

# Vibrant and Sustainable City Scrutiny Panel

29 September 2016

**Time** 6.00 pm **Public Meeting?** YES **Type of meeting** Scrutiny

**Venue** Committee Room 3 - 3rd Floor - Civic Centre

## Membership

**Chair** Cllr Ian Angus (Lab)  
**Vice-chair** Cllr Christopher Haynes (Con)

### Labour

Cllr Mary Bateman  
Cllr Val Evans  
Cllr Bhupinder Gakhal  
Cllr Keith Inston  
Cllr Lynne Moran  
Cllr John Rowley  
Cllr Zee Russell  
Cllr Caroline Siarkiewicz  
Cllr Tersaim Singh

### Conservative

Cllr Andrew Wynne

### United Kingdom Independence Party

Cllr Malcolm Gwinnett

Quorum for this meeting is three Councillors.

## Information for the Public

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact the democratic support team:

**Contact** Earl Piggott-Smith  
**Tel/Email** Tel: 01902 551251 or [earl.piggott-smith@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:earl.piggott-smith@wolverhampton.gov.uk)  
**Address** Democratic Support, Civic Centre, 1st floor, St Peter's Square,  
Wolverhampton WV1 1RL

Copies of other agendas and reports are available from:

**Website** <http://wolverhampton.moderngov.co.uk>  
**Email** [democratic.support@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.support@wolverhampton.gov.uk)  
**Tel** 01902 555043

Please take note of the protocol for filming, recording, and use of social media in meetings, copies of which are displayed in the meeting room.

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**
- 2            **Declarations of interest**
- 3            **Minutes of the previous meeting (30 June 2016)** (Pages 3 - 4)  
[To approve the minutes of the previous meeting as a correct record]
- 4            **Matters arising**  
[To consider any matter arising from the minutes]

### PUBLIC PETITIONS

The Council welcomes petitions and recognises that they are one way in which members of the public can let us know their concerns and have a direct influence on operational issues and/or a role in the policy development process.

- 5            **Reclamation of Lunt Road/Queen Street Wasteland (next to Bilston Town Football Ground) (Bilston East Ward)** (Pages 5 - 14)  
[Graham Hodson, Lead Petitioner, to be invited to speak in support of the petition and answer any questions that Councillors may have or submit written evidence.]
- 6            **Children's Play Area at West Park** (Pages 15 - 24)  
[Ms Montana White, Lead Petitioner, to be invited to speak in support of the petition and answer any questions that Councillors may have or submit written evidence.]

# Vibrant and Sustainable City Scrutiny Panel

Agenda Item No: 3

## Minutes - 30 June 2016

### Attendance

#### Members of the Vibrant and Sustainable City Scrutiny Panel

Cllr Ian Angus (Chair)  
Cllr Mary Bateman  
Cllr Val Evans  
Cllr Bhupinder Gakhal  
Cllr John Rowley  
Cllr Zee Russell  
Cllr Caroline Siarkiewicz  
Cllr Tersaim Singh  
Cllr Andrew Wynne

#### Employees

Ross Cook	Service Director, City Environment
Earl Piggott-Smith	Scrutiny Officer
Bob Willis	Head of Highways Network
Lesley Roberts	Director of Strategic Housing

#### In attendance

Cllr Steve Evans	Cabinet Member for City Environment
------------------	-------------------------------------

---

## Part 1 – items open to the press and public

*Item No.*    *Title*

- 1 Apologies**  
Apologies were received from the following member(s) of the panel:  
  
Cllr Chris Haynes
- 2 Declarations of interest**  
Cllr T. Singh declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 6
- 3 Minutes of the previous meeting (14 April 2016)**  
That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.
- 4 Matters arising**  
Minute 5 – Keeping the City clean

Cllr Angus briefed the panel on the tour of the customer service centre. The panel recommended all panel members to attend as the visit was very informative. The panel suggested that a visit to customer service centre should be part of the induction for new Councillors.

5 **New Cross Residents Parking Scheme**

Cllr Steve Evans, Cabinet Member for City Environment, introduced the report which detailed plans to consult the public about creating a resident parking scheme. Cabinet Member for City Environment explained the aim was to reduce traffic parking problems in the area near New Cross Hospital.

Bob Willis, Head of Highways Network, explained that the annual fee for permits has been reduced from £40 to £20 annually in response to comments from previous plan to introduce a residents parking scheme. Head of Highways Network explained the reason for introducing a charge for residents. The findings of the public consultation will commence in July subject to Cabinet approval on 20.7.16.

Head of Highways Network explained the three phases of the scheme.

Councillor commented that informal feedback from local businesses in the area suggests that they would welcome parking restrictions because of the traffic problems caused by the current arrangements.

Head of Highways Network explained that the level of public support needed to support the introduction of the scheme. The scheme is cost neutral and the annual fee will cover the cost of enforcement officers and administrative costs.

The panel queried the plans for consulting with the public and the importance of not relying on leaflets to get views on the plans. Head of Highways Network explained that 200 properties will be affected the changes and the aim is to make it as easy as possible for people to share their views on the plan. Councillors commented that alternative car parking is available in the area.

The panel queried if the scheme would need approval at each phase before it would proceed to the next phase. Head of Highways Network explained that responses to phase one would be considered before proceeding and also there is a need for discussions with Wolverhampton Homes as phases two and three may impact on them.

Resolved

The panel welcomed the report and supported the proposed implementation of a residents and business parking and pay and display scheme in the New Cross Hospital area.

6 **Local Housing Company - Final Business Case (report to follow)**

Lesley Roberts, Strategic Director of Housing, updated the panel on progress in establishing the Local Housing Company.

Resolved

The panel welcomed the report and noted the progress.

The meeting closed at 19:35



# Vibrant and Sustainable City Scrutiny Panel

29 September 2016

<b>Report title</b>	Petition - Reclamation of Lunt Road/Queen Street Wasteland (next to Bilston Town Football Ground) (Bilston East Ward)	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Steve Evans City Environment	
<b>Wards affected</b>	All	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Kevin O'Keefe, Governance	
<b>Originating service</b>	Democracy	
<b>Accountable employee(s)</b>	Julia Cleary Tel Email	Scrutiny and Systems Manager 01902 555046 julia.cleary@wolverhampton.gov.uk
<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>		

---

## Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Panel is recommended to:

1. To consider the petition and make recommendations for action by employees or review by the Executive, as appropriate.

## **1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1 The report provides a summary of the petition submitted for panel consideration. The panel are asked to make recommendations as appropriate.
- 1.2 Graham Hodson, Lead Petitioner, has been invited to speak in support of the petition and answer any questions that Councillors may have or submit further written supporting evidence. A summary of the petition is attached as Appendix 1

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 The Council amended the arrangements for considering petitions from the public in May 2016. Petitions with more than 50 signatures will be considered by the relevant scrutiny panel

## **3.0 Discussion**

- 3.1 The petitions meetings protocol is detailed in Appendix 2.

## **4.0 Financial implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications associated with the report recommendations.

## **5.0 Legal implications**

- 5.1 The Petitions Scheme referred to in this report ensures that the Council meets its obligations under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 to have a mechanism for consideration of petitions from the public.RB/20092016/Y

## **6.0 Equalities implications**

- 6.1 The proposals outlined in this report do not require an equalities analysis. The recommendations will not affect the Council's practice of encouraging, considering and responding to petitions.

## **7.0 Environmental implications**

- 7.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

## **8.0 Human resources implications**

- 8.1 There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

**9.0 Corporate landlord implications**

9.1 There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

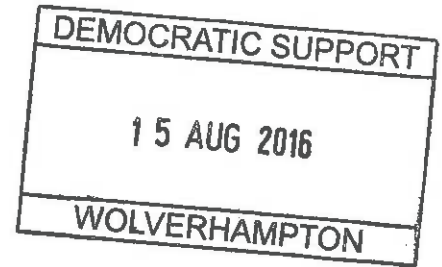
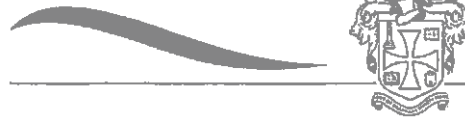
**10.0 Schedule of background papers**

10.1 Petition Scheme

This page is intentionally left blank



**Wolverhampton**  
City Council



**PUBLIC PETITION**

(For official use only) PUBLIC PETITION NO.	03-2016
--	---------

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.**

<b>1. NAME OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER</b> (If applicable, please specify the name of the organisation on whose behalf the petition is raised)
Graham Hodson – Bilston Town CFC & Lunt Road/Queen St Residents
<b>2. PETITION TITLE</b>
Reclamation of Lunt Road/Queen Street Wasteland
<b>3. PETITION TEXT</b>
Reclamation and renovation of wasteland in Lunt Road/Queen Street, Bilston
<b>4. ACTION TAKEN TO RESOLVE ISSUES OF CONCERN BEFORE SUBMITTING THE PETITION</b>
Both the Football Club and Local Residents have lobbied local councillors and MP regarding the unsafe/unhealthy wasteland between the football club and the resident's bungalows. Including a meeting last November with Ms Fieldhouse at the Civic Centre, where we requested the area be cleaned up or fenced off – neither has been done.
<b>5. PETITION BACKGROUND INFORMATION</b>

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.

...*Graham Hodson*.....

...13<sup>th</sup> August 2016.....

Council

WV1 1SH

Email: [democratic.support@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.support@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

Tel: 01902 550181

## **PUBLIC PETITION**

(NOTE: In accordance with the Petitions Scheme, the petition will be published on the City Council's Website. Names and addresses will be included, but signatures will be removed)

### **PETITION TEXT**

(Please state clearly and concisely what action you want the Council to take. Submit additional sheets as required)

The wasteland adjacent to Bilston Town CFC and the new Bungalows in Lunt Road is privately owned on a 99 year lease (taken out in 2007). We, the petitioners believe the owner has failed to adhere to the terms of that lease, and allowed the land to deteriorate to its current unsafe, unsightly state, making it detrimental to the area, unsightly for the residents, and an attraction for fly tippers and anti social behaving youths.

Despite requests to the council to enforce the owner to either clear the area of its overgrowth, or at the very least, fence it off to detract fly tipping and make access more difficult, nothing has been done.

We request that the owner be forced to take remedial action, where failure to do so within a stipulated time, would see the land repossessed and given back to the community.

From the Football Clubs perspective, - and with the support of the local residents, the ideal solution would be to level the land and create a car park. This would benefit all parties, as on match days the local streets wouldn't be clogged up with cars, it would be easily maintained, and much more aesthetically pleasing for the local residents.

The Football Club would be happy and willing to liaise with the Council and Accord Housing, to manage the car park, as well as marshal it on match days to ensure the roads around the ground remain traffic free.

Discussions between the football club and residents see a mutual desire for this land to be reclaimed, the area to be improved and a car park would tick all those boxes.

As it stands, this area is both ugly and dangerous, and unless the detriment of the land isn't halted, it will get worse month on month

This page is intentionally left blank

## Appendix 2 - Scrutiny Panel - Petitions meeting protocol

Timescale	Activity	Notes
5 Minutes	The lead petitioner presents the Petition	The petitioner may nominate someone (including a Councillor) to speak on their behalf
5 minutes	Cabinet Member and Head of Service (HOS) respond to the petition	The Cabinet Member and HOS will offer a response to the Petition and may ask questions of clarification of the Petitioners.
10 minutes	Scrutiny Councillors participate in debate or ask questions of the Cabinet Member	
3 minutes	Petitioner able to ask up to three questions of the Cabinet Member	All questions to be raised at the same time.
5 minutes	Cabinet Member to respond to any questions	
2 minutes	The Chair asks Scrutiny Panel to agree the recommendations on the Petition and explains the outcome of the debate to the petitioners	
This will normally be sent within 10 working days of the meeting	The lead and second Petitioner receive a copy of the minutes and decision of the Scrutiny Panel.	

This page is intentionally left blank

# Vibrant and Sustainable City Scrutiny Panel

29 September 2016

<b>Report title</b>	Petition – Children’s Play Area at West Park	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Steve Evans City Environment	
<b>Wards affected</b>	All	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Kevin O’Keefe, Governance	
<b>Originating service</b>	Democracy	
<b>Accountable employee(s)</b>	Julia Cleary Tel Email	Scrutiny and Systems Manager 01902 555046 julia.cleary@wolverhampton.gov.uk
<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>		

---

**Recommendation(s) for action or decision:**

The Panel is recommended to:

1. To consider the petition and make recommendations for action by employees or review by the Executive, as appropriate.

## **1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1 The report provides a summary of the petition submitted for panel consideration. The panel are asked to make recommendations as appropriate.
- 1.2 Montana White, Lead Petitioner, has been invited to speak in support of the petition and answer any questions that Councillors may have or submit further written supporting evidence. A summary of the petition is attached as Appendix 1 and additional information has been provided by Officers at Appendix 3.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 The Council amended the arrangements for considering petitions from the public in May 2016. Petitions with more than 50 signatures will be considered by the relevant scrutiny panel.

## **3.0 Discussion**

- 3.1 The petitions meetings protocol is detailed in Appendix 2.

## **4.0 Financial implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications associated with the report recommendations.

## **5.0 Legal implications**

- 5.1 The Petitions Scheme referred to in this report ensures that the Council meets its obligations under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 to have a mechanism for consideration of petitions from the public.

[Legal Code: TS/20092016/D]

## **6.0 Equalities implications**

- 6.1 The proposals outlined in this report do not require an equalities analysis. The recommendations will not affect the Council's practice of encouraging, considering and responding to petitions.

## **7.0 Environmental implications**

- 7.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

## **8.0 Human resources implications**

- 8.1 There are no human resources implications arising from this report.



## **9.0 Corporate landlord implications**

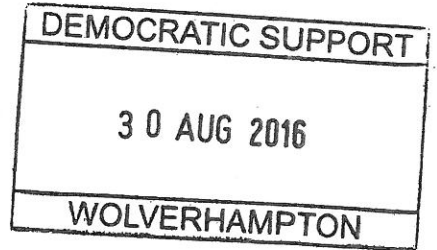
9.1 There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

## **10.0 Schedule of background papers**

10.1 Petition Scheme

This page is intentionally left blank

Wolverhampton  
City Council



**PUBLIC PETITION**

(For official use only) PUBLIC PETITION NO.	04 - 2016.
--	------------

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.

<b>1. NAME OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER</b> (If applicable, please specify the name of the organisation on whose behalf the petition is raised)
Montana White.
<b>2. PETITION TITLE</b>
Childrens Play Area at West Park
<b>3. PETITION TEXT</b>
TO ASK THE COUNCIL TO ADAPT THE CHILDRENS PLAY AREA IN WEST PARK TO MEET A WIDER RANGE OF ABILITY, ESPECIALLY THOSE WITH REDUCED MOBILITY
<b>4. ACTION TAKEN TO RESOLVE ISSUES OF CONCERN BEFORE SUBMITTING THE PETITION</b>
N/A.
<b>5. PETITION BACKGROUND INFORMATION</b>
NCS - National Citizen Service Campaign National Project.

This page is intentionally left blank

## Appendix 2 - Scrutiny Panel - Petitions meeting protocol

Timescale	Activity	Notes
5 Minutes	The lead petitioner presents the Petition	The petitioner may nominate someone (including a Councillor) to speak on their behalf
5 minutes	Cabinet Member and Head of Service (HOS) respond to the petition	The Cabinet Member and HOS will offer a response to the Petition and may ask questions of clarification of the Petitioners.
10 minutes	Scrutiny Councillors participate in debate or ask questions of the Cabinet Member	
3 minutes	Petitioner able to ask up to three questions of the Cabinet Member	All questions to be raised at the same time.
5 minutes	Cabinet Member to respond to any questions	
2 minutes	The Chair asks Scrutiny Panel to agree the recommendations on the Petition and explains the outcome of the debate to the petitioners	
This will normally be sent within 10 working days of the meeting	The lead and second Petitioner receive a copy of the minutes and decision of the Scrutiny Panel.	

This page is intentionally left blank

## Refurbishment of West Park Play Area – Inclusive Play

### Aims and Objectives

As with all play area refurbishments, Environmental Services endeavoured to refurbish West Park play area to provide maximum play opportunities for children of all ages and abilities.

### Accessible Location

The play area has been designed to sit on a level, even base consisting of brightly coloured safety surfacing for ease of visibility, with tarmac circulation space. The play area is approached via a level tarmac path, through two wheelchair accessible gates. There is good circulation space between the equipment for ease of movement for all.

### Background

When the Disability Discrimination Act came into force in 1995, play equipment manufacturers were faced with the challenge of re-designing their ranges of equipment to provide play opportunities for children with disabilities as well as able-bodied children. It was acknowledged that disabilities could take various forms, ranging from physical disabilities such as upper limb or lower limb impairments, to sensory disabilities including sight and hearing impairments, learning difficulties and autism.

Many play companies have now developed ranges of “inclusive” equipment, where individual pieces of equipment have been designed to be accessible to children of all levels of ability. Designs have been adapted to enable easier access from ground level, and provide features such as wider slides, open / supportive seating and wider platforms, giving parents and carers the opportunity to provide assistance to less able children. Inclusive equipment enables children of all abilities the chance to play together, reducing the feelings of alienation and isolation which could be encountered from using equipment designed for a specific level of ability.

### Inclusive Play Equipment at West Park

West Park has been refurbished with a range of inclusive play equipment developed by Kompan Ltd, one of the world’s most respected designers and manufacturers of children’s play equipment. The equipment includes the “Supernova” roundabout which has won awards for its inclusive design.

Children can use the Supernova roundabout either sitting down or lying on their tummies, which enables an easier and less risky ride. It is a “multiuser” unit so family/carers can also participate with the children. The Supernova can hold a group of users at the same time, so that no one feels left out.

The climbing unit has been designed with several hammock style seats, with one situated particularly low to the ground for easy access by children who may be less able to climb, helping them to access the unit and be a part of the fun.

The see-saw has big handles, foot pedals and roomy seats to provide a comfortable and supportive ride. Children also tend to sit in the middle for a more gentle rocking motion.

The springers for younger children have foot rests and big handles for ease of use and support. One has a backrest and side panels for extra support, enabling the child to ride independently but still be safe and secure.

### Conclusion

We fully accept there are items of equipment on the market that cater solely for children with particularly disabilities such as wheel chair swings and roundabouts, however our focus has been to provide equipment which allows children of all abilities the opportunity to play together .

This page is intentionally left blank