Report of: The West North West Area Leader

Report to: The Outer West Community Committee – Calverley & Farsley; Farnley & Wortley; Pudsey

Report author: Harpreet Singh 336 7862

Date: 1st July 2015   **To Note and Approve**

Community Committee Update Report

Purpose of report

1. This report updates the Community Committee on the work of the three sub groups of the Committee: Environment, Business, Employment & Skills and General Purposes.

2. The report sets out the roles and key principles of the Community Committee sub groups and ask the community committee to consider the Elected Member representation to each group.

3. This report also updates the Committee on pieces of work and partnership working that has taken place in the area since the last meeting.

4. The Community Committee update report is submitted when there is additional business to report from sub groups or any other project activity. Partner organisations and Council services will also contribute information to the Update Report

Main issues

5. The Outer West Community Committee has a range of sub groups which set priorities, agree topics for consideration at Community Committee and develop action plans to address issues of thematic importance. The committee currently operates three sub groups: Environment, Business, Employment & Skills and General Purposes.

6. Sub group meetings are informal meetings and not open to the public, however local residents or representatives of other organisations may be invited to attend and speak at the discretion of the chair of each sub group.

7. Key principles for the sub groups include:

- Each sub group to meet a minimum of 4 times per year
- The sub group will consist of one elected member representative from each ward however sub group meetings are open to all members of the Outer West Community Committee if they wish to attend.
- Co-optees may be invited onto the sub group subject to agreement from the Community Committee.
- Recommendations to Community Committee will only be made by the sub group members or in the event of their absence, a nominated ward colleague.
- All decisions or recommendations made by the sub group must be referred to the Community Committee for approval.
- Venues for sub groups are to be accessible and cost free i.e. Henshaw Depot or Pudsey Town Hall.

8. The current membership to the three sub groups is attached at Appendix 1.

9. Detailed below is an update on the current sub group activity and issues being explored at each.

Environment Sub Group

10. The Outer West Environmental Sub Group continues to meet to monitor the Service Level Agreement and identify relevant environmental issues. The Outer West Environment Sub Group met on the 30th April 2015 and discussed a report on the number of service requests, fixed penalty notices and legal notices served.

11. The report included the number of programmed sweeping blocks within this timeframe that had been carried out by the Locality Teams Street Kings and road sweepers in each of the Outer West Ward areas.

12. The WNW Locality Manager provided an update on the work of the Zonal Teams and the new staffing structure. The service will be taking on responsibility for clearing void gardens and is now also responsible for the bulky waste service from the 1st June 2015. There is one zonal team dedicated to the outer west area led by a team leader who will oversee operational and enforcement work. The gully crews are now managed centrally.

Business, Employment & Skills Sub Group

13. The Outer West Community Committee held a workshop last October which focused on delivering actions which support Business Enterprise and the Economy linked with employment opportunities. Following on from this meeting members decided to set up the Business, Employment and Skills Sub group which would look into taking this piece of work forward. There have since been two meetings which have been chaired by

Executive member Cllr Richard Lewis and it has been agreed that there will be 4 meetings held a year.

Members at their most recent meeting explored some key actions in line with the key themes that emerged from the October Workshop. These key themes are as follows;

- Supporting local people into employment and providing support to schools around opportunities for apprenticeships
- More mobile library / pop up facilities in areas where there are no services such as Farnley & Wortley
- Revitalising our high street offer and supporting businesses to ensure issues are resolved easily and fluidly

General Purposes Sub Group

14. At the Committee meeting in March, Members were asked to consider creating a General Purposes Sub Group which would allow two main purposes:

- To allow Members to have more time to oversee current and future delegated services
- To allow Members to focus on key local priorities with the relevant service managers outside of Community Committee meetings.

The first meeting was held on the 20th May to discuss the Youth Activities Fund (YAF) where members also considered and approved YAF funding. Members requested that another meeting be organised to discuss further, the process for commissioning the YAF.

15. **West Neighbourhood Improvement Board**

It was agreed at the November 2014 West Neighbourhood Improvement Board (NIB) that a plan on a page be developed for each of the priority neighbourhoods. Since their November 2014 meeting, data on each area was collated and reviewed and consultation with key partners, including Public Health, Employment and Skills, Community Safety, Housing Leeds and Children's Services had been undertaken. Draft plans on a page for the Heights & Bawns priority neighbourhoods were developed and were presented at the February 2015 NIB meeting for consideration and discussion.

The neighbourhood improvement plans were then finalised at the first Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership (NIP) meeting which was held on the 24th April. Key themes were discussed to progress the work of the partnership and theme champions were also elected.

Meetings have now been set up with the theme champions to identify areas of work and to set targets against actions. An action tracker will be used for each theme to monitor progress against targets. A range of activities are already being explored.

5. **Citizens @ Pudsey & Swinnow Forum & Citizens @ Tyersal Forum**

Both forums receive an update from the Neighbourhood Policing Team, who reported on a series of successful arrests and prosecutions in the area recently. Half of the properties targeted are through insecure doors or windows, and crime prevention advice is provided by the officers.

The meetings have had representation from the West North West Locality Team, Parks & Countryside, Highways, Transportation, Housing Leeds, Planning and Private Sector Housing Team.

6. **Community Committees**

The Community Committees have been in operation for a whole municipal year. The purpose of this style of working is to engage more with the community on topics that are of wide interest and accessible to all. Attached at Appendix 2 is the first edition of a Community Committee newsletter. The purpose of this first edition is to look back and update Members and the wider public on the Committee topics that were discussed in 2014/15 and the projects that were funded through Wellbeing. In consultation with the Committee, future editions can be based upon current issues and activities.

Conclusion

7. The work of the sub groups will be essential in the delivery of the Community Committee priorities. This report provides members with an update on recent Sub Group and Forum business and other project work undertaken by the Area Support Team.

Recommendations

8. The Committee is asked to:
- Note the contents of the report, comment on any matters raised and suggest items for inclusion in future area update reports.
- Note the work of the sub groups since the last Community Committee meeting.
- Consider and agree the Elected Member representative from each ward for each sub group for the municipal year 2015/16.

Background information

- **None**