

GIDEA PARK AREA COMMITTEE (Pettits and Squirrels Heath Wards) AGENDA

7.30 p.m.	Wednesday, 10 October 2007	Marshalls Park School, Pettits Lane, Romford RM1 4BD
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Members **6**: Quorum **3**

COUNCILLORS:

Kevin Gregory (Con) Chairman

Eric Munday (Con)

Ted Eden (Con) Vice Chairman

Michael White (Con)

Michael Armstrong (Con)

Lynden Thorpe (Con)

For information about the meeting please contact: Ian Buckmaster (01708) 432431
E-mail: ian.buckmaster@havering.gov.uk

Havering StreetCare staff will be available at the venue between 7.00 and 7.30pm
to respond to general queries



NOTES ABOUT THE MEETING

1. HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Council is committed to protecting the health and safety of all who attend its meetings or meetings of its Committees etc.

At the beginning of the meeting, there will be an announcement about what you should do if there is an emergency during its course. For your own safety and that of others at the meeting, please comply with any instructions given to you about evacuation of the building, or any other safety related matters.

2. MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES

Although mobile phones, pagers and other such devices are an essential part of many people's lives, their use during a meeting of the Council or one of its Committees can be disruptive and a nuisance. Everyone attending is asked therefore to ensure that any device is switched to silent operation or switched off completely.

3. CONDUCT AT THE MEETING

Although members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the Council and its Committees, they have no right to speak at them. Seating for the public might on some occasions be limited and the Council cannot guarantee that everyone who wants to be present in the meeting room can be accommodated. At Area Committees, there is a public question time.

At all other times, the Chairman of the meeting has discretion to invite members of the public to ask questions or to respond to points raised by Members. Those who wish to do that may find it helpful to advise the Committee Officer before the meeting so that the Chairman is aware that someone wishes to ask a question.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE CHAIRMAN MAY REQUIRE ANYONE WHO ACTS IN A DISRUPTIVE MANNER TO LEAVE THE MEETING AND THAT THE MEETING MAY BE ADJOURNED IF NECESSARY WHILE THAT IS ARRANGED.

If you need to leave the meeting before its end, please remember that others present have the right to listen to the proceedings without disruption. Please leave quietly and do not engage others in conversation until you have left the meeting room.

Gidea Park Area Committee, 10 October 2007**Welcome to this Area Committee Meeting....****Some Frequently Asked Questions****What is an Area Committee?**

It is a formal meeting of all of the Councillors who sit for wards within the Area. Councillors are members of the Committee automatically; they are not appointed because they belong to any particular political party or group, or indeed to none.

What can it do?

The main purpose of an Area Committee is to enable local Councillors to meet with local people to deal with matters of local concern. Committees and other meetings at the Town Hall tend to deal with matters of borough-wide concern.

How many are there?

There are nine Area Committees, between them covering the whole of the borough. They are:

Area	Constituent wards
North Romford	Havering Park and Mawneys
Harold Hill	Heaton and Gooshays
Romford	Brooklands and Romford Town
Gidea Park	Pettits and Squirrels Heath
Emerson Park and Harold Wood	Harold Wood and Emerson Park
Upminster	Upminster and Cranham
Hornchurch	Hacton and St Andrews
Elm Park and Hylands	Elm Park and Hylands
South Hornchurch and Rainham	Rainham & Wennington and South Hornchurch

Each has six Members, three from each of its constituent wards.

Where does it meet?

Each Area Committee meets four times a year at a venue within its area, which it uses regularly for its meetings. Details for the coming meeting are usually published in "Living in Havering" or can be found out by asking Democratic Services at the Town Hall.

What will be on the agenda?

Generally, Area Committee agendas comprise five parts:

- The formalities of the meeting, including minutes of the last meeting

Gidea Park Area Committee, 10 October 2007

- A “surgery” at which the public can raise issues with Committee Members, representatives of StreetCare and of other services
- Reports on highways and other environmental issues
- Information report on issues of current local concern; and
- Future business and meetings.

The precise agenda will vary from meeting to meeting, depending on what needs to be dealt with at any particular time.

A major component of the current issues is schemes for improving the use of the public highway.

Who runs the meeting?

The Committee each year elects one of its Members as Chairman and he or she will be in control. There is a Vice-Chairman who will take charge if the Chairman is absent for any reason.

A member of Democratic Services staff is also present: his or her job is to assist the Chairman with the smooth running of the meeting, to take the Committee’s minutes and to deal with any issues that cannot be dealt with by anyone else.

Who can attend?

By law, Area Committee meetings are open to anyone.

Who will attend?

- The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and other Members and the designated Democratic Services Officer
- Officers from StreetCare, and from other departments that have reports that the Area Committee will be dealing with
- Representatives of other official agencies, such as the police, are also often in attendance.

How can I raise an issue?

There are two ways you can raise an issue:

- *Before the meeting:* contact the Chairman, or the Democratic Services officer who deals with the Area Committee
- *At the meeting:* raise the issue during the public question time period (which usually lasts 30 minutes but, at the Chairman’s discretion if there is time, can last longer)

Gidea Park Area Committee, 10 October 2007**RULES AND CONVENTIONS FOR AREA COMMITTEES**

1. Area Committee meetings will be treated as just one element of community engagement and be used as a means by which community engagement can be promoted.
2. Area Committees will be constituted under the Local Government Act 1972 and will have the purpose set out in Article 10 of Part 2 of the Constitution (as revised).
3. There will be nine Area Committees, each covering two electoral wards as set out in Article 10 of Part 2 of the Constitution (as revised).
4. Each Area Committee will decide the fixed venue where it will hold its meetings except in exceptional circumstances as determined by the Chairman. Additional meetings would ordinarily be held at the same venue.
5. Ordinary Area Committee meetings will start at 7.30pm.
6. Area Committees will meet four times a year, but will have the facility for holding special meetings. The Chairman may also arrange informal meetings of the Area Committee, alone or jointly with others, where to do so is conducive to dealing with particular items of business.
7. Area Committees should and can –
 - (a) consult the public to inform the decision makers;
 - (b) be used for the Council to inform the public;
 - (c) be used for non-Council agencies to inform or consult;
 - (d) be entitled to specifically invite appropriate people or organisations to meetings.
8. Area Committee Chairmen –
 - (a) operate under the Job Description, as agreed from time to time by the Governance Committee;
 - (b) take the role of steering committee and collective Member activity, and
 - (c) be required to report to each area committee meeting on their activities since the last meeting as well as an annual report to be submitted to the last ordinary meeting of the Committee of the Municipal Year.
9. In respect of Public Question Time -
 - (a) 30 minutes be allocated for questions from the public at each ordinary meeting, with the Chairman having discretion to modify that length of time, as the second part of the Agenda;
 - (b) Area Committee Chairman be responsible for dealing with questions and co-ordinate their replies.
10. Area Committee Members appointed to area-specific bodies on behalf of the Area Committee by the Governance Committee be required to report to the Area Committee at least once a year on their activities.
11. Area Committees shall –
 - (a) make decisions in respect of traffic matters or (the parameters to be defined) from time to time by the Governance Committee to be recommendation-makers to those taking the decisions;
 - (b) be allocated a budget of £5,000 and be delegated authority to spend on minor locally-focused environmental initiatives (on the basis of criteria established by the Governance Committee from time to time).
 - (c) be entitled to bid for an allocation from a £45,000 budget held on behalf of Cabinet, such bid to be accompanied by a business case.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman or a member of staff on their behalf will announce details of the arrangements in case of fire or other events that might require the meeting room or building's evacuation.

The Chairman will remind members of the public present, that Councillors have to make decisions on the basis of the facts before them. The Chairman will also remind members of the public that the decisions may not always be popular, but they should respect the need for Councillors to take decisions that will stand up to external scrutiny for accountability.

PART 1

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (If any) – to receive

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members are invited to declare any interests in any of the items on the agenda at this point of the meeting. (Members may still declare an interest in an item at any time prior to the consideration of the matter).

4. MINUTES

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 12 July 2007, and to authorise the Chairman to sign them.

PART 2**5. PUBLIC FORUM AND SURGERY (30 minutes)**

Ward Councillors and possibly other Council services and the Local Police where the Area Chairman has arranged, will be in attendance to give the chance for residents to raise issues with staff, the Police (if present) or Members.

6. FEEDBACK ON MATTERS RAISED AT LAST MEETING

See list attached

PART 3**7. EMPTY PROPERTY STRATEGY**

The Committee are asked to receive a presentation from Environmental Health Services.

8. Sustrans Connect 2 Project

The Committee are asked to receive a presentation from Technical Services.

PART 4**9. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT****10. PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES – Slewins Lane, Hornchurch****11. SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN - Parklands Junior School: Amendments to Proposed Highway Safety Improvements**

PART 5**12. FUTURE AGENDAS**

Committee Members are invited to indicate to the Chairman items they would like to see on future agendas.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 24 January 2007** at a venue to be arranged.

14. URGENT BUSINESS

Other business can be considered at the meeting if the Chairman agrees that circumstances justify consideration on grounds of urgency. The reasons why the matters were considered will be recorded in the minutes.

CHERYL COPPELL
Chief Executive

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
GIDEA PARK `AREA COMMITTEE
St Edward's Primary School, Havering Drive, Romford
12 July 2007 (7.30pm – 9.35pm)**

Present:

COUNCILLORS:

Kevin Gregory (in the Chair at the beginning of the meeting), Michael Armstrong, Eric Munday and Michael White

Councillor Geoff Starns, Cabinet Member, Children's Services was also present

A representative of the press and 7 members of the public were present.

The Chairman advised Members and the public of action to be taken in the event of emergency evacuation of the hall becoming necessary.

Councillor Gregory led those present in prayer.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Edward Cahill.

There were no declarations of interest.

All decisions were taken with no Member voting against.

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Nominations were sought for the office of Chairman of the Committee. Only Councillor Kevin Gregory was nominated.

Councillor Kevin Gregory was declared duly elected and took the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Chairman sought nominations for the appointment of Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

Only Councillor Ted Eden was nominated and he was, therefore, declared duly elected

Gidea Park Area Committee, 12 July 2007**3 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2007 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4 COMMUNITY AND POLICE CONSULTATIVE GROUP (CPCG)

The Committee nominated Councillor Kevin Gregory to represent it on the CPCG.

5 REVIEW OF PRIMARY EDUCATION

The Committee received a presentation from Children's Services, outlining proposals for the re-organisation and investment in Havering's primary schools, which had been considered and agreed by Cabinet on 1 May 2007.

Members noted that there was a long standing issue with the quality of the Council's school building estate which would need approximately £100 million to bring up to an acceptable standard. It was proposed to commence with the modernisation of some primary schools by the investment of £20 million in building new schools and the improvement of others. Members noted that currently some schools had surplus places in excess of 25% of the school's quota and that the modernisation programme aimed to deliver a surplus target of between 5% and 8%. It was advised that schools received their funding based on pupil numbers and that if a school had a surplus of places then its funding would be lower

Members were advised that several mergers and closures were proposed to allow the building and modernisation of other schools, though none was within the Committee's Area.

Members noted that a further report with the proposals or adjusted proposals would probably go to the autumn Cabinet meeting.

6 PUBLIC FORUM AND SURGERY

The following matters were discussed.

- (i) **School travel plan:** a resident stated that the scheme as currently proposed was based on incorrect measurements, resulting in the proposed traffic control measures being in the wrong location and causing sight lines to be inadequate and encouraging on-street parking. The Committee noted that the proposals would be amended to avoid these problems before being published for statutory consultation.

Gidea Park Area Committee, 12 July 2007

- (ii) **Balgores Square area – parking:** the Committee noted that the scheme was proceeding
- (iii) **Marshalls Park area 20mph zone:** members of the public expressed concern that the “speed cushions” might not have been properly installed and claimed that they were causing damage to vehicles crossing them. The Committee noted that the allegations would be investigated.
- (iv) **Rise Park – night time closure:** a resident reported that there was still a hole in the fencing, allowing access to the park even though the gates were locked overnight.
- (v) **Beauly Way – deterioration of grass verges:** a resident expressed concern that people living in Beauly Way were crossing the grass verges, creating ruts that became deep puddles in wet weather; and that, when the grass there was cut, the cuttings were left to blow around the footways, leaving an unsightly mess that could cause blocked drains if not cleared away.
- (vi) **Concrete lamp posts:** a resident referred to the possible dangers of concrete lamp posts and urged that they be replaced by lighter, metal posts. The Committee noted the assurance of the Leader of the Council that, despite earlier rumours, there would not be a PFI scheme for replacing lamp posts. Concrete lamp posts would continue to be replaced by metal ones as opportunity to do so arose.
- (vii) **North Street shops – parking:** a resident referred to the parking of vehicles on the shops’ forecourts, which meant that they had to cross the footway. The Committee noted that the attention of enforcement staff would be drawn to the problem.
- (viii) **Box junction marking:** a resident suggested that Transport for London (TfL) should be asked to review the box junction markings at the North Street/A12 intersection, as he considered that the whole area would become gridlocked if the markings were actually complied with. The Committee noted that was reviewing all crossing arrangements.

7 CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

The Chairman announced that, following his appointment as Chairman of the Council’s adjudication & Review Committee, he had instigated a number of changes in the way in which the Council handled complaints. His intention was to ensure that the public felt they were getting an improved service, with complaints dealt with in a timely manner. He would be reporting further at the next meeting.

Gidea Park Area Committee, 12 July 2007**8 AREA COMMITTEE REVIEW**

The Committee received a report, to be considered by all Area Committees, dealing with a review of the Area Committee arrangements that had been introduced in July 2006. The report concluded that the arrangements had been generally satisfactory.

An issue had been raised by several Area Committees about the venues used. The Council's original guidelines had required each Area Committee to meet at a single venue but several Area Committees had sought greater freedom, to enable them to revert to the former practice of using several venues throughout their Areas. This Committee had expressed such a view.

The Committee noted that, consequently, the Governance Committee would be recommending to Council that the Rules for Area Committees be changed to that effect. In anticipation that Council would agree to make that change, the Committee indicated that it would wish to meet at a different venue for each succeeding meeting, subject to the availability of suitable accommodation on the desired dates.

9 REVISED PROPOSALS FOR A TOUCAN CROSSING IN A12 EASTERN AVENUE EAST BY PARK BOULEVARD, GIDEA PARK

The Chairman agreed that the following item should be considered as an urgent matter, pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, to enable the works, if approved, to proceed.

In January, proposals for a toucan crossing in Eastern Avenue East by Rise Park Boulevard had been considered. Members had not supported the concept of the crossing on the grounds that the traffic speeds were excessive for a safe crossing point and that the new crossing would have a knock-on impact on the junction with Pettits Lane. Instead, it was suggested that a subway be provided as an alternative.

The report now advised that Transport for London (TfL) had considered that suggestion but noted that it was no longer their policy to provide subway (or footbridge) crossings; the preference was for surface, controlled crossings. That being so, TfL now intended to proceed with the design work and subsequently make arrangements for implementation. The crossing would, however, require the Council's co-operation as owner of some affected verge land.

Members were not persuaded that the proposed crossing was the best way of enabling people safely to cross the highway but accepted that there a need for a crossing in this vicinity and noted TfL's intention to proceed.

Gidea Park Area Committee, 12 July 2007**RESOLVED:**

1. That it be noted that TfL had notified the Council as the local Highway Authority about its proposals to provide a toucan crossing in A12 Eastern Avenue East, approx. 300 metres from the junction of Eastern Avenue East/Pettits Lane North, Gidea Park, to be implemented in 2007/08 as shown on drawing no. T43053/PB/003.
2. That the proposals (are shown on drawing no. T43053/PB/003) to provide a shared use path for both cyclists and pedestrians, between the northern kerb line of eastbound carriageway of A12 and the southern kerb line of Rise Park Boulevard be agreed in principle.
3. That the traffic orders needed for resolution 2 above be drafted and publicly advertised and that the Head of Technical Services be authorised in consultation with the Chairman to determine any representations received and to decide whether to proceed with the Order or refer the matter to the Committee.
4. That the Head of the Technical Services formally advise TfL stating that the Area Committee had noted the proposals and that they would be proceeded with as programmed for 2007/08.

10 **REVISED PROPOSALS FOR A TOUCAN CROSSING IN A127 SOUTHEND ARTERIAL ROAD BY GALLOWS CORNER**

The Chairman agreed that the following item should be considered as an urgent matter, pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, to enable the works, if approved, to proceed.

In January this year, Members had considered a report on proposals by TfL for a toucan crossing at the A127 Southend Arterial Road by the Gallows Corner. Members had considered the proposals carefully but had not supported the concept of the crossing on the grounds that the new crossing would be close to the roundabout of Gallows Corner and there were concerns that this may result increase in accidents and that the crossing would have detrimental affects on the traffic at the roundabout. Instead, Members suggested providing the crossing further away from its proposed location.

The Committee was now advised that TfL considers that a controlled crossing at this location was justified, as the existing crossing was hazardous for both cyclists and pedestrians, and intended to proceed accordingly.

Gidea Park Area Committee, 12 July 2007**RESOLVED:**

1. That it be noted that TfL had notified the Council as the local Highway Authority about its proposals to provide a toucan crossing in A127 Southend Arterial Road approx. 50 metres southeast of the Gallows Corner roundabout, to be implemented in 2007/08 as shown on drawing no. T43053/GC/002.
2. That the Head of the Technical Services advise TfL that its proposals were noted by the Committee.

11 RISEBRIDGE GOLF COURSE

The Committee had requested the attendance of the Head of Development & Building Control but was advised that owing to a clash of commitments, he was unable to attend this meeting. He had, however, provided a progress report, which was read aloud to the meeting (and see the Appendix to these minutes).

Residents advised the Committee that they remained dissatisfied. In course of discussion, they were critical of the Council's dealings with the developers, with which Members expressed some sympathy. Residents considered that there had been a number of incidents that should have led to enforcement action being taken by the Council. Particular concern was expressed that, until the flood lagoon was re-instated, homes in the surrounding area would be at risk of being flooded, especially if recent heavy rainfalls continued. A view was expressed that the Council's inaction amounted to dereliction of duty.

RESOLVED:

That the Regulatory Services Committee be requested to review the possible need for enforcement action in relation to the alleged failure of the developer of Risebridge Golf Course to comply with planning controls, and advised that this Committee has an expectation that enforcement action will be taken.

12 LICENSING OF GAMBLING ACTIVITY

A representative of Environmental Services gave a short presentation on licensing functions carried out by council officers.

Members were advised that since November 2005 it had been the responsibility of the Council to carry out licensing activities under the Licensing Act 2003 instead of the local Magistrates Court as had previously

Gidea Park Area Committee, 12 July 2007

happened. Members noted that the four principal concerns the legislation dealt with were

- (i) The prevention of crime and disorder
- (ii) Public safety
- (iii) Prevention of public nuisance
- (iv) The protection of children from harm

Members were advised that licensable activities were

- (i) The sale by retail of alcohol
- (ii) The supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club to, or to the order of, a member of the club
- (iii) The provision of (regulated) entertainment
- (iv) The provision of late night refreshment (between the hours of 23.00 and 05.00)

Members were advised that the act dealt with two specific areas firstly Premises Licences; these were required for any place offering regulated entertainment (including cinemas & theatres), refreshment at night and or alcohol. The other area was Personal Licences these were issued to individuals allowing them to sell and supply alcohol for consumption on or off the premises.

Members noted that once a licence had been issued only the Police and not council officers could instigate a review of the licence and therefore any concerns regarding the operation of licensed premises must be passed to the Police.

Reference was also made to the recent extension of the Council's licensing duties to cover gambling activity.

Risebridge Golf Centre

Briefing Note for Area Committee 12/7/07

Planning staff visited the site most recently on 28 June 2007 and met the developer and his contractor.

Set out below is a position statement on the main issues raised by third parties:

1. Lagoon - The lagoon has been reformed in the south-western corner of the golf centre site. Local residents remain of the view that the lagoon is not as wide as it was previously. In response the developer has indicated that an expansive hedge covers part of the lagoon area and that he will provide a survey and aerial photographs so that this can be clarified.
2. Mounding - the contractor confirmed that none of the material is from the Olympic site. He also confirmed that he must be registered with the Environment Agency as a waste carrier and that conveyancing notes give the address of the origin of the material. His operations licence would be revoked if he did not meet the provisions of his licence, for example if he was involved in fly-tipping. The Environment Agency's hotline is 0800 807060. He also confirmed that piles of concrete at the site have been removed from the usable waste and will be taken off site and crushed for hardcore as this has a higher price.
3. Pond - a pond approximately 2.5m by 6m has been reinstated to the south of the site, close to the A127. It is fed by a ditch. This detail will be submitted as part of the drainage details which can now be finalised.
4. Pond near 18th green - a stagnant pond has been filled in although the small stream that fed it has been retained. Details of surface water drainage are to be submitted and this will form part of this.
5. Noise from vehicles - particularly at the top of Risebridge Chase. The developer suggested that the main cause for complaint was due to the height of the mini-roundabout and some damage to the road. He further suggested that flattening the mound would reduce clatter caused by his and other larger vehicles. This would be a matter for separate consideration.
6. Newts - newt netting has been provided around wooded areas to the east of the site which are to be retained.
7. Ecological survey – A survey was undertaken but its methodology was not satisfactory. Discussions with the developer regarding the survey

Gidea Park Area Committee, 12 July 2007

and its relationship to the revised mounding planning application are ongoing. Clarification of the developer's final intentions are awaited.

8. Flooding - details of the surface water drainage scheme are being prepared for submission. There is no direct evidence that the works at the golf centre are causing this flooding, bearing in mind that there have been national flood warnings and, in deed, flood conditions due to the weather conditions across the country. Any evidence will be considered, however, it is for the Environment Agency to enable stream clearance.
9. Vermin - there have been no further reports of vermin. If people are concerned they should contact the Environmental Health Service.
10. Progress/length of time to completion - the developer/ contractor have indicated that the work is almost half way through. It is estimated that the works will be completed by next summer (2008), however it will depend on weather conditions.
11. Height of mounding - mounding to the west of the site has been indicated as being higher than approved. The developer explained that during the construction phase some mounding is purposely higher due to some stock-piling, but that it is intended to reduce the mounds to the heights approved. Notwithstanding this, some slight amendments have been made to retain existing trees.
12. Planting on the mound adjacent to the lagoon - the developer has now submitted details of the additional planting in this location. This is now under consideration.

Gidea Park Area Committee, 12 July 2007



MEETING	DATE	ITEM
GIDEA PARK AREA COMMITTEE	12 July 2007	6

FEEDBACK ON MATTERS RAISED AT LAST MEETING

At the last meeting, the following issues were raised by members of the public, for reply at this meeting.

- (i) **Risebridge Golf Course:** an oral update will be given at the meeting.
- (ii) **School travel plan:** a resident stated that the scheme as currently proposed was based on incorrect measurements, resulting in the proposed traffic control measures being in the wrong location and causing sight lines to be inadequate and encouraging on-street parking. The Committee noted that the proposals would be amended to avoid these problems before being published for statutory consultation.

Response: Please refer to the report at agenda item 11.

- (iii) **Balgores Square area – parking:** the Committee noted that the scheme was proceeding

Response: Authority is being sought to advertise a scheme for public consultation, which will go ahead if there are no sustained objections.

- (iv) **Marshalls Park area 20mph zone:** members of the public expressed concern that the “speed cushions” might not have been properly installed and claimed that they were causing damage to vehicles crossing them. The Committee noted that the allegations would be investigated.

Response: The cushions with the 20mph Zone have been installed in accordance with the relevant Regulations (in fact, there have been some suggestions that they need to be more severe!)

- (v) **Rise Park – night time closure:** a resident reported that there was still a hole in the fencing, allowing access to the park even though the gates were locked overnight.

Response: Appropriate fencing has been ordered by the contractor and will be installed as soon as possible.

- (vi) **Beauly Way – deterioration of grass verges:** a resident expressed concern that people living in Beauly Way were crossing the grass verges, creating ruts that became deep puddles in wet weather; and that, when the grass there was cut, the cuttings were left to blow around the footways, leaving an unsightly mess that could cause blocked drains if not cleared away.

Response:

- (vii) **Concrete lamp posts:** a resident referred to the possible dangers of concrete lamp posts and urged that they be replaced by lighter, metal posts. The Committee noted the assurance of the Leader of the Council that, despite earlier rumours, there would not be a PFI scheme for replacing lamp posts. Concrete lamp posts would continue to be replaced by metal ones as opportunity to do so arose.

Response: The Council is currently replacing the oldest, cast iron columns in the borough with new steel columns. Once all of these have been dealt with, and subject to the funding continuing, the programme will move to dealing with concrete columns. In the meantime, where a concrete column is replaced or re-sited, a steel column will be erected.

- (viii) **North Street shops – parking:** a resident referred to the parking of vehicles on the shops' forecourts, which meant that they had to cross the footway. The Committee noted that the attention of enforcement staff would be drawn to the problem.

Response: The owners of all in the section of North Street where the vehicles are mounting the new footway to park on the private forecourts have been asked to discourage their customers and others from doing that unless a proper footway crossing is installed but little progress has been made. In the absence of co-operation, the Council will consider installing bollards to stop unauthorised vehicle access.

- (ix) **Box junction marking:** a resident suggested that Transport for London (TfL) should be asked to review the box junction markings at the North Street/A12 intersection, as he considered that the whole area would become gridlocked if the markings were actually complied with. The Committee noted that was reviewing all crossing arrangements.

Response: Residents should complain directly to TfL as follows:

In writing to:
Customer Services
TfL Street Management
84 Eccleston Square
London
SW1V 1PX

By telephone on: 0845 305 1234 (8:00am - 8:00pm
Monday to Friday)

By textphone on: 020 7918 4435 (8:00am - 8:00pm
Monday to Friday)

By fax on: 020 7027 9914
By Email to enquiries@streetmanagement.org.uk

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MEETING	DATE	ITEM
GIDEA PARK AREA COMMITTEE	10 OCTOBER 2007	10

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

SUBJECT: PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES – Slewins Lane, Hornchurch

Wards: Emerson Park and Squirrels Heath

SUMMARY

Pedestrian facilities – Various locations was one of the schemes approved by Transport for London for funding. A feasibility study has recently been carried out to identify pedestrian facilities and accident remedial measures along Slewins Lane, Hornchurch.

This report details the findings of the feasibility study. The proposals include upgrading existing pedestrian refuges, speed cushions, 'At any time' waiting restrictions, centre hatch and slow markings. It is recommended that the pedestrian facilities at the identified location should be approved in principle.

As Gidea Park and Emerson Park & Harold Wood Area Committees are each responsible for a section of Slewins Lane, in accordance with the provisions in the Council's Constitution the final decision on the proposal (provided both Committees agree) will be taken by the Head of Technical Services in consultation with the Chairman of the Regulatory Services. This Committee is requested to provide its views on the proposal accordingly.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Area Committee recommends the Head of Technical Services in consultation with the Chairman of the Regulatory Services Committee to:

- (a) Agree in principle the proposals of upgrading existing pedestrian refuges, speed cushions, 'At any time' waiting restrictions, centre line hatched and slow markings as shown on Plan Nos.QE184/06.
 - (b) Authorise the preparation and advertising of draft traffic management order and traffic notice to introduce at any time waiting restrictions and speed cushions as shown on the above plan.
 - (c) Authorise staff to carry out a public consultation on the above proposals.
2. That, the estimated cost of £12,000 be met from the Transport for London's (TfL) 2007/08 financial year allocation to Havering for Local Safety Schemes.

REPORT DETAIL

Background

1. In December 2006, Transport for London approved funding for a number of local safety schemes as part of 2007/08 Havering Borough Spending Plan settlement. Pedestrian facilities – various locations was one of the schemes approved by TfL. A feasibility study has been carried out to identify pedestrian facilities along Slewins Lane. The proposals, as described in the recommendations are considered to improve pedestrian facilities along Slewins Lane.

Proposals

2. It is proposed to provide wider pedestrian refuges (upgrading existing pedestrian refuges), speed cushions, 'At any time' waiting restrictions, centre hatch and slow markings along Slewins Lane as shown on Plan No. QE184/06. Accident analysis showed that four personal injury accidents (PIAs) occurred along Slewins Lane between Brooklands Gardens and Warrington Gardens over three year period to December 2006. Of the total, two PIAs occurred at the bend outside the Park's entrance. The vehicle speeds appear to be high along this stretch of the road. The proposed measures would help to reduce vehicle speeds along this road. The proposals would also provide pedestrian facilities and minimise accidents at this location.

Consultation

3. The proposals will be publicly advertised and all parties including emergency services and bus companies, affected by the proposals, will be consulted during the consultation period.

Financial Implications and Risks

4. The estimated cost of the proposals is £12,000. Pedestrian facilities – various locations including Slewins Lane was one of the schemes approved by TfL which is to be implemented from Havering's 2007/08 allocation for Local Safety Schemes. This scheme is fully funded by TfL.

Legal Implications and Risks

5. Contained in the report.

Human Resources Implications and Risks

6. None.

Equalities and Social inclusion Implications and Risks

7. There would be some visual impact from the pedestrian facility proposals, however these proposals would generally improve safety for both pedestrians and vehicles.

Conclusions

8. The proposals including upgrade existing pedestrian refuges, speed cushions, 'At any time' waiting restrictions, centre hatch and slow markings are proposed to improve pedestrian facility and safety along Slewins Lane. It is therefore recommended that the proposals in the recommendation should be approved in principle.

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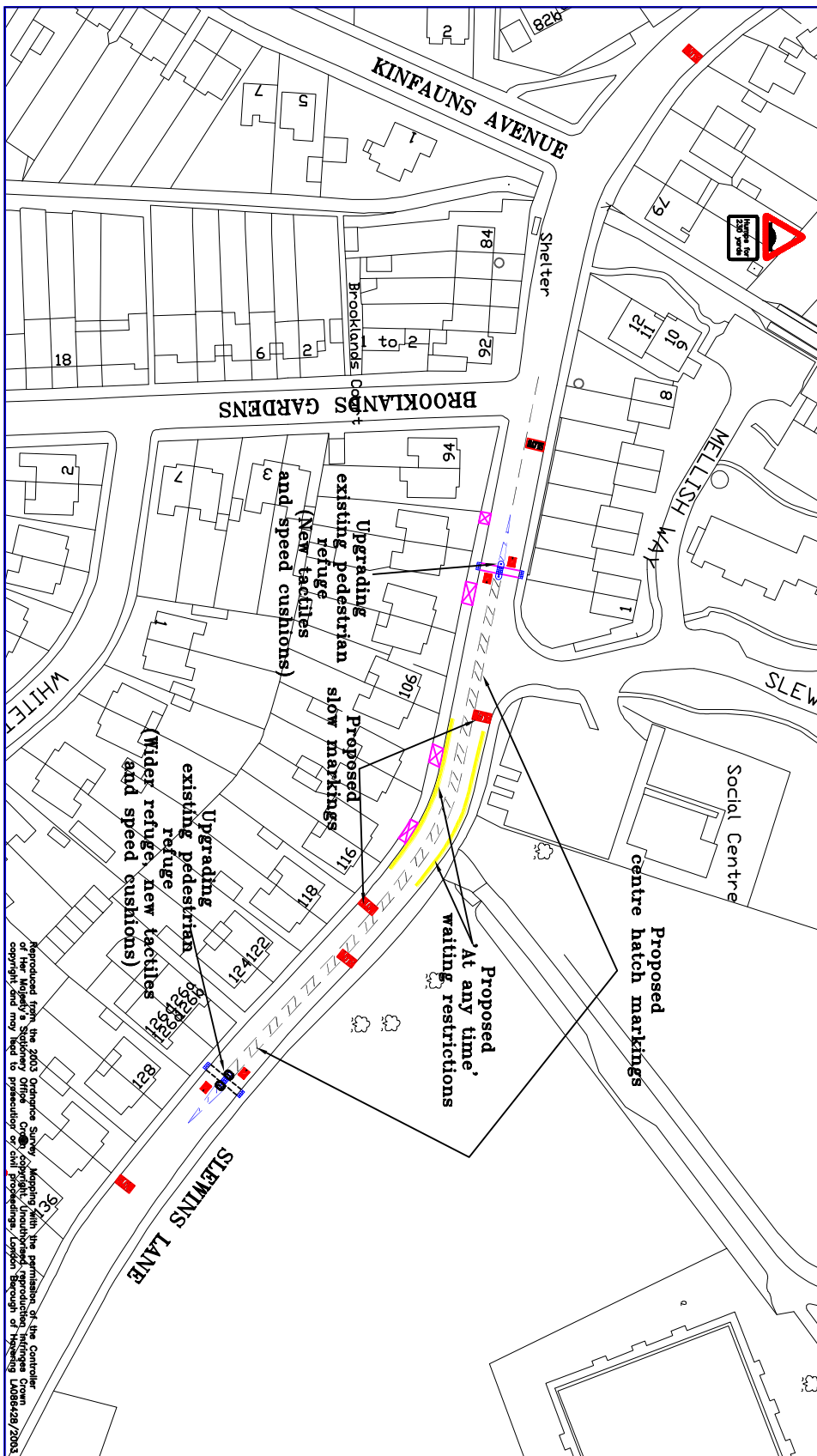
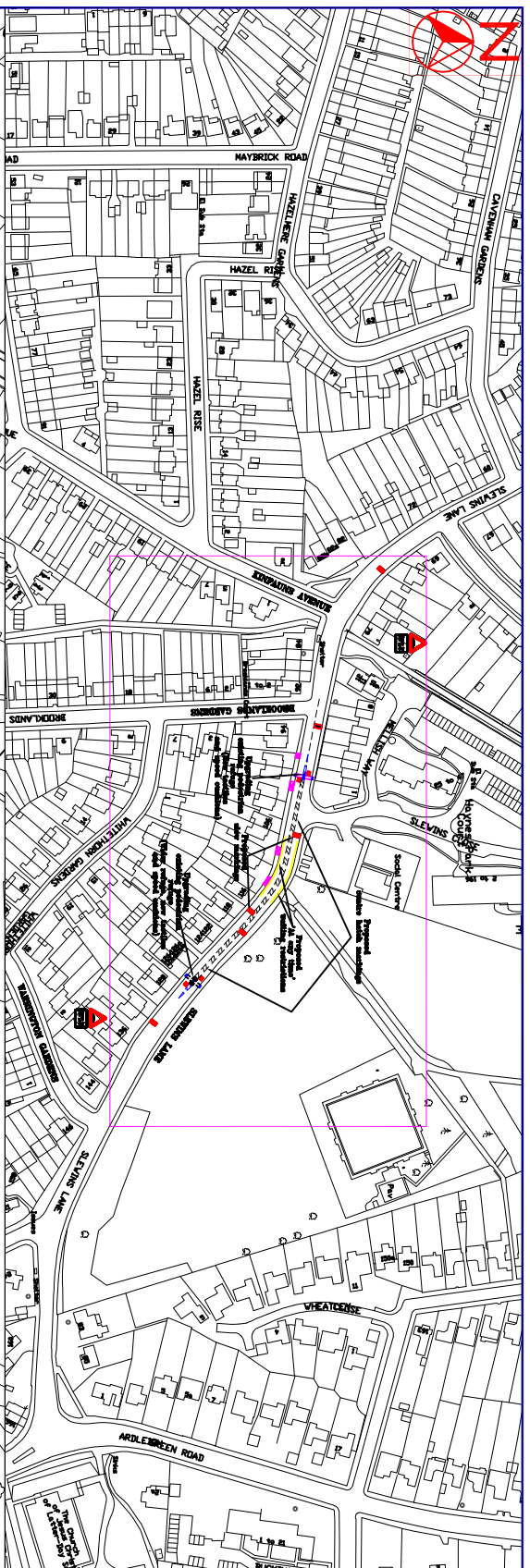
CHERYL COPPELL
Chief Executive

Background papers: None

Gidea Park Area Committee, 10th October 2007

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Notes



revision suffix	Revision details	Date

Job Title

PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES

Drawing Title

**SLEWING LANE
HORNCHURCH**

**LONDON BOROUGH
OF HAVERING**

TRAFFIC & ENGINEERING
TECHNICAL SERVICES
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Date	Sept 07	Scales	NTS	Drawn By	V.SIVA
ACAD Dwg			Drawing Number	Q1184/06
				Rev	A

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MEETING	DATE	ITEM
GIDEA PARK AREA COMMITTEE	10 OCTOBER 2007	11

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

**SUBJECT: SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN - Parklands Junior School
Amendments to Proposed Highway Safety Improvements**

Ward: Gidea Park

SUMMARY

“School Travel Plans” is a Transport for London-funded initiative seeking to make travelling to school by non-private car more attractive to pupils and parents.

The scheme gives assistance to schools to develop School Travel Plans and to use them as a tool to set and review targets for reducing school travel by private cars.

Highway Engineering remains an important part of the process, but local highway improvements are now led by the schools themselves, with the Council’s Traffic & Engineering Staff providing advice and working up designs for local highway improvements.

This report summarises the recommendations that were previously agreed in principle at the Area Committee Meeting of 17th April 2007, outlines typing errors subsequently identified in that report, advises that the necessary traffic orders, public consultation and statutory advertisements are to be processed for the proposed zebra crossing that was correctly described in that report, and recommends that the public be consulted on the following:

1. A proposed pedestrian refuge in Havering Road, approximately 60m north of its junction with Ashmour Gardens, not 15m as was incorrectly stated in the original report, in accordance with Drawing QE042/003A.
2. Extensions to existing ‘School Keep Clear’ and ‘Waiting Restrictions’ in Hamilton Avenue, as per Drawing QE042/002.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the following amendments be made to the report previously submitted and agreed in principle at the Area Committee Meeting of 17th April 2007, and the proposals be confirmed as agreed in principle and approval granted to proceed with any necessary traffic orders, public consultation and statutory advertisements:

- 1 The proposed pedestrian refuge referred to in Recommendation 1(b) be located in Havering Road 60m North of its junction with Ashmour Gardens, not 15m as incorrectly stated in the original report, and the Drawing Number be amended from QE042/002 to QE042/003A.
- 2 The Drawing Number referred to in Recommendation 1(d) be changed from QE042/003 to QE042/002.

REPORT DETAIL

Background

1. At its meeting of 17th April 2007, the Gidea Park Area Committee considered a report on proposed highway safety improvements for the area around Parklands Junior School. The Recommendations were as follows:
 1. That the following proposals be agreed in principle and approval granted to proceed with any necessary traffic orders, public consultation and statutory advertisements:
 - a) A zebra crossing to be installed in Havering Road immediately North of its junction with Collier Row Lane as shown on Drawing QE042/001.
 - b) A pedestrian refuge to be installed with associated road markings on Havering Road 15m North of its junction with Ashmour Gardens as illustrated on Drawing QE042/002.
 - c) Additional 'School Keep Clear' restrictions be provided on the North side of Hamilton Avenue for operation from Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 9:15am and 2:45pm to 3:30pm opposite the school access as shown on Drawing QE042/003.
 - d) Additional 'At Any Time' waiting restrictions be provided along the Southern side of Hamilton Road from the existing 'School Keep Clear' markings to a point outside No 17 Hamilton Road, opposite

the end of existing restrictions, as also indicated on Drawing QE042/003.

2. That the approval process be delegated to the Head of Technical Services in consultation with the Chairman of the Area Committee, if changes are required to the proposals before it proceeds to public consultation.
3. That the approval of the final scheme following the results of the public consultation be delegated to the Head of Technical Services in consultation with the Chairman of the Area Committee.
4. That the estimated cost of £40,000 is met from the 2007/08 allocation for School Travel Plans funded by Transport for London through the Local Implementation Plan, subject to finance being available.

2. The Area Committee agreed with the Recommendations, however, following that meeting a resident of Havering Road who did not attend but was provided with a copy of the report by a neighbour, raised several points concerning the proposals and identified some typing errors in the report.
3. A further enquiry was subsequently received from the local Member of Parliament, who had also been approached by the same resident.
4. As the proposed zebra crossing was correctly described in the report, and committee Approval was granted, the necessary traffic orders, public consultation and statutory advertisements are to be processed for that element of the scheme to go ahead.

Staff Comments

5. The errors, once identified, were noted and a member of staff met with the resident concerned to discuss the situation before formally replying to his letter addressing the comments made. A similar reply was also sent to the local Member of Parliament.
6. It should be noted that if the pedestrian refuge is to be installed, it would also be necessary to improve sightlines by the removal of some existing footway parking bays, as indicated on the revised Drawing QE042/003A and, subject to subsequent monitoring, it may be necessary to consider the introduction of Waiting Restrictions to reinforce this.

7. The titles of Drawings QE042/002 and QE042/003, as indicated on the Background Paper List at the back of the original report, will be switched, and QE042/003 be given the suffix 'A' as this has since been amended.

Financial Implications and Risks

8. The estimated cost of the scheme, including the zebra crossing as indicated in the Area Committee Report of 17th April 2007, amounts to £40,000 which, subject to finance being available, will be met from the 2007/08 allocation for School Travel Plans funded by Transport for London through the Local Implementation Plan.

Legal Implications and Risks

9. As stated in the Area Committee Report of 17th April 2007, the proposed zebra crossing, waiting restrictions and school keep clear restrictions will require Traffic Regulation Orders with associated statutory public advert.

Human Resources Implications and Risks

10. None.

Equalities and Social Inclusion Implications and Risks

11. Covered in the Area Committee report of 17th April 2007, namely:

School Travel Plans is a school-led way of seeking to reduce the reliance of private cars for journeys to school with the result of helping to reduce traffic congestion locally to schools. This will help reduce pollution, traffic speeds and injury accidents.
12. Some of the improvements such as improved crossing facilities and traffic calming will also make the street environment more accessible to the wider community.
13. School Travel Plans also help make school journeys more attractive to pupils and parents using non-private modes of transport by using traffic management tools to reduce the real and perceived risk of traffic.
14. Physical traffic calming features can have the perception of causing access problems of residents and affect cyclists, bus operators and the emergency services. As long as schemes are widely consulted, then a highway authority can take a balanced view on their implementation.

15. Signage and road markings detract from the visual environment associated with the street scene, but the road safety benefits are often seen as more important. Minimisation of street furniture can often improve the situation.
16. Waiting restrictions can displace parking, but it is suggested that where safety is an issue, then this is acceptable.

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CHERYL COPPELL
Chief Executive

Background Papers

Committee Report and Minutes of 17th April 2007

Preliminary Design Drawings

- QE042/003A - Proposed Pedestrian Refuge in Haverling Road North of its junction with Ashmour Gardens
- QE042/002 – Proposed extension to existing 'School Keep Clear' and Waiting Restrictions in Hamilton Avenue

Gidea Park, 10 October 2007

PURPOSE School Keep Clear

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NOTES

REVISION	AMENDMENT	DATE

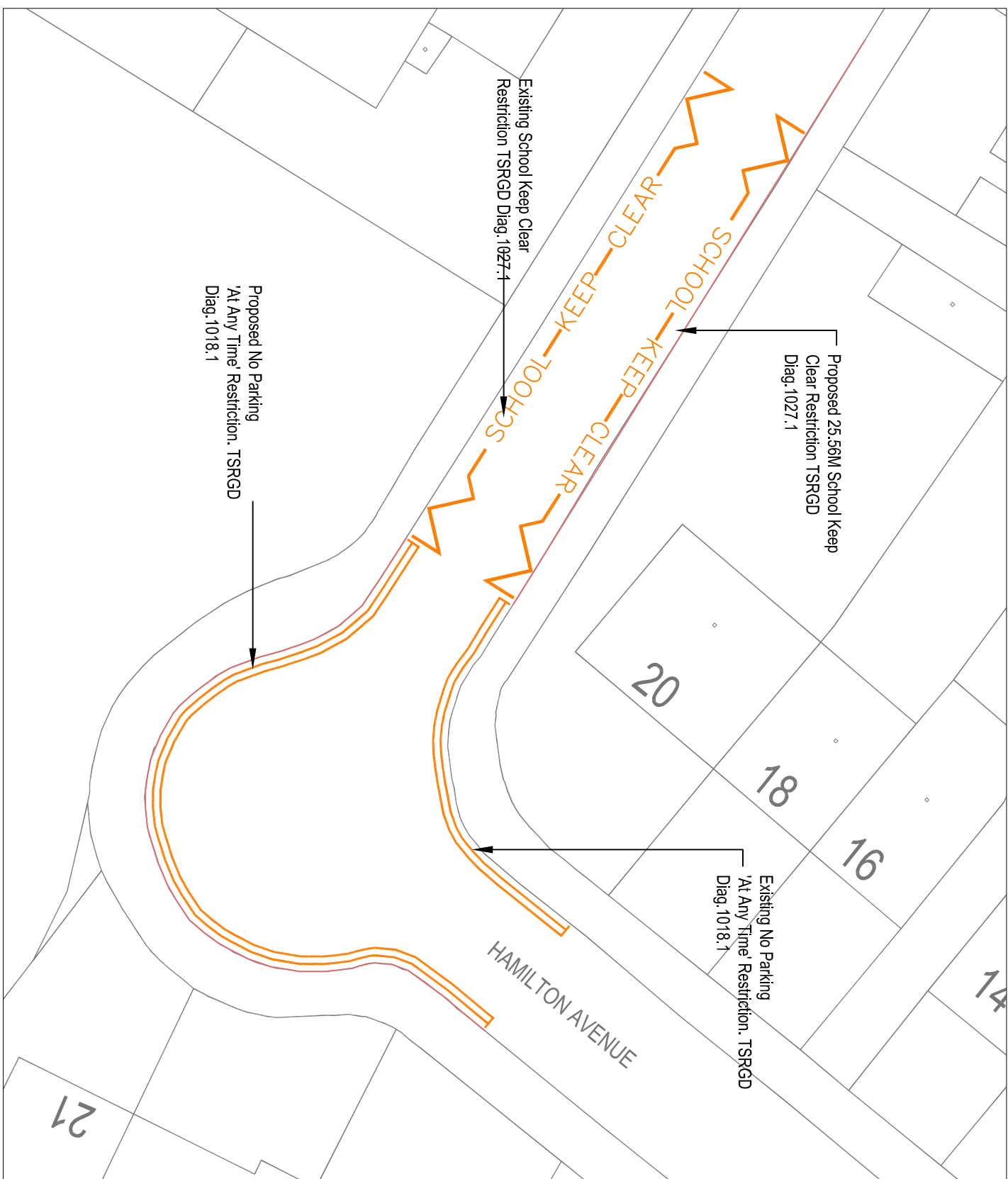
JOB TITLE
 Parklands Junior School
 Highway Improvements

DRAWING TITLE
 Hamilton Avenue
 Waiting Restrictions & School Keep Clear

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**GIDEA PARK
AREA COMMITTEE
(Pettits and Squirrels Heath Wards)
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

7.30 p.m.	Wednesday, 10 October 2007	Marshalls Park School, Pettits Lane, Romford RM1 4BD
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The attached report is submitted with the agreement of the Chairman as an urgent matter, pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972

11A AREA COMMITTEE CAPITAL PROJECTS



MEETING	DATE	ITEM
Gidea Park Area Committee	10 October 2007	11A

This report is submitted with the agreement of the Chairman as an urgent matter, pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

SUBJECT: Area Committee Capital Projects

WARD: Pettits and Squirrels Heath

SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the current position regarding the Area Committee Capital spend projects for 2006/07 and 2007/08.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the report and progress schedule be noted.
2. Those Area Committees that have not made decisions on their projects are requested to do so.

REPORT DETAIL

On 15th November 2005 Governance Committee agreed that there be a "Local environmental improvement budget (for) expenditure on capital projects, for the well being of the local community, It is proposed that this initially be £5,000 per Area Committee. Additionally, subject to the compilation of a business case, Committees

All Area Committees, October 2007

will be entitled to bid for an allocation from a £45,000 budget held on behalf of Cabinet.”

The Council later adopted the recommendations of the Governance Committee for the administration of the scheme. The funds are held by Public Realm.

Every Area Committee made bids against their own allocation in 2006/07 and these bids were approved via Area Committee Chairs decision. A report on the progress of these bids is attached as Appendix 2. Different Area Committee submitted bids for the corporate pot at different times. This resulted in decisions not being made until March 2007.

A Form A was signed by Council Ramsey on 14 March 2007 agreeing the allocation of the corporate pot. At that time it became clear that the bids submitted exceeded the £45,000 provision for the Corporate Pot and that even though Upminster Area had waived their Area spend to support the Upminster Park toilet refurbishment there was still a shortfall of some £3,230. Given the desirability of these competing bids the lead Member for Environment & Technical services agreed to meet the shortfall and vire money to the Corporate pot from the Parks Capital Programme to enable them to proceed.

The approval of these Environmental Improvements bids needs to be made in the year in which the budget is allocated. This means that decisions are needed this cycle to enable the work to be programmed and delivered on time.

Area Committees which have not made decisions on the allocation of the £5,000 are requested to do so. The current bids for the corporate pot are being progressed.

Financial Implications and risks:

The sums involved in this scheme are relatively minor but are allocated and spent within the existing framework for spending capital. There are risks to the Councils reputation if, having made a commitment to spend capital on small local projects these do not proceed due to lack of input by Members. .

Legal Implications and risks:

There are none.

Human Resources Implications and risks:

There are none.

Environmental implications

This scheme addresses some of those local environmental issues that concern residents and councillors and will assist in the protection, enhancement and enjoyment of the local environment.

Equalities implications:

All Area Committees, October 2007

Many of the schemes approved and implemented last year made our services and facilities more accessible and welcoming to those members of the community who had previously not used them.

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CHERYL COPPELL
Chief Executive

Background Papers List

Minutes of Governance Committee 21 November 2006.

All Area Committees, October 2007

Area Committee capital spend 2007/08. £5000 per area

	Bid Submitted	Current situation
Elm Park & Hylands	None	
Emerson Park & Harold Wood	None	
Gidea Park	No bid will be submitted as budget already allocated to parking scheme approved last year	
Harold Hill	None	
Hornchurch	None	
North Romford	Donation to Metropolitan Police for purchase of police tactical bikes, one each in Mawneys and Havering Park	
Romford	None	
South Horn. & Rainham	None	
Upminster	None	

Corporate Pot - £45,000 in total		
Bid made by	Bid submitted	Amount bid for:
Cllr Binion	Fencing works to banks of River Rom	18,558
Cllr Galpin	Fencing to playsite area Park Lane Recreation Ground	10,000

Area Committee capital spend 2006/07

	Approved bid	Current situation
Elm Park & Hylands	Equipment for Park Lane Recreation Ground.	Installed
Emerson Park & Harold Wood	Equipment for Harold Wood Park Donations to Met Police for purchase of bikes.	Equipment Installed Bike delivered to SNT.
Gidea Park	Traffic Management study in Hare Hall Lane	Scheme will have to be carried out over two capital years
Harold Hill	Donations to Met Police for purchase of bikes and donation to Community Housing Group.	CHG sent cheque to Met Police 9 May 07 and they report that bikes on order
Hornchurch	Equipment for St. Andrews Park.	Equipment installed
North Romford	Equipment for Chelmsford Avenue Play site and bin for Lodge Lane.	On order
Romford	Speed gun for Met Police Safer Neighbourhood Team,.	Speed gun delivered to SNT
South Horn. & Rainham	Fencing for the Glen Playing Field	Installed
Upminster	Contributed allocation to support bid for refurbishment of Upminster Park Toilets.	Allocation added to corporate pot when bid approved.

Corporate Pot		
Bid made by	Bid Approved	Current situation
Cllr J Mylod	Repaint Orangery at Langtons and Lawn edging at Langtons	Orangery painting complete. Lawn edging to begin at end of growing season.
Cllr Galpin	Teen shelter Park Lane Recreation Ground	Will be delivered and installed w/c 17 September.
Cllr Light	Wooden Bollards to stop dangerous parking Harold Wood Park	Installation complete
Cllr Ford	Upgrade toilets in Upminster Park	Works on-going
Cllr Binion	Fencing Kiln Wood Lane/St. Johns Road	Installed
Cllr Gregory	Refurbishment of Pavilion Raphaels Park	Works to begin at end of cricket season.

All Area Committees, October 2007