

OUTER NORTH EAST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 12TH SEPTEMBER, 2016

PRESENT: Councillor G Wilkinson in the Chair

Councillors N Buckley, D Cohen,
P Harrand, A Lamb, J Procter, M Robinson
and R. Stephenson

19 APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS

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

20 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 transacted.

21 LATE ITEMS

Although there were no formal late items, the Chair did accept the inclusion of an additional appendix to the Wellbeing and Youth Activity Fund Budgets Report which would be considered as supplementary information (Minute No.31 refers)

22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R Procter

23 DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

There were no declarations of any disclosable pecuniary interests.

24 OPEN FORUM

In accordance with Paragraphs 4.16 and 4.17 of 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 on matters within the terms of reference of the Community Committee.

On this occasion, there were no matters raised under this item by Members of the Public.

25 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Monday, 12th December, 2016

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 13th June 2016, were confirmed as a true and correct record.

26 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The following issues were raised under Matters Arising:

- (i) Environmental Service Delegation 2016/17 (Minute No.56 referred)
– With reference to resolution (iv) “To include within the Service Agreement the reclaiming of sections of footpaths and pavements across the area as a consequence of verge creep”

Councillor Buckley said he had raised this matter on a number of occasions but had not received any details as to how this issue was been addressed.

That the Locality Manager, Environment and Housing be reminded that the requested information was still outstanding.

- (ii) Community Committee Update Report (Minute No.16 referred) –
With reference to resolution (ii) “That the Area Leader be requested to raise with the Chief Planning Officer the concerns expressed by the Committee in respect of neighbourhood planning activity”

Mr Tim Hill, Chief Planning Officer was in attendance at the meeting.

In addressing the Committee the Chief Planning officer said it was his understanding that Members were concerned about the lack of consultation during the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans and that more formal consultation was required prior to the pre-submission stage.

Councillor J Procter said it was his understanding that Community Committees would provide an overview function, and would automatically be built in as Consultees; this was not happening, Neighbourhood Groups were working in isolation and bringing forward questionable proposals in some instances.

Councillor Procter suggested that without proper overview, the Community Committee could be put in the unwanted position of objecting to some of the proposals being put forward.

In responding the Chief Planning Officer said that was a move to create a model neighbourhood plan (template) and it may be possible to include the necessary consultation within the timetable.

The Chair thanked the Chief Planning Officer for his attendance and his suggestion as to how the Community Committee overview may be achieved.

It was agreed that neighbourhood planning activity be included as a standard item at each Community Committee.

27 LEEDS TRANSPORT CONVERSATION

The Chief Officer Highways and Transportation submitted a report which advised Members of the Transport conversation and engagement process.

The report sought feedback and input from the Community Committee on the future strategic approach to transport in the city and the development of a proposition and delivery plan for the £173.5 million fund due to be allocated following the cancellation of the NGT project.

Gary Bartlett, Chief Officer Highways and Transport presented the report and responded to Members comments and queries

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report which included:

Summary of Key Transport Challenges

- Significant population growth of up to 15% by 2028
- Falling bus usage
- Most congested part of the Leeds highway network was to the north west
- Distribution of new housing towards eastern side of Leeds
- Distribution of proposed new employment was predominantly to the City Centre and east of the city

A Vision for Transport in Leeds

- Supports the growth of the economy
- Creates a place where people want to live and work
- Everyone can access
- Has a positive effect on people's health and wellbeing
- Is less harmful to the environment

Strategic Themes

- Connecting people and Communities
- Connecting people to jobs and businesses to businesses
- Building a World Class connected City Centre
- Promoting Health, Wellbeing, Clean and Safe Transport System

In terms of what happens next, the Chief Officer Highways and Transport said the aim was: identifying and prioritising options, to overcome challenges, deliver in partnership, continue the conversation with Community Committees and continue to develop the transport strategy into next year.

The Chair thanked the Chief Officer Highways and Transport for his presentation and sought the views of Members

Councillor Harrand referred to the proposed new orbital road for East Leeds, suggesting that only recently Members had become aware of the proposed route. He said there were some major issues which needed to be better understood before moving on with the new transport strategy.

Councillor Lamb suggested that improved connectivity in the outer areas was essential. Residents living for example in; Scholes, Barwick and Aberford had to travel into Leeds to get a bus to the next village.

It was suggested that pressure needed to be put on the bus operators to obtain better connectivity in the outer areas.

Councillor Robinson said that Leeds was a “car only city” we need to have vision, move forward, be more ambitious / aspirational and consider schemes such as a monorail or an underground system. The intention would be to start with one line and expand over time; other core cities already had such schemes

Questioned about the views of officers, the Chief Officer Highways and Transport said expansion of park & ride, new stations, new link roads and junction improvements could influence the strategy.

In summing up the Chair said improved connectivity in the outer areas was essential, however, there was a general view that the strategy needs to be more ambitious.

On a final note the Chair said the Parish Council Forum would be meeting on 13th October 2016, could an officer from Highways be in attendance to deliver a similar presentation.

The Chief Officer Highways and Transport confirmed that the appropriate arrangements would be made.

RESOLVED –

- (i) To note the wider strategic context of the Transport conversation which would extend beyond a first phase conversation into spring/summer of next year, informing a wider transport strategy for the City and the Outer North East area over the next 20 years.

- (ii) To note the Department of Transport £173.5million offer for public transport improvements, in the context of a currently planned report to Executive Board on the 19th October and the planned submission of strategic investment case to the Department of Transport

28 EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS UPDATE

The Chief Officer Employment and Skills submitted a report which provided an update on the Employment and Skills Service activity and set out key unemployment data for the Outer North East area.

Keri Evans, Communities and Partnership Senior Manager presented the report and responded to Members comments and queries

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report which included:

- The take up of the service showed a minimal decrease across the area, 406 people accessed the service compared to 530 the previous year
- Jobshops – 2,571 people attended these events with 31% securing employment
- Adult Learning - Continued to thrive in the area with in excess of 250 courses being delivered or planned.
- Business Engagement - Employment opportunities continued to be explored; new developments including: Victoria Gate, John Lewis and the new Casino all planned to be open in late 2016.
- East North East Employment & Skills Board Activities
- Additional Activity – Over 5,000 young people attended the Leeds Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair on 14th March 2016 with in excess of 1,100 expressions of interest forms being completed

Referring to employment opportunities, the Chair said he was aware that there were proposals to open a new Aldi Store in Wetherby by spring of 2017.

Ms Evans offered to contact Aldi with a view to making the necessary inquiries.

Councillor Stephenson referred to the European Structure Investment Fund. He said he was aware that £5.7m was available, split between Leeds and Bradford but what time period did this cover?

In responding officers confirmed the fund was set up for a three year period.

The Chair thanked Ms Evans for her attendance and presentation.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted

- (ii) To receive a further update in 2017, including detail and progress on the ESIF

29 LEEDS CULTURE STRATEGY (2017-2030) & LEEDS' BID TO BECOME EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2023

The Director of City Development submitted a report which provided an update on the approach taken to develop the new Cultural Strategy for Leeds 2017 – 2030 and also the development of a bid for the title of European Capital of Culture 2023.

Sarah Priestley, Principal Cultural Officer and Leanne Buchan, Principal Officer Cultural & Sport presented the report and responded to Members comments and queries

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report which included:

Leeds 2023 European Capital of Culture Bid

- What is European Capital of Culture
- The benefits of being awarded the title
- What would be the implications following Britain's exit from the European Union
- Engage with local community groups and cultural providers
- Deliver a bid that is reflective and inclusive of the whole city

Leeds Cultural Strategy 2017 - 2030

It was reported that the city was required to have a current Culture Strategy, from which the bid takes its steer. The strategy should also link closely to the city's wider development ambitions according to the criteria of the competition.

Officers said that over the next six to nine months the Culture and Sport team would continue to work with the people to 'co-produce' a new Culture Strategy, setting the underpinning values, defining and shaping our cultures, articulating the value of culture across a range of policy areas and supporting the future creators of the city's vibrant cultural offer.

It was reported that the new Culture Strategy for Leeds 2017-2030 would set the tone for the Leeds bid to become European Capital of Culture 2023, and provide the framework for its delivery should Leeds be successful in its bid.

The Chair thanked the officers for their presentation and sought the views of Members.

Referring to engagement with local community groups, Councillor J Procter asked if any groups in Wetherby had been contacted.

In responding Ms Buchan said that she was seeking the assistance of the Community Committee in identifying groups/ individuals and supplying the necessary contact details/ introductions to allow a discussion to begin.

In offering comment Councillor Cohen said it was really important from an engagement point of view that the outer areas of the city were consulted.

Councillor Stephenson asked about the cost of bidding.

Responding, Ms Buchan said the cost could vary depending the city. Some cities choose to build a programme of events, marketing and engagement around the bid, others take a more administrative approach. In Leeds we would like to build a more open and engaging approach to the bid and will invest in community engagement as we did with the consultation in 2014, marketing and working with the cultural sector to demonstrate a proven track record. As this is a competition exact figures are confidential but we can confirm the city council is already a minority funder of the bid with financial support pledged from all three universities, Leeds College of Art, Leeds College of Music, Leeds City College and Leeds BID – all ahead of the official sponsorship packages being released.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) To support the approach in developing the new Cultural Strategy for Leeds 2017-2023
- (iii) To identify any groups, networks, organisations and individuals who could contribute to the new Cultural Strategy and the bid for European Capital of Culture 2030

30 COMMUNITY COMMITTEE UPDATE REPORT

The Area Leader submitted a report which provided an update on the Work Programme for the Outer North East Community Committee

The following document was appended to the report for information/ comment of the meeting:

- The minutes of the Outer North East Environmental Sub Group held on 7th June 2016 (Appendix A referred)
- Neighbourhood Planning update (Appendix B referred)

Andrew Birkbeck, Area Officer, presented the report and highlighted the main issues which included:

- Neighbourhood Planning activity in the Outer North East area

Referring to the Environmental Sub Group minutes, Councillor Wilkinson said that as Chair of the Sub Group he had the opportunity to attend a meeting at the new east Leeds incinerator. He said he had found the visit fascinating and encouraged other Members to visit the facility if the opportunity arose.

Commenting on neighbourhood planning activity, Councillor Procter echoed his earlier comments in that it was important for Community Committees to have overview of the neighbourhood plan process and they should be automatically built in as Consultees.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted

31 OUTER NORTH EAST WELLBEING AND YOUTH ACTIVITY FUND BUDGETS

The East North East Area Leader submitted a report which provided an update on the current position of the Outer North East Community Committee's budgets and set out details of applications seeking Wellbeing Funding and Youth Activity Funding.

Appended to the report were copies of the following documents for information / comment of the meeting:

- Outer North East Community Committee Wellbeing Revenue (Appendix A referred)
- Outer North East Community Committee Youth Activity Funding (Appendix B referred)
- Outer North East Community Committee Priorities 2016/17 (Appendix C referred)

Andrew Birkbeck, Area 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.

Referring to Section No. 4 of the submitted report, Councillor J Procter queried the sum of £16,800 within the Capital Wellbeing budget, and asked what did these monies represent?

In responding officers said the monies represented this Committees share of Council asset sales

It was the wish of Members that further details about this scheme be circulated to Members

RESOLVED –

- (i) To note the current budget position for 2016/17 financial year.
- (ii) That the following project requesting Wellbeing Funding be determined as follows:

Project	Organisation	Amount Granted (£)
Grit Bin Programme	LCC Highways Services	£10,200
Bardsey Scout Hut Renovation	Bardsey Scout Group	Deferred pending further consultation
Save Scholes Pool	Save Scholes Pool Fundraising Team	Deferred pending further consultation
Activities for WISE	Wetherby In Support of the Elderly (WISE)	Deferred pending further consultation
Wetherby Arts Festival 2016	Wetherby Arts Festival	£500

- (iii) That the following projects requesting Youth Activity Funding be determined as follows:

Project	Organisation	Amount Granted (£)
Alwoodley Family of Schools Project 2016/17	Next Generation Arts	£13,432
Thorner Junior Youth Club	Thorner Junior Youth Club Management	Deferred pending further consultation
Youth Services Project – (Harewood & Wetherby Wards) Autumn and Winter Activities Programme	Herd Farm Residential Activity Centre	Declined from Wetherby Ward Members Deferred from Harewood Ward Members pending

		further consultation
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- (iv) To note that the following applications had been approved since the Community Committee met on 13th June 2016 under the delegated authority of the Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens and Communities)

Project	Organisation	Amount Granted (£)
Building Capacity and Developing	Moor Allerton elderly Care (MAECare)	£1,000 (Additional to £6,280 approved in April 2016)
Lego Board and Activities	Leeds Libraries Service – Moor Allerton Hub	£400 (YAF)
Junior Coaches and Training Sessions	Collingham & Linton Cricket Club	£6,500 (YAF)
Shadwell Independent Library Café and Arts Centre	Shadwell Independent Library	£3,108
Tempo FM Radio Academy	Tempo FM	£2,500
Wetherby District Scout Camp 2016	Wetherby District Scout Group	£1,000 (YAF)
Wetherby Festive Motifs 2016	Leeds Lights	£2,400
Wetherby Bunds Project	LCC Parks & Countryside Service	£5,250

- (v) To note that all 3 Ward Members must be in agreement (unanimous) for a delegated decision to be approved.
- (vi) That further details about Council asset sales be circulated to Members

32 OUTER NORTH EAST PARISH & TOWN COUNCIL FORUM

The East North East Area Leader submitted a report which provided the Minutes from the latest meeting of the Outer North East Parish and Town Council Forum held on 9th June 2016.

In offering comment Councillor Lamb said the number of Parish Councillors in attendance at the meeting was surprisingly low.

In responding officers suggested that issues which covered a number of Parish Council areas may attract greater attendance.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the contents of the minutes be noted.
- (ii) To support where appropriate, the Outer North East Parish and Town Council Forum in resolving any issues raised.

33 Date and Time of Next Meeting

RESOLVED – To note that future meetings of the Committee had been arranged as follows:

- Monday 12th December 2016
- Monday 20th March 2017

(All meetings to commence at 5.30pm)