

WEST (OUTER) AREA COMMITTEE

FRIDAY, 3RD APRIL, 2009

PRESENT: Councillor D Blackburn in the Chair

Councillors A Blackburn, J Jarosz, R Lewis,
J Marjoram and A Parnham

76 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillor A Carter, Councillor F Robinson, Councillor M Coulson, Liz Navin-Jones (Co-optee), Howard Bradley (Co-optee) and Amanda Jackson, Locality Enabler – West Leeds.

The Chair also announced that Councillor A Blackburn would be arriving late to the meeting.

77 Declaration of Interests

The following declarations of interest were made:

Councillor R Lewis declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 11 – Leeds Housing Strategy (Minute 85 refers), in his capacity as a member of the Affordable Housing Strategic Partnership Board and a West Outer Area Panel Member on West North West Leeds Homes. He also declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 14 – Outer West Area Committee Well-Being Budget – Update (Minute 87 refers) as a member of the West Yorkshire Police Authority (Two application for funding were submitted by the West Yorkshire Police Appendices 5 & 6 refer).

78 Open Forum

The Chair gave notice that in accordance with the Area Committee Procedure Rules, there was provision for an Open Forum session of up to 10 minutes at each ordinary meeting of an Area Committee in order to allow members of the public an opportunity to ask questions or to make representations on any matter which fell within the remit of the Area Committee.

Mr Terry Dean addressed the Area Committee in his capacity as a representative from the Pudsey Civic Society and Chair of their Environmental Committee. Mr Dean and his deputy Chair, Mr Barry Brown, an ex architect, want to be proactive about the future of the area and asked the Area Committee if they could be involved when the Area Committee looked at the future of Pudsey.

Steve Crocker, West North West Area Manager welcomed Mr Dean's involvement and suggested ways that he could be involved.

79 Minutes - 6th February 2009

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 6th February 2009 be confirmed as a correct record.

80 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Minute 70 – Environmental Services and Streetscene – Enhanced Roles for Area Committees

Members requested clarification on when the Environmental Sub-Committee - Streetscene/Environmental Action Teams (EATs) - (Task Group) meetings were to be set up and if these meetings could be programmed for Member involvement.

81 West North West Homes Leeds - Minutes of the Outer West Area Panel Meeting

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the West North West Homes Outer Area Panel meeting held on 10th December 2008, be received and noted.

82 Minutes - Community Forums

RESOLVED – That the following minutes of the Community Forums be received and noted:

- Farnley and Wortley Community Forum - 19th February 2009
- Tyersall Community Forum – 23rd February 2009
- Pudsey & Swinnow Community Forum – 24th February 2009

83 Community Safety Issues - Update for Outer West Leeds

Inspector Horner introduced the report and announced his departure as NPT Inspector for the Pudsey Neighbourhood Police Team for the West Outer area and introduced Detective Inspector Simon Atkinson who presented a DVD on the use of 'capture houses' and 'capture cars' within the division for Members information.

Both Detective Inspector Atkinson and Inspector Tom Horner responded to questions regarding, how many hits could be made on one property; what was the cost effectiveness of both 'capture houses' and 'capture cars' and, whether there had been any cases where Solicitors claimed entrapment in defence of their clients?

In response, Inspector Horner informed the meeting that there can only be one hit per property, that the equipment costs around £2,500, although since

introducing this equipment there had been a high success rate in retrieving stolen goods within hours of catching the thief and, as a result, all the cases so far presented at court by the Solicitors working for the Police Authority had resulted in the thief being convicted.

The Inspector thanked the Area Committee for funding the Police initiative during the Christmas period which had been a great success. There had been a substantial increase in burglaries and thefts from cars in the Pudsey, Calverley and Farsley areas in recent months and the extra funding had helped the Police in making the operation successful in capturing culprits who had committed these crimes.

The Inspector also gave an update on the recent closure of the Black Bull public house in Pudsey area as a result of partnership working with Licensing and other agencies. Members informed the Inspector that the lights inside these premises were on during the evening, which might suggest that the landlord could be serving alcohol and holding parties for some of his regulars. The Inspector informed the meeting that he would investigate this matter further and update Ward Members in due course.

Inspector Horner thanked Members for their kind words at the beginning of the meeting and announced that since arriving over two and a half years ago, he had thoroughly enjoyed his time working with this Area Committee, Ward Members, Area Management Officers and agency partners and went on to thank everyone for all their support. At this point the Inspector introduced his replacement Inspector Richard Caukwell who addressed the meeting with a short introduction and congratulated Inspector Horner for the good service he had provided for the West Outer area and went on to assure the meeting that he would continue to provide a good service.

Both the Chair and Councillor R Lewis welcomed Inspector Caukwell and advised him to keep in touch with Ward Members on issues relating to their Ward. Both Members also spoke about the good relationship Ward Members had with Inspector Horner and wished him well in his future endeavours.

The Inspector also gave an update on the following issues:

- Vehicle crime problems in the Pudsey area and arrangements being made to hold another Operation Champion in the Pudsey area.
- The attendance at the recently held Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting with local residents regarding the hot spot area in New Farnley.

The Chair reminded Members that there was now a page on the Police Website updating the general public on incidents that have occurred in their area and what it gives an update on the incident within a couple of days. This should indicate to the general public that the Police had taken action and what was the outcome from their intervention.

RESOLVED - That the report and presentation be noted.

Note:

- (a) Councillor A Blackburn joined the meeting at 2.18 p.m. during the presentation.
- (b) During consideration of the above item, Councillor J Jarosz declared a personal interest in the above item in her capacity as a Probation Officer working for Leeds Magistrates Courts.

84 Residual Waste Treatment Project: Update and Communication and Community Engagement Strategy

The Board considered a report by the Executive Project Manager, Head of Performance and Communications (Environmental Services) describing the current status of the Residual Waste Project in order to update Members about the project and to consult with the Area Committees on the proposed communication and community engagement strategy for Residual Waste Treatment PFI project.

Andrew Lingham, Senior Project Manager (Waste Strategy) presented the report and gave an overview of the bids received, the future timetable and communication and community engagement planning. Members were also informed that there would be further formal consultation process during the planning application stage.

In brief, specific reference was made on the following issues:

- Clarification that the Kirkstall Road site would only be used as a transfer station.
- The need to ensure that any new technology used on waste sites does not emit strong odours and that measures are put in place to minimise the impact of waste management.
- Clarification on why Leeds only recycles certain elements of waste compared to other cities.

The Chair thanked the officer for his attendance.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the current status of the Residual Waste PFI project and the bids recently received be noted.
- (b) That Members give their feedback on the proposals for communication and community engagement for Residual Waste Treatment Project at their two way Ward Member meetings with Officers.

85 Leeds Housing Strategy

The Housing Strategy and Commissioning Section submitted a report to give Area Committee Members an overview of the emerging Leeds Housing Strategy and links to the Outer West Leeds area.

In brief, the main issues discussed were:

- The need to ensure that private landlords are encouraged to bring their properties up to a decent standard, without any financial help from the Council, before being able to rent out their properties.
- The need to ensure that tenants are not over housed larger properties especially specially adapted properties for the disabled.
- The need to help the public understand the implications of becoming a home owner, especially during the present financial climate.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That any further feedback on the above item should be referred to the West North West Area Manager.

86 Area Manager's Report

The Area Committee received a detailed report by the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods to inform Members of progress on a number of projects in Outer West Leeds as determined by the Area Delivery Plan 2008/2011, which in turn, is governed by the Area Committee's functions and roles as agreed by the Executive Board at its meeting in July 2008.

Clare Wiggins, West Outer Area Management gave an indepth update on the report and, together with Steve Crocker, West North West Area Manager, responded to Members' questions and comments.

The main areas discussed were:

- the significant progress of the work undertaken under the West Leeds Country Park and Green Gateways project.
- the potential for environmental improvements around the businesses at Stanningley Bottoms.
- Members were given a progress report on the number of area based regeneration schemes undertaken in the Outer West area. It was noted that an update report will be submitted to the next meeting relating to CCTV cameras in the West Outer area.
- the extensive work being undertaken by the newly appointed Town and District Centre Manager and the success of the first Business Forum meeting. Members were delighted that the large unit once occupied by Woolworths had now been occupied by B & M ?
- Pudsey in Bloom - It was reported that more shops were becoming interested in obtaining flower displays outside their business premises.

RESOLVED - That the report be received and noted.

Note: Councillor A Blackburn declared a personal interest in above item in her capacity as a Director of Groundwork Leeds.

87 Outer West Area Committee Well-Being Budget - Update

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report updating Members on the latest position regarding the revenue and capital Wellbeing Budgets for Wards in the Outer West area for 2008/2009 and 2009/2010 municipal year, Small Grants made under delegated powers since the last meeting of the Committee, and containing details of 11 applications for funding and ratification of eight commissioned projects previously agreed in principle, for consideration at today's meeting.

Clare Wiggins presented the report and, together with Steve Crocker responded to various questions and comments.

The Area Manager explained that under the new agreement currently being established with Community Safety, it would be intended that the Area Committee would only have to fund half the cost of the CCTV cameras. The implications under this new agreement would mean the cost would be as follows:

- CCTV (3 original cameras in Pudsey) – Approved £2,433
- CCTV (Pudsey Park) – Approved £1,688
- CCTV (Pudsey Light car park) – Approved £1,455
- CCTV (Farsley) - Approved £7,763
- CCTV (Butterbowl Drive) – Approved £3,148

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the report be received and noted.
- (b) That the following decisions be taken in respect of the applications for funding from the:

Revenue Budget for 2009/2010

- (a) Armley Helping Hands (Year 2) – Approved £7,823
- (b) Farsley Community Festival – Approved £5,500 Conservation Area Review – Farsley & Woodhall Hills – Approved £10,000
- (c) Fuel Savers thermal over flight – Approved £3,000
- (d) West Yorkshire Police – Off Road Bikes - £1,497
- (e) Green Check Project – Approved £6,250
- (f) In Bloom Schemes for Calverley, Farsley and Pudsey – Approved £10,000
- (g) Site based gardeners – Tyersal Park & New Farnley Park – Approved £18,884
- (h) Senior Warden – Approved £6,359
- (i) Town Centre Manager for Armley & Pudsey – Approved £20,000
- (j) CCTV (3 original cameras in Pudsey) – Approved £4,867
- (k) CCTV (Pudsey Park) – Approved £3,377
- (l) CCTV (Pudsey Light car park) – Approved £2,909
- (m) CCTV (Farsley) - Approved £15,526
- (n) CCTV (Butterbowl Drive) – Approved £6,297
- (o) 'I Love West Leeds' Festival – Approved £24,000

Capital Budget for 2009/2010

- (a) West Yorkshire Police/Thermal Cameras – Approved £4,500
 - (b) Victoria Park, Calverley – 4 new benches – Approved £2,600
 - (c) Participatory Budget for Swinnow – Approved £20,000
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- (b) That all West Inner Area Committee Members be encouraged to submit suggestions for capital schemes within each Ward up to the value of £15,000 to Area Management for processing and submission for Area Committee approval.
 - (c) That the list of Small Grants made since the last meeting as set out in Paragraph 4.1 of the report, be noted.
 - (d) That approval be given for £9,500 out of the 2009/2010 budget for small grants, skips and communications as set out in paragraph 4.3 of the submitted report.
 - (e) That the budget pressures set out in paragraph 5.1 of the submitted report be noted.
 - (f) To note that an update report on CCTV for the West Outer area shall be submitted to the July 2009 Area Committee meeting.

Note:

- (a) Councillor D Blackburn declared a personal & prejudicial interest in Fuel Savers Thermal Over Flight application for revenue funding in his capacity as a member of the Fuelsavers Board (Appendix 4 - resolution (c) above refers). Councillor J Marjoram took over the Chair for this item when Councillor Blackburn left the room for this item and took no part in the discussion or vote thereon.
- (b) Councillor A Blackburn declared a personal & prejudicial interest in the Green Check Project application for revenue funding in her capacity as a Director of Groundwork Leeds (Appendix 7 – resolution (e) above refers), the Councillor left the room and took no part in the discussion or vote thereon.

88 Area Delivery Plan Progress Report

The West Leeds Area Manager submitted a report and appendices updating Members of the Area Committee on progress to date for the first year of the Area Delivery Plan (ADP) 2008/2011.

Clare Wiggins, West Outer Area Management Officer gave an extensive update on the progress with the Area Delivery Plan. Members were delighted with the layout of the performance update and congratulated Officers on the work already achieved for the West Outer area.

RESOLVED - That the progress made for the first year of the Area Delivery Plan 2008/2011, as outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the submitted report, be noted.

89 Dates, Times and Venues of Area Committee Meetings 2009/10

Consideration was given to a report by the Chief Democratic Services Officer asking Members to agree the dates, times and possible venues for their 2009/2010 Area Committee meeting which commence in May 2009.

The Area Manager informed the meeting that it was intended to hold a themed partnership event relating to Health prior to the next Area Committee meeting. It was suggested that arrangements be made for the 10th July 2009 meeting be held at the Tyersal Working Mens' Club.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the following dates and times of West Outer Area Committee meetings for 2009/2010 be approved, venues to be confirmed at a later date following discussions between the Chair and Area Management Officers:-

Friday, 10th July 2009

Friday, 11th September 2009

Friday, 16th October 2009

Friday, 18th December 2009

Friday, 29th January 2010

Friday, 26th March 2010

(All meetings to be scheduled to commence at 2.00 p.m.)

90 West Outer Area Committee Forward Plan - July 2009

RESOLVED - That the draft forward plan of proposed items for the next meeting be noted.

The meeting concluded at 4.50 p.m.