

Report of: Jane Maxwell, East North East Area Leader

Report to: Inner North Community Committee – Chapel Allerton, Moortown, Roundhay wards

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to note

Community Committee Update Report

Purpose of report

1. This report provides an update on the work programme of Inner North East Community Committee Community Committee, its recent successes and current challenges.

Main issues

2. Since the last Community Committee, work has progressed in a number of areas, including through the Committee's sub groups and local partnerships for Chapeltown and Meanwood, which are currently evolving into Neighbourhood Improvement Partnerships.

Sub Groups

3. The main issues discussed at the sub groups recently are set out here:-

Environmental Sub Group

4. The most recent Environmental Sub Group took place in April and received updates from Parks and Countryside, Waste Management and the Locality Team in relation to city wide and local issues. In terms of Parks and Countryside updates, the Continental grass cutting contract has now been extended for a further 5 years. There have only been a limited number of recent complaints, indicating a good level of satisfaction with the service. Through Scrutiny, possible charges for car parking for visitor attractions have been considered but at this stage have been rejected. The service is establishing

links with Askham Bryan College for opportunities for land based apprenticeships to ensure a good workforce supply as older and experienced members of staff retire.

5. In terms of Waste Management, the garden waste collection service has recently restarted for spring collections. The impact of the Tour de Yorkshire and World Triathlon Series on waste collection was discussed, but plans are in place to mitigate any impact.
6. The Locality Team and Waste Management, as well as undertaking their usual tasks across INE, have been involved in Action Days on the Hamiltons and Granges and on the Beckhills with Miles Hill Primary School, both very positive events. There is currently a particular focus on ginnels, mapping them and ensuring good cleansing arrangements in place for those in most need.

Wellbeing Advisory Group

7. The Wellbeing Advisory Group comprises one Member from each ward. A commissioning exercise for Youth Activity Fund summer holiday activities has recently been completed following Advisory Group meetings on 12th April, 10th May and 16th May and funding has been approved through the delegated decision process. Details of the successful projects and funding are contained in the Wellbeing Report.
8. In addition to the Youth Activity Fund summer projects, a number of Wellbeing Fund applications were also considered by the Wellbeing Advisory Group at the recent meetings. Details of the approved projects and funding are contained in the Wellbeing Report.

Neighbourhood Improvement

9. The East Leeds Neighbourhood Improvement Board was established in March. The inaugural meeting agreed terms of reference and priority neighbourhoods on which to focus its efforts including Chapeltown and Meanwood within the Inner North East Committee area. The Board considered common issues across these neighbourhoods and will consider particular themes in more detail over the coming months. The Board is due to meet again in July.

Chapeltown

10. The first Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership meeting, called "Working together for Chapeltown", took place on 14th December 2015. The meeting was attended by around 35 Council staff, third sector partners, ward councillors and West Yorkshire Police who all work in Chapeltown. The group received a presentation exploring the area's demographics such as population by age and ethnicity, information on children and young people, crime statistics, health data and environmental information.
11. Through focused table discussions, the group agreed the top priorities to take forward as a partnership. The priorities agreed were:

- a. Health and Wellbeing particularly social isolation;
- b. Support for older people, including older people's housing issues;
- c. engaging young people to prevent them from getting involved in negative activity and crime, the provision of more information for young people on the consequences of crime as well as a potential mentoring scheme and peer support;
- d. Greater collaborative working and partnerships in the area to create strength and resilience across the community
- e. Increased resident engagement in service delivery;
- f. Standard of private rented sector housing and houses of multiple occupation

12. Following the initial meeting, work streams have started to take shape to address some of these issues for example:

- a. Chapeltown Housing Investment Strategy has been reviewed and re-focused, with housing associations, Leeds City Council and the 3rd sector working in partnership to update and streamline an action plan to combat housing related issues in the area;
- b. Two Neighbourhood Watch groups have been formed in the area with around 15 residents currently involved in the Mexboroughs, Saviles and Louis Street. The residents meet monthly with partners and work closely to inform local service provision. The group will also look at becoming constituted so they can apply for different funding streams;
- c. A social isolation group has been formed with public health and local health partners, working with Leeds University on a project to help socially isolated people in Chapeltown through different faith groups;
- d. Street Leeds sessions are currently being organised for young people in Chapeltown on the subject of crime. Street Leeds is a public legal education programme for the people of Leeds, delivered by the Leeds' legal community in partnership with Chapeltown Citizen's Advice Bureau and Leeds City Council;
- e. Improved partnership working models are being formed such as a joint website for the area called "Chapeltown News". This brings together information about local activity and services on offer locally to ensure the information is available in one user friendly website. It is envisaged that this will be launched at the beginning of July and link in to the roll out of the free public Wi-Fi in Chapeltown.
- f. Work has taken place through the CHERS cluster and local youth provisions to ask young people their views on how money should be spent in Chapeltown. This will be followed up with a young people's summit launch and hopefully developed into a youth panel.

13. An action day took place in Chapeltown in April working through the Chapel Allerton tasking group and neighbourhood watch groups. This happened in the Mexboroughs, Saviles, Granges and Hamiltons, with door to door information and surveys provided to residents asking them to submit any information on crime or environmental issues in the area. There was also the speed indicator device out on site, the police exhibition van available for residents to raise any issues and the environmental team doing a clean-up in the area. Surveys that have been returned will be picked up through Chapel Allerton tasking as intelligence.

14. The next Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership meeting will take place on 23rd June and will focus on young people and community cohesion.

Meanwood

15. The Meanwood Seven Estates Group concentrates on Miles Hill, Farm Hill, Beckhill, Potternewton, Sugar Wells, Scott Hall and Stonegate areas in Meanwood. It includes Leeds City Council services, third sector, local councillors, West Yorkshire Police, local schools, GP surgeries and faith groups. The group has been refocused and reshaped with a clear action plan which is being worked towards as a partnership. The group is currently focusing on the Beckhill estate and work around keeping residents up to date on the developments of the area and also driving forward campaigns to ensure promised change happens.
16. A campaign started on the Beckhill estate in November 2015 working closely with Millfield Primary School and Leeds Citizens. Around 40 young people from the school did a walkabout on the estate to decide what made them mad, sad and glad. The littering, poorly lit areas, poor play areas and the condition of the steps and pavements made them sad and mad. The community spirit and good views from the estate made them glad. Tom Riordan and Judith Blake came to the estate in January 2016 to look at the area and discuss the issues that need addressing; they gave their full support to the campaign. A residents meeting took place in March to get resident's views on the area and it was clear that they shared the same frustrations as the young people from Millfield Primary School. The residents meeting was well attended with around 42 people from the area and another meeting will take place on 7th June to provide an update. Work has taken place with Regeneration, Housing, Parks and Countryside, Waste Management and Street Lighting departments to tackle the issues that have been raised. New street lighting has been installed with resident's involvement following the residents meeting. The sites for disposal will be going to market this year and early next year. Work will take place with Parks and Countryside and the community to look at how play space should be configured on the estate and a new waste strategy will be rolled out in the area with door to door collections for each household and waste collection points removed. The steps and pavements will also be repaired but due to limited funding, consultation has taken place with the community to decide on the priority areas.
17. An action day took place on the estate in May with residents, Leeds Citizens, Millfield Primary School, parents, the seven estates group and other partners. This included a big tidy up in the area, skips out on site for residents, posters designed by the school erected across the estate, information delivered to households on work that has taken place to date, West Yorkshire Police exhibition bus and the Zest Health for Life smoothie bike. The park at the top of the estate was due to be painted but because of bad weather this was postponed and has been rescheduled for 15th June with residents and partners involved. A film is also being made by Millfield Primary School on the campaign which has been funded through the Housing Advisory Panel. Judith Blake and James Rogers came back to the estate at the end of May to discuss progress that has been made so far.

18. The Meanwood 7 Estates Group is also focussing on the Stonegate Estate due to incidents with young people, crime and ASB in the area. A meeting is being held to pull all partners together to look at a joined up approach to tackling these issues and pulling resources together. In the interim, additional youth outreach provision has been secured in the area, funded from the Moortown Ward Wellbeing fund.

Community Champions

19. Work is ongoing to develop the role of the Community Champions. In addition to their role in supporting the work of the sub groups, referred to earlier in this report, the community champions continue to support work within their portfolio. The community committee chair has committed to bi-monthly community champion meetings to ensure that champions in post are able to share their key areas of work and identify any areas of overlap. The meetings are also an opportunity to share good practice and address any challenging issues collectively.

Environment Champion – Cllr Urry

20. Details in relation to the work of the Environmental Champion are set out in paragraph 4 above.

Community Safety Champion – Cllr Rafique

21. Localised tasking arrangements have continued to tackle community safety issues across Inner North East through close partnership working. As referred to at 11b, the Communities Team have been supporting local residents to establish two Neighbourhood Watch groups in Chapeltown.
22. It should be noted that the April meeting of the East North East Locality Safety Partnership received a presentation from West Yorkshire Police on forced marriage. It is recognised that further partnership work needs to be undertaken to understand the scale of this issue across Leeds and locally.

Adult Social Care Champion – Cllr Macniven

23. In relation to the work of the Community Committee Champion for Adult Social Care, a verbal update will be provided at the meeting. A separate report on Neighbourhood Teams has been presented to the Committee.

Health and Wellbeing Champion – Cllr Taylor

24. The current focus of the work of the Health and Well-being Champion relates to reducing social isolation. In addition, through the Health and Well-being Executive, the

Champion has highlighted the need to focus on addressing the high levels of obesity and diabetes in the local area.

25. Work is progressing well on the Inner North East Social Prescribing pilot. This seeks to improve support for patients, particularly with low level mental health issues, by establishing a mechanism for effective referrals to appropriate local service providers. In addition, a working group has been established to focus on the specific health needs of migrants.

Employment, Skills and Welfare Champion – Cllr Hussain

26. The most recent Employment and Skills Board took place on 7th June 2016. As this report was finalised on this date, a verbal update will be provided by the Chair, Cllr Hussain at the Community Committee meeting.
27. The Board is progressing with a number of priorities 1) mental health, 2) support into work through skills training, 3) ESOL provision, 4) support for the 50+ age group, 5) support for young people aged 16-24. A number of practical and additional actions have been agreed through the Board, particularly in relation to ESOL provision, with partners working together to establish new and much needed provision. The Board now includes Community Hub representation to ensure services are as targeted as possible to maximise resources.
28. Partners have recognised the need to help support the development of a campaign for to promote retail skills and employment across the city, with new opportunities emerging. Current discussions are taking place to promote and celebrate ESOL learning. The June Board meeting will include discussions on European funded programmes - Community Led Local Development (CLLD) and Back2Work whilst the September Board meeting is likely to focus on the 50+ age group which has not yet been tackled by the Board in any great depth to date.

Children's and Young People's Champion – Cllr Charlwood

29. A separate report providing the Inner North East Community Committee with an update on activity and progress of Children's Service's against the Children and Young People's Plan and an overview of some of the key activities and issues in the area.

Community Committee Performance Management Framework

30. A performance management framework has been developed to help drive forward the priorities and achieve defined and measurable outputs from the workshop discussions which have formed an important part of community committee meetings.
31. This document provides a review of all agreed workshop actions with each action being allocated a progress rating of red, amber or green. Each of the community champions are able to review and monitor progress against key actions within their local portfolio.

Not only will this process serve as a useful mechanism for community champions to readily identify areas of good practice and any cases where we are struggling to make progress, it also allocates actions to a named individual and organisation and therefore provides clear accountability around any actions arising from the community committees. An updated action tracker will be submitted to the Community Committee for information and discussion

Community Events

32. In addition to the Action Days in Chapeltown and the Beckhill estate already covered in paragraphs 13 and 17 respectively, the following community events have also taken place:

33. Oakwood Day and WW1 Commemoration Event

On 7th May this year's Oakwood Day event was held with stalls, food, entertainment and live music. Jointly funded by Oakwood Traders and Residents Association (OTRA) and the Inner North East Community Committee, the event was well attended by local residents aided by excellent weather on the day. On the same day, an event took place in the grounds of Oakwood Library to commemorate those from the local area, of all faiths, who served in World War 1. A commemorative bench, funded by the Inner North East Community Committee, was also unveiled by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Major Stan Hardy (Rtd), and MP for Leeds North East, Fabian Hamilton.

34. Meanwood Festival and Fun Day

Meanwood Festival, run by The Meanwood Valley Partnership, took place from Saturday 21st May 2016 and concluded with the Annual Fun Day on Bank Holiday Monday 30th May. Events took place in different locations over the 10 day period, encompassing music, art, literature, heritage, drama, food and drink. Over 3000 people enjoyed the fun day on the final day with over 60 community and craft stalls, entertainment, displays, food from around the world and a host of children's activities including a climbing wall, inflatable play areas and this year, donkey rides opened by The Lord Mayor of Leeds. The event was supported by the Inner North East Community Committee.

Communications & Social Media

35. The Communities Team ENE have continued to use the Inner North East Community Committee Facebook page to promote the work of the committee as well as advertising community events and local opportunities. At the time of writing, the Inner North East Community Committee Facebook page had been "liked" by 343 people, an increase from 310 at the time of the last Community Committee in March 2016. The Facebook pages continue to be an important communications tool between the council and local residents, and work is ongoing as to how this resource can be further utilised.

Challenges and Opportunities

36. As part of the Council's programme of events and activities to mark the centenary of the First World War there are plans for buglers from the Pals Battalions to play the "Last Stand" at various location across the city in unison at 7:30am on 1st July. There is an opportunity for the Inner North East to share in the occasion and to have the Pals Battalion perform in a location within the Inner North East boundary. Members have been approached to make suggestions about where this location could be and these have been fed back to the Communities Team (Central) who are coordinating the events.
37. Previous reports of this type have made reference to an Inner East Leeds (including Chapeltown) European funding bid around Community Led Local Development (CLLD). The bid is for the ESIF and ESF funding strands which are primarily used to support employment growth and the creation of small to medium-sized enterprise. It was reported to a previous meeting of the community committee, and also the Neighbourhood Improvement Partnerships, that a preparatory stage bid had been successful, paving the way for a full bid to be submitted by the deadline of 31st August 2016. The main thrust of the bid will be a Local Development Strategy which will be shaped by an appointed Local Action Group (LAG), comprising of public sector, private sector and third sector representatives. This group will be brought together in the coming weeks and will have elected member representation. A further update on the final bid will be brought to the September meeting of the community committee.

Conclusion

38. The report outlines a wide range activities being undertaken by the Community Committee.

Recommendations

39. That members note the contents of the report and make comment where appropriate.

Background information

None