

COUNCIL, 22 March 2017

A PLANNING ENFORCEMENT ISSUE

Motion on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group

As Members recall a motion before council regarding 2 metre high front walls was referred to the Towns and Communities O&S sub-committee for further consideration and they in turn deferred the matter until the planning department had received legal advice on the legality of the walls.

Planning concluded that part of the wall nearest the house was permitted development and the bit nearest the highway was unlawful. Planning then asked the owner on threat of enforcement action to lower the wall nearest the highway and they responded by submitting a Certificate of Lawfulness saying the entire walls were lawful. This was refused by planning and the owner appealed and the Government Inspector dismissed the appeal without qualification ruling the walls unlawful. (Planning Inspectorate APP/B5480/X/16/3152643)

But in response planning officers are once again intending to ask the owner to lower part of the wall nearest the highway or face enforcement. **This is not good enough.** Planning should enforce against the entire single structure walls and tell the owner to lower the entire walls or remove them completely. This is necessary in the public interest because the walls are anti-social and need to be deterred and because this is fair not punitive enforcement considering the Government Inspector ruled the entire walls unlawful.

Thus Council calls on officers to consider enforcing against the entire walls, but allowing the owner the option of lowering their entire height to avoid having to remove them completely.

Amendment by the Conservative Group

This Council requests the Town and Communities O & S sub committee to review again the case involving 2 metre high front walls referred to it on 25 November 2015 in the light of the subsequent appeal decision (Planning Inspectorate APP/B5480/X/16/3152643) and updated legal advice received.

Council, 22 March 2017

B SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAMS AND NEW POLICING MODEL

Motion on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group

The Council Leader volunteered Havering to pioneer a Tri-borough police merger with Redbridge and Barking and Dagenham, rather than await the outcome of a reorganisation elsewhere in London. The reorganisation like the Newham merger, will be difficult to reverse even if further mergers are not progressed across London. The Council Leader says being a pioneer has advantages because the reorganisation includes strengthened Safer Neighbourhood Teams with designated ward officers!

Nevertheless Council calls on the Executive not to support the Tri-borough without guarantees that SNT designated ward officers won't be re-designated response officers and sent to police events outside the borough.

Amendment by the Conservative Group

Amend to read:

This Council thanks the Borough Commander for the thorough and informative briefing to members of the Council given on the 20th February about the Tri-borough policing pilot involving Havering Redbridge and Barking and Dagenham and his offer of a follow up session before the pilot concludes and notes that:

- it is one of two pilot schemes for a programme to be rolled out across the whole of Greater London
- the Metropolitan Police identified our three boroughs for one of the pilots
- it is reversible
- it gives the opportunity to focus on the policing needs of the Borough
- it provides the ability to influence the eventual shape of the London-wide scheme.

Amendment by the Labour Group

Delete the motion and replace with the following:

This Council welcomes the Metropolitan Police Service initiative promoting cross Borough cooperation recognising the benefits to London wide policing to reduce and prevent fraud, cyber crime and terrorism. It also welcomes the commitment of the Mayor and the MPS to real neighbourhood policing with stronger Safer Neighbourhood Teams which should remain a top priority in Havering.

Council, 22 March 2017

C GRAMMAR SCHOOLS

Motion on behalf of the Labour Group

This Council opposes the introduction of Grammar Schools in the London Borough of Havering.

Amendment by the Conservative Group

Amend to read:

This Council takes pride in the achievements of all its children and young people through the provision of good quality education available to all students and we await further detail about any national scheme for the establishment of new Grammar Schools before taking a considered view on the matter