

“Leader Listens” Meetings

**Ravenscourt Park Ward
7.30-9.10pm 19 June 2008**

At Hammersmith Town Hall

Introduction

Cllr Greenhalgh welcomed residents to the meeting and explained that the evening was designed to provide an opportunity to better understand what H&F Council could do to improve services and quality of life in the ward. He confirmed that a summary of the points made would be prepared and a progress report on the issues raised in a month's time.

The Leader also took the opportunity to introduce Cllr White, a Ravenscourt Park ward Member. Cllrs Ivimy and Phibbs, who also represented the ward, sent their apologies as they were unavoidably detained by official business engagements elsewhere.

Summary of Points Raised

	Issue	Comments/ possible Action
1	Anti Social Behaviour <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reports of persistent anti social behaviour by residents of children's half way house in Dalling Road. Children frequently unsupervised when outside, leading to considerable disturbance and intimidation of residents.	The Leader expressed his concern at the difficulties experienced. Ward members have already raised the matter and Officers are investigating the long term viability of the home at that site. As a temporary unit in which children only stay for three months the lack of continuity means there is limited opportunity for boundaries to be set. The Council is keen to do its best for the children but a facility designed for longer term, more structured

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulties also experienced with children in Hamlet Gardens. Shepherds Bush HA appeared to be doing little to combat the problems of vandalism, noise and drug taking. • Why does it take so long to evict troublesome tenants? 	<p>accommodation might be more appropriate in this location.</p> <p>Accepted that ASB is a real issue on some estates. Will make a note of areas where it occurs and look for solutions but it won't be an immediate fix.</p> <p>Cllrs share frustrations on evictions. Officers need to adopt a less conciliatory approach on occasions and there are evidential problems, but aware that H&F Homes new management takes the issue seriously.</p>
--	--	--

<p>2</p>	<p>King Street Regeneration Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were any development options considered that didn't include commercial partners? 	<p>Redevelopment of the area essential to act as a catalyst for larger scale regeneration and to establish an office hub for the entire Council with resultant improvements in services and cost savings. Reduced commercial element as much as possible, downsizing it to a community store of c 10,000 sq ft, around a third of the previous proposals. This is less than a full size supermarket (attendees to be provided with relative sizes of retail units for comparative purposes). Continuing need for iteration with residents but emphasised that scheme</p>
----------	---	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What will the traffic impact be and how will the scheme affect the conservation area around Dalling Road? (issues previously raised without response) • What provision will be made for the blind residents in Cromwell Mansions?(?) • What are the timescales? Hope for speedy resolution to alleviate uncertainty for residents affected. • Improvements to King Street streetscene should be extended the full length, to the boundary with Chiswick High Street. 	<p>must be fully funded. Believes the current proposal delivers VFM with significant commercial partner contributions.</p> <p>Response to be provided to the questioner.</p> <p>There will be some provision made, either in the scheme or elsewhere. Cabinet has given a strong commitment to look after the blind residents and a solution will be developed prior to implementation of the scheme.</p> <p>Agreed residents are owed certainty and aware of need to support them. Officers working on a rehousing solution for all residents but timelines for delivery of the scheme cannot be guaranteed in present economic climate.</p> <p>Agreed this needs to be taken into account.</p>
--	---	--

3	<p>Concern at dog issue on Council estates, particularly around Flora Gardens. H&F Homes do not appear to properly enforce provisions in lease prohibiting dog ownership.</p>	<p>Acknowledged as significant issue of concern. Cabinet Member with the Crime and Anti Social Behaviour portfolio already been asked to investigate</p>
---	---	--

		possible solutions to dangerous dogs problem. H&F Homes now under new management and will look specifically at the dog enforcement issue with them.
--	--	---

5	£14,000 lump sum charge levied on Flora House leaseholders in 2007 to help fund improvement programme was difficult for some residents to accommodate. The opportunity should have been given to pay by instalments.	Delivering the Decent Homes Programme is a major corporate priority and works are only undertaken where there is proper cause. However, it is recognised that both the total amount payable and terms offered should always be as reasonable as possible.
---	--	---

6	<p>Cycling Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LBHF follow K&C's lead and introduce multiple contra flows on one way streets? • More vigorous enforcement against illegal parking on cycle lanes required at peak times • Could a designated cycle path be introduced in Ravenscourt Park to separate cyclists and pedestrians? (a straw poll at the meeting unanimously supported this proposal) 	<p>Agreed to look at the K&C solution and see if it has applicability here.</p> <p>Acknowledged need to take more account of the needs of cyclists.</p> <p>Idea of a designated cycle path in the park supported.</p>
---	--	---

7	Clarification requested on Council policy re roll out of CCTV. Fear of displacement of opportunistic crime into residential areas without camera coverage. Specific requests received for Hartswood Road and in subways generally.	Dealing with crime hotspots and establishing a safer environment is a policy priority. Already acquired some mobile cameras to begin this process. Inherited an under
---	--	---

		<p>performing network and currently undertaking an audit to look at the possibilities, particularly in respect of Council estates. We are working with the Police and other providers with a view to establishing one integrated CCTV network but this will take time.</p> <p>Cllr Smith will look specifically at the scope for more coverage in subways. If possible, cameras will be deployed wherever crime rates warrant.</p>
--	--	--

<p>8</p>	<p>Significant problems experienced with delivery and collection of garden waste sacks.</p>	<p>Leader expressed his personal disappointment with the difficulties experienced to date. He explained that a free service had previously been implemented with ring fenced Government grant but with too little consideration to long term sustainability and VFM. Acknowledged that there was no process to identify those taking part in the scheme.</p> <p>He emphasised, however that Cllr White had been charged with implementing a new and workable scheme with sensible frequency of collections and prioritisation for wards that tended to produce more garden waste due to typically larger garden size (including Ravenscourt</p>
----------	---	---

		<p>Park). There was a need for it be financially sustainable so would not be free to residents. Once the SERCO contract was bedded down the Council would utilise the contractor's expertise, together with its own local knowledge and work with Residents Associations to jointly explore solutions.</p> <p>Exposing the street cleaning contract to competition had secured a seven figure saving and the nature of the contract specification would soon lead to improvements in service.</p> <p>Residents who were part of the garden waste scheme were invited to leave their names and addresses with Officers at the end of the meeting so that issues could be followed through.</p>
--	--	---

9	Cessation of Mobile Library facility – would there be any replacement provision?	This would be looked at. It was recognised that the libraries were not easily accessible from all parts of the borough. Currently examining whether other providers, such as the voluntary sector, or LB Ealing in the north of the borough, could more efficiently fill the gap.
---	--	---

10	Concern expressed that the footprint of the proposed bridge over the Great West	LBHF doesn't have control of the strategic road
----	---	---

	Road, leading to the river front, would consume a significant amount of scarce green space in Furnivall Gardens. Could a surface pedestrian crossing be provided instead? Previous studies suggest a series of 3 crossings would work to 'pulse' the traffic.	network – TFL have responsibility for the Great West Road. Nevertheless, will examine the suggestion.
11	Impact of Westfield (?) shopping Centre on local road network. 50,000 visitors expected per day will bring great pressures.	Recognise the impact but the development has brought big public infrastructure improvements and will regenerate local economy. Big investment in public transport and roads vital to accompany new development. Will be partly funded by developer and S.106 monies.
12	Could a Piccadilly Line stop be secured at Ravenscourt Park?	Unlikely. Meetings with MP and Piccadilly Line managers reveal significant technical constraints. Priority is to press for advancement of the signalling and rolling stock improvement programme, currently due for delivery on Piccadilly line by 2014.
13	Poor consultation exercise re changes to war memorial in Ravenscourt Park – need to consult more widely in future.	Agreed. Cllrs looking at specific projects to help green the borough (e.g. tree planting/hanging baskets)
14	A resident indicated a preference for an open rather than a gated development at Goldhawk Road Old Peoples Home.	Will look at the scheme and bear comments in mind.

