



MERTON PARK WARD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OPEN COMMITTEE MEETING
5TH DECEMBER 2018
MINUTES

1.0 Present

Hubert Child, Dese Child, Peter Southgate, Pauline Southgate, Ian Garbett, Dickie Wilkinson, Patrick McNamara, Graham Clark, Chris Stutt, Ingrid Holtz, Fred Rayner, David Merriman

2.0 Apologies

Bryan Anderson, Stephen Mercer, Pippa Foskett, Edward Foley, Greg Bryant, Jolanta Novak

Rubbish collection days over Christmas are	Usual.	New
	28th Dec.	31st Dec
	4th Jan.	7th Jan
	11th Jan.	12th Jan

3.0 Speaker Fiona Gaylor from Merton & Wandsworth Clinical Commissioning Group

See slides

CCG plans, buys, & monitors local health services. There is a National Health Policy but CCG is short of cash so is looking at working smarter. There have been 17 focus groups with all sorts of people from staff to people off the streets. Plan will be published in March. Mental health services are a challenge in Merton. Start well, Live Well and Age Well schemes. Accessing GP services are the no. 1 problem. Wilson health & well being campus continuing care especially if long term condition

Q Planning - when will work be commissioned ?

A March Care Plan due out, so after that

Q Long term care for mental health patients - they are sent to Thornton Heath which has a high crime rate & drug problems so it is not a suitable area. These patients are at risk and a long way from their families.

A Will check why this happens

Q Wilson hospital plans? What are timings ? Will there be intermediate care beds ?

A Lots of information about Wilson on website. Site due to be completed 2020/21. Don't know about intermediate care beds

Q Wider London Plan - Mayor of London meeting a year ago to get views - have Commissioners been invited along this year ?

A Will check - may have been a pilot meeting

Q One thing people want is GP access but access is not getting better.

A Pharmacy services, 8am to 8pm, access hubs and weekend access but these all have low take up so educating people. Staff have badges advertising above. Access hubs are not in every GP surgery so need to train GP receptionists to tell people about them.

Q Hubs - tried to access one 3 Saturdays ago - got referred to ring 111, fully booked and offered an ambulance.

Q What is the procedure - how will you get back to us with answers ?

A Will communicate via Peter Southgate

4.0 Councillor Dickie Wilkinson

New MPWRA website is up and running. It is more accessible and mobile friendly. The contact form is very easy and there are ideas for speakers and details about rubbish collections and details of 3 consultations.

There has been a **93% increase in complaints to the Council about wheelie bins!** Customer relation manager only lasted 3 weeks. Even if services are outsourced the Council still had responsibility for them.

Standards & General Purpose Committee looking for independent person to review complaints about Councillors & Officers. One complaint was that the Council failed to respond quickly enough to complaints. Have been looking for someone to fill this role for a year already and applications close on 7th February. The link to the application was incorrect for a while.

Merton Heritage Centre events will go on our website

5.0 Councillor Peter Southgate

Concert orchestra free Sunday at St James Methodist Church 7.30pm

Parking & traffic - new enthusiastic Officer who will enforce school parking restrictions. If photographed illegally parked will get a fine in the post.

'Quick response' service - can phone to get a car removed if illegally parked.

Managing traffic speeds and volumes especially Dorset & Sheridan Road junctions. Volume of rat running traffic - no hope of changes except by road closures?

Living streets initiative - looking at Pollards Hill, Longthorn, Thornton Heath. Schemes should be wanted & successful if funding is to be granted.

Festival of Music Morden Park for 1 day. Eastern Electrics first held in 2017 & it went well so applied for 2 days & there was a bit of trouble in 2018. The Ahmadiyah mosque objected to a 3 day festival :-

1. Prevention of crime & disorder
2. Safety
3. Public nuisance
4. Protect children from harm

Air quality in Merantun Way register 42 Nox while recommended max is 40 Nox and it was 60+ at South Wimbledon junction and more in Morden town centre.

Planning approval has been granted for 5 storey blocks in High Path & Merantun Way

Web casting of Council meetings is on YouTube

Q When is Christmas tree pick up service please ?

A Will enquire - probably on Council website

Q Bins overflowing & never emptied

A Yes aware that some sites have problems there should be a 48 hour response to complaints.

Q Eastern Electric - did you visit when the tents were up ? It was like a prison encampment of a commercial venture. Lots of drugs and drink for young people. Public car park was a complete eyesore

A No - hearing date after objections close, no drugs in 2017, building up a following over the years.

Meeting 22nd November public one. Morden Brook - emotive meeting. Generates income for Council £80-90K. Crime figures were double but it went from a 1 day to a 2 day event.

Proposing more toilets and questions about drug dealing. Nitrous oxide (laughing gas) used.

Q Noise levels too high

A Next year no base so better noise levels

Q Were noise levels too high ?

A Did not breach levels and had environmental officers there

Q Plan technology air pollution improvements - all other Boroughs to join in to improve air quality.

A Jason Andrews Environmental Health Pollution Manager in Merton will be on the case

Q **Extensions of 5.5m allowed** on houses with no need for planning approval is too much as most of the garden will be used up

A. Extensions on terraced and semis can go out 6m, and 8m on detached houses, under permitted development since the limits were doubled in 2014. It would be rare for this to exceed 50% of the original garden area, but the 50% limit is not actually a planning rule. Nevertheless the 50% limit is used to challenge marginally over-sized and un-neighbourly extensions at Planning Applications Committee. PAC is always advised that it is an insufficient reason for rejecting an application on its own, but can be taken into account with other factors. If it came to the crunch, the 50% limit would probably not override the 6m/8m allowed under PD.

Q Other extensions?

A Normally can increase a house by 40% of original volume

Q Is this for first time extensions only ?

A Yes

6.0 AOB

November meeting minutes agreed and signed

Many thanks to Dese Child for taking November meeting minute.

Date of Next Meeting: Wed 13th February 2019.

See www.mertonpark.org.uk for Merton Park News and to sign up for e-mail alerts.