

# City of Portsmouth MEMBERS' INFORMATION SERVICE

**NO 17**

**DATE: THURSDAY 28 APRIL 2011**

The Members' Information Service produced in the Customer, Community & Democratic Services Unit by Joanne Wildsmith has been prepared in three parts -

Part 1 - Decisions by the Cabinet and individual Cabinet Members, subject to Councillors' right to have the matter called in for scrutiny.

Part 2 - Proposals from Managers which they would like to implement subject to Councillors' right to have the matter referred to the relevant Cabinet Member or Regulatory Committee; and

Part 3 - Items of general information and news.

## **Part 1 - Decisions by the Cabinet**

**The following decisions have been taken by the Cabinet (or individual Cabinet Members), and will be implemented unless the call-in procedure is activated. Rule 15 of the Policy and Review Panels Procedure Rules requires a call-in notice to be signed by any 5 members of the Council. The call-in request must be made to JOANNE WILDSMITH (Democratic Support Officer) and must be received by not later than 5 pm on the date shown in the item.**

If you want to know more about a proposal, please contact the officer indicated. You can also see the report on the Council's web site at [www.portsmouth.gov.uk](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk)

**NB: There are no Part 1 items this week.**

## **Part 2 - Proposals from Managers for Implementation**

The following proposals have been brought forward. The Managers indicated will exercise their powers to approve the proposal unless a Councillor requests the item be referred for decision to the relevant Cabinet Member or Regulatory Committee. **Your request must be made to JOANNE WILDSMITH (Democratic Support Officer) and must be received by not later than 5 pm on Monday 9 May 2011 .**  
**An email or handwritten letter will suffice.**

If you want to know more about a proposal, please contact the Officer indicated.

**PORTFOLIO: CULTURE, LEISURE AND SPORT**

**THURSDAY 28 APRIL 2011**

	<b>WARD</b>	<b>SUBJECT AND PROPOSAL</b>	<b>OFFICER CONTACT</b>
<b>1</b>		<p><b>Play Pathfinder Capital Programme 2010/11 – Additional Works</b></p> <p><b>Proposal:</b> that £46,500 be transferred from the 2010/11 revenue budget to finance this capital expenditure, to fund the additional works as outlined below.</p> <p>There has been an opportunity to undertake additional works at some Play Pathfinder play areas whilst contractors have been on site. These have included changes and revisions to the mechanical installation at Canoe Lake and the supply of additional structural support posts at Dorking Crescent. Fencing and gate works have also been completed improving the access and security of the Canoe Lake, Little George Street and Midway Road play areas.</p>	<p><b>Andrew Hill</b> <b>Project Manager</b> <b>Tel: 9284 1489</b></p>

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE DETERMINED BY HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES

The Head of Planning Services will exercise his powers to determine the following applications in accordance with the proposed decision for each application unless a Councillor requests the application be referred for decision to Committee.

Your request should be made to the **Head of Planning Services** by telephoning **Julie Watson** (☎023 9283 4826 or 023 9283 4339 answerphone) and must be received by not later than **5 pm on Monday 9 May 2011**. You can also make contact by letter or by e-mail to - [planningreps@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:planningreps@portsmouthcc.gov.uk) - If you wish to know more about a particular application, please contact the Case Officer indicated.

Item No	Application No Ward	Location Description of Development	Planning Officer's Comments	Case Officer Proposed Decision
2	11/00239/TPO  St Jude	<p><b>6a Nelson Road and 3-5 Merton Road, Southsea</b></p> <p>Horse Chestnut tree (T41) and Lime tree (T40) fell within Tree Preservation Order 44.</p>	<p>One e-mail of objection has been received from a flat owner of 3-5 Merton Road to the removal of Lime tree (T40), their objections relate to the fact that the tree is in good condition and it is a beautiful tree. One e-mail has been received in support from the directors of Merton House Ltd to the removal of the Lime tree (T40). One general comment e-mail has been received from a neighbour adjacent to the Horse Chestnut tree (T41) commenting that the tree has caused property issues due to interfering with the overhead telephone cables and feels that it is sensible to remove the tree if it is causing problems to the drainage.</p> <p>The owner of 6A Nelson Road seeks permission to fell 2 preserved trees a Lime tree (T40) located in 3-5 Merton Road on the boundary with 6A Nelson Road and Horse Chestnut tree (T41) located at 6A Nelson Road because they are causing damage to the drainage system of 6A Nelson Road.</p> <p>The Council's Arboricultural Officer has carried out a site inspection and found that the tree had been appropriately managed in the past to restrict canopy growth and prevent encroachment of laterals over the neighbouring property at 6A Nelson Road. <b>The Arboricultural Officer recommends that the removal of the Lime tree (T40) is refused.</b> Despite a site investigation and a survey identifying root ingress it is not conclusive that the roots in question do originate from the Lime tree (T40) the recommendations as suggested of cutting out the roots and re-lining the drain would prevent further root ingress. No pruning works to the tree are recommended at this time.</p> <p>The Horse Chestnut (T41) has been managed in the past as a pollard. The location of the tree has resulted in the tree being heavily pruned in order to restrict canopy growth and impacting onto the neighbouring property approximately 5 metres away. The close proximity of an overhead BT wires has resulted in the canopy not developing its full potential. Numerous pruning wounds evident to the main stem and the tree demonstrating a lack of vigour since its last prune over 5 years ago would suggest that the tree is in decline and of limited life expectancy. The tree has outgrown its location and is now of limited amenity value. <b>The Council's Arboricultural Officer recommends that the tree is removed and a replacement tree is planted.</b></p>	<p>Stephanie Hughes</p> <p>Tel: 023 9283 4300</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Split decision</b></p>

## Part 3 - Information and News Items

THURSDAY 28 APRIL 2011

	WARD		OFFICER CONTACT
3		<p><b>Term and Holiday Dates for Portsmouth Schools 2012/2013</b></p> <p>The results of the consultation with schools on the proposed term and holiday dates for the academic year 2012/2013 received 36 responses with some comments indicating that the autumn term was long. The suggested start and end dates for the term received a fairly equal response and a further email was sent out to schools on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2011 confirming the agreed Hampshire term dates. 28 responses were received all confirming agreement to the proposed start of term being 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2012 and end date Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2013.</p> <p>It is therefore confirmed that the agreed term and holiday dates for the academic year 2012/2013 are:</p> <p>3 September – 26 October 5 November – 21 December 7 January – 15 February 25 February – 28 March 15 April – 24 May 3 June – 23 July</p>	<p><b>Rachel Mckeever Learning &amp; Achievement Service Tel 9231 5818 or 9284 1705</b></p>
4		<p><b>Provision of Cooking Oil Recycling Point at Portsmouth Recycling Centre</b></p> <p>Portsmouth City Council, in partnership with Southern Water and a third party organisation will introduce a cooking oil recycling point at the recycling centre in Port Solent. The cooking oil will be collected and filtrated off-site and will be used to fuel road vehicles.</p> <p>Cooking oil recycling is currently not available at recycling centres throughout Hampshire; therefore, this service will initially begin on a trial basis for a period of 18 months, starting on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2011.</p> <p>Southern Water are promoting their “fats, oil and grease (FOG)” campaign, which aims to get people to stop pouring FOG down their drains and blocking sewers. Their campaign will link with the cooking oil recycling point and will be jointly promoted by both Southern Water and the council via press releases and websites.</p> <p>There are no cost implications for the council associated with this trial, which is cost neutral.</p>	<p><b>Barnaby Fry Waste Management Tel: 9284 1087</b></p>

	WARD		OFFICER CONTACT
5		<p><b>Unallocated Childcare Cases – as at 31 March 2011</b></p> <p>Of the <b>1368</b> children whose cases were open at the end of March 2011, <b>999</b> were allocated to qualified social workers (QSWs) and there were <b>369</b> children whose cases were held by Social Services Assistants (SSA)/Duty. This is <b>55</b> less cases than at the end of the previous month. This notable improvement reflects the diminishing amount of vacancies across the case holding teams, additional posts in the Children's Looked After Team, and work undertaken to ensure all cases are promptly allocated in the Protection and Court (PAC) Teams. The Family Assessment &amp; Development Service (FADS) Teams are case holding <b>68</b> cases which are included in this month's statistics.</p> <p>The number of cases awaiting allocation in the Information &amp; Assessment Team was <b>8</b>; <b>2</b> cases were awaiting allocation in the PAC Teams.</p> <p>The <b>369</b> unallocated cases were being actively worked as follows:</p> <p>There were <b>94</b> looked after children all of whom were assigned to and actively worked by social services assistants.</p> <p>There was <b>1</b> child subject to a child protection plan whose case was held by a social services assistant. All other Child Protection cases were worked by a qualified social worker.</p> <p>There were <b>274</b> children in need of which, <b>264</b> were assigned to social services assistants and <b>10</b> were held pending allocation. This is a decrease of <b>33</b> from the <b>43</b> last month. This is an improvement, towards the plan to maintain unallocated cases as close to 0 as possible. It is expected that a small number of cases will be pending allocation in the Information &amp; Assessment Team where there were <b>8</b> unallocated at the snapshot. <b>2</b> children were awaiting allocation in the Protection &amp; Court Teams.</p> <p>Staff in the FADS Teams are currently case holding <b>68</b> cases. The <b>68</b> cases are all Children in Need. <b>48</b> are held by QSWs and <b>20</b> by SSAs.</p>	<p><b>Stephen Kitchman</b>  <b>Head of Children's</b>  <b>Social Care &amp;</b>  <b>Safeguarding</b>  <b>Tel: 9284 1154</b></p>

	WARD		OFFICER CONTACT
6	Contd/...	<p>At the end of the month across the case holding teams, there were <b>3.5 (3.5 last month)</b>, vacancies for qualified workers; <b>0 fte (0 last month)</b> unqualified posts were unfilled. <b>1</b> qualified worker, and <b>0</b> unqualified workers, were on maternity leave, <b>2</b> qualified and <b>3</b> unqualified case holding staff were long term sick. This is an increase over last month's figures of 1 qualified and 1 unqualified long term sick. <b>1</b> Management post remains vacant although this is covered by temporary secondment.</p> <p>(Allowing for cover provided by locum workers the number of posts in the case holding teams without cover is <b>1</b>). All but <b>0.5</b> posts have been recruited to.</p> <p>On current figures, assuming that all vacancies for social work qualified staff were filled and no staff were on long term sick/maternity leave, each qualified worker would be responsible for a caseload of approximately <b>25</b> children if all cases were to be allocated to qualified social workers. On current vacancy levels this rises to <b>26</b> children per staff member. Given the levels of need currently being worked with and the impact of the new Public Law Outline, the maximum caseload that a worker can be expected to manage effectively is approximately 18 children.</p> <p><b>Planning Committee - 27 April 2011</b></p> <p>The Planning Committee made decisions on the following main agenda items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Use of 43 Stanley Street as a House in Multiple Occupation (HMO)</b></li> </ul> <p>RESOLVED that an Enforcement Notice be served requiring the unauthorised use to cease and that this be rigorously enforced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Breach of Planning Control - Belle Isle Restaurant, Osborne Road, Southsea</b></li> </ul> <p>RESOLVED that, having regard to the current type and level of activities at the premises, no enforcement notice should be issued at the present time. It was further agreed that monitoring of the activities continue, particularly having regard to activities following improvement in weather conditions and temperature. Members confirmed that the level of resources to be used to continue monitoring this activity be agreed following a meeting between ward councillors and planning officers.</p>	<p><b>Jane Di Dino Customer, Community &amp; Democratic Services Tel: 9283 4060</b></p>

	WARD		OFFICER CONTACT
	Contd/...	<p>The Planning Committee made decisions on the following planning applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>DA: 11/00156/PLAREG - 306 Havant Road Portsmouth</b> - Retrospective application for the retention of outbuilding to rear garden was Granted Conditional Permission.</li> <li>• <b>DA: 11/00258/PLAREG - Parade Ground Gunners Walk Southsea</b> - Retention of metal railings and gate up to 1.6m high to the eastern boundary of the parade ground to the south of Gunners Row to match existing was Granted Conditional Permission.</li> <li>• <b>DA: 10/00815/FUL - Highway Adjacent Heatherley Court Livingstone Road Southsea</b> - Installation of equipment cabinet with 4m high venting pipe stack was Granted Conditional Permission.</li> <li>• <b>DA: 10/01263/FUL 38-42 South Parade Southsea</b> - Conversion of upper and lower ground floor levels to form six maisonettes with associated external alterations including new and replacement windows and doors; and provision of cycle and refuse storage facilities was Granted Conditional Permission.</li> <li>• <b>DA: 10/01264/LBC - 38-42 South Parade Southsea</b> - Conversion of upper and lower ground floor levels to form six maisonettes with associated external alterations including new and replacement windows and doors; and provision of cycle and refuse storage facilities was Granted Conditional Permission.</li> <li>• <b>DA: 11/00066/OUT - Darby House Skye Close Portsmouth</b> - Outline application for the construction of 6 dwellinghouses (after demolition of existing building) (principle of layout to be considered) was Deferred.</li> <li>• <b>DA: 11/00147/FUL - Doyle Court 443 London Road Portsmouth</b> - Construction of new third floor level to form an additional 9 flats; external alterations to include elevation improvements and construction of refuse/cycle stores was Granted Conditional Permission.</li> <li>• <b>DA: 11/00032/FUL - 76 Napier Road Southsea</b> - Construction of single storey rear extension was Granted Conditional Permission.</li> </ul>	

	WARD		OFFICER CONTACT
	Contd/...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>DA: 11/00053/FUL - 1-5 Queen Street Portsmouth Hants</b> - Construction of part 4/part 5 storey building to form 41 flats (after demolition of existing building) with associated cycle/bin stores and car parking was Refused.</li>   <li>• <b>DA: 11/00071/FUL - Site Of Former Victoria Baths, Southern Part Of Victoria Park, Underpass Below Railway Line &amp; Land Located To West Of Park Building Anglesea Road Portsmouth</b> - Construction of 33 storey student halls of residence, and 6 storey building for the University of Portsmouth, including re-opening of underpass below railway line to provide pedestrian link from King Henry I Street to Victoria Park was Granted Conditional Permission subject to a satisfactory unilateral undertaking being provided by the applicant, agreeing to the financial contributions or works in the alternative required by the planning obligations.</li>   <li>• <b>DA: 11/00146/OUT - Library 157 Elm Grove Southsea</b> - Outline application for the construction of a 3 storey building comprising 7 flats (after demolition of existing building) (principle of layout to be considered) was Granted Conditional Permission subject to unilateral undertaking.</li> </ul>	