Decisions 10 - 14 can be called in up to, and including 13 July 2016.

Enquiries to Marian Morrison 020 8547 4623, email: marian.morrison@kingston.gov.uk
Democratic Support, Guildhall, KT1 1EU

KINGSTON TOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE

14 JUNE 2016

7:33 pm – 9:53 pm

Canbury Ward
Councillor Geoff Austin
Councillor Andrea Craig
*Councillor David Glasspool

Grove Ward
Councillor Phil Doyle
Councillor Rebekah Moll
Councillor Jon Tolley

Norbiton Ward
Councillor Bill Brisbane
Councillor Linsey Cottington
Councillor Sheila Griffin

Tudor Ward
Councillor David Cunningham
Councillor Maria Netley (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Hugh Scantlebury (Chair)

* Absent

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF KINGSTON TOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE

Councillor Maria Netley was proposed was Chair by Councillor Hugh Scantlebury and seconded by Councillor David Cunningham.

Councillor Hugh Scantlebury was proposed as Vice Chair by Councillor David Cunningham and seconded by Councillor Phil Doyle.

**RESOLVED that:** Councillor Maria Netley is appointed as Chair and Councillor Hugh Scantlebury as Vice Chair for the 2016/17 municipal year.

Voting: Unanimous for both appointments.

2. QUESTIONS

One written question received from Mr Alan Sherwood-Page
I would appreciate it if the neighbourhood committee would consider making Durlston Road, Studland Road etc. into Controlled Parking Zones as parking (mainly by commuters) has become a real problem in our area and we are all finding it increasingly difficult to park in the road at all during the day. I have been approached by a number of my neighbours with the same complaint and feel it is now time something was done and proper action taken or we shall all have to have our front gardens concreted over for hard standing.

Response from the Chair:

We have received a number of similar comments regarding the parking situation in Durlston, St Albans and Latchmere Roads. Whilst we would normally expect that a new CPZ would be given a year to bed in to see the full impact, given the strength of resident feeling and after consulting with local Councillors and Officers, (both groups of which have had time to assess the current situation) we would look to reduce that time frame.

However, it should be noted that there are currently a number of different scenarios that would make an immediate study inaccurate, for example, the closure of the Kingston Academy Car Park and the up coming school holidays. Therefore it would be inadvisable for us to formally request the officers to action an official study until, the status quo returns.

Additionally, we will need to consider the current workload of the officers to understand when such a study can be scheduled.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor David Glasspool.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED that: the minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2016 are agreed as a correct record.

6. PETITIONS

The following petition was received and introduced by the lead petitioner, Mr George Thwaites:

“We the residents of Durlston, St Albans, Studland and Latchmere Roads, call upon the Royal Borough of Kingston Council to investigate urgently the implementation of a CPZ in our roads. Since the introduction of the Albany Park Road CPZ, our roads
have become overwhelmed with congestion from commuter parking - making it impossible to park near our houses and causing danger and distress to local residents, especially the elderly and those with young children. The new Kingston Academy is already placing additional pressure on parking which will only intensify as class sizes expand over the coming years. We therefore call for an immediate investigation by Traffic Officers with a view to the Council introducing a CPZ scheme in our roads at the earliest opportunity.”

7. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

A summary of the reasons for granting permission and of any relevant development plan policies and proposals is included in the report of the Head of Planning and Regeneration on each application where permission is recommended.

Permitted applications are subject to the conditions, informatives and other requirements set out in the report together with any other details on late responses to consultations or comments received since the agenda was printed, revised drawings circulated at the meeting and amended recommendations, additional conditions and informatives set out below.

Applications refused are for the reasons set out in the report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration and any amended reasons are set out below.

Under the arrangements for speaking on planning applications the applicant’s representative and objectors spoke on the following application:

**114 Lower Ham Road**

Ruth Venn and Mr Trotman spoke as objectors

Mr Ian Crane (agent) spoke on behalf of the applicant

8. **PLANNING APPLICATION - 114 LOWER HAM ROAD, KT2 5BD**  

Erection of a dwelling house with associated works including rearrangement of parking and vehicular access following demolition of existing dwellinghouse.

A motion was proposed by Councillor David Cunningham and seconded by Councillor Andrea Craig to reject the application. The motion fell.

A vote was then taken on the substantive motion to permit and this was agreed.

**PERMIT**

Voting:

**Motion to reject the application:**
In favour – Councillors Geoff Austin, Andrea Craig, David Cunningham, Maria Netley
Against – Councillors Bill Brisbane, Linsey Cottington, Phil Doyle, Sheila Griffin, Rebekah Moll, Hugh Scantlebury

Abstain - Jon Tolley

**Recommendation to permit the application:**
In favour - Councillors Bill Brisbane, Linsey Cottington, Phil Doyle, Sheila Griffin, Hugh Scantlebury, Jon Tolley

Against – Councillors Geoff Austin, Andrea Craig, David Cunningham, Maria Netley

Abstain – Councillor Rebekah Moll

9. **PRESENTATION ON THIS YEAR’S CHRISTMAS MARKET PROPOSALS**

Robin Hibbert, Kingston First outlined the approach to this year’s Christmas market. He explained that Christmas markets had become increasingly popular across the UK and presented opportunities for positive returns on investment but returns were not as significant as those on mainland Europe.

It was estimated that the turnover of the 2015 Christmas Market which covered a 6 week period was £850k with a footfall of 65,800. 60% of visitors were aged 35-65, 62% were women and 55% visited more than twice. For every pound spend at the market £1.7 was spend elsewhere.

Kingston first’s ambition is to position Kingston as a top UK Christmas Market destination which will attract custom both local and from further afield encouraging overnight stays and supporting the hospitality and leisure industry. A business plan for Christmas Markets has been developed covering the remaining four year term of the Business Improvement District. A number of steps have been identified including:

- Expanding the current Christmas market footprint in carefully selected locations
- Building a top quality vibrant, visual and interactive market experience which encourages visitors and shopper spend
- Working with a range of top quality Christmas market companies and traders both locally and abroad to develop a good range of quality stores
- Working closely with council and other key stakeholders

Tabled information included details of a four-year development plan covering a range of objectives which included increasing the footprint of the Christmas market, increasing the number of stalls, turnover/economic performance, the “dwell factor” and visitor numbers. Plans showing the position of stalls for 2016 were also included showing the intention to place stalls around the pedestrianised memorial square area and Clarence Street in addition to the Ancient Market area.
During discussion it was suggested that the quality of stalls last year was poor compared with for example the Christmas market at Eastleigh. Mr Hibbert confirmed that there were plans to address this and an alpine village will be placed in the Churchyard area. He confirmed that there is no intention to use Memorial Gardens this year.

10. **INTRODUCTION OF DOUBLE YELLOW LINES AT WATERS SQUARE**  

The proposal was to introduce double yellow lines at Waters Square to enable emergency vehicular access. The current width of the carriage way is not adequate for two way traffic and it was proposed to introduce one way traffic with “at any time” waiting restrictions on both sides of the road.

**RESOLVED that:**

1. Objections to the introduction of double yellow lines are set aside and the Traffic Management Order be made; and

2. The objectors are informed of the decision.

Voting: Unanimously in favour

11. **ANCIENT MARKET PLACE - REVIEW THE MECHANISM FOR CONTROLLING THE AREA**  

Following concerns raised by members of the public about the rising bollards controlling vehicular access to the Ancient Market Place, the report put forward options to improve traffic enforcement in pedestrian zones in the Kingston Town Centre area. The rising bollards are prone to damage, expensive to repair and in some cases have given rise to insurance claims.

Two options were put forward in the report, firstly, physical barriers and secondly, unattended moving traffic enforcement cameras, the latter option being the recommended option. Six cameras would be required to enforce the Ancient Market, Castle Street and Clarence Street and the committee was requested to approve the installation of six cameras. Three would initially replace the rising bollards in the Ancient Market Place at a cost of £72K and bids for S106 and some capital funding would be made. The remaining three will be considered at a later date if needed and would require a further funding bid.

**RESOLVED that:**

1. Approval is given for the installation of six unattended moving traffic enforcement cameras;

2. Bids for S106 and capital funding would be made to secure the funding for the installation of three unattended moving traffic enforcement cameras; and
3. The need for installation of the further three unattended moving traffic enforcement cameras would be assessed and a further funding bid made at a later stage.

Voting: unanimously in favour

12. CROSSOVER AT 44 GIBBON ROAD

The Committee was requested to consider the application by the resident of 44 Gibbon Road to widen the existing crossover outside 44 Gibbon Road, Kingston upon Thames. One objection was received about a second crossing for one property in a road which was heavily parked.

The widening of the existing crossover would require the removal of one of the parking bays outside the property. Gibbon Road currently has 72 spaces for on-street parking and 90 resident parking permits have been sold for Gibbon Road residents.

The committee was requested to either set aside the appeal on the grounds of losing one on-street parking space in an area where there is great demand for on-street parking or to uphold the appeal and allow the widening of the existing crossover, subject to a traffic management order.

Following the written question and petition discussed earlier in the meeting (see minutes 2 and 6) concerning the displacement of parking following the introduction of CPZ in Lower Ham Road, Bank Lane, Albany Mews and Albany Park Road (approved by this committee on 3 June 2015), a motion was proposed by Councillor David Cunningham and seconded by Councillor Hugh Scantlebury requesting that future applications for crossovers in the area near to the new CPZ zone be brought to committee.

RESOLVED that:

1. The objection is upheld and the crossover widening at 44 Gibbon Road disallowed; and

2. All future crossover applications are brought to the Kingston Town Neighbourhood Committee for determination where the location is within Latchmere Road, Latchmere Lane, and St Albans, Durlston and Studland Roads. The time period would be agreed by the Chair in discussion with the Highways Officer.

Voting:

Resolution 1 – unanimously in favour

Resolution 2:

For – Councillors Geoff Austin, Bill Brisbane, Linsey Cottington, David Cunningham, Andrea Craig, Sheila Griffin, Maria Netley, Hugh Scantlebury
Against – Councillor Phil Doyle

Abstain – Councillors Rebekah Moll, Jon Tolley

13. **URGENT ITEM AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR - DOWN HALL ROAD RELOCATION OF ROAD CLOSURES**

Kingston Town Neighbourhood Committee considered proposals for traffic management improvements for Skerne Road and Down Hall Road at the meeting on 9 December 2015 and approved the progression of a Traffic Management Order for the following:

- Relocation of the existing road closure/barrier to motor vehicles between Skerne Road and Down Hall Road to further north of the rail bridge in Skerne Road
- Introduction of a new road closure to motor vehicles at Skerne Road south of the rail bridge at the junction with Steadfast Road end
- Introduction of a new road closure to motor vehicles at Down Hall Road and Thames Side at the vicinity of the rail bridges as shown on Annex 1
- Introduction of two ways to cyclists and vehicular traffic on Down Hall Road
- Access to two ways traffic on Down Hall Road through Skerne Road.

The report detailed an objection to the Traffic Management Order and the officer response and the committee was requested to set aside the objection of a traffic management order to enable the traffic order to be progressed in advance of the planned opening of a nearby hotel.

**RESOLVED that**: The objection to the Traffic Management Order be set aside to enable the following works to be progressed:

a) Relocation of the existing road closure/barrier to motor vehicles between Skerne Road and Down Hall Road to further north of the rail bridge in Skerne Road;

b) Introduction of a new road closure to motor vehicles at Skerne Road south of the rail bridge at the junction with Steadfast Road end;

c) Introduction of a new road closure to motor vehicles at Down Hall road and Thames Side at the vicinity of the rail bridges as shown on Annex 1;

d) Introduction of two ways to cyclists and vehicular traffic on Down Hall Road, and

e) Access to two ways traffic on Down Hall Road through Skerne Road.

Voting: Unanimously in favour
14. RESIDENTS' VISITORS PARKING PERMITS FOR RIVERSIDE ORGANISATIONS IN LOWER HAM ROAD

The report set out requests received by and on behalf of businesses in the Albany Boathouse, Albany Sailing Club and Leander Sea Scouts (which are located in a Controlled Parking Zone) for access to resident visitor parking permits for their use and for use by their visitors.

The extension of the Canbury Gardens CPZ approved by this Committee on 3 June 2015 has adversely affected businesses who rely on street parking.

The borough’s policy precludes businesses from being eligible for resident visitor permits, however business visitor permits could be supplied in this controlled parking area, but this would require a Traffic Management Order to make a minor change to the CPZ. The TMO would include a statutory consultation period. It was proposed that if any objections were received, these would be discussed with the Chair who would determine whether or not the TMO is implemented.

RESOLVED that:

1. Business visitor permits throughout controlled parking zone C are approved subject to the publication of a TMO and no objections are received; and

2. The Chair be given delegated powers to determine the TMO in the event that objections are received.

Voting:

For - Councillors Bill Brisbane, Linsey Cottington, Andrea Craig, David Cunningham, Phil Doyle, Sheila Griffin, Rebekah Moll, Maria Netley, Hugh Scantlebury, Jon Tolley

Against – none

Abstain – Councillor Geoff Austin

15. BIG BELLY BIN PILOT REVIEW

A six months pilot of Big Belly Bins commencing in August 2015 took place in Kingston Town Centre to coincide with the Council’s “Cleaner Kingston” campaign and bins were branded using the campaign imagery “you wouldn’t do this at home”. Twenty six litter bins were replaced by 10 Big Belly Bins. Seven were locate in Clarence Street, two in Castle Street and one in Fife Road. The Big Belly Bins employ a solar powered compactor and a traffic light indicator system to notify street cleansing operators when the bin fills – green - less than 75%, amber - more than 75% and red - more than 85% full. Contracts for Big Belly Bins are in place worldwide including Sydney and New York.

The pilot enabled significant reduction in the emptying of the bins. Pre-trial monitoring of the standard bins in the trial area revealed that bins were emptied up to
6 times a day whereas Big Belly Bins were emptied just once a day. There were some issues, all of which were resolved. These included jamming hoppers and checking was introduced. Locks on the cigarette holders also jammed and this has been resolved on other models. Retailers in Castle Street were unhappy with the location of one of the bins and this was relocated.

Based on the results achieved in the trial and resolution of issues outlined above, the report recommended that the Council investigates (possibly in partnership with Kingston First) the potential to enter into an agreement with Big Belly Bins to permanently install these bins in the Kingston Town Centre bid-area subject to resources being identified.

Members congratulated the officer on the success of the pilot and welcomed the 97% efficiency delivered by the Big Belly Bins. In response to a question the officer confirmed that there is a flexible approach to emptying to avoid smells from rubbish and in relation to recycling, the officer explained that this is difficult to achieve successfully in public areas due to contamination. Recycling is, however, very successful in household collections.

Councillor Hugh Scantlebury proposed, seconded by Councillor Phil Doyle that the considerable success of the pilot is noted and that a request is made to Residents Committee to undertake further evaluation and to consider roll out of Big Belly Bins in the borough.

RESOLVED that: The success of the pilot is noted and Residents Committee is requested to consider the outcome of the pilot, undertake further evaluation and consider the potential for roll out of Big Belly Bins in the borough.

Voting: Unanimously in favour

16. NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGER'S REPORT

The Neighbourhood Manager provided the following information:

- Bandstand concerts in Canbury Gardens will take place on Sunday afternoons, 3pm-5pm during the summer
- The Dragon Boats races are on Sunday 17 July in Canbury Gardens
- Ride London is on 31 July

17. NEIGHBOURHOOD BUDGET OUTTURN 2015/16

The report provided detail on the final outturn underspend for Kingston Town Neighbourhood which amounted to £61,749. The Director of Finance will recommend to the Treasury Committee (on 30 June 2016) that this is carried forward for use in 2016/17 for neighbourhood priorities. Part of the underspend has been allocated to two schemes which are not yet complete, these being the repair of the Shrubsole statue in the Ancient Market Place and support for the formation of the Park Gate Residents Association. The unallocated underspend is £51,249. The
main areas of underspend are related to traffic management schemes, management and operations, the rangers and the discretionary budgets.

The 2016/17 budget amounted to £33,000 which included £24,000 for ward funding.

The committee was asked to agree to carry forward the underspend subject to approval by Treasury Committee, whether to ringfence £10,500 for the two schemes that have not started and to decide on the use of the remaining underspend.

RESOLVED that:

1. The 2015/16 outturn position for this Neighbourhood is noted;

2. The Treasury Committee is recommended to carry forward the £61,749 underspend for the use on Kingston Town Neighbourhood priorities in 2016/17;

3. £10,500 is ringfenced for the two schemes which have not commenced;

4. Suggestions are given to the Neighbourhood Manager about how to utilise the remaining underspend of £51,249, subject to Treasury Committee’s agreement to carry forward, and these suggestions are considered by this Committee on 6 September 2016; and

5. The current budget for 2016/17 is noted.

Voting: unanimously in favour

18. NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMUNITY FUNDING

The report provided an update on changes to the way the Council funds community activities and projects.

The Council has moved from a Voluntary and Community Corporate Grants programme to a commissioning approach of awarding term contracts. Groups previously receiving grants are actively engaged in the commissioning approach and process.

A grants programme remains in place for New Initiative Grants of up to £3,000 which will be awarded annually and for smaller Your Kingston Grants of up to £750. The Treasury Committee on 30 June 2016 will be asked to agree that the Your Kingston Grants be open for applications twice per year (in the Spring and Autumn). This is to enable smaller organisations to have access to funding throughout the year.

The Neighbourhood Grants provision has been removed and Groups previously funded by this scheme have been referred to the Your Kingston Grants Programme.

The report also set out the introduction of Ward Funding budgets from 1 April 2016 which provide individual Councillors with an annual fund which they can spend on local community initiatives that benefit residents in their Ward. The scheme aims to
support Councillors in engaging with their residents so that communities can influence and lead on improving their local streets and areas. Councillors have been provided with guidance on the scheme and Neighbourhood Managers will provide support. Hard copies of the guidance has been circulated for ease of reference. The Committee will receive six-monthly updates on Ward Funded activities.

**RESOLVED that:**

1. Progress on the new approach of moving from grants to commissioning to support a sustainable voluntary and community sector together with the New Initiative and Your Grants Programme is noted;

2. Neighbourhood Ward Councillors work with the Neighbourhood Manager to establish and support community initiatives to be funded from their new Ward Funds; and

3. This Committee receives six-monthly updates on community activities funded from the Ward Councillors’ Scheme.

Voting: Unanimously in favour

19. **WORK PROGRAMME**

The work programme for future neighbourhood meetings was noted.

Signed………………………………………………………Date…………………

Chair