MALDENS AND COOMBE NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE

31 OCTOBER 2018

7:30 pm – 10:30 pm

Beverley Ward
* Councillor Mark Durrant
  Councillor Jaesung Ha
  Councillor Lesley Heap (Vice-Chair)

Coombe Hill Ward
  Councillor Rowena Bass
  Councillor Ed Fram
  Councillor Ian George

Coombe Vale Ward
  Councillor Roy Arora
* Councillor Kim Bailey
  Councillor Munir Ravalia

Old Malden Ward
  Councillor Kevin Davis
  Councillor Jason Hughes
  Councillor Nicola Sheppard

St James Ward
  Councillor Tim Cobbett
  Councillor Simon Edwards (Chair)
  Councillor Annette Wookey

* Absent and sent apologies

22. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

A resident, Mr Ismali Vali, addressed the Committee to notify them of the first successful meeting of the informal Painters Estate scheme working group, formed at the previous meeting of the Committee. It was noted that the group was tasked with progressing the Van Dyck Avenue area (Painters Estate) scheme and to feed this information into a report which would be brought back to a future Committee meeting.

A member of the public, Mr James Giles raised four questions. His first question was in relation to a previous petition submitted regarding the resurfacing of Highbury Close. By way of response it was explained that the scheme was part of the planned highways works and letters were hand delivered to every resident on Highbury Close to inform them that the work would be completed within the current financial year.
His second question related to pigeon roosting at the Fountain Roundabout which presented a hazard for residents. By way of response officers would look into the matter concerned.

A further question was raised which related to an update on the Christ Church Playing Fields planning application that was heard by Committee in March 2018. By way of response, the planning officer present explained that the applicant had appealed the Council’s decision of non-determination and deferral and the delay for the item coming back to Committee was because it was being dealt with by the Planning Inspectorate.

Mr Giles’ final question was in relation to finding an alternative venue to hold the Maldens and Coombe Neighbourhood Committee. It was suggested that the Shiraz Mirza Hall or New Malden Methodist Church may be a suitable location.

By way of response it was explained that Neighbourhood Committee venues must fulfil a number of key requirements. They must be sufficient size to accommodate reasonable numbers of the public, have disabled access, a current fire risk assessment, a hearing loop for those who use hearing devices, sufficient parking, projector/screen facilities, sufficient tables and chairs for the Committee layout, and they must be willing to accommodate meetings which can finish past 11pm, so up to 11.30pm and later when taking into account packing-up the audio equipment and paperwork after the meeting. Furthermore as Neighbourhood Committees deal with planning applications as part of their remit, which need to be considered within a particular timeframe, there is always a chance that there will be several planning applications coming before the Committee on top of other items of business. In these situations the meetings can go beyond 10pm and up to 11.30pm due to the debate and questions that can take place. The Committee has had situations in the past where it had gone beyond 11pm and the other items of business had to be deferred because the Committee was asked to leave the premises. This is not in the interests of the Committee or the members of the public in attendance. Therefore because of this requirement, it can be very difficult to find a venue that will operate in this manner. Alternative venue options were being considered for the 2019-20 municipal year.

23. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Mark Durrant and Kim Bailey.

24. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

25. PETITIONS

A petition was submitted by Tony and Liz Williams, signed by 24 residents which requested easier access for cars, refuse collectors and emergency vehicles at Reynolds Road, Old Malden. The officers present confirmed that this petition would
be considered accordingly and a response would be given as set out in the Council’s Petition Scheme.

The Committee also noted the existence of an active online petition, signed by 592 residents which called for the Council’s support in saving the parish halls for community use. The officers present confirmed that this petition would be considered accordingly and a response would be given as set out in the Council’s Petition Scheme. It was noted that as the petition had received over 500 signatures it would be passed to Full Council to consider.

26. NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGERS REPORT

The Neighbourhood Manager announced details of the following matters:

- **New Malden Christmas Lights Switch On**
  Due to take place on Friday 30th November from 5pm, with Father Christmas and the Mayor attending at 5:45pm.

- **Remembrance Sunday - Sunday 11th November**
  There would be a Parade from 9am, Service at New Malden Memorial starts at 9.30. Additionally, a Tommy silhouette of a WW1 Soldier complete with a poppy, to commemorate WW1’s centenary - on Fountain roundabout. Furthermore the flagpole at New Malden library has been refurbished - thanks to all the Maldens and Coombe Councillors for their contributions to support the library - so the flag can fly in plenty of time for Remembrance Sunday.

- **Manor Park – Bulb Planting Saturday 10 November at 10am**
  A great community event suitable for all the family was taking place in Manor Park where residents can assist in planting bulbs for the area.

- **Homezone area Clean-up on Saturday 8 December at 10am**
  It was reported that there would be a community clean-up of the Homezone area around Cromwell Avenue. Rangers and Neighbourhood Managers would be present helping residents improve the area.

27. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2018 were approved as a correct record.

28. 18/14466 - MAPLE COURT ACACIA GROVE, NEW MALDEN, KT3 3BX

Demolition of garages and conversion into car parking together with the erection of boundary fencing.
This item was Withdrawn.

29. 18/14686 - DEVELOPMENT LAND REAR OF 36-38 CHURCH ROAD, WORCESTER PARK, KT4 7RD

Demolition of existing garage and erection of 2x semi-detached dwellings and formation of new vehicular access and crossover

Speakers on the application

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Permit subject to conditions and informatives as set out in the Committee report and the following amended condition (7):

Before any above groundwork commence a hard and soft landscaping scheme including screening to the southern and northern boundaries and where applicable the retention of the existing trees. Shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved scheme shall be implemented within the first planting season following completion of the development and the tree planting and landscaping shall thereafter be maintained for five years to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority. Any trees or shrubs which die during this period shall be replaced in the first available planting season, and the area shown to be landscaped on the northern and southern boundaries shall be permanently retained for that purpose only.

Reason: In the interests of visual amenity and also that the Local Planning Authority shall be satisfied as to the details of the development in accordance with Policy DM10 (Design Requirements for New Developments including House Extensions) of the LDF Core Strategy Adopted April 2012

Voting:

For: Jaesung Ha, Tim Cobbett, Lesley Heap, Rowena Bass, Kevin Davis, Simon Edwards, Munir Ravalia, Nicola Sheppard, Annette Wookey, (9)

Against: Jason Hughes, Ed Fram, Ian George (3)

Abstain: Councillor Roy Arora (1)
30. **18/14753 - KINCROSS, 13 COOMBE LANE WEST, KINGSTON UPON THAMES, KT2 7EW**

Erection of two storey side extension, part single storey, part two storey rear extensions and front dormer window roof extensions to facilitate loft conversion with balconies to the rear. Conversion of existing dwellinghouse into 8x residential units, providing 3x 3 bed, 4x 2 bed and 1x 1 bed with associated car parking, cycle storage and refuse storage (Amended plans- alterations to layout, set back of side extension and internal alterations).

**Speakers on the application**

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<td>Michael Wood</td>
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**Permit** subject to conditions and informatives as set out in the Committee report.

**Voting:**

For: Jaesung Ha, Tim Cobbett, Rowena Bass, Kevin Davis, Simon Edwards, Jason Hughes, Ed Fram, Ian George, Munir Ravalia, Nicola Sheppard, Annette Wookey (12)

Against: (0)

Abstain: Councillor Lesley Heap (1)

31. **SHORT FRONTAGE AGREEMENT - 69 BURLINGTON ROAD KT3 Appendix B 4LP**

Members considered an appeal against the Highways officers’ refusal for installation of a vehicular crossover where the property frontage was less than the minimum 4.57m which was required under the Vehicle Crossover Policy.

Members considered the public safety implications of granting the crossover permission. It was discussed that vehicles parking could potentially obstruct the public walkway for residents such as wheelchair users, which could result in a safety hazard. Members were mindful that as any permission granted would be permanently attached to the property in question and future owners could own larger vehicles that could extend over the pavement and present a safety concern. The Committee agreed that the Crossover Policy needed to be adhered to in this case.

**Resolved** that the vehicle crossover application refusal by the Highways Department be upheld which will result in the vehicular crossover at 69 Burlington Road not being constructed.
32. QUEEN’S ROAD AND CRESCENT ROAD WIDTH RESTRICTIONS  Appendix C
OUTCOME OF CONSULTATIONS

Members considered a report detailing officer recommendations following direction by the Maldens and Coombe Neighbourhood Committee on the 17 January 2018 and at the Kingston Neighbourhood Committee on 24 January 2018 to conduct a local consultation on proposed width restrictions at Crescent Road and Queen’s Road.

It was noted that the purpose of the consultation was to consider proposals to reduce the number of heavy good vehicles using residential roads and subsequent traffic congestion. Members considered that the 10% response rate achieved did not provide a significant indication of public support, or opposition, especially given that the proposed measures would impact on a much larger proportion of the local area than have engaged in the consultation exercise. On this basis, it was considered that the measures did not offer value for money and do not offer a significant community benefit.

A member suggested that officer’s investigate the introduction of a 20mph zone at Queen’s Road and the improvement to the safety of the crossing. By way of response the officer stated that this would be discussed further with the Chair and Vice-Chair and this suggestion would be reported to the Kingston Town Neighbourhood Committee on 1 November 2018.

Resolved that –

1. the results of the consultation are noted, across both Kingston Town and Maldens and Coombe Neighbourhood Committees;

2. given that the response rate is low, and for the reasons explained in paragraphs B and C, no further action be taken on the proposals for Crescent Road and Queens Road; and

3. the Committee’s decision be fed back to the Residents Working Group.

Voting:
Unanimous

33. NEIGHBOURHOOD REVIEW  Appendix D

Members considered a report on the emerging outline proposals of a review into the strengthening of the Council’s Neighbourhoods arrangements. It was noted that the focus of the review was to ensure that Neighbourhood Committees had the ability to help determine local priorities; take decisions on local issues; act as an effective means of engagement with the local community; are consulted on strategic or
It was noted that the Neighbourhoods Review complemented a broader review of the Council’s constitutional structures which sought to ensure that the governance processes were robust, efficient and flexible and to enhance clarity on responsibility for decision making. Members considered the presentation attached at Annex 1 which set out the areas of focus of the Neighbourhoods Review, which was intended as a framework to take forward and develop final proposals based on Member feedback.

Members proposed a number of suggestions including the re-establishment of Planning Sub-Committees with a smaller membership of perhaps one member per ward, which could be held at 6.00pm directly before Neighbourhood Committees. However, it was explained that this would potentially exclude residents and Councillors who had work commitments and had to factor in travel time.

In addition, the Committee emphasised that any reintroduction of neighbourhood conversation type events would need to be carefully considered as they had generally low turnout in the past. It was suggested that decisions and engagement worked hand-in-hand and residents may not want to attend engagement meetings that did not make the final decision.

The Committee was mindful that engagement with residents needed to improve and there was a need to give residents a reason to engage. It was suggested that many residents did not want to spend their evening after work attending Neighbourhood Committees. It was suggested that the Council could look at experimental ways of engagement to broaden communication with residents and improve engagement generally on issues that affected them. Some members indicated that the existing engagement methods already worked effectively through the use of Ward Surgeries, phone and email correspondence with residents.

A Member suggested that neighbourhood meetings could have a wider community leadership role on areas such as the Health Sector, Police, and the future of the New Malden generally such as the high street.

A resident addressed the Committee in support of the suggestion for a 6.00pm start time and the re-establishment of the Planning Sub-Committees directly prior to Neighbourhood meetings. However he raised concern that the current proposals may be too wide ranging and instead needed to have a particular vision in mind to work effectively.

Members were in favour of the retention of Ward Funding allocations to individual Councillors rather than pooling it into a wider Neighbourhood sum. Councillors felt that the ward funding worked well in its existing format and was a way residents could see the work of the Council through visible initiatives such as planting flowers.

**Resolved** that the Committee considered and commented upon the proposals for the strengthening of the Council’s Neighbourhood arrangements set out in Annex 1 of the agenda report.

Voting:
34. **APPOINTMENT TO HENRY SMITH CHARITY**  

The Committee considered an item on the appointment of a Neighbourhood Committee representative onto the Henry Smith’s Charity for a 5 year term of office. It was noted that the Council appointed two trustees to help administer local endowments from The Henry Smith’s Charity and distribute funds.

**Resolved** that former Councillor David Fraser be appointed as Neighbourhood representative to the Henry Smith’s Charity for a 5 year term of office (2018 to 2023).

Voting:  
Unanimous

35. **TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT UPDATE**  

Members noted the Traffic Management update. A Member queried whether officers could look into alleviating parking issues on Galsworthy Road with possible waiting and loading restrictions as a result of the reintroduction of Blue Badge Holder charges at Kingston Hospital. By way of response the traffic officer explained that this item was an information only item but agreed to discuss further with the Chair at the next Maldens and Coombe neighbourhood internal business meeting.

36. **URGENT ITEMS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR**

There were no urgent items.

Signed……………………………………………………Date…………………

Chair