



SPINNEY HILLS AND STONEYGATE AREA COMMITTEE

RECORD OF MEETING

Held on Monday, 20 November 2006 at St Philips Church, Evington Road

Present

Councillor Hussein Suleman, Stoneygate (Chair)

Councillor Parmjit Singh Gill, Stoneygate

Councillor Mustafa Karim, Spinney Hills

Councillor Hashim Panchbhaya, Spinney Hills

Councillor Rob Renold, Stoneygate

Councillor Mussa Saleh, Spinney Hills

Councillor Hussein Suleman, Stoneygate

Phillip Parkinson (Primary Care Trust)

Yahya Thadha (Voluntary and Community Sector Representative)

54 Members of the public

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51. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

59. HIGHWAYS - RESPONSE TO WORKING GROUP

It was stated that highways officers had met with members of the working group to discuss the recommendations. It was reported that highways officers had expressed support for a number of the 53 recommendations in the report but had stated that resources were not currently available to pursue them.

It was stated that members of the working group had expressed deep concerns about the timetable for the Council taking control of parking enforcement on 2 January 2007. The working group had felt that to reduce the parking available before increased parking was available could result in friction in the area. It had therefore been recommended that the implementation of enforcement powers be delayed for six months or that enforcement be pursued less vigorously in areas where there were problems.

In response concerns were expressed that if it became known that implementation would be less vigorously enforced in one area than another it could cause further problems. However support was expressed for the proposal to delay implementation for 6 months.

Members of the working group had also expressed concerns about the results of the residents parking survey. They felt that the low response rate and methods of conducting the survey meant that the results were not reliable.

In response it was stated that highways officers had felt that survey to be sufficient and that the Council should take over parking enforcement as planned.

Concerns were expressed about the response rate to the resident parking survey with it suggested that in some streets only 2 responses had been received from a possible 60. It was noted that the police would remain responsible for obstruction offences on the highways and that it was expected that there would be no fee income from the Council from fines once it was responsible for enforcement.

The Committee asked that no decision be taken before the scheme had been presented to the Area Committee and for a response about the concerns over the level of response to the survey. The Committee asked again that any scheme be brought back to the Area Committee for consideration before Cabinet approval.

The Chair thanked the working group all the work they had carried out and stated that the Area Committee would not accept residents parking schemes being implemented without the support of the area. Members agreed to meet to consider the issues.