

Note of 25th March 2013 Meeting 12.00 noon The Old Stables, Adel

Present

Cllr Anderson (Chair) – Adel & Wharfedale Member
Cllr Cleasby – Horsforth Member
Cllr Campbell – Otley & Yeadon Member
Cllr Wadsworth – Guiseley & Rawdon Member
Jason Singh – Locality Manager Environment & Neighbourhoods
John Edson – Team Manager (temporary) Environment & Neighbourhoods
Guy Smithson – Parks & Countryside
Wyn Davis – WNW Homes
Rachel Marshall – WNW Area Support Team

Apologies

Andrew Molyneux – Highways Asset Manager

Key Issues discussed:

1. Environmental Service Update

Discussion included:

JS produced a Service Plan Summary for 2012/13 which included WNW Priorities, Actions and Finances for 2013/14 and Key achievements for 2012/13. This consultation document will be used at residents meetings, forums etc.

The main drivers being around a more joined up approach to service provision to provide best service and focus more on customer experience and getting the job right first time.

Clearing gulleys was still seen as a problem – they are still not managing to get them cleared first time.

Discussions took place on the arterial routes of which there are many in ONW and whether a specific cleansing tem was required to manage these. There were a number of route changes in January 2013. Road sweeping needed to be better coordinated with bin collections to allow proper cleaning to take place. By March 2014 approx 80% of the city is expected to be on fortnightly collections.

The migration of the student population to other parts of the city from Headingley area was acknowledged but it was also noted that there is an annual swelling of the population in that area by approx 50,000 which was problematic. It was discussed as to whether or not the Universities and landlords had sufficient input in dealing with the issues. Enforcement was seen to be difficult because of the transient nature of the student population. Hyde Park and Headingley are not currently scheduled for a fortnightly collection. There was also a concern about the amount of contamination in the green bins and that a different approach here was required.

Susan Upton Chief Officer of Waste Management is to be invited to the next meeting on 14th May 2013. **Noted**

There was discussion around what staff did on bad weather days if they were unable to carry out their normal duties. JS stated that they were given the option of taking leave or if they didn't want to do that or had no leave then they would be given other duties e.g. gritting or emptying litter bins on routes that were passable.

Members brought up concerns over leaf clearing and how it is supervised. They requested that they have access to the schedule so they will know when or if the work has been done. JS acknowledged has been a lack of supervision of operatives but a lack of resources makes it difficult to get the management staff out of the office to carry out sufficient checks. However there are extra resources now in place and so this is expected to improve. Also where Continental had been involved despite

them using Environmental's equipment and vehicles, this was not seen as having been a great success and there had been issues regarding the attitude of the staff.
Members would like to see the plans for the leaf clearing with associated maps in advance.

2. Outer North West Locality Team Update

JE provided an update report which gave figures for service requests across all four wards.

The top 5 being;

Graffiti 75

Gulley clearing 42

Dog Fouling 28

Litter 27

Road sweeping 20

Members would like to see an extra column showing whether or not the requests had been dealt with.

Cllr CI brought up the issue of an abandoned car in Horsforth Library car park that has not been removed yet.

2 legal notices had been served in Otley for foul water being discharged in to the river

1 legal notice had been served in Adel & Wharfedale for dog fouling.

Councillor requests;

Adel & Wharfedale 16

Guiseley & Rawdon 1

Horsforth 0

Otley & Yeadon 6

Mechanical sweeping blocks w/c 3/2/13 – w/c 17/3/13

Did not run 5 Covered 3 out of a total of 57

It was acknowledged that Members are only advised that a visit has been missed at Environmental Sub Group. If sweeper misses they will pick up where they left off and there is clearly a knock on effect from the current bad weather which may last into April. There may be incorrect information on the internet if people are checking this to find out when their street is due to be cleaned.

Moss removal around Adel & Wharfedale meeting took place last week with JS, JE, Cllr A, Alison Gilliland to agree an action plan with a further meeting to be arranged.

Mud on the road at Blackmoor Road is being monitored but is currently clear.

Also at the David Wilson site on Church Lane was considered an issue. How clear should roads be kept and how is that enforced. It was considered that Planning should lead on this and that the management of the road cleaning would form part of the CDM regulations and as such be enforceable under the H.S.E

Dogfouling and littering are felt to be a particular issue. This is being addressed through a new initiative in Adel & Wharfedale and Guiseley & Rawdon wards where a private contractor has been employed to deal with this. Fines will be given for either offence with the Contractor being paid by results. This initiative can be rolled out to other areas if it proves successful.

The Rugby World Cup will be coming to Leeds later this year what effect will that have on services. What has been put in place to mitigate the effects?

Yorkshire Cricket Club have permission to host 2 concerts this year which will have an effect on street cleaning. JS will be having conversations with Headingley Carnegie.

There was a discussion around illegal advertising on street furniture. Also at the Old Ball roundabout there is an A board on a car that is legally parked but could cause a distraction to drivers. Slimming World was felt to be a particular issue but as this was an official organisation it would be easier to deal with the unofficial handyman types were more difficult as they generally only have mobile numbers which can be easily changed. It was discussed as to whether or not there needed to be a policy to deal with this issue. Cllr CI suggested that they be made to pay for the advertising but there is still the

issue that they distract drivers and look unsightly. It was agreed the Sub Group would consider a policy and what enforcement powers there were.

Members queried why grass cutting would take place when there was snow on the ground as witnessed on the ring road. Also there had been a complaint as to why the grass had been cut already in Holt Park when one of the residents had been planting flowers and had been told it wouldn't be cut yet.

3. Parks & Country-side Update

GS provided a brief update on services.

Football season ends at the end of April and reinstatement work on the pitches will then start. It was acknowledged that this will be even more problematic this year because of the recent bad weather. Bowling greens open in theory from Saturday 30th March
Cricket season starts the 2nd week in April

A path has been installed in Nunroyd Park

A consultation has been arranged for Kirkland Park

Cllr C requested that solar lighting be considered in Hall Park which was a well used cut through for local people especially in light of the Part-night Lighting proposal. However GS did point out that installing lighting in the park might attract undesirables as seen in Bramley Park but will investigate costs. **Noted.**

Bedquilts and Adel St Johns car parks no further developments.

4. WNW Homes Update

WD presented a brief update.

The team that ONW had loaned out to INW had now been returned.

Gritting supplies are low. Highways supplies are too and they are awaiting a delivery from Bradford.

The ALMO review is still under consultation process

From April grass monitoring will all be done by Parks & Countryside. GS to provide a list for Members.

Noted

The Forestry section is in future to maintain their own budget rather than the ALMO

A discussion took place round the Neighbourhood Caretaking Team.

Any Other Business

None

Actions

There were no outstanding actions from the previous sub group meeting.

- Susan Upton to be invited to the next Environmental Sub Group meeting to discuss issues around Hyde Park and Headingley. **RM**
- Andrew Molyneux to attend next meeting. **RM**
- Solar light costs to be considered for Hall Park Horsforth **GS**
- Lists of grassed areas transferred to P & C to be sent out to Members **GS**
- A policy on Illegal advertising on street furniture to be discussed in more detail taking into account enforcement. **ALL**

Next Meeting

Tuesday 14 May '13, 12.00 noon, Committee Room 3, Civic Hall.