

## OUTER NORTH EAST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 26TH OCTOBER, 2022

**PRESENT:** Councillor N Harrington in the Chair

Councillors N Buckley, D Cohen, S Firth,  
P Harrand, L Richards and M Robinson

**16 APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS**

There were no appeals.

**17 EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

There was no exempt information.

**18 LATE ITEMS**

There was supplementary information submitted in relation to item 11 - Outer North East Community Committee – Finance Report which was circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

**19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from Councillor Lamb and Stephenson. The Chair noted that because of members meeting commitments some members were not yet present. When the meeting commenced it was not quorate therefore members could only make recommendations which will need to be ratified at the next meeting or confirmed by delegated decision by the Communities Team.

**20 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interest were made at the meeting.

**21 OPEN FORUM**

The Governance Services Officer reported that no submissions had been received with respect to "Open Forum"

**22 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RECOMMENDED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 June 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

**23 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

**24 Highways – Annual Improvement Consultation**

(Councillor D Cohen joined the meeting during consideration of this item and the meeting then became quorate)

The report of the Executive Manager, Highways provided the Outer North East Community Committee with an update on the Highways Annual Improvement Consultation. A presentation was shown at the meeting and the Community Committee were invited to make comments.

The Community Committee were informed of the following points by the Highways Asset Manager:

- The consultation on next years' programme closed on 2nd September. Lists of the proposed works had been provided to Councillors and Parish Councils at the start of July requesting comments.
- Members were provided with an explanation of the Well-Managed Highway Infrastructure Code of Practice.
- Explanation of how the Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Strategy aligns with the corporate vision and contributes to the vision for Leeds.
- Members noted that the service is currently undertaking more preventative works, such as surface dressing. It was noted that the life of a road is generally ten years.
- The service is continually reviewing all streets, and these are added to a sheet with a colour code to show what stage of repair the road is in. All roads are inspected by an engineer and a scoring system is used and checked over a three-year cycle. The service wish to get to the position that under 10% of local access roads are in poor condition.
- Each year all Members receive lists of roads requiring work and the priority given to them. Members are requested to make comments. Members were advised that all emails are noted and responded to.

The Community Committee discussions included:

- The role that Highway Asset Management will play in the mass transit system proposed by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) and their involvement in the consultation process, as ultimately the responsibility of road repairs in Leeds will be in the remit of that department.
- How road repairs and associated works, such as tree and gully maintenance, are co-ordinated with other council departments. It was confirmed by the Highways Asset Manager in attendance that defects noted to be outside of the jurisdiction of highways are reported to the relevant department and pro-activeness to deal with these issues are encouraged.
- The role artificial intelligence (AI) will play in the future of determining which parts of the road network requires attention. Although AI may be an efficient method for gathering data it was noted by Members that officer impact and action is essential for progressing work to highways and report of road issues or failure by the public should be a forefront reason for action.
- How public safety and distance from amenities help determine the hierarchy of roads needing work. Traffic flow is an integral consideration to prioritising highway maintenance.
- How funding will be distributed and where it will be ringfenced. It was outlined to Members that the settlement from WYCA was to be divided between the five local authorities proportional to the size of the road network the authority is responsible for.
- The process for covering funds if a highway is damaged by heavy goods vehicle as part of a building development should be more robust and enforceable as it is largely done through section 106 money which doesn't apply to all approved planning applications. If the highways department are

notified of a large development, they will abstain from any repair or maintenance work until after completion to limit repetition of work.

- Communication issues internally between council departments and also to the public regarding scheduled projects were noted with work being cancelled or delayed without informing local residents and waste management being unaware of works.
- The permit system for works to highways, such as utility company installations was queried as permits will have a start and end date and there is a fixed penalty system for work outside the conditions of the permit. Members suggested the funds gained from the penalties should be spend within the area that was affected rather than going into a collective pot.

(Councillors P Harrand joined the meeting during consideration of this item)

**RESOLVED** – That the report and presentation be noted.

## **25 Outer North East Community Committee – Update Report**

The Committee received a report which provided an update on the key activities being undertaken by the Communities Team based upon the priorities identified by the Community Committee. In presenting the report, it provided the Committee with an opportunity to discuss or seek further information on the range of actions currently being undertaken. The Localities Officer in attendance introduced the report noting the provision of a range of activities and events within the local communities.

The following points were discussed:

- Members praised the great work that had happened and was ongoing in the three wards given the limited funds.
- The Leeds Festival work group was noted to have had multiple meetings since the last Outer North East Community Committee; feedback from residents had been positive and no noise nuisance comments had been received to the Environmental Protection Team. The East Leeds Orbital Route had helped alleviate usual traffic issues. Members were in agreement to hold this work group for future years of the festival after this year's success.
- The Jubilee games held at John Smeaton Academy, arranged by Harewood Councillors, was outlined to be a hugely successful community event.
- The Leeds Rhinos Foundation four-day multi-sport camp continued its trend of increased attendance and diversity. Although there were some challenges noted for future provision of this event, the feedback for this year had been universally positive and the event had been cost effective.
- Deepdale Park in the Wetherby ward had held a re-opening community event to rename the park to the Gerard Wilkinson Play Area, celebrating the life of the late Councillor.
- An opening event for Boston Spa Village Hall had been held which was outlined to have transformed the local area, it enabled use of the new space for a wide range of applicable events and will be a great community asset.

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

## 26 Outer North East Community Committee – Finance Report

The Head of Locality Partnerships submitted a report to update the Community Committee on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund, Youth Activity Fund (YAF), Capital Budget as well as the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget (CIL) for 2022/23.

During consideration of the wellbeing projects Councillor D Cohen reported he had some involvement in the arrangements for the Alwoodley Santa's visit.

Wellbeing Fund Projects set out in the supplementary pack were discussed, and agreed as follows:

Project Title	Ward	Amount	Decision
Santa's Visit	Alwoodley	£3,000	Agreed
Barwick in Elmet and Scholes Christmas Lights 2022-23	Harewood	£1,000	Agreed

Following the meeting it was confirmed that the Alwoodley wellbeing budget was £2,421. To ensure the approved funding of £3,000 for Santa's visit can be met the shortfall will be made up by taking £300 from each ward Councillors Skips and Community engagement pot.

Members discussed the following points:

- The visit from Santa was welcomed and appreciated given its positive impact for young people and the community as a whole.
- The Queens Platinum Jubilee Benches that were to be sited in the Harewood ward will now be memorial benches commemorating the life of Queen Elizabeth II.

**RESOLVED** – To consider and approve projects as set out above and to note;

- a. Details of the Wellbeing Budget position (Table 1)
- b. Details of the projects approved via Delegated Decision (paragraph 20)
- c. Details of the Youth Activities Fund (YAF) position (Table 2)
- d. Details of the Capital Budget (Table 3)
- e. Details of the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget (paragraph 26)

Councillor S Firth joined the meeting during consideration of this item.

## 27 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

**RESOLVED** – To note that the next meeting will take place on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 5.30pm