

INNER NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 22ND SEPTEMBER, 2016

PRESENT: Councillor J Akhtar in the Chair

Councillors J Bentley, S Bentley and
J Pryor

14 Open Forum

In accordance with the Community Committee Procedure Rules, the Chair allowed a period of up to 10 minutes for members of the public to make representations or ask questions within the terms of reference of the Community Committee. The following was discussed:

- A representative of the A660 Joint Council addressed the Committee. It was reported that the rejection of the New Generation Transport (NGT) scheme had been welcomed and it was pleasing to see that more weighting had been given to preserving heritage, trees and open space. It was felt that any project that had a major impact on existing infrastructure should be rejected. Regarding proposals from the North West Transport Forum, it was felt that these were not representative of people from North West Leeds. As Transport was to be discussed later on in the meeting, it was reported that these comments would be noted as part of that discussion.
- Graffiti – concern was expressed regarding the amount of graffiti in the area. It was reported that this had been discussed at the Environment Sub Group and members of the public were asked to highlight any problem areas so that this could be fed into the Graffiti Action Team. It was further reported that there had been some arrests but unless someone was caught in the act it was often difficult to prove.
- Speeding – concern was expressed regarding speeding in residential areas. Reference was made to a scheme held in Surrey where local volunteers could monitor speed and offences be referred to the Police in order to issue warnings. Similar schemes also operated in Lancashire and it was suggested that anyone interested, if a scheme could be operated in Leeds, should contact their Ward Councillors or West Yorkshire Police.

15 Community Committee Topic: Leeds Culture Strategy and 2023 bid for Leeds to be European Capital of Culture

The report of the Leeds City Council Culture and Sport presented Members with an update on Leeds' bid to become the European Capital of Culture for 2023.

Sarah Priestley, Principal Office, Culture and Sport made a presentation prior to the Community Committee's workshop discussion.

Issues highlighted included the following:

- What being the European Capital of Culture would include.
- What the benefits to Leeds would be.
- The vision for Leeds and the Culture Strategy 2017 to 2030.

In response to comments and questions, the following was discussed:

- Other UK Cities bidding included Dundee, Bristol, Cardiff, Nottingham and Milton Keynes.
- How being Capital of Culture could be a catalyst for change and shape regeneration.
- How to reflect the diversity of Leeds – population, geography, social and economic.
- Making use of the existing culture in the City – architecture, opera, theatre.
- How to focus on culture in Leeds that is not found elsewhere.

RESOLVED – That the report and discussion be noted.

16 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

17 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors N Walshaw, C Towler, G Harper, A Garthwaite and J Chapman.

18 Minutes - 16 June 2016

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2016 be confirmed as a correct record.

19 Leeds Transport Conversation

The report of the Chief Officer, Highways and Transport informed Members of the Transport Conversation and engagement process regarding the future strategic approach to transport in the city and the development of a proposition and delivery plan for the £173.5 million fund due to be allocated following the cancellation of the NGT project.

Andrew Hall, Head of Transport presented the report. Members were informed that the first phase of the Transport Conversation would be the development of a Leeds transport strategy and were asked for issues specific to the Inner North West area.

Issues highlighted included the following:

- The need to improve connectivity to enable a better future economy.
- Congestion, air quality and road safety.
- Economic and social drivers – housing growth, changing demographics, changing technologies.
- Falling bus usage.
- New transport initiatives including the HS2 and HS3.
- Aspirations for the city and challenges faced.

In response to comments and questions, the following was discussed:

- How to connect communities across the city.
- The need to protect the environment and heritage of the city when considering any new transport initiatives.
- Could transport proposals be linked to the bid for the Capital of Culture?
- Transport that promotes public health – cycling, walking.
- Proposals that would prioritise bus routes and increase usage.
- Alternative fuels – Leeds had been recognised as in breach of air quality directives.
- Links from the airport to the city.
- Park and ride schemes.
- Bike rental schemes.
- Regional context – there was a £1billion transfer fund for West Yorkshire.

- (1) That the wider strategic context of the Transport Conversation, which will extend beyond a first phase conversation into the Spring/Summer of next year, informing a wider transport strategy for the City over the next 20 years be noted.
- (2) That the Department of Transport £173.5 million offer for public transport improvements, in the context of a currently planned report to Executive Board on the 19th October and the planned submission of a strategic investment case to the Department of Transport, be noted.

20 Wellbeing Update Report

The report of the West North West Area Leader presented Members with an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund and Youth Activity Fund for 2016/17 and the current position of the small grants and skips pots. Members were also asked to approve the Wellbeing funding round process and timescales for the 2017/18 budget.

Nicole Darbyshire, Area Officer presented the report.

Members attention was brought to the following:

- 2017/18 Wellbeing Application Round

- Remaining wellbeing funds for 2016/17
- Capital spending

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the current budget position for the Wellbeing Fund for 2016/17 be noted.
- (2) That the current position of the small grants and skips pot and those small grants and skips that had been approved since the last meeting be noted.
- (3) That the current position of the Youth Activity Fund and those projects supported to date through this be noted.
- (4) That the recommended application round process and funding priorities for 2017/18 be agreed.

21 Area Update Report

The report of the West North West Area Leader presented Members with a summary of recent sub group and forum business as well as a general update on other project activity.

Nicole Darbyshire, Area Officer presented the report.

Issues highlighted included the following:

- Discussions of the Inner North West sub groups and key messages.
- Community Centre free lettings.
- Update from the Inner North West Housing Advisory Panel.
- Inner North West Community Plan – A copy was appended to the report and Members were asked to agree the plan.
- Area Update newsletter
- Update from the Employment & Skills team following the workshop discussion at the June meeting.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the discussions of the Inner North West Community Committee sub groups and key messages be noted.
- (2) That free lets that had been agreed under the new pricing policy for community centres be noted.
- (3) That the update from the Inner North West Housing Advisory Panel be noted.
- (4) That the Inner North West Community Plan be agreed.
- (5) That the area update newsletter be noted.
- (6) That the update from the Employment & Skills team be noted.

22 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Thursday, 15th December 2016 at 7.00 p.m.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Thursday, 15th December, 2016

