

NORTH WEST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

14TH OCTOBER 2004

PRESENT: Councillor M Hamilton in the Chair
Councillors Atha, Bentley, Ewens, Illingworth,
Jennings, Minkin, Mulholland and Rhodes-Clayton

OFFICERS: J Bracewell, Neighbourhoods and Housing
J Singh, Neighbourhoods and Housing
K Baldwin, Neighbourhoods and Housing
J Bourton, Learning and Leisure
S Flesher, Learning and Leisure
S Inman, Learning and Leisure
D Regan, Learning and Leisure
K Burton, Learning and Leisure
P Brook, Development
J Kearsley, City Services
S Robinson, Chief Executive's

25 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the October meeting of the North West (Inner) Area Committee held at Weetwood Primary School, Weetwood Lane, Leeds 16.

26 Late Items

The Chair gave notice of three late items of business, Minute 37, Potential Well-Being Budget Commissioned Projects (Appendix 2), Minute 39, Funding Officer Evaluation and Minute 40, Planning Officer Evaluation.

The Chair indicated that in accordance with his powers under Section 100(B)(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, he had agreed to take these as late items in view of the short timescale between this meeting and the previous meeting held on 24th September 2004 and to also allow officers sufficient time to prepare the reports in question.

27 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest reported.

28 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hussain and Morton, Ken Torode and Gabrielle Hall, Leeds North West PCT.

29 Open Forum

In accordance with Paragraphs 6.24 and 6.25 of the Area Committee Procedure Rules, the Chair allowed a period of up to ten minutes for members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Area Committee.

In summary, the following issues were raised at the meeting:-

Linda Cullen (Moorgrange Action Group)

- the need for urgent action/progress in relation to road safety issues on Butcher Hill i.e. separate crossing and funding of a mini roundabout etc

Paddy Procter (Moor Park Residents Association)

- the need for urgent action by the Police in relation to car parking enforcement around Becketts Park Drive

Richard Tyler (Leeds HMO Lobby)

- an expression of thanks conveyed to the Area Committee on behalf of Leeds HMO Lobby for agreeing to fund £310 towards conference fees for an event on 22nd October 2004, together with a request for Member attendance at the event from the Area Committee

Chris Pickering (Local Resident)

- the need for urgent action in relation to re-painting cycle lanes around the University campus
- the need for further investigations to be undertaken as to why the speed limit increases from 30 mph to 40 mph on the approach to the roundabout adjacent to Lawnswood High School

Richard Norton (Friends and Residents of Orville Gardens)

- the urgent need for the Council to investigate the allegations that developers were not adhering to the planning conditions in relation to HMO housing at Orville Gardens
- the need for the Area Committee to address the future policy of ASHORE, together with the new Housing Bill and to consider appropriate ways for local residents to become involved in the wider debate

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the issues raised at the meeting be noted.
- (b) That in relation to highways issues at Butcher Hill, Becketts Park Drive and Lawnswood High School, the Chief Support and Facilities Officer, City Services Department be requested to arrange for a response to Members from the appropriate Traffic Engineers.
- (c) That this Committee confirms that an Elected Member would be in attendance at the Leeds HMO Lobby Conference on 22nd October 2004.
- (d) That in relation to the Orville Gardens issue, this matter be brought to the attention of David Jones, the Area Committee's Planning Officer.

- (e) That a report on the ASHORE Policy and new Housing Bill be discussed in greater detail at the next meeting in December 2004.

30 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 24th September 2004 be approved as a correct record.

31 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- (a) North West Leeds Inner Area Management Boundary Map (Minute 15 refers)
The North West Area Manager informed the meeting that copies of the above map were available for local residents at the meeting.
- (b) ASHORE Policy (Minute 15 refers)
R Tyler referred to the above issue and re-affirmed the need for the Area Committee to address issues beyond HMO Licensing and to specifically focus on the report on 'Stemming the Tide'.
- (c) Community Safety (Minute 19 refers)
Councillor Minkin referred to the above issue and following discussions a number of Members expressed their strong views against the issue of alleygating.
- (d) Burley Issues (Minute 20 refers)
Councillor Minkin referred to the Lending Library and Community Resources in Burley and reminded the Committee of the necessity to be clear when discussing the Burley name i.e. Kirkstall Burley Forum etc.

It was noted that this issue would be discussed at the next meeting in December 2004.

- (e) Involving the Community with the Area Committee (Minute 21 refers)
R Tyler referred to the above issue and reaffirmed the need for community activists to be involved in the formal consultation arrangements (including sub groups), together with Elected Members and Area Management staff.

The Chair responded and acknowledged the need for their input into this matter.

32 Area Functions

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report on functions that the Executive Board had agreed can be delegated in the first wave to Area Committees.

The report also gave an opportunity for Members to raise any questions regarding how in practice this new opportunity would be implemented.

Appended to the report was a copy of a report of the Chief Executive/Chief Democratic Services Officer entitled 'Area Committees – Determination and Area Functions' previously submitted to the Executive Board on 15th September 2004 for the information/comment of the meeting.

The North West Area Manager presented the report and specific reference was made to developing the scope of the Youth Service in a wider form and of the urgent need to have moveable cameras in an attempt to reducing Anti-Social Behaviour and crime across the target areas.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report and appendices, together with the full details of the area functions delegated by the Executive Board be noted.

33 Youth Service Activity Programme Update

The Director of Learning and Leisure submitted a report updating the meeting on the youth work programmes in the Inner North West Area.

Appended to the report were copies of the following documents for the information/comment of the meeting:-

- North West Inner Area Programme (August 2004)
- Leeds Youth Service – OFSTED – Programme Timetable for week beginning 27th September 2004
- Hawksworth Wood Branch Activities

J Bourton, Learning and Leisure Department was in attendance.

Detailed discussion on the contents of the documents, the individual comments of which were duly noted by the above named officer.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted and welcomed.
- (b) That in relation to the rate of progress for the Children's scheme at Hawksworth Wood YMCA, the Chief Education and Learning Officer be requested to investigate this matter with a report back at the next meeting in December 2004.
- (c) That this Committee notes that a comprehensive report on the Youth Service would be submitted to the Committee in February 2005 for discussion, together with an Area Improvement Plan.
- (d) That a vote of thanks be conveyed to J Bourton for her attendance and contribution to the meeting.

34 Towards an Area Delivery Plan 2005/2006

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report updating the work being undertaken to develop an Area Delivery Plan (ADP) for the Committee area.

The purpose of the report was to:-

- bring Members of the Area Committee up to date on work being undertaken to develop an Area Delivery Plan (ADP) for the Committee area
- explain the idea of the ADP as an Area Service Improvement Strategy and what needs to be done to develop and achieve it
- note the proposed timescale, purpose and format of the Area Delivery Plan for 2005/06 for this Committee area
- note the links between the ADP and the Committee's Well-Being Budget for 2005/06 and endorse early proposals that are emerging for use of that Budget
- give Members an opportunity to make early comment on influencing Departments' thinking and preparations for 2005/06 through service and budget planning

The North West Area Co-ordinator presented the report and specific reference was made to the following issues-

- the need for the document to be written in 'short sharp language' with bullet points/illustrated examples etc
- the need to concentrate on getting things done and to be clear about our objectives
- the need to work with developers/design work shops and to liaise with LIFT
- the need to allocate resources and to make reference to the new Housing Bill/HMO Licensing within the Plan

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That the current position in relation to the development of the Area Delivery Plan and its proposed timescale, purpose and format be noted.
- (c) That this Committee notes the link between the Area Delivery Plan and the Committee's Well-Being Budget for 2005/06 and the projects in development for 2005/06 as referred to in section 6.2 of the report.

- (d) That Members be requested to register any specific responses to sections 4.3 and 4.4 of the report in terms of service improvement and capital programme issues that should be raised with Departments at this stage in the planning cycle to the Area Manager with views by the end of October 2004.

35 Parkswatch Service

The Chief Recreation Officer submitted a report describing the service offered by Parkswatch and to seek a request for funding towards a city wide service.

S Flesher, Learning and Leisure Department was in attendance.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted and welcomed.
- (b) That the work of the Parkswatch service be noted and that approval be given to contribute £20K per annum from Wellbeing Budgets for a period of 3 years commencing on 1st April 2005.
- (c) That the Chief Recreation Officer be requested to submit a progress report to this Committee in eighteen months time reviewing the service to date.
- (d) That a vote of thanks be conveyed to S Flesher for his attendance and contribution to the meeting.

36 Proposed Protocol for Consultation with Area Committees on Planning Matters

The Chief Planning and Development Services Officer submitted a report on the proposed protocol for consultation with Area Committees on planning matters and to invite comments and views through the Area Committee process.

Appended to the report was a copy of the document entitled 'Proposed Protocol for consultation with Area Committees on Planning Matters' for the information/comment of the meeting.

P Brook, Development Department presented the report and specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- the need to share email addresses with a view to alerting people about forthcoming applications within their area
- the need for better communications and to introduce a development framework via the Area Committee's Planning Officer
- the need for the Council's Planning service to engage with the Strategy Groups and, in particular for the Planning Group to be actively involved in such issues

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That Members be requested to forward their views directly to the Chief Planning and Development Services Officer before 31st October 2004.
- (c) That a vote of thanks be conveyed to P Brook for his contribution to the meeting.

37 Inner Area Committee Well-Being Budget 2004/05

Referring to minute 20 of the meeting held on 24th September 2004, the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report on the Inner Area Committee Well-Being Budget 2004/05.

The purpose of the report was to:-

- provide Members with a current position statement on the Well-Being Budget
- provide Members with information in Appendix One on the status of projects funded through the CIT budgets from 2003/04 that take effect in 2004/05
- set out for Members consideration a series of costed options for the allocation of the Well-Being Budget

Appended to the report were copies of the following documents for the information/comment of the meeting:-

- Former CIT Priorities Budget Projects (Appendix 1 refers)
- Potential Well-Being Budget Commissioned Projects (Appendix 2 refers)
- Royal Park Greenspace – 2005/06 Well-Being Budget Pre-Allocation (Appendix 3(a) refers)
- Woodsley Road Community Centre Staffing – 2005/06 Well-Being Budget Pre-Allocation (Appendix 3(b) refers)

The North West Area Co-ordinator presented the report.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the documents, with specific reference to the potential commissioned Well-Being revenue projects outlined in Appendix 2.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.

- (b) That the current budget position of the Well-Being Budget as set out in 2.1 of the report be noted.
- (c) That the project details of the CIT funded projects as outlined in Appendix One of the report be noted.
- (d) That approval be given, in principle, to the options listed in Appendix Two of the report to be commissioned by this Committee, subject to further information, as appropriate, being reported back at the next meeting.
- (e) That approval be given, in principle, to funding up to £16,000 for the Royal Park Greenspace Scheme from the 2005/06 and 2006/07 Well-Being Revenue Budget (£8,000 from each financial year respectively), and subject to budget provision being available in these financial years.
- (f) That approval be given, in principle, to allocating £3,750 from the 2004/05 Well-Being Budget to enable an appointment to be made at Woodsley Road Community Centre and to pre-allocate funding of up to £39,500 (£18,500 and £19,000 respectively per year) from the 2005/06 and 2006/07 Well-Being Revenue Budget, and subject to budget provision being available in these financial years.

38 Local Linkages to the Area Committee and Proposed Consultation

Referring to minute 21 of the meeting held on 24th September 2004, the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report on local linkages to the Area Committee and proposed consultation.

The purpose of this report was to:-

- clarify the ward forums and other sub-groups that will have a formal link back into this Area Committee
- propose that the Area Management Team undertakes to support development of the Area Committee's priorities for 2005/06 with some targeted consultation work

The North West Area Manager presented the report and specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- the need to adopt the 'key messages' approach in terms of methods of feeding information through for the Area Committee's attention
- the need to formally consider winding down the Headingley Stadium Group chaired by Councillor Illingworth
- the need for further discussions with local residents group regarding the future of the Headingley Forum

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That this issue be revisited at the next meeting in December 2004.

39 Funding Officer Evaluation

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report updating Members of the Area Committee on the progress of the Funding Officer Project and to consider options for the future.

The North West Area Co-ordinator presented the report and the Committee noted that this issue would be also discussed at the North West (Outer) Committee meeting on 18th October 2004.

Detailed discussion ensued on the future project delivery options outlined in Section 9.0 of the report.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That this Committee expresses the view that the Funding Officer post has been a positive development.
- (c) That the interest from the North West (Outer) Area Committee in developing a similar initiative be noted.
- (d) That the various options for continuation/expansion of this project be noted.
- (e) That officers be requested to bring back to the next meeting in December 2004 final exact costings on Option 2 and Option 3 and confirmation of any other outstanding issues, including the location of the postholder.

40 Planning Officer Evaluation

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report updating Members of the Committee on the work of the Planning Officer and to consider options for the future.

The North West Area Co-ordinator presented the report and the Committee noted that this issue would be also discussed at the North West (Outer) Area Committee meeting on 18th October 2004.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.

- (b) That this Committee expresses the view that the post of Planning Officer has been effective.
- (c) That the main functions of the Planning Officer as detailed in the report be noted and that the ASHORE Policy and Landlord Licensing issues be also included.
- (d) That future monitoring and evaluation of the post be made by six monthly reports to the Area Committee.
- (e) That this Committee notes that day to day management responsibilities for the post would be undertaken by the Head of Development.
- (f) That approval be given, in principle, to extending the post beyond July 2005, subject to receiving regular reports.
- (g) That the Planning Officer post be assigned only the North West (Inner) Area Committee and that this decision be conveyed to the North West (Outer) Area Committee on 18th October 2004.

41 Inner Area Committee Action Plan 2004/05

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report on an action plan of initiatives to be delivered this year.

The North West Area Manager presented the report.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That the Action Plan be noted and endorsed.

42 Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

Thursday 9th December 2004 at 7.00 pm at Kirkstall St Stephen's Primary School, Morris Lane, Leeds 5.

(The meeting concluded at 9.10 pm)