*

**4.2** Tony Graham was informed that the double yellow lines on Davey Drive would go up to Horton Road.

### *Buying Back Council Homes*

**4.3** Heather Hayes was informed that there were 22 Council houses have been bought back from the Hollingdean and Stanmer area, and that there was more information in the performance report in the agenda about the building of Council houses.

### *Citywide Problems with Rubbish and Recycling*

**4.4** Des Jones raised that a lorry was sent to collect some rubbish at South Mount, but overall the consistency of rubbish collection is becoming a problem. Ian Beck raised that bins are not being collected consistently from Tavistock Down either.

**4.5** Councillor Knight raised that when fly tipping is reported, a lot of the time nothing happens, and this in turn encourages other people to fly tip in the same place. She also suggested that the fly tip clearing vans should be given permission to collect rubbish where they see it, instead of being directed to places.

**4.6** Jim Hornsby raised that there are some rubbish collection problems in Burstead Close, and that some wind breaks could be installed to stop bins being blown into the road, and was informed that there has been some opposition to bin enclosures but the eventual goal is to install some in the appropriate areas. Michael Raywood explained that a bin enclosure would be a wooden enclosure that stops litter being blown across the road, however they are still vulnerable to fly tipping.

**4.7** Des Jones requested for Michael Raywood to report back to CityClean that recycling is being taken as regular rubbish.

**4.8** Jim Hornsby was informed that Cllr Fowler would forward the pictures taken by Jim Hornsby to the appropriate team in the Council to help deal with the bin problems.

### *Repairs Backlog*

**4.9** Ian Beck raised that the repairs hotline worked very quickly to fix a light in his kitchen.

**4.10** Heather Hayes raised that a resident has complained that her front door handle hasn't been fixed, and Grant Ritchie confirmed he would investigate the issue.

**4.11** Councillor Knight raised that repairs should be done proactively, and Councillors shouldn't need to be involved.

**4.12** Ian Beck was informed that replacements for gates and fences are done on a case-by-case basis and that Sam Warren would investigate the area-based fencing budgets and the criteria to have them replaced. Michael Raywood confirmed that fences can still be fixed in an absolute emergency.

**4.13** Heather Hayes suggested building walls instead of fences, and Michael Raywood confirmed he would take it back to the team to see if this could be taken forward.

**RESOLVED:**

- Michael Raywood to report back to CityClean that recycling is being taken as regular rubbish around the South Mount area.
- Grant Ritchie to investigate a resident raised by Heather Hayes who's front door handle keeps falling off.
- Sam Warren to investigate area based fencing budgets and the criteria to have them replaced.
- Michael Raywood to investigate whether building walls instead of fences would be feasible.

**5 AREA PANEL REVIEW OUTLINE**

**5.1** Sam Warren introduced the item. Residents were asked their opinions on the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and strengths of Area Panels, which were:

**Strengths:**

- Think the way the meetings are run works as they are. Can feed back to other tenants.
- Like that you can speak to people directly.
- Meeting works to share the views of other residents and then feed back.
- The system works well to get issues actioned.
- Able to talk directly to high-ranking officer able to action issues.
- Good for officers to directly hear views of tenants
- CEO Communication
- Good to have Cllrs involved in meetings
- Councillors have improved the outcomes for tenants and leaseholders

**Weaknesses:**

- Online meetings
- Lacking reps from all areas, possibility of one ward dominating whole agenda.
- Not as much diversity as we could have regarding ethnicity/gender/age.
- No representative from CityClean.
- Could be overloading Councillors with actions from Aps
- Can be a lot of meetings to be able to put forward a resident question to the Panel

**Opportunities:**

- Getting face to face meetings back.
- Useful to understand officer's roles better
- To ensure people have their names showing.
- Wider range of people attending.
- Change the timings of meetings to allow others to attend sometimes.
- Evenings work for many people.
- A north area diary
- Hybrid meetings
- Other ways of putting forward resident questions.
- Notice on webpage of dates for agenda setting and resident only meetings
- More support to start TA's

**6 HOUSING COMMITTEE WORKPLAN PROGRESS UPDATE AND HOUSING PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 3 2021/22**

**6.1** Justine Harris introduced the report starting on page 25 of the Agenda.

**7 POSITIVE COMMUNITY NEWS**

**7.1** Tony Graham raised that:

- The door replacement program has started for Nettleton and Dudeney blocks
- There have been widening of disabled access for the blocks been started.
- Recycling bins have been repaired and signs have been added to them.

**7.2** Ian Beck raised that the sign going up at Roedale Court has stopped the fly tipping and that some EDB bids were agreed at the Hollingdean Resident's Association to improve the area such as a community garden at Dunster Close.

**7.3** Catherine Lawrence added that the new signs on the recycling bins look good.

**8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**8.2** Heather Hayes raised that window replacements have been in the press recently and hoped the Council would start the window replacement program soon. Grant Ritchie responded that the problems would be investigated but if there were any particular streets or blocks of concern, it would be helpful to report these.

**8.3** Councillor Fowler was informed that dog poo can now be placed in regular bins.

The meeting concluded at 9.04pm