



Inner West Community Committee

Covering Armley, Bramley & Stanningley and Kirkstall wards
October 2016

How do young people feel about crime?

That was the question the Community Committee posed at their meeting in June. After consulting with groups of young people, Councillors discovered that although they are very concerned about crime and safety in their neighbourhood, most would not consider reporting it, or were unsure how the process worked.

Even more worrying was the feedback that they felt they would be found out, and that they believe the police systems are easily hacked, myths that can easily be busted.

At the Committee meeting, young people from the Angel of Youths charity discussed these issues with Councillors, the head of the police contact centre, youth workers and the local neighbourhood policing team.

A number of ideas emerged that the Councillors and police are very keen to take forward.



Get Involved!

If you know any young people who would like to join the debate or contribute to future projects, please get in touch, details on the back.

Your Community Committee

The ten Community Committees in Leeds link local residents to Councillors and other decision makers to focus on topics that matter to our communities. In the past year, the Inner West Committee has looked at primary school attainment, mental health and domestic violence.

We have meetings in November and March, full details of which are on page 4. Our meetings are open to all and you'll be most welcome.

Supporting Community Projects

Grant approvals

Councillors have spent over £225,000 on community and youth projects since April last year. Since June the following grants have been approved:

Armley Festival - £1,500

The first Armley Festival was held on the 6th August and packed Armley Town Street with stalls, street food and activities for all ages. The Community Committee provided funding for the event and support to the group with the planning.



The RC Church of the Assumption of Our Lady kitchen refurbishment - £5,000

The church, on Spen Lane in Kirkstall is home to a number of community groups, including a weekly youth club. The oven didn't work and the kitchen was in need of renovation so the Councillors provided a grant to kick start the project and attract other funders.

Money Buddies - £4,422

The Councillors provided funding to continue the 'Money Buddies' service in four centres across the Inner West. Money Buddies are volunteers who help people manage their finances and work with creditors. The average financial gain for a Money Buddy client is a whopping £1700!

Leeds Women's Aid Drop In - £3,656

Sadly, Armley has some of the highest rates of Domestic Violence in the city. To address this, and provide additional support to victims, the Committee has funded Leeds Women's Aid to run a weekly drop in session at Thornton Medical Centre in New Wortley where women can chat in confidence to a specialist support worker.

Basketball sessions - £2,755

Sport is a great way of bringing people together. Leeds City Council's Youth Service and Leeds Beckett University are partnering up to run Basketball sessions at Armley Leisure Centre aimed at young people from all backgrounds and cultures.

Our Community Projects in Pictures



Clockwise from above:

Bob the boat, built entirely from plastic bottles by the children who attended the Flotsom & Jetsum funded by the Youth Activities Fund. Candidates undertaking class room based first aid training and carrying out practical life saving training to gain their National Pool Lifeguard Qualification thanks to the Wellbeing fund.

Sub Groups and Champions

The Inner West Community Committee has nominated 'Champions' for key themes. Here's , here's a round up of key work since the last meeting:

Health & Wellbeing - Cllr Lowe

"Many people living in the tower blocks in New Wortley had long standing problems such as depression, debt and substance misuse. A project to have a worker on site to help and support these residents has seen fantastic results"

Employment & Skills - Cllr McKenna

"We are keen for local people to benefit from the massive investment going into Leeds City Centre. Armley Library hosted a session with John Lewis to help people apply for jobs at their brand new store. "

Community Safety - Cllr Ritchie

"I've been working very closely with the police to address instances of Hate Crime in our communities. We're getting the message out there that any type of racism or hate crime will not be tolerated, and people who report it will be well supported."

Environment - Cllr Illingworth

"Dog fouling is one of the most common gripes we councillors hear. The Committee once again supported the Hawksworth Wood Dog Show which was a really fun day for the community to promote responsible dog ownership."

Children & Young People - Cllr Gruen

"We invested over £50,000 on summer holiday activities for young people, based on consultation with schools and youth groups. Our initial estimate is that more than 1000 young people benefited from the projects we funded."

Adult Social Care Cllr Venner

"Debt and financial exclusion is sadly a problem for many people in this area. In the run up to Christmas we are supporting a number of projects like the Money Buddies and Leeds Credit Union to help people plan ahead and avoid the expensive payday lenders or loan sharks."

Inner West Round Up

Bramley Community Hub comes a step closer

During the summer, Leeds City Council unveiled exciting plans to create a new community hub at Bramley Library. Without losing any space for books, the new facility will provide additional services including customer services, housing advice, registrars and help with finding a job.



Bramley Library

A new Plan for Armley

The incredible volunteers from All Together Armley not only organised the Armley Festival, they have also launched an ambitious plan for the town that aims to tackle their key priorities of community safety, the environment and community cohesion. They are being supported by a partnership of public services, local businesses and residents who have committed to working more closely together to achieve the goals of the Plan and create a thriving town centre.

New Public Art in Kirkstall

You might have noticed some recent environmental improvements around the busy junction in front of Kirkstall Leisure Centre. The Committee funded the beautiful mosaic in the Kirkstall in Bloom garden and cut back the vegetation on the verge in front of the Leisure Centre. This spot will soon be home to a fantastic piece of public art, commissioned in partnership with The Tetley art gallery.

Your Community Committee

Community Committee and Forum Meetings

Community Committees are held four times a year and usually focus on a particular theme or topic. Any local resident can come along to raise any issues at the beginning of the meeting.

Ward Forums are held more regularly and provide an opportunity for very local issues to be discussed and we welcome suggestions for future agenda items.

Email west.north.west@leeds.gov.uk or call 0113 3367856 to be added to our mailing lists.

Community Committee dates and themes:

Wednesday 30th November 6pm : A round up from key services including the Environmental Locality Team, Police and Community Safety and Children's Services.

Wednesday 22nd March 6pm: Topic to be confirmed

Citizens @ Armley forum - 7pm Armley Library

(3rd Tuesday each month except Dec & Aug)

Tuesday 18th October, Tuesday 15th November, Tuesday 17th January

Citizens @ Bramley forum - 7pm Eric Atkinson Centre (Wellington Gardens off Waterloo Lane)

Citizens @ Kirkstall forum - Venue changes each time

Dates are set around a month in advance

Community Committee Members

Armley Ward



Cllr Alison
Lowe



Cllr James
McKenna



Cllr Alice
Smart

Bramley & Stanningley Ward



Cllr Caroline
Gruen



Cllr Julie
Heselwood



Cllr Kevin
Ritchie
(Chair)

Kirkstall Ward



Cllr John
Illingworth



Cllr Fiona
Venner



Cllr Lucinda
Yeadon

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