

INNER NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 29TH MARCH, 2023

PRESENT: Councillor I Wilson in the Chair

Councillors J Akhtar, K Brooks, E Flint,
A Garthwaite, C Howley, A Marshall-
Katung and J Pryor

46 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals.

47 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of Press and Public

There were no exempt items.

48 Late Items

There were no formal late items. However, supplementary information in relation to Agenda Item 8 – Finance Report was published prior to the meeting and circulated to members. Minute No. 52 refers.

49 Declaration of Interests

No interests were raised at the meeting.

50 Apologies for Absence

No apologies of absence were received.

51 Minutes - 25/01/23 & 10/03/23

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous meetings held Wednesday, 25th January 2023 and Friday, 10th March 2023, be approved as an accurate record.

52 Finance Report

The report of the Head of Locality Partnerships provided the Community Committee with an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund, Youth Activity Fund, Capital Budget as well as the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget 2022/23.

Following publication of the agenda, supplementary information was published and distributed to members. The information related to some applications for consideration by the Committee.

The Committee noted the following:

- The Wellbeing Budget Position 2022/23. The balance stood at £1,290.
- Covid Funding 2021/22. A breakdown per ward was provided and a suggestion was noted to re-name 'Covid Funding' to 'Ward Pot Funding' as this was more relevant.
- Youth Activities Fund Position 2022/23. The balance stood at £1,270.72.
- Small Grants & Skips Budget 2022/23. It was noted the balance stood at £-176.36. It was acknowledged the figure is currently negative, but efforts will be made to rectify this.
- Capital Budget 2022/23. The balance stood at £12,314.28.
- Community Infrastructure Levy Budget 2022/23. The balance stood at £96,726.

The Committee discussed and agreed the following projects:

Project Title	Amount requested	Amount approved	Decision
Little London Commissioned Project	£2,000	£2,000 (Wellbeing)	Agreed
Weetwood Free Little Library	£650	£650 (Wellbeing)	Agreed
Woodhouse Moor Tennis Programme	£1780	£1780 (Wellbeing)	Agreed
Leedswatch CCTV Maintenance	£3,000	£3,000 (Wellbeing)	Agreed
LCC Youth Service – INW Holiday Projects	£2,860	£2,860 (YAF)	Agreed
LCC Youth Service – Weetwood Youth Project	£4,530	£4,530 (YAF)	Agreed
Art Camp 2023/24	£10,890	£10,890 (YAF)	Funding for Easter Camp Only Agreed £ 980
Leeds Hyde Park Football Club	£42,000	£42,000 (YAF)	£10,000 was agreed
Weetwood Football League	£600	£600 (Small Grants)	Agreed
Road Block System	£3,278.90	£3,278.90 (Capital)	Agreed
Women's Group	£12,234.56	£12,234.56 (Wellbeing)	Agreed on the basis that match funding from HAP is sought

Irish Arts	£750 (Wellbeing)	N/A	Deferred
LCC Breeze	£3,800 per event	£7,600 (YAF)	Agreed (2 events)

RESOLVED – To:

- a) Note details of the Wellbeing Budget position (as detailed in Table 1 of the submitted report)
- b) Review the minimum conditions
- c) Note the monitoring information of its funded projects
- d) Note details of the Youth Activities Fund position (as detailed in Table 2 of the submitted report)
- e) Note details of the Small Grants and Skips Budget (as detailed in Table 3 of the submitted report)
- f) Note details of the Capital Budget (as detailed in Table 4 of the submitted report)
- g) Note details of the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget (as detailed in Table 5 of the submitted report)
- h) Consider the applications as listed above.

53 Cost of Living Report

The report of the Localities Officer introduced a discussion on the 'Cost of Living Crisis', to provide the Inner North West Community Committee with an understanding of the cost of living crisis across the 3 wards.

The Chair opened up the item, by explaining the Committee are keen to hear from groups and organisations on their contributions in the community, and any issues regarding additional support required or challenges faced, and to identify any gaps.

Residents of the community and local organisations provided an update on the following:

- LS16 Community Uniform Exchange. Parents are struggling with buying food for their families, and the Uniform Exchange seeks to provide uniform to alleviate financial pressures on families.
- Cardigan Community Centre. There is an after school club aimed at 5-11 year olds, providing a range of children's activities as well as providing warm drinks and snacks. The Centre keeps a box of clothes to provide people with warm options and caters for refugees and the elderly. It was also acknowledged that there is a number of students struggling with isolation issues and the Centre has established a breakfast group.
- Saint Augustine's Wrangthorn. A warm space community session is run on a Wednesday, and it was confirmed a mixture of people attend and the space is open for all, as well as a lunch club on Sunday tailored at students. Further to comments about isolation, it was acknowledged that students may often struggle financially and with receiving support from people. Concerns were raised regarding longer term stability of financial support.

- Left Bank Leeds. A lot of local people are taking advantage of the warm space and free WI-FI.
- Rainbow Junction. There is a community café which runs on a Monday and Thursday. The community café offers local people with the opportunity to pay for food as 'they feel' with no set amount. There is also a food share set up on a Friday that people do not need referring to.
- St Pauls. Offers a warm space for the community and on a Monday evening there is a 'tea time meal together' and sports activities run by Your Backyard. A mixture of people attends and has developed into a good sense of community. Concerns were raised regarding volunteer funding and how best to communicate with the community.
- Caring Together in Woodhouse and Little London. Provides individual advice for those aged 55+ for people seeking support on benefits, debt advice and health issues. They also offer hot meals on Wednesday evening and various excursions and activities.
- Woodhouse Community Centre. There is a breakfast and lunch club twice a week that is volunteer led, with approximately 50 people attending. There are many activities that are free of charge and the lunch club is extending to beyond the capacity of the centre. Concerns were raised regarding there not being enough staff to cover household support fund advice and a recent funding bid only allowed for 1 extra colleague to help one day per week.
- Little London Food Pantry. Residents donate £3 per week and receive £15 worth of food, that they are able to choose themselves. There is a community café running parallel to the pantry and the environment is positive. It was noted that the pantry will be trialling a way to help residents save their monies by working in liaison with the Leeds Credit Union. The pantry also invites representatives to provide support to residents on debt advice, food poverty, housing etc.

The Committee raised the following matters:

- Respite for volunteers who worked through the Covid-19 pandemic and those continuing to volunteer. It was acknowledged that additional volunteers would benefit a number of local organisations, as well as providing them with training opportunities to broaden their skillset, to help assist with advice such as debt and food hygiene training. It was suggested that a joined-up approach be explored in terms of training volunteers as a cost effective way forward.
- It was acknowledged that the Committee cannot solely tackle poverty as a whole, but it was suggested that the Committee focus on one priority to help assist with things such as uniform, food and warm spaces.
- To link up organisations and help each other understand the work going on to assist communities.
- A suggestion was made that a meeting be established to invite representatives from schools and children's centres to understand their gaps, as it was acknowledged they work more closely with young vulnerable children and parents. Further to this, it was acknowledged

that it may be beneficial to invite a representative along from Jobshops as issues linked with difficulties with recruitment and part time living wage.

- Woodhouse Community Centre has struggled to get external agencies to attend the centre as there is usually a high cost associated with this. This issue raised particular concern as residents were keen to receive debt advice. Further to this, a member suggested that a group of volunteers be put forward to be accredited in providing advice and whether mice money from the Community Committee would cover this.

The Chair concluded by highlighted the importance of ensuring services are open and accessible to those most in need and assisting in helping volunteer capacity, as well as supporting broadening their skillset. The Localities Officer added that a note will be written to organisations and volunteers outlining the number of options in terms of training such as safeguarding, mental health and first aid.

RESOLVED – To note the contents of the report and discussions during consideration of this item.

Councillor Garthwaite left the meeting at 6:45pm and Councillors Akhtar, Pryor and Howley left the meeting at 7pm.

54 Update Report

The report of the Head of Locality Partnerships provided an update of the work which the Communities Team is engaged in, based on priorities identified by the Community Committee. It also provided an opportunity for further questioning, or to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.

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

It was noted that background work is taking place to tailor the information inputted into the Update Report, and more information around updates from local groups and organisations to be included.

The following information was highlighted:

- The Youth Summit took place on 12th January 2023 and attended by 30 young people from across 6 schools from across the Inner North West 3 wards. This highlighted a stronger working relationship with schools.
- An update from Burley, Little London, and Quarrymount Children's Centres. The information highlights a particular demand on Family Work caseload.
- Environmental Sub-Group. A decision is awaited from the universities about this year's course of action regarding Changeover. Further to a question regarding the universities undertaking consultation with local

communities, it was noted the question has been asked and a response is awaited.

**55 RESOLVED – To note the contents of the report.
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 terms of reference of the Community Committee.

The following issues were raised:

- Social housing and clarity on the Council's position on buying back properties to increase stability and diversity across communities. It was noted that the Council have a programme regarding buying back properties but are limited financially and the restricted on the number able to buy back. It was suggested that HMOs in the area be reduced through Licensing conditions.
- Cardigan Community Centre is looking for 3 additional Trustees. The Inner North West Community committee will make an appointment for fill the vacancy left by Cllr N Walshaw at the Cardigan Community Centre. This process will take place as soon as possible. Cllr Kayleigh Brooks has expressed an interest in the position. in Community Centre website: <https://cardigancommunitycentre.org/> will be promoting the vacancies and criteria.
- Concerns regarding the operation of the way some Housing Associations are operated and liaison with the community regarding particular issues. Members asked that such issues be directed to them to look into.

56 Dates, Times and Venues of Community Committee Meetings 2023/2024

The report of the City Solicitor presented members with the proposed Community Committee meeting schedule for the 2023/2024 municipal year.

The proposed meeting schedule proposes to hold the meetings on a Wednesday at 6pm, which reflect the current pattern.

The proposed dates are as follows:

- 5th July 2023
- 27th September 2023
- 13th December 2023
- 6th March 2023

Residents raised concern regarding lack of publication of meetings and explained that they have found it difficult to locate details on the location and date of meetings.

RESOLVED – To provisionally agree the dates and times as listed above and to note that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 5th July 2023 at 6pm. Venue TBC.

(The meeting concluded at 19:20)