

**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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**Date:** 4 December 2017

**to note**

## **Community Committee Update Report**

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### **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 10<sup>th</sup> October 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 Arium had officially opened. The Arium is a purpose-built premises providing direct support to all areas of Leeds through the In Bloom initiative, and will grow over 3 million plants a year for the city's parks, roundabouts, flower beds, school grounds and other locations across the city. Facilities include a café, shop and outdoor children's play area.

5. The Urban Buzz initiative aimed at creating pollinator habitats has also been launched and work is now underway to identify suitable sites. Finally, a report on the new Moortown Park was taken to Executive Board in September and work continues in progressing the scheme.
6. As part of the Environmental Team update, the new Team Leader for Inner North East, Sarah King, advised that the de-leafing work had started with support from the council's grass cutting contractor Continental. The work has been started earlier this year and it is hoped that this will help to keep on top of the issue.

#### 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. Peer Inspection reports from this year's funded summer projects for young people have been provided to the Advisory Group members. A full report will be compiled from the monitoring for all of this year's activities before the Youth Summit in the New Year. The report will be considered by the Wellbeing Advisory Group and then circulated to the full committee in January 2018 before being officially presented at the INE Community Committee meeting in March 2018.

### **Neighbourhood Improvement**

#### **Chapelton**

9. On Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September an Action Day was held in the Mexboroughs/Saviles area of Chapelton. Residents, Police and officers from the Communities Team and Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team came out to help clean up the area. A litter-pick was undertaken and information was provided to residents on the bulky waste service. There was a good turnout from the community with Cllr Taylor and Cllr Rafique joining about 15 residents who had volunteered to help improve their local environment.
10. The following weekend on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September a further Action Day took place in the Avenues/Hiltons area. 12 local residents joined Cllr Taylor, Communities Team officers, members of the Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team and volunteers from the Greek Orthodox Church to carry out a litter-pick. Approximately 20 bags of waste were collected on the day which was a great effort! A big 'Thank You' to everyone who helped on both Action Days.



## **Meanwood**

11. Support continues to be provided to Team Beckhills to help them address issues on the estate and engage with residents. The initial phase of works to improve the steps and pavements on the estate is now complete seeing a total investment in excess of £500,000 from Housing Leeds capital programme. Discussions are underway to secure further investment from the Highways capital programme to continue the programme and Team Beckhills will be consulted on where future investment should be prioritised.
12. The Meanwood Seven Estates meeting scheduled for 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017 had to be cancelled and will be rearranged. Cllr Sharon Hamilton is still working to secure funding for proposed CCTV for the Stonegates estate following issues of antisocial behaviour.

## **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 20/08/17 to 11/11/17 (84 days) the police report 176 Residential Burglaries recorded. This is a slight rise in the last figures reported (153 in 80 days), but is in line with seasonal fluctuations. When the clocks change a seasonal spike in burglaries is expected and in line with this the police launch their Darker Nights Initiative, where extra officers are ring fenced to deal solely with suspicious/burglary calls during the evening/overnight period. They are also tasked with enquiries to arrest outstanding Burglary Nominals thus causing maximum disruption to any criminal activity.

16. The police report a good reduction in Commercial Burglary offences over this period, down to 28 from 43 following the spike in offences last time round in Chapel Allerton. The suspect for those offences has subsequently been charged and arrested. Work with Commercial Premises will rise as we approach the busy Christmas period, particularly independent traders who may not have procedures in place for dealing with those targeting their premises over the festive period.
17. In line with seasonal variations there has been a slight rise in Theft From Motor Vehicle offences to 118 up from 92 from the last report. Frustratingly most of the offences are as a result of people leaving valuable items on display or failing to lock their vehicles. Concerns were also raised by residents into a series of 4 robberies in the Meanwood/Headingley area in mid to late October. The suspect was successfully arrested and remanded into custody on 26/10/17.
18. Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November saw a very well attended Leeds City Council run Bonfire at Roundhay Park with large numbers of people attending and, other than the usual traffic disruption, the event passed relatively peacefully. Across Chapeltown we had no reported incidents of disorder at all. Saturday night (4<sup>th</sup> November) again saw another very quiet night for this time of year in the Chapeltown area with regards to firework related calls and anti-social behaviour. The difficult decision had earlier been taken to cancel the planned additional youth provision due to take place at the Prince Philip Centre, but this did not seem to have an impact. The 5<sup>th</sup> November followed a very similar pattern in Chapeltown and across the INE area, generally busier than previous nights for bonfires and fireworks but no specific anti-social behaviour or disorder related calls.
19. Following the recent trial at Leeds Crown Court, three men aged 21, 24 and 29 have been convicted of the murder of 19-year-old Raheem Wilks who died after being shot in Leeds earlier this year. All three were jailed for a minimum of 33 years. Two other men aged 30 and 21 were found not guilty. The local police team worked tirelessly with the Homicide and Major Enquiries Team (HMET) to progress the investigation.

**Detective Chief Inspector Stuart Spencer**

*"This was an incredibly difficult, protracted investigation, frustrated to some extent by the reluctance of eye-witnesses, through fear of violence, to give evidence or information to the police. Consequently the investigation team have had to sift through days and days of data to identify and capture evidence which, with the support of the Crown Prosecution Service, has led to the successful conviction of these men."*

**Adult Social Care Champion – Cllr Macniven**

20. There have been quite a number of citywide changes and developments in Adult Social Care recently, aligned to the theme of wellbeing and recovery. In particular, Joint Care Management Teams have been disbanded, with the ASC staff redeployed into neighbourhood and hospital teams and the establishment of 2 Health Case Management teams responsible for Continuing Health Care, including end of life

support. The Chapeltown and Meanwood Neighbourhood Care Management teams have both gained an additional worker to compensate for additional responsibilities, discharges from Community Intermediate Care beds in particular. Community Intermediate Care (CIC) beds have been recommissioned by the CCG's and are now known as Community Beds with a slightly broader remit than previously but in essence provide rehabilitation and recovery to support hospital discharge and admission avoidance. The new East Leeds Recovery Hub is part of this, with beds in Harrogate Lodge located in the Inner North East area. It needs to be noted though, that people requiring these services can't always be guaranteed placement close to home.

21. Continuing with the theme of wellbeing and recovery, the BAME Health and Wellbeing Hub in the former Frederick Hurdle Centre is now open, providing flexible day opportunities for people from our BAME communities. The Talking Points in the Reginald Centre and Moor Allerton Community Hub are becoming well established with a different less formal approach used to talk with people seeking support. Lynn Romeo, the Chief Social Worker who visited our Talking Point in the Reginald Centre in September was very impressed with the Leeds approach.

#### Employment, Skills and Welfare Champion – Cllr Hussain

22. At the Inner North East Community Committee meeting in September a workshop was held on the Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy. The aim of the strategy is to ensure that the current growth being enjoyed by the city benefits our communities and all citizens of Leeds. The meeting was well attended and the discussion was interesting and productive. The notes from the discussion are contained in Appendix 1 of this report and will be used to inform the strategy.
23. At its most recent meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017, the East North East Employment and Skills Board considered Sector Based Work Academies which offer training and work experience for a maximum of six weeks, giving support to people who are almost ready to enter the labour market. The Board also received an update on the Work and Health Programme which is aimed at helping those with a disability who are long term unemployed. People will be referred to the programme by DWP and it will commence in January 2018, delivered by Reed in partnership.
24. The Board was updated on the recent confirmation of European funding for Community Led Local Development (CLLD) which includes all of Inner East plus the Chapeltown area in Inner North East. Bids to this fund are likely to be invited in spring 2018. In the meantime, a Local Action Group (LAG) is being established to consider applications. An update was also provided on the Learning Markets that took place in September 2017 across Community Hubs, including the Reginald Centre where 27 providers and 48 customers attended. In addition, the Board considered progress against the East North East Employment and Skills Board Activity Plan for 2017, including 1) improving digital capacity, 2) improving the engagement of residents to connect to local provision, 3) support for ESA benefit claimants, 4) improving business engagement and 5) increasing the availability of ESOL programmes.

### Health and Wellbeing Champion – Cllr Taylor

25. An update report on the Leeds Plan is part of the INE Community Committee meeting agenda for December. A Public Health update has been provided in Appendix 2.

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

26. On 17<sup>th</sup> November young people from Hillcrest Primary School were invited to The Reginald Centre as part of the Takeover Challenge 2017. Takeover is a fun engagement project which sees schools and organisations across England opening their doors to children and young people to take over traditionally adult roles. It puts children and young people in decision making positions and encourages schools and organisations to hear their views. Children and young people gain an insight into the adult world and schools/organisations benefit from a fresh perspective about their work.
27. The young people were given the opportunity to experience various different roles in the Community Hub including working in the library, manning the front desk and the Jobshop. The young people were also introduced to the work of the Community Committee and the Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team. The group were enthusiastic, engaging and great ambassadors for Hillcrest Academy.
28. As mentioned in paragraph 7 of this report, monitoring for all the YAF funded summer activities is now being received and a report will be compiled for the committee. The report will inform a further review of the YAF process and feed into plans for the next INE Youth Summit planned for January 2018.

## **Community Events**

### 29. Macmillan Coffee Morning – BAME Health & Wellbeing Hub

The BAME Health & Wellbeing Hub in Chapeltown hosted a coffee morning on 4<sup>th</sup> October to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support. There was a range of cakes and treats on sale and a raffle which raised an amazing £650 for a great cause.





### 30. Diwali & Bandi Chhor Divas

To celebrate and raise awareness of the Hindu festival of Diwali and the Sikh festival of Bandi Chhor Divas, events were held in October at The Reginald Centre and the BAME Health & Wellbeing Hub. On 18<sup>th</sup> October the ENE Communities Team and Community Hubs staff worked in partnership to decorate The Reginald Centre with lanterns, information was displayed and a talk was given by Charandeep Singh Bhogal on why both Sikhs and Hindus celebrate this festival of lights. Then on 26<sup>th</sup> October a Diwali event was held at the BAME Health and Wellbeing Hub in Chapeltown.



### 31. International Day of Older Persons – BAME Health & Wellbeing Hub

On 25<sup>th</sup> October the BAME Health & Wellbeing Hub in Chapeltown celebrated International Day of Older Persons. The event was opened by Chapel Allerton Ward Councillor, Mohammed Rafique, who spoke about how much older people have already contributed to our society and how much they still have to offer given the right support. There was a great turnout and activities included speeches, poems, bingo, arts & crafts, dominoes, a raffle, singing and some amazing food! The Chapel Allerton Councillors also donated a fabulous cake for the event. A big thank you to all the staff at the Hub for pulling the event together and celebrating the older people in our community!

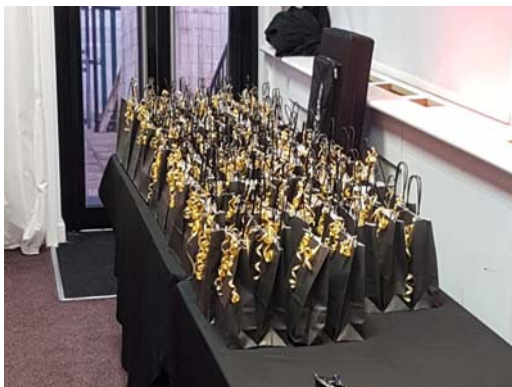


### 32. INE Volunteer Thank You Event

The 2017 INE Volunteer Thank You Event took place at Sheepscar Club on 28<sup>th</sup> October and saw an unprecedented turnout. A diverse range of community volunteers enjoyed an afternoon of speeches, performances, music and food. The INE Community Committee funded the event to recognise the vital work that volunteers do across the local area and to show them that it is valued and appreciated. The Lord Mayor was in attendance and there was dancing, singing and some inspirational speakers. A great big



'Thank You' to everyone who helped make the event a great success and to all the volunteers who work so hard to help our communities.



### 33. Bonfire Night

Roundhay Park hosted its spectacular annual bonfire and fireworks display on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. An estimated 70,000 people attend the Roundhay Park event and tens of thousands once again turned out at the park for the bonfire which was set ablaze at 7.30pm before a dramatic fireworks display.





### 34. Remembrance Events

This year a number of community led remembrance events took place across the Inner North East area including activity at Allerton Grange Field, Meanwood War Memorial, The Reginald Centre and Chapel Allerton War Memorial. Local ward councillors joined the community to honour the fallen and remember their bravery and sacrifice.

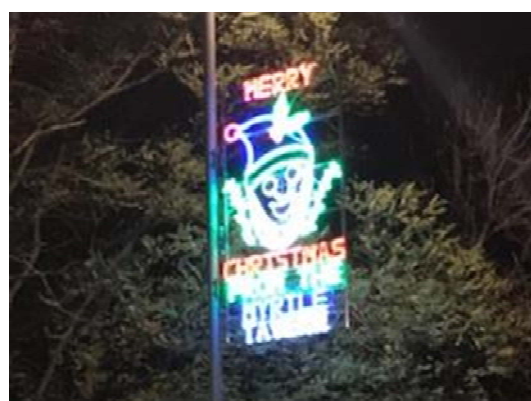


### 35. Festive Lights Events

Festive Lights events took place during November officially starting the build up to Christmas in the Inner North East area. Supported by funding from the INE Community Committee, a packed week of events was kick-started on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November as Oakwood Tenants & Residents Association (OTRA) hosted their Christmas Market and Festive Lights event in Oakwood with stalls, music, food and festive fun.



36. Next to turn on their festive lights was Meanwood on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November with Meanwood Valley Partnership (MVP) hosting an event in the shopping square on Green Road. The choir from Meanwood Church of England Primary School sang carols and Meanwood Institute's ukulele group performed.



37. Moortown Community Group held the Moortown Corner switch-on event on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November with another great evening of music, singing, food and drink. Roundhay Ukulele Group also performed for crowd.



38. Chapel Allerton joined the festive fun on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November with their event at the willow tree in the village centre. Children from Chapel Allerton, St Matthews and Millfield primary schools performed along with Alex Eva, Trishool and InPulse. Special guest Kay Mellor – the Leeds born writer of *Band of Gold*, *Fat Friends* and *The Syndicate* - joined the Lord Mayor and Chapel Allerton Ward Councillors on stage to switch on the lights.



39. Finally, on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December The Reginald Centre hosted the Chapeltown Winter Festival. The event was jointly organised by Communities Team, Libraries and Community Hubs officers and had a storytelling performance by Rainbow Factory, festive craft activities, Santa's grotto, music and food. Unfortunately at the time of writing this report the event was yet to take place so pictures and feedback will follow.

#### 40. 16 Days of Action – Domestic Violence

The 16 Days of Action runs from 25<sup>th</sup> November 2017 to 10<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and aims to raise awareness of Domestic Violence issues and support services. The Inner North East Community Committee agreed to support activity during the 16 days with £1,500 from the Wellbeing funding. Working with community partners, a comprehensive programme of activity has been planned across the INE area and covering the full 16 days. This includes radio coverage, coffee mornings, white ribbon walks and larger awareness events. Further feedback will be provided to the Community Committee at the meeting in March 2018.



## **Communications & Social Media**

41. The Communities Team officers have continued to use social media to promote 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 reached 568 'likes' up 37 from the 531 reported at the last Community Committee in September 2017. In the last 12 months alone, the page 'likes' have increased 44% which reflects the concerted effort officers have made to increase social media activity and reach. 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**

42. Appendix 3 contains information and updates on the recent INE Community Committee workshop discussions and progress on action points.

43. There are a number of projects across the three INE wards that the respective ward councillors are working hard to address:

### **Chapel Allerton**

- A project to rejuvenate Chapel Allerton War Memorial has been progressing slowly. In spite of the efforts of ward members, Communities Team officers, Bereavement Services, and a fantastic group of committed volunteers from the community, momentum has been frustrated somewhat by the need to seek permission from the Anglican Diocese for elements of the project. However, efforts will continue and it has been great to see how the community has taken the project on.

### **Moortown**

- The Moortown councillors have been working to address some concerns in respect of the new Carr Manor Field playground that opened in the summer. A public meeting has been held and a consultation is currently underway which will help ward members and LCC officers look at where enhancements can be made to the facility.
- The Moortown Councillors are also looking at the feasibility of providing outdoor gym equipment and a Park Run at Meanwood Park.
- The Moortown Community Garden project at Moortown Corner is almost complete. The initiative led by Moortown Community Group with funding from Green Leeds and Moortown Ward Councillors requires some finishing touches but should be completed and officially opened very soon.
- Concerns over the former Highbury Cricket Ground in Meanwood have been raised with ward councillors. The land is in private ownership but is not being maintained. Discussions are at an early stage but councillors are working towards a positive outcome.

## **Roundhay**

- Roundhay Councillors have been working closely with Friends of Roundhay Park and LCC Parks & Countryside officers to address much needed investment for the playground near to the Lakeside Café. Various funding options are being explored to improve the facility and make it fit for purpose.
- Roundhay Councillors are also in discussions regarding a project to create a Changing Places toilet facility at Tropical World. Discussions are at an early stage in terms of available funding.

## **Conclusion**

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

## **Recommendations**

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