



Petitions Committee

24 October 2014

Time 10.00 am **Public Meeting?** YES **Type of meeting** n/a

Venue Committee Room 3 - Civic Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1SH

Membership

Chair Cllr Val Evans (Lab)
Vice-chair Cllr Arun Photay (Con)

Labour

Cllr Judith Rowley
Cllr Alan Bolshaw
Cllr Bhupinder Gakhal
Cllr Daniel Warren

Conservative

Quorum for this meeting is two Councillors.

Information for the Public

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Some items are discussed in private because of their confidential or commercial nature. These reports are not available to the public.

Agenda

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. *Title*

MEETING BUSINESS ITEMS

- 1 **Apologies for absence**
- 2 **Declarations of interest**
- 3 **Minutes of previous meeting** (Pages 1 - 6)
[To approve the minutes of the previous meeting as a correct record.]
- 4 **Matters arising**
[To consider any matters arising from the minutes.]
- 5 **Schedule of outstanding petitions** (Pages 7 - 12)
[To review the outstanding petitions.]

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 6 **Primrose Avenue/Wood Lane/School Lane** (Pages 13 - 20)
[To consider the petition.]
- 7 **Wobaston Road Corridor Improvements - Safety Barrier Request** (Pages 21 - 32)
[To consider the petition.]



Petitions Committee

Minutes - 13 June 2014

Attendance

Members of the Petitions Committee

Cllr Val Evans (Chair)
Cllr Judith Rowley
Cllr Alan Bolshaw
Cllr Bhupinder Gakhal
Cllr Arun Photay (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Daniel Warren

Employees

Steve Barlow	Environmental Health Manager
Chris Huddart	Head of Commerce Services
Steve Woodward	Head of Service Public Realm

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. *Title*

- 1. Apologies for absence**
There were no apologies for absence received.
- 2. Declarations of interest**
Councillor Photay declared that he had worked for a few months on Bilston market in 1998.
- 3. Minutes of previous meeting**
The minutes were approved as an accurate record of the previous meeting.
- 4. Matters arising**
Cllr Rowley asked whether there was more information regarding the access requirements referred to on page 3, which Steve Perry had agreed to investigate. Tessa Johnson agreed to find out this information for the next meeting.

Cllr Rowley asked for information regarding the parliamentary act due in October 2014, referred to on Page 4 and 5. Steve Barlow informed the committee that a training session was scheduled for next week and the committee could be updated on the change in law after that.
- 5. Schedule of petitions**
The committee resolved to receive the update.
- 6. Bilston Market - Objection to the Increase In Fees & Charges 2014/15**

Cllr Evans welcomed the new members of the petition committee.

The petitioners stated their names for the record as Jag Sandhu, Eric Bateman and Colin Caddick. Jag Sandhu outlined the basis for the petition, and that it was in opposition to the 5% increase. The petitioners had met with Council representatives before the rent rise and they reported that they had requested another meeting before 11 March. Jag Sandhu claimed that they were refused a meeting until after 11 March, when the rent rises were agreed by Cabinet. The petitioners felt the rise was conducted democratically and for a number of years, rises had been imposed quickly. Jag Sandhu reported that the petitioners felt that the market is a success story and brings a lot of money to the city. Eric Bateman added that the traders are paying more rent than the equivalent on the high street and reported that currently his market stall is running at a loss.

Cllr Reynolds told the committee that the rent rise was only for weekly licensees, not long term lease holders. Over a five year period, it is about 2% a year which he claimed was a reasonable rise. Cllr Reynolds told the committee that this amounts to an additional cost of 70p and £1.90 per stall, and where there has been reports of higher rises, this is due to the trader renting multiple stalls. He reported that the Council feel it is reasonable as there is high demand for stalls, with 25 potential traders currently on the waiting list. Cllr Reynolds told the committee that charges can be varied if necessary and if demand drops they can be lowered. He added that Wolverhampton indoor market and Wednesfield market are all paying the higher charges. Cllr Reynolds told the committee that the Council has spent £250,000 on a new air conditioning unit which shows that they are invested in the market's future. He added that license holders pay on a weekly basis, which means that stall holders can leave on one week's notice if they so desire.

Chris Huddart recognised the fluctuation of the income of the market and if occupancy levels change than the Council can reduce the rents.

Mr Sandhu told the committee that in 2010/2011 there was a full Council debate on a petition regarding market rent rises. A 7% rise was initially agreed but this was frozen for the second year, equalling a 3.5% rise. Jag Sandhu questioned why in the report there is only a rise of 1.5% in 2010/2011. Chris Huddart responded that the freeze and petition in question related to 2009/2010, where there was a 3.5% rise. Jag Sandhu asked why only the indoor market traders' rents were being increased, whilst others had a freeze. Cllr Reynolds responded that there was a move to minimise the difference between different types of license holders and equalise the charges.

Jag Sanhu told the committee that he did not believe that the Council had helped the market to thrive, particularly when other councils such as Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council give their market traders business relief. He added that many traders had been occupying the market for decades and had created a vibrant and successful market, and invited the members to visit. He challenged the policy of reducing rents when occupancy levels drop, which he reported had happened in Walsall, who had subsequently had to reduce the rent. Jag Sandhu told the committee that he believes that the Bilston market subsidises the Wolverhampton and Wednesfield markets, and that it provides guaranteed income to the Council. Eric Batemand added that the footfall figures are misleading, as most of the visitors

do not have much money to spend. Jag Sanhu agreed. He added that the market representatives did not have any influence over financial matters, and that the security guard had already been removed without consultation. He told the committee that the rent rise will result in him paying an additional £590 per year for his market stalls.

Cllr Evans invited the committee to ask questions to the petitioners, employees and Cabinet member. Cllr Gakhil asked the traders if they believed the Council had played a role in the market's success, and Jag Sandhu responded that the success is only due to the quality and friendliness of the traders. He added that the Council should act as a responsible landlord and that they should protect the businesses and not put them at risk. Cllr Photay thanked the petitioners for attending. He asked the employees whether the decision had been made behind closed doors and whether the correct protocol had been followed. He also added that markets are about communities and relationships and whether the Council had reviewed the bottom line figures of the market traders' income. Jag Sandhu responded that the traders had had to absorb the rises, making the market less affordable, and that he had noticed his turnover has gone down. Eric Bateman reported that his business was making a loss and has been for the past year and that currently he was living on past earnings. Colin Caddick added that the indoor market is full but the outdoor market is empty.

Cllr Reynolds said that he had spoken to the traders in January. Chris Huddart added that some of the financial information relating to traders' turnovers was sensitive. He added that the Council does contribute to the experience of the customers, such as the building, car park, and ensuring there is a wide range of stalls. The Council is investing £250,000 on air conditioning this year. Cllr Photay asked whether the Council had reviewed market traders' accounts before agreeing the rise. Chris Huddart responded that the Council had requested bottom line figures but had not received any formal figures from the market traders. He said there would be ongoing consultation. Cllr Bolshaw asked for further clarity on the figures and whether rent rises in previous years had been substantially higher. Cllr Reynolds said that previous to the five years in question, there had been an annual rise of between 2 – 3%, despite inflation being approximately 3.5% during the same period. Therefore, he added that the real term rise is closer to 1.5% and most of the time the rises would have been in line with inflation. Cllr Warren thanked traders for bringing the petition. He enquired as to how long the waiting list for stalls currently was. Carole Walker responded that some traders had been waiting for a couple of years but the list is updated regularly. She added that demand for the indoor market outstrips supply and there are weekly requests for stalls. Cllr Rowley sympathised with Jag Sandhu's position but reiterated the very serious financial situation the Council is in.

Eric Bateman asked why there are empty outdoor stalls when there is a waiting list for the indoor market. Carole Walker responded that the outdoor market has an incentive scheme for renters and on average it is currently 67% of its 117 stalls are occupied, with Thursday closer to 80% occupancy. Cllr Reynolds said there is a nationwide occupancy issue. Eric Bateman told the committee that traders who had been there for a long time would be forced to leave, and said that the Council accounts needed to be checked by an external auditor. Cllr Reynolds said there may be commercial confidential issues with sharing that data.

The meeting was temporarily adjourned.

Cllr Rowley suggested a fifth recommendation asking for a relationship agreement to be drawn up between market traders and Council. Cllr Warren added that there should be a forum where profit numbers are shared and there can be consultation. Cllr Photay stated that he wanted further consultation with the traders before the rent rises are passed this year.

Resolved:

To agree the recommendations, with the following additional recommendation:

That a relationship protocol be drawn up between traders and Council employees and to incorporate a level of consultation before the rent review next year.

7. **Vermin in St Giles Crescent**

The lead petitioner introduced herself as Emily Wilkinson and that her father, Mr Wilkinson, was accompanying her. She told the committee that there had been an ongoing problem with mice in her property before Christmas. Bait had been laid down by Wolverhampton Homes but this had not resolved the issue, and there were other nearby properties who were also experiencing vermin in their properties. She voiced her concern that the mice could affect the health of her children. She told the committee that she had had to pay pest control £65.

Steve Woodward told the committee Environmental Control had not been informed prior to the petition of an infestation. He also added that the table contained in the report listing pest control treatments included multiple treatments in the same property. He told the committee that since the petition, there had been a number of actions completed including rubbish removal and a review of the keeping of birds in the area and that he believes that the problem has now been resolved. Steve Barlow added that there had been nine complaints over the past seven years in the area.

Emily Wilkinson reported that she called Environmental Health three times after the bait had been laid, and she was told there was no sign of droppings. She was not pleased with the way that Environmental Health had treated her and felt that they wanted to pass on the issue to Wolverhampton Homes. She felt that they did not sympathise with her. Steve Barlow said he could not comment on a specific conversation but apologised on behalf of Environmental health if this was the case. He said that the team always responds to complaints, even if they do not have the remit for them, and they frequently liaise with Wolverhampton Homes, Public Realm etc to try and bring a resolution to issues raised.

Cllr Photay thanked the petitioner for attending. He asked for the names of Council employee she spoke to. Emily Wilkinson said that she was in shock after the call and therefore did not take their name. Cllr Photay asked for the team to be made aware of the situation and ensure they are polite whilst speaking to customers. Cllr Bolshaw asked the petitioner what lessons the Council should learn from her experience. Mr Wilkinson responded that they should listen to the services users and respond appropriately, without passing the problem on. Emily Wilkinson said that she had been frightened of the mice and concerned about her children's health and that she

wanted to be treated correctly from the first contact. After the petition had been signed, she was happy with her treatment but felt that she should not have had to resort to a petition. Cllr Gakhal asked whether there were any fields in the area. Emily responded that there was a lot of building work, including apartments being built. Steve Woodward confirmed there was no nearby fields. Cllr Gakhal asked if there was any indication of why the mice had returned. Emily Wilkinson responded that she kept the house very clean and had followed advice she had found on the Internet and that visiting employees had been happy with the state of her property. She did not know why the mice had returned. She told the committee that other properties had had the same issue, and there was mice in the street. She added that she was concerned that the mice may return in the winter. Cllr Warren thanked the petitioner for her attendance. He asked how the Council is dealing with the mice in the street. Steve Woodward responded that there was a paid for service of Pest Control, and the actions already taken had negated many of the issues, including neighbouring properties keeping birds. There had also been action taken by Andrew Finch against some tenants. Steve Woodward was confident he had taken all possible actions to reduce the issue of mice in the area.

Resolved:

To approve the recommendations.

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Wolverhampton Petitions Register

Date petition received	Service group	Issue raised	Area of City [Ward]	Councillors Notified	Action Taken/Outcomes Contact officer
11.03.14	Delivery	Vermin in property in St Giles Crescent	East Park	Councillors Reynolds, Findlay, Banger, Bedi and Inston.	The petition was heard on 13 June The committee noted the work that had been completed. 24.10.14 It is recommended that this petition be closed. Contact Officer: Andrew Finch Tel: 0241
10.03.14	Delivery	Bilston Market rent increase	Bilston North and Bilston East	Councillors Reynolds, Findlay, Gibson, Turner, Simkins, Constable, Leach and Page.	The petition was heard on 13 June 2014. Resolved: To agree the recommendations, with the following additional recommendation: That a relationship protocol be drawn up between traders and Council employees and to incorporate a level of consultation before the rent review next year. 24.10.14 It is recommended that this petition be closed. Contact Officer: Chris Huddart Tel: 6788

Date petition received	Service group	Issue raised	Area of City [Ward]	Councillors Notified	Action Taken/Outcomes Contact officer
<p>15.07.13</p> <p style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;">Page 8</p>	<p>Education and Enterprise</p>	<p>Prohibit Parking of Caravans and Large Vans on Broome Road and Hawksford Crescent</p>	<p>Bushbury South and Low Hill</p>	<p>Councillors Bilson, Findlay, O'Neill and Sweet</p>	<p>The Service Group has been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.</p> <p>The Lead Petitioner attended the Committee on 18 October 2013.</p> <p>The Committee agreed to adjourn consideration of the petition in order for consideration to be given to the wider issues raised including anti- social behaviour and enforcement of tenancy conditions.</p> <p>The Committee revisited the petition at their next meeting on 22 November 2013 when both representatives from the Police and Wolverhampton Homes were in attendance to try to resolve the problems encountered.</p> <p>21.03.14 The Committee supported the actions proposed for Wolverhampton Homes, the Police and the City Council in consultation with the Legal Officer to work together to draw up a protocol about encroachment of the highway and enforcement actions to be taken to address this with report back to the Committee on progress in September 2014.</p> <p>A report will be presented on 12 December 2014.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Bob Willis Tel: 5790</p>

Date petition received	Service group	Issue raised	Area of City [Ward]	Councillors Notified	Action Taken/Outcomes Contact officer
27.06.11	Education and Enterprise	Prevent Speeding Traffic in Primrose Avenue/Wood Lane/School Lane	Bushbury North	Councillor Bilson, Findlay, Angus, Dehar and NA Patten	<p>The Service Group has been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.</p> <p>The Lead Petitioner had been unable to attend the meeting. Both Councillors Angus and N Patten attended the Committee on 18 October 2013 to speak on behalf of the residents.</p> <p>The Committee supported the actions proposed which included the erection of supported campaign posters, the implementation of 'slow' road markings, the implementation of flashing speed warning signs and the provision of a pedestrian crossing. It was also agreed for Chris Barker to write to the Lead Petitioner with regards to timescales as regards the implementations of the actions.</p> <p>12.12.13 - All 'slow' markings have been implemented, the speed campaign posters have been erected and the pedestrian crossing works have started on site. The Lead Petitioner has been contacted and informed of the proposed location of the speed warning signs.</p> <p>18.03.14 – The crossing facilities to be completed in School Lane in April 2014, and flashing slow signs have been placed in Wood Lane and Primrose Avenue.</p> <p>12.08.14 - A progress report will be brought to the petitions committee meeting on 24 October 2014.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Chris Barker</p>

Date petition received	Service group	Issue raised	Area of City [Ward]	Councillors Notified	Action Taken/Outcomes Contact officer
					Tel: 5725
25.10.12 Page 10	Education and Enterprise	Blockage of Turning Circle at Dunkley Street	St Peters	Councillors Bilson, NA Patten, Lawrence, Shah, T Singh	<p>The Service Group has been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.</p> <p>The Lead Petitioner attended the Committee on 15 February 2013.</p> <p>The Committee supported the actions proposed to provide a No Waiting at Any Time Restriction at Dunkley Street. The proposal would be considered by the Transportation and Highways Management Board and if approved the restrictions would be formally advertised.</p> <p>The proposed “No Waiting at any Time” restrictions were approved for statutory consultation on 19 March 2012 and consultation was currently programmed to commence on 27 June 2013.</p> <p>Following the consultation period objections had been received from the shopkeepers to the proposed lines. A meeting would be held with the Refuse Vehicle Operatives to talk through the turning heads.</p> <p>12.12.13 - Meeting with refuse collection vehicle to be undertaken early January.</p> <p>18.03.14 – Further consultation required with both the refuse</p>

Date petition received	Service group	Issue raised	Area of City [Ward]	Councillors Notified	Action Taken/Outcomes Contact officer
					<p>collectors and the shop owners in the vicinity. Exploring the possible reduction of parking to allow for easier access to the site.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Chris Barker Tel: 5725</p>
<p>10.08.12</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 11</p>	<p>Education and Enterprise</p>	<p>Street Trading in Pipers Row</p>	<p>St Peter's</p>	<p>Councillors Bilson, NA Patten, Lawrence, T Singh and Shah</p>	<p>The Service Group had been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations</p> <p>Initially the petition was due to be considered at the Council meeting in September given that the Petitioner advised that there was 2,500 signatories. However, on closer scrutiny this had not been the case and therefore the Lead Petitioner had been advised of this and invited to attend the Committee.</p> <p>The Committee took the decision to refer the matter to the Cabinet Member Economic Regeneration and Prosperity in relation to timescales for the review and for the traders to be afforded the opportunity at that stage to be given the opportunity of having their requests reconsidered. The Committee also asked for Licensing Committee to reconsider introducing an appeals process into their delegations.</p> <p>The review of the city centre street trading would be commenced in March 2013 this would involve finalising the proposals, formally consulting with stakeholders with a final report being produced for Members consideration in July, with a view to implementing proposals from 1 April 2014.</p>

Date petition received	Service group	Issue raised	Area of City [Ward]	Councillors Notified	Action Taken/Outcomes Contact officer
Page 12					<p>20.12.13 – Colin Parr provided an update during the 20 December 2013 Petitions Committee. He explained various stakeholders had been consulted, and a survey had been carried out in the city centre. From this, six proposals had been drawn up which were scheduled to be put forward to Licensing and Cabinet in the next few months, followed by Full Council.</p> <p>01.09.14 Colin Parr requested the following update be supplied to the committee - The proposals were agreed by the Licensing Committee and conditions regarding the appearance of units and trade lines have been implemented. A further report was presented on 13 May 2014 which has authorised officers to commence a public consultation on changing the city centre street trading designation from consent streets to licensed streets, the results of the consultation will then go on to Licensing Committee and Full Council.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Colin Parr Tel: 0105</p>
30.09.14	Education and Enterprise	Safety Barrier Request on Wobaston Road	Bushbury North	Councillors Bilson, Angus, Warren and Dehar.	<p>The Service Group had been advised of the petition and asked to undertake preliminary investigations.</p> <p>The petition will be considered on 24 October 2014.</p>



Petitions Committee

24 October 2014

Report title	Primrose Avenue/Wood Lane/School Lane	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Peter Bilson Economic Regeneration and Prosperity	
Wards affected	Bushbury North	
Accountable director	Tim Johnson, Education and Enterprise	
Originating service	Transportation	
Accountable employee(s)	Chris Barker	Service Lead Traffic and Road Safety
	Tel	01902 555725
	Email	chris.barker@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	N/A	

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Committee is recommended to:

1. Support the proposal to continue monitoring speeds in Primrose Avenue, Wood Lane and School Lane.
2. Support consideration of road safety measures in all three roads for inclusion in future works programmes.
3. Agree to close the petition and discontinue monitoring by the Petitions Committee.

Recommendations for noting:

The Committee is asked to note:

1. The actions taken since the last report to Petitions Committee in September 2013.
2. The proposed pedestrian crossing on Wood Lane as part of the Stafford Road Corridor Local Pinch Point Fund project.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to Committee on works undertaken since the previous report presented in September 2013, appended to this report.

2.0 Background

2.1 In July 2013, a 202 signature petition was submitted to Wolverhampton City Council regarding residents' concerns over vehicle speed in Primrose Avenue, Wood Lane and School Lane. The petition focused on the request to address residents' concerns by way of improved speed enforcement and traffic calming.

2.2 A report was presented to Petitions Committee on 20 September 2013 that outlined further actions that would be undertaken. In summary these were:

- Implementation of pedestrian crossing facility in Wood Lane near Moreton Road.
- Slow markings in School Lane.
- Further community speedwatch enforcement by the Police.
- Continued presence of speed campaign posters.
- Utilization of new speed warning signs in Primrose Lane and Wood Lane.

2.3 All the above actions have successfully been carried out. The resulting data from the speed warning signs are shown in table 2 below, with table 1 showing the pre-petition speed data. As can be seen there has been a reduction in recorded speeds when the signs have been in place.

Surveys Autumn 2012				
Road	Average speed		85%ile speed	
	Northbound	Southbound	Northbound	Southbound
Primrose Avenue	30.2mph	30.8mph	36.9mph	37.2mph
Wood Lane	30.9mph	31.0mph	35.6mph	37.0mph
School Lane	27.8mph	27.8mph	33.8mph	33.6mph

Table 1: Pre petition speed data.

Speed Warning Sign Data 2014				
Road	Average speed		85%ile speed	
	Northbound	Southbound	Northbound	Southbound
Primrose Avenue	28.6mph	27.7mph	34.0mph	31.2mph
Wood Lane	-	28.9mph	-	35.2mph

Table 2: Post petition speed data.

2.4 In addition to the above works, as part of the Local Pinch Point Fund award for the Stafford Road corridor it is proposed to implement a further controlled pedestrian crossing facility in Wood Lane near to the junction of Bee Lane. Preliminary design is currently being undertaken on this proposal and a full consultation with residents will commence in the near future.

2.5 It is proposed to continue to deploy the speed warning signs in Primrose Avenue and Wood Lane as and when available and to pass all the results on to ward Councillors and the Police for their information. Speed campaign posters will also be used in all three roads, again subject to availability.

3.0 Details of the petition

3.1 The detail of the original petition is outlined in 2.1 of this report and can be seen appended to this report.

4.0 Financial implications

4.1 The proposed crossing on Wood Lane would be funded from the Stafford Road Local Pinch Point Fund allocation.

4.2 Any future road safety schemes, if selected for inclusion in the works programme would be funded from the Transportation Capital Programme, subject to available funding. [JR/15102014/B]

5.0 Legal implications

5.1 The Council as a local traffic authority under the Traffic Management Act 2004, has general duties to manage the road network, otherwise there are no direct legal implications arising from this report. [SH/15102014/E]

6.0 Equalities implications

6.1 There are no specific equality implications associated with this report. However if funding is identified in the future for traffic calming works in the three roads, then a full equality analysis will be undertaken.

7.0 Environmental implications

7.1 This report has environmental implications as the actions already undertaken in the three roads and the proposed actions highlighted in this report which contribute to improving road safety for road users including pedestrians and cyclists, will have benefits for local communities.

8.0 Human resources implications

8.1 There are no human resources issues.

9.0 Corporate landlord implications

9.1 There are no corporate landlord issues.

10.0 Schedule of background papers

10.1 Report presented to Petitions Committee 20 September 2013.

Appendix A – Original Petition Committee Report



Petitions Committee

20 September 2013

Report Title	Primrose Avenue, Wood Lane, School Lane – Road Safety Concerns	
Classification	Public	
Cabinet Member with Lead Responsibility	Councillor Peter Bilson Economic Regeneration and Prosperity	
Wards Affected	Bushbury North	
Accountable Strategic Director	Tim Johnson, Education and Enterprise	
Originating service	Regeneration - Transportation	
Accountable officer(s)	Chris Barker Tel Email	Section Leader Network Development 01902 55(5725) chris.barker@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Recommendations for noting:

The Committee is asked to note:

1. the issues raised in the petition in respect of Primrose Avenue, Wood Lane and School Lane
2. the actions taken prior to the receipt of the petition and further actions proposed.

Recommendations for action:

The Committee is asked to support:

3. the further actions proposed as detailed in the report.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To consider the petition received regarding the request for road safety measures in Primrose Avenue, Wood Lane and School Lane, to take note of recent action taken and to support the proposed action as detailed in the report.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Historical concerns have been raised by residents and Ward Councillors with regard to road safety in Primrose Avenue, Wood Lane and School Lane. These concerns have in the main been in relation to the excessive speed of traffic in all three roads and also difficulty in crossing Wood Lane, in particular with regard to elderly pedestrians from the Lincoln Green area.
- 2.2 Within the existing road hierarchy, Primrose Avenue and Wood Lane are classed as Local Distributor Roads. The route is serviced by public transport and frontage is a mixture of residential and industrial. School Lane is classed as a Local Collector Road and frontage is solely residential. The posted speed limit in all three roads is 30mph.
- 2.3 The accident record for the three roads show that in the last three years there has been three, nought and one recorded personal injury accident(s) in Primrose Avenue, Wood Lane and School Lane respectively. This data does not take into account 'damage only' accidents which the Council does not receive information on.
- 2.4 During 2007, concerns were raised by Councillor Neville Patten on behalf of residents of Lincoln Green with regard to the difficulty in crossing Wood Lane in the vicinity of the bus stop located north of Moreton Road. A pedestrian crossing and vehicle volume survey was undertaken following the request, which showed that the location met the approved criteria for the provision of a pedestrian crossing facility and the location was added to the list for consideration for funding from future works programmes. Subsequently in March 2013, the location was included in the Transportation Capital Programme 2013/14 and consultation has recently commenced on a proposed traffic signal controlled (Puffin) pedestrian crossing as shown on the appended plan to this report.
- 2.5 Following concerns regarding the speed of traffic that were raised on behalf of residents by Councillor Ian Angus in the Autumn of 2012, traffic speed and volume surveys were undertaken in all three roads and the results were as shown in the table below.

Road	Volume (24 hour)	Average speed		85%ile speed	
		Northbound	Southbound	Northbound	Southbound
Primrose Avenue	3968	30.2mph	30.8mph	36.9mph	37.2mph

Wood Lane	5069	30.9mph	31.0mph	35.6mph	37.0mph
School Lane	3396	27.8mph	27.8mph	33.8mph	33.6mph

2.6 Following receipt of these results, various actions were undertaken by both the Council and the Police. These included Community Speedwatch, the erection of speed campaign posters and the implementation of 'slow' road markings (School Lane yet to be implemented).

3.0 Details of the petition

3.1 In July 2013 a 202 signature petition was submitted to Wolverhampton City Council regarding residents' concerns over vehicle speed in Primrose Avenue, Wood Lane and School Lane. The petition focused on the request to address residents' concerns by way of increased speed enforcement and traffic calming.

3.2 With regard to speed enforcement, the Police have confirmed that they will continue to support the Community Speedwatch programme in the area. The speed campaign posters will also continue to be utilised in the roads on a temporary basis, as these posters will be moved to other roads where residents have concerns, though will be brought back at a future date.

3.3 With regard to traffic calming, all three roads will be considered for funding when future works programmes are derived. However the engineering measures available for Primrose Avenue and Wood Lane would not include the likes of road humps/speed cushions due to both roads being classed as Local Distributor Roads.

3.4 In the short term, six new flashing speed warning signs have recently been purchased to use city wide at locations of concern. They will typically be deployed for approximately three to four weeks at a time in each location and work is underway to determine the most effective locations within the selected roads for these signs. Wood Lane and Primrose Avenue are on the list of roads where the signs will be utilised and the locations will be determined in agreement with the Lead Petitioner.

4.0 Financial implications

4.1 Funding has been identified in the approved Transportation Capital Programme (2013/14) for the proposed pedestrian crossing mentioned in paragraph 2.4 and also the speed warning signs mentioned in paragraph 3.4.

4.2 Any future road safety schemes, if selected for inclusion in the works programme would be funded from the Transportation Capital Programme, subject to available funding. [JR/10092013/I]

5.0 Legal implications

5.1 The Council as a local traffic authority under the Traffic Management Act 2004, has general duties to manage the road network, otherwise there are no direct legal implications arising from this report. [FD/09092013/W]

6.0 Equalities implications

6.1 There are no specific equality implications associated with this report. However if funding is identified in the future for traffic calming works in the three roads, then a full equality analysis will be undertaken.

7.0 Environmental implications

7.1 This report has environmental implications as the actions already undertaken in the three roads and the proposed actions highlighted in this report which contribute to improving road safety for road users including pedestrians and cyclists, will have benefits for local communities.

8.0 Schedule of background papers

8.1 Transportation Capital Programme 2013/14 and Future Years – Approved by Cabinet 10th April 2013.



Petitions Committee

24 October 2014

Report title	Wobaston Road Corridor Improvements – Safety Barrier Request	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Peter Bilson Economic Regeneration and Prosperity	
Wards affected	Bushbury North	
Accountable director	Tim Johnson, Education and Enterprise	
Originating service	Regeneration - Transportation	
Accountable employee(s)	Ian Hipkiss	Service Lead Network Development
	Tel	01902 55(4241)
	Email	ian.hipkiss@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	None	

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Committee is recommended to support the recommendation that safety barriers are not sufficiently warranted at this location to justify installation.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To consider a petition received requesting the installation of fencing or safety barriers on the southern side of Wobaston Road as part of the current Wobaston Road Corridor Improvement Scheme.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 As part of the 2012 Autumn Statement the Government announced the creation of a Local Pinch Point Fund worth £170 million nationally to remove bottlenecks on the local highway network which are impeding growth.
- 2.2 The Wobaston Road is a key corridor adjacent to the i54 major investment site, development opportunities within the Enterprise Zone and the wider Stafford Road Corridor. The scheme is considered important to facilitate opportunities for growth in this area of the City.
- 2.3 Wobaston Road Corridor Improvement Scheme, currently under construction, will address problems of traffic congestion and help to support the i54 development.
- 2.4 During the construction of the scheme residents have submitted a petition requesting a fence or safety barrier to protect their homes from possible damage caused by a vehicle collision.

3.0 Details of the petition

- 3.1 In September 2014, a 130 signature petition was submitted to Wolverhampton City Council regarding the residents' request for a fence or safety barrier along the southern side of Wobaston Road where properties fronting Winchester Road and Redhurst Drive back onto the new/improved carriageway.
- 3.2 Justifying the introduction of expensive Road Restraint Systems (RRS) to reduce the risk is a challenge for local highway authorities, especially at a time when funding for maintenance and improvement schemes is already limited. Authorities must be confident that any measures taken represent good value for money. The document 'Design and Maintenance Guidance for Local Authority Roads' provides the outline of an appraisal process to help authorities decide when a RRS is justified. The appraisal takes account of the many diverse influencing factors including risk assessment, alternative solutions, system feasibility and cost benefit analysis.
- 3.3 An analysis of the Wobaston Road site has been carried out in accordance with 'Design and Maintenance Guidance for Local Authority Roads' which places it in the 'Lower Priority Site' category. This means that there is no requirement to provide a road restraint system as the level of risk is considered to be generally low.

3.4 The installation of an expensive Road Restraint System at this location is therefore not recommended as the assessment does not demonstrate sufficient justification to warrant the expenditure.

4.0 Financial implications

4.1 The Wobaston Road project is funded primarily from Department for Transport (DfT) grant via the Local Pinch Point Fund, with a local contribution from the Council's Integrated Transport programme. The DfT grant is a cash limited sum and any additional expenditure on the project must therefore be funded from the Council's budgets.

4.2 There is no funding identified within the Wobaston Road project for a Road Restraint System. In the event that it is desired to include a RRS, funding would have to be redirected from within the existing Transportation Capital Programme resulting in the delay or cancellation of road safety projects elsewhere. The estimated cost of providing a RRS at this location is £66,000. [JR/15102014/E]

5.0 Legal implications

5.1 The Council as a local traffic authority under the Traffic Management Act 2004, has general duties to manage the road network, otherwise there are no direct legal implications arising from this report. [RB/10102014/J]

6.0 Equalities implications

6.1 There are no specific equality implications associated with this report.

7.0 Environmental implications

7.1 This report has no environmental implications.

8.0 Human resources implications

8.1 The human resources implications are the requirement for detailed design and construction, along with the ongoing requirement for maintenance, inspection and repair.

9.0 Corporate landlord implications

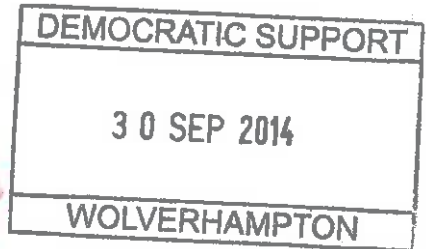
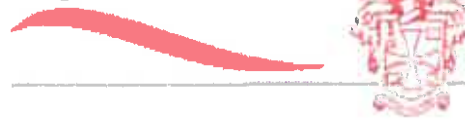
9.1 This report has no issues for the corporate landlord.

10.0 Schedule of background papers

10.1 Transportation Capital Programme 2013/14 and Future Years – Approved by Cabinet 10th April 2013.

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Wolverhampton
City Council



PUBLIC PETITION

(For official use only) PUBLIC PETITION NO.	133-14
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Should you wish to submit a public petition for consideration by the Petitions Committee please refer to the guidance leaflet **Petitions and E-Petitions Scheme** and the **Guidance Notes** at the back of this form.

1. NAME OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER (If applicable, please specify the name of the organisation on whose behalf the petition is raised)
Mrs P Jenks (& Miss J Williams)
2. PETITION TITLE
Wobaston Road safety barrier
3. PETITION TEXT
Petition for a fence or safety barrier on Wobaston Road – principally on behalf of the residents of the flats and bungalows on Winchester Road and Redhurst Drive.
4. ACTION TAKEN TO RESOLVE ISSUES OF CONCERN BEFORE SUBMITTING THE PETITION
Concerns explained and request for safety barrier made directly to Wolverhampton City Council officers involved in the Wobaston Road development and responsible officers at URS Infrastructure & Environment UK Limited. On site meeting between residents and Councillor Angus in early September. Councillor Angus made subsequent representations to Lydia Barnstable.
5. PETITION BACKGROUND INFORMATION
Local residents have overwhelmingly called for the Council to amend their landscaping plans for Wobaston Road (as part of the extended Vine Island works) to include a safety barrier (safety railings) or fence on the southside of the carriageway. Residents (many of whom are very elderly) are worried about speeding traffic

and the potential for vehicles to leave the carriageway and a) strike walking pedestrians and b) plough into the back of their bungalows (their kitchens and bedrooms back on to the Wobaston Rd).

Committee will be aware that:

- a) The Wobaston road development work has seen the carriageway extended/widened bringing it much closer to the bungalows on Winchester Road;
- b) Significant local concern relating to speeding on and around the Vine Island. This has been raised as a priority concern at local PACT meetings and has prompted local councillors to request that the police undertake 'speedwatch' sessions in and around this location.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION (NOT FOR PUBLICATION)

Name	Mrs P Jenks
Address	
Telephone nos.	Home: Mobile:
E-mail address	
No. of petition signatures	130 100

STATEMENT TO THE COMMITTEE:

Should the Committee consider it necessary, in order to broaden its understanding of the petition, it may invite a petitioner to appear before and give an oral presentation and answer question. Would you wish, if invited, to appear?

YES

SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER:

When satisfied that your petition meets all the criteria outlined in the Petitions and E-Petitions Scheme, the principal petitioner should sign and date below.

Signature

Date ..27/09/14.....

Completed forms should be returned to—
 Democratic Support
 Governance Services
 Delivery Directorate
 Wolverhampton City Council
 St Peter's Square
 Wolverhampton
 WV1 1SH

**A PARTISON FOR A FENCE OR SAFTY BARRIER ON
WOBASTON ROAD**

**A ON THE BEHALF OF THE RESEDENCE OF THE
BUNGALOWS AND FLATS OF WINCHESTER ROAD AND
REDHURST DRIVE**

**IF YOU ARE INTRESTED IN HAVING A FANCE OR SAFTY
BARRIER ERECTED AT THE REAR OF BUNGALOWS AND
FLATS PLEASE SIGN:-**

**PLEASE ADD YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS SIGN HERE.
THANK YOU**

Hazel Blower	73 3 Redhurst Drive	Flat
KEN HARRISON	33 REDHURST	DRIVE BUNGALOW
Alex Bamford	35 Redhurst	Flat
John Joyce	31 Redhurst	" "
B & Williams	29 REDHURST	" "
R. SWINDERMANN	19A REDHURST	FLAT.
Kate Holm	17 REDHURST DR.	
MARGARET HUGHES	11 REDHURST DR	
RW BARKER	1 REDHURST DRIVE	FLAT Redhurst
Wendy Hancox	5A Redhurst Drive	Flat
ROSALBEN KEMSHET	206 ^A WINCHESTER RD	FLAT
AJ BAILEY	206 ^A WINCHESTER RD	"
DALIA MOORE	200A WINCHESTER RD	BUNGALOW
JAN COPSON	192 Winchester Rd.	
M. O'CONNOR	186 Winchester	
J. NICKLIN	184 Winchester	
J.M. STEIGERMAN	182 WINCHESTER RD	1 Bungalow
E. HAWTHORN	178A WINCHESTER.	
F. GUY	180 ^A WINCHESTER	
Tomie	176A Winchester	
PAIGE	180 WINCHESTER ROAD	FLAT
Gwen & Keith Perry	158 WINCHESTER ROAD	FLAT
J. Fenick	208 Winchester Road	Flat
A. JENKS	172 Winchester Rd	Bungalow
G. Lonsdale	174 Winchester	Bungalow
J. Williams	170 Winchester	" "
L. Cox	168 Winchester	" "
K. Payne	166 Winchester Rd	" "
B. GY	104 Northwood Pk Rd	House.
B. Clifford	55 Redhurst Drive	"

A PARTISON FOR A FENCE OR SAFTY BARRIER ON WOBASTON ROAD

A ON THE BEHALF OF THE RESEDENCE OF THE BUNGALOWS AND FLATS OF WINCHESTER ROAD AND REDHURST DRIVE

IF YOU ARE INTRESTED IN HAVING A FENCE OR SAFTY BARRIER ERECTED AT THE REAR OF BUNGALOWS AND FLATS PLEASE SIGN:-

PLEASE ADD YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS SIGN HERE. THANK YOU

MRS WHITEHOUSE	56 REDHURST	HOUSE
Reg Purcell	13 Redhurst	Bungalow
Tracey Hancox	39 Redhurst	Flat
Frank Wells	21 Redhurst	Flat
K MOORE	206 Winchester RD	Flat
M JONES	208 Winchester rd	FLAT
MRS J. SPRUCE	204 WINCHESTER RD	FLAT
Juan Backer	147	FLAT
Max Zimwik	14 Hillman Close WYSPM	
Phil Goodhall	32 Tettenhall Rd.	
MAT TOWNSEND	6 WYB B.J.	
Kasim Pugh	5 Ellerslie, TFL 2RY	house
MRS WHITE	35 Milldale Cres	House.
Tracey Foster	6, Greenfield Lane	
Karen Ouse	661 Stafford Road.	
TRADITIONAL BARBERS	657B Stallano Rd	Shop
Luke Wright	" " "	"
J Spooner	POWELL PHARMACY	Shop
R. Millard	6 Wobaston Rd	House.
B. G. Evans	163 Winchester Rd	HOUSE
Lynn Cotterill	33 Cosgrove Wall	
Chah Singh	851 Peter Street	Shop
Adam Johnson	23 Green Lane	House.
Amer Sassi	13 Ribblesdale Aven.	House.
Macawley Nightingale	38 McLean Road	House
LD Newman	31, Farmbrook Ave	House
MRS SIDHU	764 STAFFORD	SHOP
Jatinder Singh	766 Stafford Rd	Shop.
Mrs Moorhans	9 Earlswood crescent	House
Jessica Kingsley	24 Honeyby Road	HOUSE
Helen Skelton	10 BRIDGEWAY CLOSE	House
Sone Douglous	31, Milldale cres	House

South
Staffs
Telford

?
?

A PARTISON FOR A FENCE OR SAFTY BARRIER ON WOBASTON ROAD

A ON THE BEHALF OF THE RESEDENCE OF THE BUNGALOWS AND
FLATS OF WINCHESTER ROAD AND REDHURST DRIVE

IF YOU ARE INTRESTED IN HAVING A FANCE OR SAFTY BARRIER
ERECTED AT THE REAR OF BUNGALOWS AND FLATS PLEASE SIGN:-

PLEASE ADD YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS SIGN HERE. THANK YOU

Eric Douglas	37, Milldale cres	House
Ned Douglas	" " "	House
L. Simpkins	9 WATERMILL CLOSE	
M. SKITT	91 TAVINTON AVENUE	
L. GUSE	37 JOHNSON ROAD	
C. KOURDAM	FORDHOLM CHURCH	
Ruth Tugwell	5 GIFFARD RD	
Virginia Clark	11 Romaey Rd	
KATRINA WILLIAMS	20, SLADE ROAD	
HAYLEY LAWLEY	153, Winchester road	House.
Simon LAWLEY	" "	" "
SHARON HARRIS	34 Alleston road	bungalow
Michael HARRIS	" "	" "
P. Richards.	151 Winchester Rd.	House.
I. Bradley	38 Brinsford Rd	House.
Graham Arnett.	24 Hopton Crescent	
Kelly Lucas	36 McLean Road	
Fay Hollis	POWSTAGE	Shop
SUNNI ANA	POWSTAGE	Shop
Lorraine Monument	584 Stafford R.D	House.
A Burden	47 Elmton Road	House
L. COOPER	15 MARSH LANE	HOUSE
W. WORTON	15 MARSH LANE	HOUSE
V. Turner	22 Carriage Close	
Ann Stubb	CROSS PLAS	
John Stenton	CROSS PLAS	
J. Smith	WIVES HU	
K. GERRIS	SEABOROUGH	
T. SKANS	18 MARSH LANE PARADE	
P. Bogins	William Hill	
J. Jones	"	
R. Billingham	15 THE AVENUE	

Be-dun

Shop
Shop

Winchester

32 11

3

A PARTISON FOR A FENCE OR SAFTY BARRIER ON WOBASTON ROAD

**A ON THE BEHALF OF THE RESEDENCE OF THE BUNGALOWS AND
FLATS OF WINCHESTER ROAD AND REDHURST DRIVE**

**IF YOU ARE INTRESTED IN HAVING A FANCE OR SAFTY BARRIER
ERECTED AT THE REAR OF BUNGALOWS AND FLATS PLEASE SIGN:-**

PLEASE ADD YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS SIGN HERE. THANK YOU

Nathan Platch	6 celtic road	
U2 EVANS	53 MILLAGE CRESCENT	
V. Middleton	8 Wobaston Road	WV10 6QQ
DM	150 WINCHESTER ROAD	
K. Spenser	146 Winchester Road	
P. Spencer	146 Winchester Rd	
J. Linton	136 Winchester Rd	
A Hill	132 Winchester Rd	
K. Smith	130 Winchester Rd	
P. Hancock	126 Winchester Rd	
S. W. WHITEHOUSE	112 WINCHESTER ROAD	
B. Davies	102 Winchester Rd	
P. Bentley	100 Winchester Rd	
T. Smith	94 WINCHESTER	
C. Powell	77 WINCHESTER RD	
A. Whyton	10 SLADE RD	
K. Whyton	79 Winchester	
J. Aplin	5 Landerkirk Gardens	
Leon Reece	The Kookback, Sarn Rd	
P. S. Jones	5 Wobaston Rd	
G. Jones	4 WOBASTON ROAD	
T. King	653. STAFFORD	
A. Miller	55 MILLAGE	
Ther Lander	10 Broughton Road	
MAXX McNEIL	36 SLADE ROAD	
L. E. (L. E. E. E. E.)	43 Winchester Rd	
P. S. (P. S. S. S. S.)	190 WINCHESTER RD	
Richard (Richard)	3 DEVLIN Drive	
DARREN (Darren)	2 ALLSTON WALK	
W. Rushforth	26 HATHERTON GARDENS	
S. (S. S. S. S. S.)	20 Birch Lane Breerton	
R. Greer	58 Glentworth Gardens	

Kiddington

Canock Chase

32 28

4

A PARTISON FOR A FENCE OR SAFTY BARRIER ON WOBASTON ROAD

A ON THE BEHALF OF THE RESEDENCE OF THE BUNGALOWS AND
FLATS OF WINCHESTER ROAD AND REDHURST DRIVE

IF YOU ARE INTRESTED IN HAVING A ^F FENCE OR SAFTY BARRIER
ERECTED AT THE REAR OF BUNGALOWS AND FLATS PLEASE SIGN:-

PLEASE ADD YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS SIGN HERE. THANK YOU

EGLON/ Green	138 ORLEY road	
S. Richards	17 Drovers road	
J Hayward	200 Winchester Rd	BUNGALOW
MR K J	172 Winchester Rd	FLAT

4/3

5

