

OUTER NORTH EAST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 10TH MARCH, 2022

PRESENT: Councillor N Harrington in the Chair

Councillors N Buckley, D Cohen, S Firth,
A Lamb, L Richards and R. Stephenson

45 APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS

There were no appeals against the refusal of the inspection of Documents.

46 EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items identified where it was considered necessary to exclude the press or public from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be considered.

47 LATE ITEMS

Members accepted the inclusion of a Late Item of business "Waste Management Services - Update on the Refuse Service Review" (Minute No. 59 referred). The Committee were also agreeable to receive supplementary information in respect of Agenda Item No. 11 (Outer North East Community Committee – Finance Report) and the inclusion of a number of additional Wellbeing applications (Minute No. 55 referred). In both instances Members considered it to be in the best interests of the Council and other parties concerned that the matters be considered without delay.

48 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: P Harrand and M Robinson.

49 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of any interests made at the meeting.

50 OPEN FORUM

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

51 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th December 2021 were submitted for comment and approval.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th December 2021 were confirmed as a true and correct record

52 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no issues raised under Matters Arising.

53 CLIMATE EMERGENCY UPDATE 2021

With reference to the previous meeting when Members requested further information to be brought back to Committee, including a more detailed explanation of the carbon footprint methodology map, further details about the LAD applications, in particular applications from the ONE area and to address the issues raised around public transport (Transport strategy) in the outer areas.

The Chief Officer Sustainable Energy & Air Quality submitted a further report which provided an update on the Council's climate emergency strategy including:

- Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme
- Accelerating the electric vehicle transmission
- Funded solar and insulation for homeowners
- Establishment of the White Rose Forest
- Air Quality update for the Outer North East Area

Referring to Council run schemes which promoted the transition to electric vehicles, Members requested if details could be provided in terms of; numbers of participants, what other Core Cities are doing, the types of scheme, participating organisations, details around take up and any feedback.

The Chief Officer Sustainable Energy & Air Quality said the requested information was not readily available and would be circulated to Members at the earliest opportunity.

Seeking further details about funded schemes for solar and insulation for homeowners, Members asked how the scheme was promoted.

Members were informed that a targeted mail out was circulated to all eligible houses in a particular area, social media and press releases were also used. In terms of response, it was reported that in excess of 1000 applications had been received, but the eligibility criteria would whittle this down to smaller numbers. Responding to a question as to "were there any targets set". Officers confirmed that such data was available, there were 3-4 grants schemes available, all with different targets.

Commenting on the issue of tree planting/ clean air, Members asked if Officers were aware of a national scheme by the Water Authority to sell off woodland in their ownership, Ward Members were aware of two applications to sell off land in the Alwoodley area.

In responding the Chief Planning Officer said he was unaware of any such scheme for land disposal. He suggested woodland had a high level of protection, usually identified as Greenbelt and any proposed development of the land would be contrary to National Greenbelt Policy.

Members made reference to the removal of street trees, suggesting that landowners/ developers were often reluctant to replace them, and asked if any action could be taken.

In responding the Chief Planning Officer said if the removal of street trees could be link to a planning application, it may be possible include a condition within the application to secure replacement planting or alternatively to instigate enforcement proceedings to seek the replacement of the removed tree(s).

Referring to the East Leeds Orbital Road (ELOR) and the creation of a number of areas of greenspace together with pocket parks. Members questioned what work was been undertaken in terms of tree planting.

In responding the LCC Highways Officer said there was a good deal of community engagement taking place to understand the level of tree planting required.

Referring to the design of electric vehicle charging points, Members asked if there were all a standard design or were they different types.

Members were informed that the design of electric vehicle charging points were not the same, there was a variety of types, which was done deliberately to attract healthy competition.

Members queried why the EV charging point in Boston Spa car park was for taxi use only.

Officers clarified that there were two EV charging points bays in Boston Spa car park, one for use by taxis and the other for general public use. Officers also confirmed that a “taxi only bay” was required as a condition of funding

Referring to air quality, Members suggested that improvements in air quality was a consequence of “lockdown” – Would that also be the assessment of officers.

The Chief Officer Sustainable Energy & Air Quality said air quality data was linked to commuter patterns which did show an improvement in air quality, but many organisations had made improvements to their transport fleet,

introducing more electric/ hybrid vehicles which also contributed to improved air quality.

Reference was made to “Blue Infrastructure” (Water elements, rivers, canals, ponds, wetland, floodplains and water treatment facilities) suggesting Central Government needed to show more leadership on such issues. Could Blue Infrastructure be considered within the Climate Emergency Plan.

In offering comment the Chief Planning Officer said the issue of Blue Infrastructure had been raised at the City Council’s Development Plan Panel, he said it was generally accepted that policies required strengthening and LCC would be looking to review policies with a view to seeking greater strength and protection.

Members suggested Climate and Transport were very important to the Outer North East Community. The ONE area was very car dependent, but the Committee welcomed the opportunity to do much more, but it appeared that focus was elsewhere.

The Chief Planning Officer assured Members that the ONE area was not an afterthought and the re-shaping of Planning Policies was required. He said climate change had no boundaries and affected all parts of the city.

The Chair thanks officers for attendance and contributions.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the contents of the report/ presentation be noted
- (ii) That the Chief Officer for Sustainable Energy and Air Quality be requested to provide further of LCC run schemes which promote the transition to electric vehicles, including; the number of participants, what other Core Cities are doing; the types of scheme, participating organisations and details around take up and any feedback.

54 DATES, TIMES AND VENUES OF COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2022/2023

The City Solicitor submitted a report which sought the Community Committee’s formal approval of a meeting schedule for the 2022/2023 Municipal year and to determine if there are any revisions to the current meeting and venue arrangements.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That the proposed scheduled of meetings for 2022/23 be determined as follows:

- Monday 27th June 2022
- Monday 19th September 2022
- Monday 12th December 2022
- Monday, 13th March 2023

- (iii) That the meeting scheduled for 27th June 2022 be held in the Civic Hall, Leeds, the remaining meetings to be held at various venues within the three wards

55 OUTER NORTH EAST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE - FINANCE REPORT

The Head of Locality Partnerships submitted a report which provided an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund, Youth Activity Fund, Capital Budget, as well as the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget for 2020/21.

Included within the report were:

- Details of the Wellbeing Budget position 2021/22
- Wellbeing proposals for consideration and approval
- Details of projects approved via Delegated Decision
- You Activities Fund proposals for consideration and approval
- Details of the Capital Budget
- Details of the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget (CIL)

The Localities Officer presented the report and responded to Members comments and queries.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report together with the appendices which included:

- Available funding for the current financial year.
- Clarification around some of the projects seeking financial assistance.

RESOLVED –

- (i) To note the Wellbeing Budget Position 2021/22.
- (ii) That the following Wellbeing Projects be determined as follows:

Project	Organisation	Amount Granted (£)
Defibrillator	Moor Allerton Elderly Care	£2,064 (Alwoodley Ward)
Westfield Lane Ford	Communities Team/ Highways	£2,000 (Harewood Ward)

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Benches – Alwoodley	Communities Team/ Highways	£3,909 (Alwoodley Ward)
Boston Spa Weekend Festival 2022	Boston Spa Parish Council	£2,950 (Wetherby Ward)

(iii) To note that since the last meeting on 8th December 2021, the following project had been considered and approved by DDN:

- Rhino's Wetherby February Half Term Camp

(iv) That the following Youth Activity Projects be determined as follows:

Project	Organisation	Amount Granted (£)
Scarcroft Cricket Club Junior Coaching Programme	Scarcroft Cricket Club	£4,000 (Harewood Ward)
Tee Time Tennis	Shadwell Tennis Club	£4,000 (Harewood Ward)
Leeds Rhino's Summer Camps – Sport and Drama	Leeds Rugby Foundation	£10,000 (Alwoodley Ward)
Leeds Rhino's Summer Camps – Sport and Drama	Leeds Rugby Foundation	£7,980 (Wetherby Ward)

(v) To note the details of the Capital Budget as set out in table 3 of the submitted report

(vi) To note the details of the Community Infrastructure Levy, as referred to in paragraph 30 of the submitted report

56 OUTER NORTH EAST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE - UPDATE REPORT

The Head of Locality Partnerships submitted a report which provided an update on the work of the Communities Team and the work it was engaged in,

based on priorities identified by the Community Committee. The report provided Members with an opportunity to ask questions, or to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.

Members noted the report provided regular updates on some of the key activities between Community Committee meetings and functions delegated to Community Committees, Community Champions roles, community engagement, partnership and locality working.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted

57 Outer North East Community Committee - Queens Platinum Jubilee

The Head of Locality Partnerships submitted a report which provided an update on the preparations for the Queens Platinum Jubilee.

It was reported that following the establishment of a Working Group at the last meeting, it had since met on 2 occasions and work was ongoing.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted

58 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

To note that the next meeting will take place on Monday, 27th June 2022 at 5.30pm in the Civic Hall, Leeds.

59 Waste Management Services - Update on the Refuse Service Review

The Chief Officer, Environmental Services submitted a report which sought to provide an update on the progress with the route review of the Refuse Service and its impact on improving recycling in the city.

The report also included an update on glass and food recycling in Leeds, within the context of the aims and requirements set out in the national Resource and Waste Strategy and associated Environment Act 2021.

Addressing the report, the Chief Officer, Environmental Services informed Members of the agreed objectives and design principles as part of the Refuse Service Review.

Members asked if more could be done to address challenging locations, possibly bringing in different solutions and resources to support collections in these areas.

The Chief Officer, Environmental Services said something different is required in our most challenging locations, the services was currently considering new routes based on new tonnage modelling to get away from “shunting” (Crew switching to an alternative empty vehicle so that route can be completed). It was also reported that a new facility would become operational from May 2022 which may address many existing issues.

Members asked if any of the objectives were likely to be implemented prior to the full review been completed.

Members were informed that it was intended the full review would be completed by October 2022. It was suggested a small number of bespoke solutions may be introduced before completion of the review. The service would however, to continue to invest in extra resources to meet demand in routes with the heaviest presentation. It was also reported that new “hard to access” vehicles would be operational city wide.

Members raised the issue of “missed bins” stressing that bins required emptying on time, within 48 hours of scheduled time was not acceptable and caused accessibility problems with bins remaining on the street. Other local authority areas appeared to cope better with these types of issue.

In responding the Chief Officer, Environmental Services said the service would strive to collect bins on the due day, but some issues were outside the control of the service and with 70,000 bin collections each day, it was inevitable some collections may be missed. In terms of other local authorities, the service would continue to share and receive good practice from other local authorities.

Members sought further clarification about Objective No.13 - A process to identify and target the removal of excessive black bins, was such a scheme likely to be more expensive.

In providing clarification the Chief Officer, Environmental Services said this was not about removing a second black bin, this was aimed at a small number of household with excessive numbers of black bins, 4,5 and 6 bins in some instances.

Members noted the updated leaflet on glass and food recycling in Leeds.

Reference was made to the lack of glass bottle recycling in the Scholes area. Members asked if it would be possible to provide a bottle bank within the village.

The Chief Officer, Environmental Services said such requests were always welcome, but careful consideration had to be given to the proposed location, could the site be accessed by a lorry and were there likely to be any noise/ nuisance implications.

The Chair thanked the Chief Officer, Environmental Services for his attendance and contributions.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted.

60 Chair's Closing Remarks

The Chair announced the retirement of John Grieve, Senior Governance Officer within Democratic Services.

In paying tribute, the Chair said John had worked for the Council in excess of 40 years, many of those years servicing the various Committees/ Boards and Panels of the City Council, including the Outer North East Community Committee which he had covered since 2013.

Members and Officers Joined the Chair in expressing their thanks and best wishes to John in his future retirement.