

## MINIUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WINCHMORE HILL WARD FORUM HELD ON TUESDAY, 21ST JUNE, 2016

Present: Cllr. Dinah Barry (chair), Cllr. Elaine Hayward  
Apologies: Cllr. Ertan Hurer, Cllr. Bambos Charalambous  
Notes: DB

### 13. POLICE

*PC Denise Thorpe gave a report covering the last three months.*

- **Burglaries and car crime** (theft of and from vehicles): have all reduced. The worst affected area is the roads between Hoppers Road and Broadwalk.
- **Bogus roofers** have been targeting the elderly. So far all cheques have been stopped in time.
- **ATM machines** remain high on the list of police priorities. Yellow 'privacy' boxes are being painted in Station Road and at Sainsburys.
- **Cannabis** smoking has been reported in some areas. Police have found no evidence in some places but have spoken to people at another site. Please report the smell of cannabis to the police.
- Young people congregating on the stairs of **Moor Park House** have been told not to return and one who did is being visited. The council plans to fit an entry system.

### 14. PLANNING

*Kevin Tohill, Planning decisions manager, gave a short presentation, answered questions and listened to concerns.*

- Kevin explained the changes to **Permitted Development Rights (PDR)** which have been introduced since 2013.
- **The aim of this legislation is to help development.**
- Permitted developments do not need planning permission.
- They are different for houses, flats, maisonettes and offices. and are more restricted in e.g. conservation areas.
- **A certificate of lawful development** provides evidence that a development is lawful.
- Applicants can **resubmit applications** as many times as they like.
- PDR legislation limits the **neighbours** whom the Local Planning Authority can consult.
- Neighbours have **21 days to object.**
- **Objections** only apply to the current application; they are not carried over from one application to the next - if you object to an application you must do so **every time** an application is made. Kevin advises people to always open letters from the Planning Authority and, if they let a property, to ask their tenants to open such letters or forward them on to them.

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- **Applicants do not need to own land** for which they submit a planning application.
- **When making a decision**, the Planning Authority does consider:
  - the local area and the quantum of a development. (There is guidance on the density of conversions.)
  - the impact on the public realm,
  - the amenity space that a development provides for the people who will live there.
- Planning **legislation aims to find a resolution** to problems to allow development to take place:
  - the planning authority has to consider whether an appeal will be successful and therefore the cost to the authority, when making a decision.
  - **enforcement** has to give developers every chance to get things right.
  - developers can reapply and / or appeal many times so enforcement may take a very long time.
- Kevin noted that residents were finding it **difficult to contact planning officers** and found the online system unhelpful, e.g: applications made more than 10 weeks ago are unavailable, too often 'Page not Available' is shown.
- The number of planning officers has not decreased but **applications have increased significantly** in recent years. The usual number was 2,500, but last year the Planning Authority received 6,000 and this year it is likely to be 7,000.
- There is a **duty officer** available each morning - it is wise to arrange an appointment.
- **Call centre scripts** are being rewritten to make it easier for residents to speak to officers. If you have the officer's name you can ask to speak to them or email them. The application reference is always helpful.
- **Tree Protection Orders (TPOs)** can be requested by contacting the Tree officer, Stephen Downing who would need to visit the address. Root protection zones are considered when a planning application is made and the tree officer does impose strict conditions to protect roots.

### *Useful web sites:*

*Enfield, Local Planning Authority:* <https://new.enfield.gov.uk/services/planning/>

*The Planning Portal:* <https://www.planningportal.co.uk/info/200127/planning>

*The Planning Portal, Permitted Development Rights:*

[https://www.planningportal.co.uk/info/200187/your\\_responsibilities/37/planning\\_permi ssion/2](https://www.planningportal.co.uk/info/200187/your_responsibilities/37/planning_permi ssion/2)

*The Planning Portal, Interactive House:*

[https://www.planningportal.co.uk/info/200125/do\\_you\\_need\\_permission/90/interactiv e\\_house](https://www.planningportal.co.uk/info/200125/do_you_need_permission/90/interactiv e_house)

## 15. OTHER ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS

None were raised.

## 16. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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- It was not been possible to receive a presentation from Dander, the developers working on the **Capitol House** site. However they, are looking to hold a public exhibition and will be in touch when the details have been confirmed.
- Two residents had asked for up-to-date information about Green Lanes (A105) / Cycle Enfield. The latest information on this is available from the Consultations section of the web site: <http://cycleenfield.co.uk>

### 17. PRINTED INFORMATION PROVIDED

(Residents were also able to request this information in electronic form):

- Advice from the police relating to **Bogus Callers**
- Information on the **Green Bin Consultation**
- Information about the new **Bus Users online community**
- Residents were able

### 18. NEXT MEETING

4 October 2016

7.30pm - 9.30pm

Burford Hall, Burford Gardens, Palmers Green, N13 4AL