

Report of: Jane Maxwell, East North East Area Leader

Report to: Inner East Community Committee – Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Gipton & Harehills. Killingbeck & Seacroft

Report author: Neil Young, Area Officer, Tel: 0113 3367629

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To Note

Community Committee Update Report – March 2018

Purpose of report

This report provides an update on the work programme of the Inner East Community Committee and the Communities Team, including recent successes, current challenges and on-going pieces of work.

Main issues

1. Following on from the first Harehills Neighbourhood Vision meeting on 13th June, a second meeting took place on 31st January 2018 at the Compton Centre. A market place-style meeting took place with key services having their own “stalls” for residents to receive information and ask questions about service delivery in Harehills. Services represented included Parks and Countryside, Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team, Highways, Waste Management, Planning Services, Youth Services, Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team, West Yorkshire Police Community Policing Team and the Harehills Residents Group. Ward councillors were also in attendance.
2. The Inner East Youth Summit took place on the 4th December 2017 hosted by Chapel FM at Seacroft Methodist Church Hall. Young people attended from across Inner East and were treated to performances, hot food and refreshments and took part in a consultation exercise which involved managing their own funding budget and making decisions on what activities they felt should be delivered from that budget. To celebrate the talent and diversity of young people in the area, there were several performances on the night, including DAZL, First Floor, Danny Kelly and Breeze Has Talent winner Ella Playford. Three lucky young people won a reconditioned bike donated by The Works in the free raffle and one young person won a voucher for The Works. Feedback from the event was positive, with young people gaining a

knowledge and understanding of budget management, allocating budget to youth provision and the importance of the involvement of young people in decision making.



3. An Operation Champion took place on the 7th February 2018 in Cross Green, bringing together ward members, the Communities Team, the Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team, Housing Leeds, Leeds Anti Social Behaviour Team, Community Payback the Police and several local community groups and volunteers. The operation targeted the Copperfields, St Hildas and Cavaliers housing estates and had an overarching anti social behaviour theme with door knocks taking place at over 300 properties and information packs including local activities being distributed. The operation also had an environmental theme, with streets being cleared of fly tipping and the old Copperfields School site being litter picked.



4. Work to improve the open space and playground at Lindsey Gardens park in Lincoln Green is close to being completed. The capital scheme funded by ward members, the Inner East Housing Advisory Panel and PSF has resulted in improvements to community garden area and refurbishment of the play equipment and fencing. The

works were preceded by a local consultation where nearby residents were asked for their views on the improvement proposals.

5. The Leeds Health and Care Plan was discussed further at the last Community Committee in November. This session was led by a local GP representative alongside a senior health and care leader with a focus on the progress so far and the emerging model of Local Care Partnerships. A number of themes emerged from the conversations and these will contribute significantly to shaping the Leeds Health and Care Plan. Broader conversations are now continuing with citizens within communities, focussing on the ideas and direction of travel outlined in the Leeds Health and Care Plan and the changes proposed to integrate our system of community services. Citizens and communities will be engaged on what community strengths already exist for health and care, what they think about the plan and ideas to change community services, and how they wish to be involved in the future development of the plans. Using the feedback received so far, work is ongoing to develop the Local Care Partnership model through partnership wide engagement. These changes will take a number of years to progress and it is unlikely that service users will see any changes until 2019-20 at the earliest. However, close engagement with local people and stakeholders will continue to ensure the model will deliver what people need and to keep them abreast of progress.
6. Over the last two months, Leeds has been consulting on a Clean Air Zone to improve air quality and reduce health impacts. The council sought the views of people living, working and commuting in Leeds and the wider region on its proposals to improve air quality and protect the health of people in the city. Leeds along with 27 other local authorities across the UK has been identified by the government as needing to introduce a range of solutions to meet legal limits on air pollution and therefore improve air quality within the shortest possible timescale. The Clean Air Zone covers all roads within the outer ring road, with the motorways acting as the southern boundary. The area is vast and will include over half the population (59%) of Leeds. The Clean Air Zone will affect HGVs, buses, coaches, taxis and private hire. The initial consultation period came to an end on 2nd March 2018, however further consultation is envisaged for the identified air management zones later in the year.
7. The Local Centres Programme (LCP) seeks to utilise the £5m announced at Full Council in March 2017 to fund innovative and sustainable improvements to town and district centres and to support regeneration and growth across the city. The funding will provide a catalyst to drive further investment, lever match funding and maximise the impact of public investment by aligning it with other funds. The programme builds upon previous investment and utilises the best ideas from across the city to create accessible opportunities for growth. There are two rounds of bidding for the current scheme, with the first round closing in February. Officers have worked proactively with Ward Members, Community Committees, business groups and others to develop expressions of interest which meet local needs. A number of local bids were submitted following consultation with ward Members. These will be evaluated and appropriate bids will be reported to Executive Board for consideration in March. The results of this initial round of submissions will be reported back to committee in due course.

8. Gipton Fire Station has now been operating as a multi-purpose community hub since its opening 4 months ago. The hub offers a sustainable, secure and accessible community space, occupied by six local charities and voluntary organisations including Gipton Supported Independent Living (GIPSIL), Healthwatch, Leeds United Foundation, People in Action, Space2 and Zest Health for Life, a community café, cookery school, offices and community meeting space. The facility is being well used and has developed into a hive of activity for the community to access.



9. The newly refurbished Deacon House in Seacroft has been operating as the new Seacroft Community Hub since August 2017. It hosts a hub of services and activities including the post office, library, public access computers, training courses, Credit Union and ward councillors surgeries. Customers/residents/patients can be referred or drop in at any time for sessions available. Core delivery also includes:
- Customer Services: council tax, housing benefit, bidding for houses, benefit support and more
 - Jobshop – employment support for people needing help both universal and intensive to find work. 100% voluntary
 - Library services – borrowing books, story time/rhyme time, courses/classes and learning opportunities.
 - Bike library – customers can now drop in and borrow a bike as well as a book for free for up to 3 weeks at a time
 - Plans are also afoot for the Hub to have a community café on site

Attached to this report is the current timetable of services and activities as **Appendix 1**.



10. The Inner East Housing Advisory Panel approved 6 applications since November 2017:-

- St. Augustine's Court were successful in obtaining funding towards the replacement of a CCTV camera in this sheltered housing complex after a serious sexual assault outside the complex
- The Pembroke's in Gipton undertook bulb planting around the tower blocks
- Match funding was given alongside Community Committee funding towards events that were held in inner east to support the Domestic Violence and Abuse 16 Days of Action
- A Kurdish celebration event at the Angler's Social Club is in the planning stages. The event will be held at the Angler's Social Club for the whole community to attend.
- Learning Partnership's 2 Way Street. This project is to improve green space in Burmantofts. A few objectives are to create a Bloom group, re-bed the planters in the area and to also maintain them.
- Saxton Gardens Group held a Boxing Day Event at Richmond Hill Community Centre for the community to get together over the festive period. The group cooked Christmas dinner for tenants who are socially isolated.

11. The Outer East Housing Advisory Panel 6 applications since November 2017:-

- Parkway Grange received funding towards cameras and lights
- Fearnville maisonettes are undertaking bin management to improve management of waste with funding received
- Church Close/Hansby Place are to install a barrier to improve safety
- Bumps & Babes have received funding for activities with expectant and new mums
- Ironwood and Dufton Approach will benefit from some planting to brighten up the area

Conclusion

The work of the Communities Team in partnership with council departments, external partners and with elected members is working towards the priorities of the Community Committee and the work of the neighbourhood improvement approach. This programme of work should be seen as a work in progress which is consolidating the Community Committee's role as a local decision-making body by strengthening the links between the local authority and the communities it serves.

Recommendations

The Committee is requested to:

1. Note the contents of the report and make comment where appropriate.