

INNER SOUTH COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 1ST SEPTEMBER, 2021

PRESENT: Councillor A Gabriel in the Chair

Councillors G Almass, S Burke, K Groves,
M Iqbal, E Nash, A Scopes and P Truswell

12 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals.

13 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There were no exempt items.

14 Late Items

There were no late items. However, some supplementary information to Item 8 (Finance Report) was published and circulated prior to the meeting (Minute 19 refers)

15 Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interests.

16 Apologies for Absence

Councillor P Wray submitted his apologies.

17 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held 7th July 2021 be approved as an accurate record.

18 Open Forum

No matters were raised on this occasion.

19 Inner South Community Committee - Finance Report

The Head of Locality Partnerships submitted a report that set out the delegated budget position for the Community Committee and invited Members to consider the minimum conditions and the wellbeing applications submitted.

A further wellbeing application had been submitted as supplementary information for Members consideration.

Representatives from community organisations were in attendance to answer questions from members regarding their applications for wellbeing funding as follows:

- Jo Sunderland, Re:establish
- Kate Singleton, St Luke CARES
- Alan Bolton, Director, Canal Connections CIC
- Peter Forrest, Project Manager, Leeds Lock Keepers House

Members commented that sessions described in the report for the Rise and Shine After School Clubs project appeared to be restricted by gender and sought assurance that the full range of activities would be accessible to all young people. It was confirmed that inclusivity is at the heart of the project and activities are not restricted to those included in the project summary.

Members noted that the Youth Space Development Project is reliant on successful funding bids from a range of sources, and requested an update on the progress of other bids. Members were advised that the majority of grants have been secured (BBC Children in Need, Youth Music, Leeds Community Foundation Strategic Grant), and the remaining funding bids are still in process.

The projects set out in the report were discussed and agreed as follows:

Project Title	Wards	Amount requested	Decision
Cottingley Lamp Post Banners	Beeston & Holbeck	£1,053.50 (Revenue)	Approved
Lock Keepers House CCTV & Smoke Detectors	Hunslet & Riverside	£4,344 (Revenue)	Approved
Reestablish Youth Space Development Project (The Loft)	Beeston & Holbeck (£3,720), Hunslet & Riverside (£280)	£4,000 (Capital)	Approved
Rise and Shine After School Clubs	Beeston & Holbeck (£3,819), Hunslet & Riverside (£2,994), Middleton Park (£2,787)	£9,600 (YAF)	Approved
Street Artworks (Utility Boxes)	Beeston & Holbeck	£2,000 (Revenue)	Approved

In reference to Small Grants funding previously allocated to Irish Arts, Members requested further information be requested from the group regarding the venue of performances in Hunslet and Riverside. It was confirmed that the Localities Officer would seek an update.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the details of the Wellbeing Budget position be noted
- b) That the wellbeing proposals be approved as detailed above
- c) That the details of the projects approved via Delegated Decision be noted
- d) That the monitoring information of funded projects be noted
- e) That details of the Youth Activities Fund position be noted
- f) That details of the Small Grants Budget be noted
- g) That details of the Community Skips Budget be noted
- h) That details of the Capital Budget be noted
- i) That details of the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget be noted

20 Inner South Community Committee - Update Report

The Head of Locality Partnerships submitted a report that provided a summary of the work undertaken by the Communities Team based on the priorities identified by the Inner South Community Committee. A Facebook engagement update was appended to the report.

Community Committee Champions provided updates for their respective areas and feedback from recent sub group meetings, as set out in the report.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted.

21 City Plan Engagement

The Head of Locality Partnerships submitted a report that introduced a verbal update on the development of a City Plan for Leeds in the Inner South Community Committee Area and an opportunity for input from elected members and residents to feed into the Plan.

The following were in attendance:

- Councillor J Dowson, Deputy Executive Member for the Leader's Portfolio
- Amy Beswick, Policy Officer

Councillor Dowson gave a brief introduction to the context behind the development of a new City Plan, highlighting the significant changes since the last City Plan was launched ten years ago – locally, nationally, and globally. The Policy Officer set out some of the key ambitions and drivers that will shape the new plan, and then sought feedback from Members on their priorities for Leeds over the next ten years.

Key themes from Members included:

- *Education, skills and good quality employment.* Members recognised education and training of young people, particularly in the most deprived areas of the city, to be a key issue for Leeds moving forward. It was noted that basic qualifications often act as a barrier to progression for young people in the Inner South, and that the city plan

should aim to address the inequalities that are exacerbated by the current education system, by working with partners to increase the variety and accessibility of training and career options to channel passion and ambition in young people.

- *Whole city approach.* Members were supportive of a whole city approach to the plan, recognising that the Council is limited in what it can achieve without the support of local businesses, third sector and other local organisations. Members specifically commented that the plan should include clear aims to support the financial stability of third sector organisations – and for all aims and ambitions within the plan to be supported by concrete action plans.
- *Rethinking the City Centre.* Members reported that residents of the Inner South often feel a disconnect with the city centre, largely due to the lack of public transport options. Related to this, Members felt that the new plan should incorporate a new vision for the city centre following the pandemic, potentially to address the housing shortage, but also to embrace the culture of Leeds and promote wellbeing.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report and presentation, along with Member’s comments, be noted.

22 Library Service Update

The Chief Officer (Community Hubs) submitted a report that provided an overview of the activity of Leeds Libraries during the past 18 months and outlined the key priorities for the service as part of our Service Recovery Strategy.

The following were in attendance:

- Andrea Ellison, Chief Librarian
- Katrina Pickering, Strategic Library Manager

The Chief Librarian introduced the report, providing a brief overview of the key messages within the report, including the changes to the structure of the service and innovative projects and schemes that have taken place throughout and beyond the pandemic, as well as the priorities for the service over the coming year. Members were also advised that it is intended for each of the Community Committees to receive a future report with more detail of activity in each ward.

Members were supportive of the variety of projects delivered and resources available through the library service, and noted the need for more communications to advertise services to the communities of Leeds.

In response to a query, Members were assured that the frontline library staff all remain in post following the structure review of the service.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report, along with Members comments, be noted.

23 Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 24th November 2021 at 2.00 p.m.

At the end of the meeting, Members joined the Chair in thanking Lyn Bambury, Localities Officer for the Inner South, for her hard work and support during her years of service and wished her a happy retirement.