

SOUTH (OUTER) AREA COMMITTEE

24TH OCTOBER 2005

PRESENT: Councillor Finnigan in the Chair
Councillors Beevers, Dunn, Elliott,
Galdas, Leadley, McArdle, Mulherin,
Renshaw and Wilson.

43 Declarations of Interest

The following declarations of interest were made, however further declarations were also made throughout the meeting – please see Minute Nos. 50 and 51.

Item 11 (Minute 52) – Youth Service Developments – October 2005

Personal Interests were declared by Councillors Beevers, Leadley and McArdle, due to being Members of Lewisham Park Centre Management Committee.

Item 18e (Minute 51) – Morley Elderly Action – Funding Support

A Personal and Prejudicial Interest was declared by Councillor Leadley, due to his position as a board member of Morley Elderly Action.

Item 15 (Minute 56) – Area Manager's Update Report

Personal Interests were declared by Councillors Beevers and Leadley, due to being members of Morley Town Council.

44 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Smith and Grayshon and John Davies, Director of Learning and Leisure.

45 Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Ratification of Recommendations Made – 12th September 2005

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the recommendations made at the South (Outer) Area Committee meeting held on 12th September, 2005, be ratified;
- (b) That the minutes of the meeting held on 12th September, 2005, be approved as a correct record, subject to the following amendments:-

Minute 22 – Declarations of Interest

With regard to Item 13, 12th September 2005, 'Town Centre Manager for Morley and Rothwell', Councillor McArdle clarified that he had declared a Personal Interest in this item due to being a Member of Morley Town Centre Partnership only.

Minute 23 – Apologies for Absence

Councillor Renshaw requested that the apologies for absence of the Ardsley and Robin Hood Ward Members be inserted into the minutes, due to the reasons for their absence being well documented. In response the Committee was informed that the matter would be investigated.

Minute 38 – Rothwell Neighbourhood Policing Team Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) Pedal Cycles – Wellbeing Application

That the minute be amended to read, 'The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report seeking Members' approval for £1,600 Wellbeing revenue funding for the purchase of two pedal cycles for use by PCSOs within the Rothwell policing area'.

46 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Town Centre Manager for Morley and Rothwell (Minute 31 refers)

In response to a request from the Ardsley and Robin Hood Ward Members for a representative from their Ward to be appointed to the Town Centre Manager Steering Group, the Chair invited the Ardsley and Robin Hood Ward Members to nominate a representative and forward the details to the Area Management Team.

(Councillor Elliott joined the meeting at 4.15 pm during the discussion of this item)

47 Open Forum

In accordance with Paragraphs 6.24 and 6.25 of the Area Committee Procedure Rules, the Chair allowed a period of up to ten minutes for members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Area Committee. The following issue was raised:-

Community Garden within Rothwell

Mr. S. Beaumont, a member of Rothwell in Bloom and Rothwell Community Forum stated that £35,000 had now been raised for the development of a community garden within Rothwell and that work on the project was due to begin shortly.

48 'About Leeds' - The City Council's Newspaper

Further to Minute 40, 12th September, 2005, Members received a verbal report from the Communications Manager which updated Members on the recent developments concerning 'About Leeds', the City Council's newspaper.

Members were advised that it was still the intention for the newspaper to be used as a communication tool for Area Committees, and that contributions for future editions of 'About Leeds' may be sought from each area in due course.

The Committee noted that a request for a financial contribution towards the publication would be submitted to the Area Committee in the new year.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the verbal report relating to 'About Leeds', the City Council's newspaper be noted.

49 Recycling in Outer South Leeds

Further to Minute 10, 11th July, 2005, the Chief Streetscene Services Officer and Deputy Director of City Services submitted a report which outlined potential ways in which recycling could be developed in the South (Outer) area.

In brief summary the main issues to arise from the discussion were as follows:-

- The initiatives currently being explored in a bid to promote recycling within Outer South Leeds, with particular reference being made to increasing the frequency of kerbside collections, the introduction of initiatives such as glass and garden waste kerbside collections and the promotion of household composting;
- The recent revisions made to both the frequency of collections and the routes taken by refuse collection teams in South Leeds. Members then discussed how these practices could be amended to maximise levels of recycling;
- The provision and location of household waste sites within Leeds;
- The effectiveness of city-wide initiatives which were currently taking place to promote recycling, such as roadshows, presentations, site visits, primary and high school schemes and publicity drives;
- The possibility of liaising with private firms to enable differing procedures to be compared in a bid to improve the Council's levels of recycling;
- The cost effectiveness and purpose of inserting microchips into refuse bins, and the alternative methods which could be used to obtain the same data;
- How the problem of litter from fast food outlets was being tackled.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the content of the report be noted;
- (b) That further information relating to the revisions made to the refuse collection timetables and routes within the Ardsley and Robin Hood Ward be submitted to the Members of that Ward for information.

50 Pitch Strategy Update

Members received a report from the Chief Recreation Officer which updated the Committee on the progress made to date in relation to the Sports Pitch Strategy and the plans which had been developed to implement the Strategy in the future.

A question and answer session relating to the issues raised by the strategy then ensued. The main areas of discussion were:-

- What the rationalisation process within the Sports Pitch Strategy entailed and whether this would lead to a reduction in the number of sports pitches possessed by the Parks and Countryside Division;
- The extent and comprehensiveness of the Pitch Strategy consultation process;
- Issues surrounding the development of facilities at the Spinkwell Lane site;
- The possibility of using Section 106 monies to a greater extent to develop facilities such as sports pitches for children and young people;
- The prospect of fully utilising external sources of funding, in order to improve and develop sports facilities in South Leeds.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the report and the progress made to date concerning the Pitch Strategy be noted;
- (b) That future playing pitch development in line with the Pitch Strategy be supported.

(Councillor Mulherin declared a personal interest during this item, due to her position as school governor at Rodillian High School)

51 Wellbeing Application Proposals

The Committee considered a series of reports submitted by the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing which invited Members to determine the Wellbeing funding applications which had been received.

RESOLVED – That the reports be noted and that the following decisions be made in respect of the wellbeing funding applications submitted for consideration at this meeting:-

- *(i). Children In Crisis, D:Side – Staffing costs towards the D:Side project - £2,300 Revenue – **Approved**;
- (ii). Rothwell Christmas Lights – Costs towards the improvement of the Christmas Lights display in Rothwell Town Centre - £3,000 Revenue – **Approved**;
- (iii). City Services, Bring Bank Site, Gildersome - Towards the creation of a hard standing for a bring bank site, Gildersome - £1,450 Revenue – **Approved**;
- (iv). Gildersome Taverners Cricket Club – Towards the cost of resurfacing the driveway and car park of the Cricket Club - £5,000 Revenue – **Approved**;
- ** (v). Morley Elderly Action - Towards the staffing costs of Morley Elderly Action - £13,000 Revenue – **Approved**;
- (vi). Additional Litter Bins, Ardsley & Robin Hood – Installation of 10 additional litter bins located across Ardsley & Robin Hood Ward - £3,000 Capital – **Approved**;
- (vii). Additional Litter Bins, Rothwell – Installation of 17 additional litter bins located across Rothwell Ward - £5,100 Capital – **Approved**;
- (viii). Oulton Junior Football Club – Towards the cost of new equipment and kit for Oulton Junior Football Club - £4,000 Revenue – **Approved**;
- (ix). Environmental Improvements to Rothwell Pastures – A contribution towards the overall cost of the project - £11,320 Revenue – **Approved**;
- (x). Rothwell In Bloom – Marsh Street Environmental Improvements – Funding to cover the costs of the project - £2,233 Revenue – **Approved**;
- (xi). Rothwell In Bloom – Royds Court Environmental improvements – Funding to cover the costs of the project - £4,502 Revenue – **Approved**;
- (xii). Rothwell Youth Centre – Improvements to the Windmill Club – Funding for the refurbishment of the kitchen area at the Windmill Youth Centre - £8,000 Revenue – **Approved**;
- (xiii). Mobile CCTV – To fund the deployment of a Community Safety mobile CCTV van in the Outer South Wards - £4,860 Revenue – **Approved**;
- (xiv). Provision of a Mobile Youth Bus – Funding towards the cost of providing a Mobile Youth Bus for the Outer South Leeds Wards - £22,000 Revenue – **Deferred** to enable further information to be obtained;

(xv). 'Voyagers' project, Church of Christ – To contribute towards the running of their 'Voyagers' project for young people - £1,000 Revenue – **Approved.**

(Councillor Dunn left the meeting at 5.30 pm, during the consideration of this item)

(***Councillors Beevers, Dunn, Elliott, Finnigan and Renshaw declared personal interests in application (i) 'Children In Crisis, D:Side', due to their positions as governors at various primary schools involved in the project)**

(****Councillor Leadley, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in application (v) 'Morley Elderly Action – Funding Support' left the meeting for the duration of the item and took no part in the discussion or recommendation thereof)**

52 Youth Service Developments – October 2005

The Director of Learning and Leisure submitted a report outlining the recent developments which had occurred within the Youth Service, following the publication of the 'Youth Matters' Green Paper by the Department of Education and Skills.

The Committee noted that it had been proposed for the Ward based meetings which had been taking place to continue, in order to give Elected Members the opportunity to influence the work being carried out by the Youth Service. It was however emphasised by the Senior Youth Officer that these Ward based meetings would be purely consultative, and that there would be a requirement for any recommendations made by the consultative group to be ratified at Area Committee level.

Following Members' enquiries into how many volunteers and youth workers had been trained in the Outer South area, the Committee was informed that two courses had taken place, with a third intended to be organised once the course content had been reviewed.

A question and answer session relating to the provision of youth facilities within the Ardsley and Robin Hood Ward then ensued, with particular reference being made to the discussions which were currently taking place in relation to the use of facilities at Rodillian High School.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted;
- (b) That statistics relating to the number of volunteers/youth workers which have received training in the South (Outer) Area be submitted to Members for their information.

53 Boundary Signs

Members received a report from the Director of Development which outlined the proposed update of boundary signs around Leeds and sought the Area Committee's views on such proposals. Examples of the proposed designs were circulated to Members at the meeting for their information.

The Area Committee noted that the aim of the initiative was to incorporate the Council's new civic identity onto the signs and bring prominence to the local area. The Committee noted that it had been proposed for the signs to be sponsored by local businesses, so that no cost would be incurred by the taxpayer.

A question and answer session relating to the proposal then ensued. The main issues raised were as follows:-

- How extensive the consultation procedure for the initiative would be;
- The cost of advertising on the new signs, and whether it was realistic to expect local businesses to pay such amounts for advertising;
- The recognition that the local communities within South Leeds could receive from the signs;
- The methods that would be used to illuminate the signs;
- The prospect of incorporating both twin town information and town crests onto the signs;
- The possibility of implementing a second phase of sign installation, which could potentially concentrate on internal signs within Leeds.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted;
- (b) That Members' comments relating to the Boundary Sign proposals be noted.

(Councillor Mulherin left the meeting at 6.15 pm during the consideration of this item)

54 Community Safety Delegated Functions Update

The Chief Officer of Leeds Community Safety submitted a report which updated Members on the community safety functions delegated to Area Committees.

Members noted that a review relating to the tasks currently undertaken by Neighbourhood Wardens was currently ongoing and that a further report on this issue would be submitted to the Area Committee in December 2005.

A discussion relating to Police attendance at future South (Outer) Area Committee meetings then ensued.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the content of the report be noted;
- (b) That Members' comments relating to the frequency that the Board receives information concerning Neighbourhood Warden activity be noted;
- (c) That a further report detailing proposals relating to the tasks undertaken by Neighbourhood Wardens be submitted to the December 2005 meeting of the Area Committee.

55 Area Delivery Plan 2006/07 – Agreement of Priorities

A report was submitted by the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing which updated Members on the proposed key thematic priorities which would form the Outer South Leeds Area Delivery Plan 2006/07.

Members proposed that further integration work between young people and the elderly could be incorporated within the 'Thriving and harmonious communities' key thematic priority.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted;
- (b) That the proposed ADP content as detailed within the report be agreed;
- (c) That the area-wide thematic priorities for the 2006/07 ADP, as detailed within the report be agreed, subject to further integration work between young people and the elderly being included within the 'Thriving and harmonious communities' priority;
- (d) That Members' comments relating to future ADP proposals be noted.

56 Area Manager's Update Report

Members received a report from the South Leeds Area Manager which outlined the range of activities which were currently taking place within the Outer South Leeds area.

With regard to the Gardening Service, Members stated that it was important to ensure that all geographical areas were covered and that the service did not overlap with the work which was also being carried out by other community bodies in the area.

In response to the Committee's enquiries regarding the Morley Bottoms regeneration scheme, Members were assured that relevant data concerning the initiative would be forwarded to Members for their information.

The Chair concluded by encouraging Members to forward any suggestions that they had in relation to possible areas where the Community Action Service Team (CAST) could focus their activities to the Area Management Team for consideration.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted;
- (b) That the proposals for the establishment of CAST be agreed;
- (c) That further information relating to the Morley Bottoms regeneration scheme be sought and submitted to Members for their information.

57 Neighbourhood Improvement Plan Update

The Area Committee received a report from the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing which updated Members on the current developments surrounding the Neighbourhood Improvement Plans.

Members were advised that it was intended for the second round of final Neighbourhood Improvement Plans, which covered the Harrops, Wood Lane and Fairfaxes and Oakwells neighbourhoods to be submitted to the December meeting of the Area Committee for approval.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted;

- (b) That the progress made on the implementation of the first round of Neighbourhood Improvement Plans be noted;
- (c) That the progress made in the development of Neighbourhood Improvement Plans in the Harrops, Wood Lane and Fairfaxes and Oakwells, as part of the second round of plans be noted;
- (d) That the draft plans for the neighbourhoods included within the second round of Neighbourhood Improvement Plans be submitted to the South (Outer) Area Committee meeting in December 2005.

58 Area Committee Wellbeing Funding – Current Position Statement

A report was submitted by the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing which outlined the current balance of the South Outer Area Committee wellbeing fund and Small Grants fund.

Due to a change in circumstances, Members were informed that their approval was sought on the realignment of £1,280, from capital funding to revenue funding, in respect of the Newlands and Denshaws Neighbourhood Improvement Plan.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the information detailed within the report relating to the current levels of both revenue and capital wellbeing funding, and the balance in the small grants fund be noted;
- (b) That the re-allocation of funding for the Newlands and Denshaws Neighbourhood Improvement Plan be noted;
- (c) That the Small Grants application received from 'Fayre Care for Christmas' which requests £500 funding towards their 'Christmas Hampers' project be rejected.

59 Date and Times of Future Meetings

Monday 12th December 2005 at 5.00pm
Monday 20th February 2005 at 5.00pm
Monday 3rd April 2005 at 5.00pm

The meeting concluded at 6.50 pm