

## **EAST (OUTER) AREA COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY, 15TH OCTOBER, 2013**

**PRESENT:** Councillor A McKenna in the Chair  
Councillors D Coupar, M Dobson,  
P Grahame, M Harland, J Lewis, M Lyons  
and K Mitchell

Apologies Councillor J Cummins, P Gruen,  
T Murray and K Wakefield

### **38 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents**

There were no appeals against the refusal of inspection of documents.

### **39 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public**

There were no exempt items.

### **40 Late Items**

There were no late items.

### **41 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests.

### **42 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor P Gruen, Councillor K Wakefield,  
Councillor J Cummins and Councillor T Murray.

### **43 Minutes**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the previous meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> September 2013 were confirmed as a correct record.

### **44 Open Forum**

No matters were raised in the Open Forum.

### **45 Garforth Area Office**

The Chair raised a proposal that she had received to rationalise Area Management office accommodation by closing the Garforth office and having officer support via the Dewsbury Road office.

Following a discussion on this proposal it was agreed that the East Outer Area Committee would not be in favour of the loss of the Garforth office facility.

**RESOLVED** – That any proposal to close Garforth Area office would not be supported by this Area Committee.

#### **46 Strengthening relationships between the Outer East Area Committee and the Third Sector**

David Smith and Adrian Curtis presented a report on behalf of the Third Sector on the need to strengthen strategic relationships between the Area Committee and the Third Sector. Members noted that currently there is engagement with individual organisations and networks (e.g. Healthy Lives Leeds and Young Lives Leeds) but not the sector as a whole.

Members noted that In July 2013, a councillor from the South East spoke at an event designed to launch a Third Sector Network for the South East Area, Third Sector Leeds Goes Local. The support of the Area Committee was sought for the direction of travel and the next steps in this work. Members had a detailed discussion on strengthening relationships and specifically with regards to:

- The integration agenda for social care
- The health inequalities gap
- The need for the Council to work with local communities to bring about behaviour change e.g. to improve the cleanliness of public spaces
- Reducing the number of young people not in education, employment or training
- Development of an approach to the Council's asset base.

Further discussion took place in respect of the following key initiatives:

Building on current collaboration of local commissioning of the Third Sector and establish an 'intelligent commissioning' arrangements that aims at ensuring the third sector organisations are prepared to engage with local commissioning arrangements in the relevant timescales.

The annual update report from Third Sector Leeds (TSL) gave regard to activity and impact within their area of responsibility. The report also provided the 'State of the Sector' within the locality, aimed at facilitating a greater understanding of the services and support the Third Sector can offer but also what changes in delivery are occurring.

Members noted that a third sector lead organisation had been identified to work alongside Area Committee Leads for:

- Children's Services

- Environment and Community Safety
- Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care
- Employment, Skills and Welfare Reform

The Area Committee and TSL currently work together to ensure relevant and effective Third Sector involvement on the following groups is maintained:

- Environmental Sub Group
- SE Welfare Reform Group
- South East Leeds Debt Forum
- Community Centres Sub Group
- Children and Young Peoples Group

Members noted that the Third Sector development providers work in mutually supportive arrangements with the Neighbourhood Improvement Officers (funded by Area Committees) aimed at working together to develop community capacity within priority neighbourhoods, and in order to further the impact and value added of Wellbeing funding, the Area Committee considered setting targets for percentage increases in the number of third sector lead projects delivered through this fund.

#### **RESOLVED –**

**(a)** That the content of the report be noted and the work being done to strengthen the links between the Third Sector and Area Committees be supported.

**(b)** To work together to strengthen relationships and meet the needs of local communities through collaboration.

(Councillor Mitchell arrived at 16.15pm pending consideration of the above item)

#### **47 Summary of Key Work**

Members considered a report of the South East Area Leader which set out priority work carried out in the area over recent weeks. Appended to the report were minutes of forum, partnership and sub-group meetings and those of the Area Committee Chairs meeting.

##### Children's Services

Children's Services sent apologies for their absence, and no updates were discussed by the East Outer Area Committee.

##### Luncheon Clubs

The East Outer Area Committee received a verbal report from the Area Co-ordinator for Luncheon Clubs in the Outer East. Members noted that the luncheon clubs were a success and that they were making a positive impact in the community. Training is being set up to help volunteers that have been recruited as well as providing basic hygiene courses. Based on the popularity of the luncheon clubs, a discussion ensued on the possibility of opening two more clubs in Swillington.

Members were updated on the attendance at the clubs and noted their high success rate.

Members noted that they had been welcomed and involved in the luncheon clubs and agreed that it is important for people to have a nutritional meal and social interaction.

### Neighbourhood Centres

The South East Area Leader submitted a report detailing priority work carried out in the area over recent weeks together with copies of minutes relating to forums, partnership, sub-group and the Area Chairs forum.

Peter Mudge, South East Area Support Team, presented the report and responded to Members' comments and queries.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:

- Work on Main Street was nearly finished in Garforth and Swillington
- Major refurbishments to new businesses
- On-going problems on Coal Road
- Christmas lights switch on
- The great success the Outer East enjoyed in the 2013 Yorkshire in Bloom

### Update on Thorpe Park

Members welcomed representatives of Scarborough Developments and a Planning Officer to provide an update on the proposals for a major retail-led scheme at Thorpe Park. Members were thanked for their continuous support and guidance in respect of the scheme.

Members received an update with regard to the planning processes and potential challenges to the scheme, and how that might impact upon timings for the delivery of the scheme.

Members also noted that the developers were intending to continue moving forwards with elements of the scheme in advance of receiving planning permission in order that progress was not delayed.

### Older Persons Event Week 2013

James Nundy presented a report to members updating them with the attendance figures from the Older Persons Event Week.

Members gave praise for the events that took place and noted that there is to be an 'Afternoon Tea' hosted by the Lord Mayor to thank all the volunteers involved in the week.

## Area Lead Members Update

Members received a brief verbal update from the Area Lead Members in respect of;

### Children's Services

Councillor Coupar informed Members of the following key issues she was currently working on in her role as Area Lead both in the local area and with other Leads across the City;

- Particular reference was made to the relationship with Children's Services and non-attendance by officers at meetings where Elected Members were present.
- The quality and relevance of some reports provided by Children's Services.
- Issues in respect of the Youth Service Delegated Budget
- Cluster issues particularly with regard to the governance/voting rights of elected members on those bodies.
- The lack of school places in the local area
- Recent successes were identified particularly with regard to the work with young people on budget issues.

### Environment and Community Safety

Councillor Harland informed Members of the following key issues she was currently working on in her role as Area Lead both in the local area and with other Leads across the City;

- An update on her attendance at Sub Committee meetings
- Meetings with relevant officers
- Divisional Community Safety Partnerships
- She also welcomed any issues from Members that required further work

### Health & Social Care

Councillor McKenna informed Members of the following key issues she was currently working on in her role as Area Lead both in the local area and with other Leads across the City;

- Meetings with the Director
- The audit of the 4 wards in respect of doctor provision and the priorities linked to that
- Networks

### Community Engagement

Members noted that a number of Community forums had been held and minutes for a number of these meetings were appended to the report.

#### Area Chairs' Meeting

Minutes of the June meeting of the Area Chairs' meeting were attached to the agenda for information.

#### Partnership and Area Committee Sub Groups/Divisional Community Safety Partnerships/Health & Well Being Partnership Meetings

Minutes of various meetings were appended to the report or an update as to when the next set of minutes would be available was detailed within the report.

**RESOLVED** – That the current position in respect of a number of issues be noted.

(Councillor Lewis left the meeting at 17.30pm during consideration of this item)

#### **48 Strengthening the relationship between Area Committee and Parish Councils**

The South East Leeds Area Leader presented a Safer and Stronger Scrutiny Board Report on strengthening the relationship between the Area Committee and Parish Councils.

The Scrutiny Report identified that both Area Committees and local councils have a key role in providing strong local leadership. A discussion took place around the following:

- Local councils and Area Committees give a commitment to work closely together to develop clear pathways and protocols.
- That Area Leaders take the lead on developing these clear pathways and protocols.
- That the Council's Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens and Communities) promotes the following as good practice amongst Area Committees:
  - The development of a forward work programme and identification of a major 'theme' or 'topic' for each area committee meeting
  - That Area Committee reports include a separate section indicating any potential local impacts or challenges
- That Area Leaders ensure that input is sought from local councils as part of any future area based delegation scheme and particularly around the negotiation of Service Level Agreements.

- That Area Leaders proactively work with local councils and Area Committees to identify opportunities for maximising available resources to best meet the needs of their local communities.
- That local Councils are proactive in promoting volunteering initiatives.
- That the Council's Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access and Performance) and Chief Officer Localities and Partnerships lead on actively supporting approaches made by local councils for any advice and assistance directly associated with local voluntary initiatives.
- That the three Area Leaders actively promote partnership working with local councils as part of the integrated locality working agenda in the three wedges of East North East, West North West and South East.
- That Area Leaders work closely with Area Chairs to ensure that Area Committees continue to monitor their relationships with local councils in order to identify strengths and potential areas for improvement.

**RESOLVED-** That the contents of the report be noted and that the actions that aim to strengthen links with Parish Councils in the Outer East as set out in paragraph 3.3 of the report be agreed.

#### **49 Well Being Budget (Revenue) 2013/14**

The Area Improvement Manager presented a report that provided details of the Well Being Budget available for the Outer East in 2013/14.

Members noted that the report detailed commitments, agreed funding streams and recent funding requests as follows:

- Increase the communications budget from £1,000 to £2,000
- Award £4,179 to Christ Church Luncheon Club
- Award £3,000 to Methley Village Lights Christmas Committee

During discussion on this item, members were also asked to consider the following additional items:

- 5 Grit bins in Whinmoor - £1,220
- Grit bin refills across whole Outer East - £3,000
- £150 per luncheon club for Christmas lunch
- Luncheon Club equipment provided through NET - £1,000

**RESOLVED-**

(a) That the content of the report and the position regarding small grants be noted.

(b) That the following be agreed:

- Increase the communications budget from £1,000 to £2,000
- Award £4,179 to Christ Church Luncheon Club
- Award £3,000 to Methley Village Lights Christmas Committee
- 5 Grit bins in Whinmoor - £1,220
- Grit bin refills across whole Outer East - £3,000
- £150 per luncheon club for Christmas lunch
- Luncheon Club equipment provided through NET - £1,000

## **50 Dates and Times of Future Meetings**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2013 at 4.00pm, in the Civic Hall, Leeds, LS1 1UR