

INNER EAST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 7TH DECEMBER, 2023

PRESENT: Councillor S Arif in the Chair

Councillors A Ali, K Dye, L Farley,
D Jenkins, A Khan, N Manaka and J Tudor

30 Chairs Opening Remarks

31 Election of Chair

RESOLVED – That Councillor S Arif be elected as Chair for the meeting.

32 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals.

33 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There was no exempt information.

34 Late Items

There were no late items.

35 Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations.

36 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor A Hussain.

37 Open Forum

In accordance with the Community Committee Procedure Rules, the Chair allowed a period of up to 10 minutes for members of the public to make representations or ask questions within the remit of the Community Committee.

On this occasion no members of the public wished to speak.

38 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2023 be confirmed as a correct record.

39 Matters Arising

Minute 24 – Matter Arising

It was reported that there had been further discussions regarding the issue of planters for road blockades and the prevention of parking on pavements, particularly nearby to schools. A further meeting was due.

Children and vaping – there is a national consultation on vaping and this had also been discussed at the Health and Wellbeing Board and Children’s Scrutiny Board. An update on the Council’s position was requested for the next meeting and it was suggested that Public Health be invited.

Minute 22 – Open Forum

With regard to the visit from East Street Arts at the previous meeting, it was asked whether there had been an approach to Members of the Little London and Woodhouse Ward and an update was requested.

Further to a resident’s query following issues raised at the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee’s Open Forum, it was reported that a further meeting with residents had taken place and discussions were ongoing.

Minute 27 – Update Report

Following contact with the Cleaner Neighbourhoods team, the zonal working method of operation in Killingbeck and Seacroft was no longer being used.

An update was requested on the problems relating to shisha bars in Lincoln Green and Mabgate and whether the Police or Entertainment Licensing could take any enforcement action.

It was reported that there had been further cannabis farms discovered in the area. Sargent Goringe informed the Committee of successful raids that had taken place. Members discussed the possibility of funding to provide heat guns to assist with detection work.

40 Inner East Community Committee Finance Report

The report of the Head of Locality Partnerships updated the Community Committee on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund, Youth Activity Fund, Capital Budget as well as the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget for 2023/24.

Members attention was brought to the applications for funding detailed in the report. These were agreed as follows:

Project Title	Wards	Amount Requested	Decision
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Ping Pong for Young People	Gipton & Harehills	£3,128.00 (Wellbeing)	Approved
Ping Pong for Young People	Burmantofts & Richmond Hill	£3,791.00 (YAF)	Approved
Premier League Kicks	Burmantofts & Richmond Hill,	£12,000 (YAF)	Approved
Saxton FC Portable Flood Lights	Burmantofts & Richmond Hill	£1,840.75 (Capital)	Approved subject to successful bid to Football Foundation
Inner East Youth Summit	All Inner East Wards	£2,100.00 (YAF) equitable split from each Ward	Approved
Young Peoples Leadership Programme	Gipton & Harehills	£5,080.00 (Wellbeing)	Approved
Ings Crescent – Pedestrian Chicane Barriers	Burmantofts & Richmond Hill	£6,000.00 (Capital)	Approved
Rockwood Vale CCTV	Burmantofts & Richmond Hill	£4,000.00 (Capital)	Approved

Members were given an update on spending decisions made by Delegated Decision and from the Small Grants budget since the last meeting. Further information was requested on the funding for PHAB Weekly Social Club.

RESOLVED – That the following be noted:

- a. Details of the Minimum Conditions (paragraph 14)
- b. Details of the change regarding the administration of small grants (paragraph 16)
- c. Details of the Wellbeing Budget (Table 1) (paragraph 17 - 20)
- d. Funding proposals (Paragraph 21 - 28)
- e. Details of Delegated Decision Notice (Paragraph 29)
- f. Details of Declined Projects (Paragraph 30)
- g. Details of the Youth Activities Fund (Table 2) (Paragraph 31 - 33)
- h. Details of the Small Grants & Skips Budget (Table 3) (Paragraph 34)
- i. Details of the Capital Budget (Table 4) (Paragraph 35)
- j. Details of the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget (Table 5) (Paragraph 36)

41 Community Safety & Anti-Social Behaviour in Inner East

The report of the Head of Locality Partnerships introduced a discussion around the current issues in the Inner East area with Elected Members and Partners.

The following were in attendance –

- Sergeant Tom Goringe – West Yorkshire Police
- Neil Bowden – LASBAT
- Pete Wadjner – Housing
- Craig Blair – Youth Services

Sergeant Goringe addressed the meeting. He reported that there had been a slight increase on crime across the three wards. Burmantofts and Richmond Hill had seen the largest increase with theft from motor vehicles being a problem. There had been a small increase in Gipton and Harehills although a concern rise in the number of robberies. There had been a slight decrease in Killingbeck and Seacroft.

Sergeant Goringe highlighted key issues and areas of work across the three Inner East Wards:

- Killingbeck and Seacroft – work on Brooklands Close, New Leedswatch Camera, quadbikes – there had been 3 seizures and 1 arrest. Tackling drug dealing in Seacroft, work at Seacroft Shopping Centre.
- Burmantofts & Richmond Hill – Tackling Urban Street Gangs, issue of closure orders with LASBAT, parcel theft at Echo House, problems with parking at Railway Street and Saxton Lane.
- Gipton and Harehills – There had been over 200 arrests in the past 9 months with 30 people remanded and £57 in cash assets seized. There had been seizures of illegal cigarettes and tobacco. Focus on untaxed vehicles. Off Licence Reviews – a new system of issuing warnings was being trialled.

In response to questions, discussion included the following:

- Referrals were made to the relevant organisations for cases which involved problem drinkers.
- There had been a change in the policy for the use of stingers and risk assessments had to be undertaken before deployment.
- Sentencing for young offenders – it was suggested that concerns be raised with the Deputy Mayor for West Yorkshire for Police and Crime.
- Members requested further details on the locations of theft from motor vehicles in Burmantofts and Richmond Hill so that residents could be contacted.
- Concern regarding the rise of applications for off licences in Burmantofts and Richmond Hill in areas that suffered from anti-social behaviour and crime and there was a need for the relevant partners to object to these applications. There was further concern that problem drinkers had migrated to the area due to the introduction and success of the Cumulative Impact Area in Gipton and Harehills. It was

suggested that the problem areas in Burmantofts and Richmond Hill may be suitable for a Cumulative Impact Area.

- The crime figures in the report related to serious acquisitive crime. Further detail on other crimes including violent crimes could be supplied.
- Success of Operation Dieselcrest.
- Problems with electric scooters.
- Future of Killingbeck Police Station.

Neil Bowden of the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team addressed the meeting and referred to statistics detailed in the Update Report. Highlights of the teams work included the following:

Gipton & Harehills – applications had been made to get premises closed where there had been the sale of illegal cigarettes and alcohol. Cases had been to court and adjourned until January.

Burmantofts & Richmond Hill – ‘Cuckooing’ of premises had become a problem with vulnerable tenants being targeted. Organised crime gangs had been involved in this and a multi-agency problem solving group was looking at how to tackle this issue.

Killingbeck and Seacroft – issues in Brooklands Close – there had been partnership work with Housing to tackle problems with a problem property.

Further issues highlighted included partnership work with the police and housing that had led to closure notices and evictions; bonfire night arrangements; success of the PSPO to tackle nuisance vehicles; work around prevention of child exploitation and involvement in urban street gangs; work at Seacroft Shopping Centre and the introduction of mediation officers into the triage team.

Pete Wajdner, Area Housing Manager highlighted areas of work that Housing had been involved with. These included tackling cuckooing; identifying people who self neglect and had alcohol/drug issues and referring them to relevant service and raising awareness with regards to domestic violence. Reference was made to the Community Action Day on the Hazelwood Estate which involved the Police, LASBAT and other partners.

Craig Blair gave an update on Youth Service activity in Inner East Leeds. There had been 319 sessions delivered which included mobile and detached working. Kicks sessions remained popular and the Ping Pong 4 U project was due to commence. Other Youth sessions included Brave New World drama; the Inner East Girls Group and work with public health that covered sexual health and vaping.

There had been diversionary work during the bonfire period and a piece of work around youth violence with a focus on deterrent. This had been done in partnership with the Police.

There had also been a number of trips which had received Youth Activities Funding from the Community Committee.

RESOLVED – That the report and discussion be noted.

42 Inner East Community Committee Update Report

The report of the Head of Locality Partnerships updated Members with the work on the Communities Team had been engaged in based on the priorities of the Community Committee.

The report included a copy of the Social Media Report as an appendix.

Attention was brought to the update on Selective Licensing which detailed a positive picture on the position in Harehills. It was asked that further updates could be included in future reports.

Priority Ward updates – there had been successful diversionary work during the bonfire period and there was evidence that early interventions were working.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

43 Community Comment

There were no comments.

44 Any other business

Concern was raised regarding the Bangladesh Centre on Roundhay Road. There had been several broken windows. It was reported that there had been discussions with a third party regarding use of the centre but this had fallen through. Asset management were trying to identify someone else to occupy the building and there was the possibility of providing youth activity there.

It was reported that the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee had recommended that carbon literacy training be rolled out across the city. LS14 Trust were looking at doing some work in Seacroft and it was requested that this be publicised through the Community Committee.

45 Date and Time of next meeting

Thursday, 14 March 2024 at 6.00 p.m.