

Report back on some issues raised at the 09 Oct 08 meeting of North Area Committee

No. 4 Bus Stop at the Grafton Centre

The Council's Senior Transport Planner has written to me as follows: "It was demolished by a bus and it will be replaced once the insurance has been sorted out and Adshel have built a replacement. It is an awkward stop because the shelter cannot be moved further back because of the cinema. I'll try to let you know when I have a date for the replacement."

I will keep the Committee updated on this.

Arbury Court toilets

The Council's Street Services Project Development Officer has written as follows: "The replacement toilets for Arbury Court are being progressed. The invitation to tender is out with a closure date for the end of this month (October).

The aim of the project is to provide toilet cubicles, including a DDA compliant facility and parent room, (similar to Park Street, Gonville Place, etc) that face Arbury Road, thereby providing the greatest natural surveillance and will also be visible by the CCTV camera on Arbury Road. By taking this approach it is hoped it will maximise a feeling of confidence and safety for users, whilst ensuring that the toilet cubicles are not directly seen by the residents in Arbury Court.

Subject to the tender price, it is proposed to use the current building. As the footprint of the new toilets will be smaller, the additional space created will be used as a local depot for Streetscene. This secure storage facility will help meet the Council's aim to tackle carbon dioxide emissions by reducing vehicle travel miles.

I can only apologise for the delay but once we have tenders back, we will be able to confirm the final details and quickly provide new toilet facilities at this location."

Councillor McGovern has enquired further about progress with the tendering process.

City Rangers, anti-social cycling and the 'Cycling without lights' initiative

(1) *Stopping errant cyclists*: City Rangers routinely attempt to stop cyclist who are using pathways and roads incorrectly, and log these interventions. In doing so they act as responsible, assertive citizens. (I know Councillors and other who also regularly advise cyclists of traffic offences e.g. cycling the wrong way down a one-way street.) Although they do not have enforcement powers they do inform everyone they stop about where they can and cannot cycle. It is unfortunate that relevant road signs are few and far between. The Rangers' presence in the city centre is widely recognised as a reliable source of information in tackling anti-social cycling and pointing out the penalties such cyclists are likely to face if stopped by a police officer; this they have found to be a good deterrent. IDue to the sheer volume of cyclist within the City Centre this is an ongoing duty which contribute to the safety of pedestrians, wheelchair users, the elderly etc. This role is integral to the Rangers' remit of helping to keep Cambridge safe and is of particular importance in the City Centre pedestrian areas, hence the number of approaches made by the City Centre Rangers.

(2) *Cycling without lights*: The role of the Rangers in this initiative was solely to offer to fix lights to the bicycles of people who had been stopped by the police

and given an on-the-spot fine for cycling without lights. The sets of lights were worth £22 but had been bought at a discounted price of £10. At no stage did the Rangers do any of the stopping.

(3) *No additional powers:* The Rangers have not received and do not seek any powers of the type that have been delegated to PCSOs.

Ian Nimmo-Smith
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