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Meeting Finchley and Golders Green Area Environment Sub-Committee

Date 10 March 2008

Subject Member's Item – Anti-Social Behaviour in Glebelands Open Space

Report of Democratic Services Manager

Summary This report informs the Sub-Committee of a Member's Item and requests instructions from the Sub-Committee.

Officer Contributors Claire Mehegan, Democratic Services Officer
Paul Lamb, Community Protection Manager
Jenny Warren, Parks and Open Spaces Operational Manager

Status (public or exempt) Public

Wards affected Woodhouse

Enclosures None

For decision by Finchley and Golders Green Area Environment Sub-Committee

Function of Executive

Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in (if appropriate) Not applicable

Contact for further information: Claire Mehegan, Democratic Services - Tel: 020 8359 2205

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 The Sub-Committee's instructions are requested.

2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

2.1 None

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 The matter raised relates to the corporate priority of ' Clean, green and safe.'

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

4.1 None in the context of this report.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

5.1 To allow members of the Sub-Committee to bring a wide range of issues to the attention of the Committee in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

6. FINANCIAL, STAFFING, ICT AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None arising from this report.

7. LEGAL ISSUES

7.1 None.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS

8.1 Constitution Part 3 - Responsibility for Functions - Para 3.10 Area Environment Sub-Committees perform functions that are the responsibility of the Executive relating to day-to-day promotion, management and development of parks, open spaces, allotments, recreation and leisure facilities, within the boundaries of their areas in accordance with Council policy and within budget.

8.2 Council Procedure Rules Section 2 – Committees and Sub-Committees – 7.1 A member will be permitted to have one matter only (with no sub-items) on the agenda for a meeting of a committee or sub-committee on which he/she serves.

8.3 The Democratic Services Manager must receive written notice of a Member's item, at least seven clear working days before the meeting. A working day is deemed to end at 4pm. Any item received after 4pm will be recorded as received on the next working day. The item must be signed by the Member and delivered by hand, fax or e-mail.

9 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

9.1 Councillor Geof Cooke has submitted a Member's Item in the following terms:

"At its meeting on 10/03/08 please could the sub committee receive a report on the implementation and maintenance of measures to address anti-social behaviour in and around the Glebelands open space, North Finchley with particular reference to graffiti, vandalism and unauthorized entry of motor vehicles?"

9.2 The Safer Neighbourhood Team have confirmed that there has been no incidents of anti social behaviour, crime or disorder recorded by the Police within the last six months at Glebelands Open Space. Similarly the Council's Priority Intervention Team have received no reports or complaints with regards to anti social behaviour within the open space during the same period.

9.3 Over the last six months there have been 65 allegations of crime within a 200m radius of Glebelands open space. There is no evidence to suggest that these allegations are linked to the open space.

9.4 The Green Spaces Team within Environment and Transport report the following;

- There are no recorded complaints or reports in the last year relating to Glebelands Open Space received via Customer Services.
- 34 square metres of graffiti have been removed from the open space in the last year from areas including signs, seats and paths. 80 square metres is scheduled to be removed from the pavilion which has been protected with railing.
30 square metres has been removed from bowling club property which was paid for by the club.

The area will be maintained as part of the on going maintenance schedule and any repeat damage cleaned and intelligence gathered shared with the Council's Priority Intervention Team and the Police to enable identification of perpetrators and enforcement.

- There have been no repairs undertaken due to vandalism within the open space over the last year.
- Green spaces will be conducting drainage works during the financial year 2008/09.
- Green spaces will be assessing other possible maintenance and preventative work for 2008/09 subject to available resources and necessary approval including;
 - New fencing
 - Improvements to paths
 - Installation of anti motorcycle barrier(s)
 - Improvements to the pavilion

9.5 The Safer Neighbourhoods Team will respond to issues of anti social behaviour as they are reported, supported by the Council's Priority Intervention Team as required.

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 Email from Councillor Geof Cooke dated 21 January 2008.

10.2 Any person wishing to inspect the background paper above should telephone Claire Mehegan on 020 8359 2205.

Legal: DA

CFO: CM