

EAST OUTER AREA COMMITTEE

13TH DECEMBER 2005

PRESENT: Councillor K Parker in the Chair
Councillors S Armitage, P Grahame, P Gruen, A Harrison
J Lewis, T Murray, M Phillips, D Schofield and
K Wakefield

45 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Helen Finister, Chief Officer, Streetscene Services.

46 Declarations of Interest

Councillors Murray, Schofield, Parker and Gruen declared Personal Interests in Item 10 'Update on EASEL', due to being members of the Leeds South East Homes ALMO Board. (Minute No 53 refers).

47 Open Forum

The Chair referred to the provision in the Area Committee Procedure Rules for an 'Open Forum' period at each ordinary meeting of an Area Committee, during which members of the public could ask questions or make representations on any matter within the terms of reference of the Area Committee and enquired whether any one present wish to raise any matters. No issues were raised.

48 Minutes of the East Outer Area Committee meeting held on 2nd November 2005

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the above meeting be approved as a true and correct record.

49 Matters Arising From the Minutes

Minute No 33a – Matters Arising From the Minutes – Meadowfield Primary School

In response to a letter received by a Ward Member, which had been critical about several aspects of the newly built Meadowfield Primary School, the Committee was informed by Geoff Newsome, Principal Development Officer, Education Leeds, that although some teething problems had been experienced and in some cases still existed, the level of problems was no greater than what would be expected from any newly built initiative of that nature.

The Committee were then informed that a considerable amount of work had been done to address any such problems, and that further research into the operation of the school would be undertaken when it had been functional for a longer period of time.

RESOLVED – That Education Leeds respond to the letter concerning Meadowfield Primary School, and that copies of the correspondence be

forwarded to the Lord Mayor, Councillor W Hyde, Councillor Lyons and Councillor Schofield for their information.

Minute No 38 – Wellbeing Capital Budget 2005/06

With regard to St Theresa's Community Centre, Ward Members for Cross Gates and Whinmoor and Temple Newsam stated that they had been satisfied with the information received in relation to the users of the centre and the assurances given in relation to the long term future of the building.

Minute No 34a - Update on Community Safety Delegated Functions

The Chair stated that a special meeting had now taken place between representatives from the Area Committee and the West Yorkshire Police, which had resulted in the majority of issues raised being addressed.

Minute No 36 – Area Delivery Plan – Agreement of Priorities

With regard to the Thorpe Park initiative, Members noted that it was envisaged for the area to become strategically important, with focus being placed upon the post-16 agenda and how pathways in the area could be established. Members were then informed that it was intended for an update report to be submitted to the next meeting of the Area Committee.

In relation to the development of leisure facilities at John Smeaton Community High School, Members raised concerns over the delays which had been experienced and the lack of Ward Member consultation that had taken place. It was then requested that a response from Education Leeds be forwarded to Ward Members in answer to the Committee's concerns.

A discussion relating to the funding of the developments at Thorpe Park then ensued.

RESOLVED – That a formal response relating to the delays which had been experienced during the development of leisure facilities at John Smeaton Community High School and the lack of Ward Member consultation which had taken place be forwarded to Ward Members for their information.

Minute No 37 – Wellbeing Capital Budget 2005/06

Further to Minute No 10, 12th July 2005, Members noted that it had been proposed for articles written by young people to be featured within the Area Committee newsletter and that Ward Members were encouraged to co-operate with any related requests they received. The Committee was also advised that an agreement had been reached with Thorpe Park to fund the printing and production costs of the publication, and that it was hoped for a contribution to be made by Safer Leeds.

In relation to the Coalfield Communities Campaign, Members were advised that although funding towards the annual membership costs had been agreed, a proposal had been made for the funding to come from the budgets of the East Outer and South Outer Area Committees. Following Members' concerns with this proposal, the Chair assured Members that he would circulate a letter which he had forwarded to the Director of Development on the issue.

Minute No 34b – Community Safety in East Outer Leeds

Members were advised that from 15th December 2005, several Designated Public Place Orders (DPPOs) would be established in the Outer East Leeds area, and that the locations of each Order would be forwarded to Members for their information.

50 Making Leeds Better

The Committee received a report from Liam Hughes, Chief Executive of East Leeds PCT and Catherine Beardshaw, Director of Operations, Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust, informing Members on the strategic initiative which involved all health and social care partners across the City. The Committee noted that the aim of such an initiative was to improve the health and wellbeing of all service users in Leeds by providing speedy access to high quality care and treatment which was responsive to their needs.

A question and answer session relating to the Making Leeds Better programme then ensued. The main areas of discussion were as follows:-

- The rate at which the initiative had progressed and the level of communication and consultation which had taken place with regard to the proposed Children's and Maternity Hospital;
- Ways in which the Making Leeds Better programme would improve the access to health services for the communities within the Outer East Wards of Leeds;
- How the programme's success relied upon creating a shift in mindsets when considering methods of treatment, and the forthcoming opportunities, such as Older People's Day, where this could occur;
- Issues surrounding the current levels of access to medical services in Leeds, with reference being made to transportation and car parking, and how such issues would be tackled under the Making Leeds Better programme;
- Issues relating to the number and location of Primary Care Centres that would operate under the programme, and the services that these centres would provide;

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the progress made in developing the Making Leeds Better programme for health and social care services in Leeds be noted;
- (b) That the Making Leeds Better programme be added to all Local Area Forum agendas to allow local engagement on the programme

to take place in preparation for the formal consultation period next year;

- (c) That Area Committee members be kept informed of about the progress made by the Making Leeds Better programme.

(Councillor K Wakefield declared a Personal Interest in this item, due to his position within the East Leeds PCT)

51 Wellbeing Budget

The Committee received a report from the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing which detailed the new project proposals for Wellbeing funding support and updated Members on the remaining balance of the Wellbeing budget for 2005/06.

RESOLVED –

(a) That the report and the balance remaining in the revenue Well-Being Budget for 2005/06, be noted;

(b) That the following decisions be taken in respect of the funding applications before the Committee this evening for consideration:-

- **Garforth Arts Festival 2006** – Approved the release of £4,000 towards this event, with the inclusion of Leeds City Council branding on all festival literature;
- **CROW Officer for East Leeds** – Approved £15,500 towards the appointment of a CROW officer;
- **Inside/Outside Childcare Project** - Approved £6,240 towards the cost of a special needs worker at St Gregory's Youth & Adult Centre for one year.

52 Small Grants 2005/06

Members considered a report by the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing which detailed the applications approved and expenditure to date in respect of the small grants budget for 2005/06.

RESOLVED - That the report and schedule detailing the expenditure to date from the Small Grants Fund 2005/06 be noted.

53 Update on EASEL

The Committee received a report from the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing which updated Members on the progress made on the initiative to date, and the proposed timetable of the EASEL project.

Members noted that a report was due to be submitted to Executive Board on 14th December 2005, which would recommend that a decision be taken to appoint a preferred partner to the project. The Committee was then advised that further consultation and communication would take place with Ward Members once a partner had been determined.

RESOLVED - That the contents of the report be noted.

54 Town and District Centre Regeneration Update

A report was submitted by the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing which updated Members on the Town and District Centre Regeneration project and detailed each of the five East Outer applications.

The Committee was advised that further consultation would take place with Members when additional information on each of the applications had been received.

RESOLVED - That the contents of the report and information appended to the report be noted.

55 Forum Minutes

Members received a report from the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing which detailed the minutes of the Area Committee Forum meetings held between 8th October 2005 and 25th November 2005.

In response to a request by Members to introduce a standard item to the agenda which could update the Committee on issues such as crime and public safety, Elizabeth Preece, Divisional Commander for Killingbeck, gave a brief summary of the ongoing issues affecting the West Yorkshire Police Force.

Following a discussion relating to the strategic restructure of Police Forces within the UK, which had proposed an overhaul of the structure from Police Forces downwards, Members acknowledged that although a strong partnership had been formed over recent years, they feared that the introduction of a lesser number of larger Forces could lead to a more distant and less effective relationship.

The Committee was then assured that Elected Members would be involved any consultation exercises which would occur prior to any decisions being made.

RESOLVED -

(a) That the minutes of the Garforth & Swillington Community Forum held on 11th October 2005 be received and noted;

(b) That a standard item be placed on future East Outer Area Committee agendas to address issues such as public safety and crime and to enable a representative from the Police to update Members on any related matters.

56 Dates and Times of Future Meetings

Tuesday 21st February 2006

Tuesday 11th April 2006

All meetings at 4.00pm in the Civic Hall, Leeds