

Report of: Jane Maxwell, East North East Area Leader

Report to: Inner North East 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, 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 on 28th July 2017 and received updates from Parks and Countryside, Waste Management and the Locality Team. As part of the Parks & Countryside update, the Sub Group was informed that the Leeds Quality Parks (LQP) assessments were starting again. The Inner North East area is unique in the fact that all the parks attained the LQP standard in 2016/17, but Members were assured that there would be no complacency. A short briefing was also provided on Urban Buzz which is a national initiative involving 8 cities aimed at creating or enhancing pollinator habitats. Over the coming months LCC will be working to identify

new and existing sites where the funding could be utilised to create bee friendly environments and the Environmental Sub Group will continue to be consulted as the project progresses. Finally, the Sub Group was informed about the creation of Leeds Parks Fund (<http://www.leedscf.org.uk/leeds-parks-fund/>) which is a charitable initiative dedicated to enhancing the public parks and green spaces of Leeds. The creation of the fund will better enable the council to handle charitable donations and legacy requests, as well as enabling fund raising.

5. Waste Management provided an update in respect of ongoing discussions with crews to implement operational changes that will achieve £1.6m budget savings. The changes affect brown, green and black bin collections across the city with some increase in properties receiving Alternate Weekly Collections (AWC). The proposals will mean collection day changes for a large proportion of residents, but the department hope to have the final picture by the end of September.
6. As part of the Environmental Team update, the new Team Leader for Inner North East, Sarah King, was introduced to the Sub Group. Sarah will be invited to upcoming Ward Member meetings to introduce herself to Councillors and discuss environmental issues.

Wellbeing Advisory Group

7. The Wellbeing Advisory Group comprises one Member from each ward. Since the last committee meeting the group have met on two occasions considering applications for funding and making recommendations to the INE Community Committee. Details of the projects and funding are contained in the Wellbeing Report including applications that were declined.
8. Further information regarding the 2017 YAF summer activities programme is contained in the Children and Young People's Champion section of this report at paragraph 23.

Neighbourhood Improvement

Chapeltown

9. In preparation for Leeds Black Music Festival and the 50th Carnival weekend, Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Police have supported Black Health Initiative (BHI) to train up 6 local people in a Security Industry Authority (SIA) qualification who would then work over the two nights to keep the area as safe as possible. A number of community meetings took place to ensure that community members, LCC and West Yorkshire Police were all informed of plans for the weekend and were able to work together to help the events run as smoothly as possible.
10. The Chapeltown neighbourhood watch group are planning a clean-up day in September working with West Yorkshire Police to help educate residents on how to dispose of waste properly and also promote the neighbourhood watch meetings.

Meanwood

11. Team Beckhills in partnership with The Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team and The Communities Team ran a clean-up day on the estate removing 3.5 tonnes of waste off the estate and educating other residents. The group were supported by West Yorkshire Police who set up the exhibition van for neighbours to raise any issues or concerns.
12. The final batch of My Meanwood folders were distributed across the area which includes information of events and support available across Meanwood so that residents are aware of the range of activities on their doorstep.

Community Champions

13. Work is ongoing to develop the role of the Community Champions. At the June INE Community Committee meeting the Champion roles were agreed for the 2017/18 municipal year and remain unchanged from 2016/17.

Environment Champion – Cllr Hamilton

14. Details in relation to the work of the Environmental Champion are set out in paragraphs 4-6 above.

Community Safety Champion – Cllr Rafique

15. For the period 01/06/17 to 19/8/17 (80 days) the Neighbourhood Police Team (NPT) has recorded 153 Residential Burglaries. The offences are spread across the 3 Ward areas but the figures for the Oakwood/Elmete area are slightly higher as some garages were targeted on a complex. These offences were committed by a juvenile who is now in secure accommodation. The police report that these are mostly opportunistic 'sneak-in' offences through insecure doors and windows, which is not unexpected due to the warmer weather.
16. Offences targeting prestige vehicles have reduced, but the odd overnight vehicle theft is still being reported. Much of the reduction is down to arrests in the Bradford area where organised gangs were taking cars from the Leeds area to back street 'chop shops' where they were dismantled. Numerous warrants were executed leading to stolen vehicles and parts being recovered. PCSO'S are out on a daily basis trying to identify vulnerable vehicles and warning the owners before they become potential targets. Theft from Motor Vehicle offences have been recorded at just over 1 per day. 10 of these offences can be attributed to people using Roundhay Park where offenders have been targeting items left on display. Officers have been conducting patrols and leaving advice notices where items have been left in view.

17. There has been a rise in Burglary Other (Commercial Burglary) with 43 offences in 80 days. This is due to a spate of offences in Chapel Allerton, targeting independent business owners on the Harrogate Road corridor. The police have been working with all the businesses in this area and having been operating deviated shifts into the early hours to bolster visibility when the offences are taking place.
18. In June the police were present in the park all weekend for the World Triathlon Event where they offered crime prevention advice as well as highlighting Operation Close Pass. The operation was run for 1hr on one of the main commuter routes into Leeds on the 10th August and as a result 3 motorists were stopped for driving dangerously close to the Police Undercover Cyclist. This was a joint exercise with Leeds City Council who gave an on the spot the Educational input. One cyclist was also suitably advised for riding on the pavement. The operation has been launched nationwide due an increase in collision statistics involving cyclists, many which result in serious injury or death.

Adult Social Care Champion – Cllr Macniven

19. The Chapeltown Neighbourhood Care Management Team has now established its Talking Point in the Reginald Centre, offering booked appointments for people to discuss their social care concerns. The team is able to provide up to 5 appointments on Tuesdays and so far this is proving to be successful in providing a neutral venue for people and in expanding the team's awareness and engagement with the wide range of services provided in the Community Hub.
20. The Meanwood Neighbourhood Care Management Team is also likely to set up its Talking Point at the Reginald Centre but on a different day and is also considering a second Talking Point in Moor Allerton Community Hub. There a strong interest nationally in the Leeds approach to strengths based social care, with a visit from Lynn Romeo, Chief Social Worker for Adults planned for 18th September 2017, including a visit to talk to the staff involved in the Talking Point.

Employment, Skills and Welfare Champion – Cllr Hussain

21. A separate report is being presented to the Committee providing an update on Employment & Skills activity in the Inner North East area.

Health and Wellbeing Champion – Cllr Taylor

22. A joint Inner East and Inner North East Public Health workshop will be taking place in October. This will be a strategic meeting involving the appropriate community champions, officers from Public Health and third sector health partners. The purpose of the workshop will be to update on the local public health structure and to establish local health and wellbeing priorities to focus on going forward. It is envisaged that the outcomes of this workshop, as well as a more general update on Public Health, will be

included in a report that will come to the next community committee meeting in December.

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

23. The 2017 summer activities programme for young people, supported by the INE Community Committee's Youth Activity Fund, took place over the 6 week summer school break between 21st July and 1st September 2017. All of the activities were visited by officers from the ENE Communities Team and INE Committee Members and a full report will be provided once all the monitoring has been received from the various providers. The activities appeared to be well attended and the young people were engaged and having fun.

24. Improvements to the YAF summer activities funding process - implemented following recommendations from the Wellbeing Advisory Group - have had a noticeable effect this year, enabling better planning, promotion and monitoring of activities. This will be further strengthened by another review process towards the end of this year once the monitoring has been received and the information presented in a report to the Committee alongside data from the peer inspections. This process will be completed in preparation for the next planned INE Youth Summit in the New Year.





Community Events

25. Great Get Together (GGT) Events

As reported at the June meeting of the INE Community Committee, Area-wide Wellbeing funding of £1,500 was approved to support the Great Get Together (GGT), a national initiative to promote community cohesion in memory of Jo Cox. At the time of writing the June Committee Update report the events had yet to take place so a verbal update was provided at the meeting.

26. Communities in the Inner North East area of Leeds really embraced the spirit of the initiative with numerous events taking place across the area, ranging from smaller street parties to larger events like those at The Reginald Centre, Moor Allerton Hub and the Big Iftar at the Islamic Centre.



27. Oakwood Craft Market 1st Birthday

Oakwood Craft Market celebrated its first birthday on Saturday 29th July. The market has been taking place once a month for a year now and attracts stalls selling everything from handmade bunting and cards to organic skincare. Happy Birthday Oakwood Craft Market!



28. Leeds West Indian Carnival – 50th Anniversary & Leeds Black Music Festival

On August Bank Holiday weekend Chapeltown played host to the Leeds Black Music Festival and Leeds West Indian Carnival, Europe's longest running Caribbean carnival parade. Having first taken place in 1967, this year the carnival celebrated its 50th anniversary and was the biggest and most vibrant event to date.



Picture by Maria Spadafora



Picture by David Lindsay



Picture by David Lindsay



It is reported that in excess of 100,000 people attended on the day of the parade alone and the carnival atmosphere was further enhanced by another successful Leeds Black Music Festival which took place on the Sunday.

29. Chapel Allerton Arts Festival

The 20th Chapel Allerton Arts Festival took place from 28th August to 3rd September and was another fantastic celebration of music, arts, food and entertainment. Various events took place throughout the week including a short film festival, village jazz festival and a party in Chapel Allerton Park. As usual the pinnacle of the festival was the weekend event on Regent Street and the weather was kind to festival goers this year.

Communications & Social Media

30. The Communities Team officers have led a concerted effort to increase social media output promoting the activities of the Inner North East Community Committee as well as advertising community events and local opportunities. At the time of writing, the Inner North East Community Committee Facebook page has passed the '500 likes' milestone, up to 531 likes from the 458 reported at the last Community Committee in June 2017. Page Views, Post Reach and Post Engagements have also increased considerably from the previous period. 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

31. Following a consultation exercise carried out in March/April this year, a decision was taken to remove the option of free lettings in community centres to be replaced by a maximum 75% discount available for supported organisations. This was applied to new lettings from 2nd May and to existing lettings from 5th June. All existing free lettings were automatically offered the discounted rate. Separate arrangements were made to account for costs relating to lettings made by Youth Services and Neighbourhood Networks.
32. The Inner North East Community Committee area has 2 community centres that are directly managed by Leeds City Council. The following table shows the number of groups affected by the change in policy at each centre, the number of groups that renewed/cancelled their existing lettings, the amount of additional income achieved in year (June 2017– March 2018) through the discounted letting policy and the overall projected income at each centre, including income from lettings at the full community and commercial rates.

Community Centre	No. of Former Free Lettings	No. of Renewals	No. of Cancelations	Under Discussion	Additional Income 2017/18	Overall Projected Income 2017/18
Mandela Centre *	6	5	0	1	£2,112.50	£24,791.67
Prince Philip Centre *	2	1	0	1	£700.35	£14,201.32
Total	8	6	0	2	£2,812.85	£38,992.99

* Future arrangements for one letting each at Mandela Centre and Prince Philip Centre are still under discussion

33. All discounted lettings are due for renewal on 1st April 2018 and a process will start in the New Year to determine approval of the discounted support for the following financial year.

34. Appendix 1 contains information and updates on the recent INE Community Committee workshop discussions and progress on action points.

Conclusion

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

Recommendations

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