

SOUTH (OUTER) AREA COMMITTEE

25th APRIL 2005

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

75 Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the April meeting of the South (Outer) Area Committee and invited those present to introduce themselves.

76 Declarations of Interest

The following declarations of interest were made:

Councillor McArdle – Personal interest in Minute No. 83 bii) Small Grants Applications as a Member of the Royal Society of St George. Personal interest in Minute No. 83 biii) Small Grants Applications as Secretary of Churwell Action Group. Personal and Prejudicial in Minute No. 88 Morley Community Radio Application for Well-Being Fund as a volunteer member with Morley Community Radio.

Councillor Smith – Personal interest in Minute No. 81 Streetscene Services Area Delivery Proposals as Executive Member for City Services.

Councillor Renshaw – Personal and Prejudicial interest in Minute No. 87 Tingley Athletic Football Club Ground Development due to her involvement in the application on behalf of local residents and she had also signed a petition relating to the issue.

Councillor Finnigan – Personal and Prejudicial interest in Minute No. 88 Morley Community Radio Application for Well-Being Funding as a volunteer member with Morley Community Radio.

Councillor Leadley – Personal and Prejudicial interest in Minute No. 83 bvi) Small Grants Applications as a Member of the Management Committee of Morley Elderly Action. Personal interest in Minute No. 83 biii) Small Grants Applications as a Member of Churwell Action Group. Personal interest in Minute No. 85 Neighbourhood Improvement Plans as a Member of the Management Committee of Lewisham Park Youth Centre. Personal interest in Minute No. 88 Morley Community Radio Application for Well-Being Funding having attended meetings of Morley Community Radio Society.

Councillor Beevers – Personal and Prejudicial interest in Minute No. 88 Morley Community Radio Application for Well-Being Fund as a volunteer member with Morley Community Radio. Personal interest in Minute No. 85 Neighbourhood Improvement Plans as a Member of the Management Committee of Lewisham Park Youth Centre.

Councillor Elliott – Personal and Prejudicial interest in Minute No. 88 Morley Community Radio Application for Well-Being Funding as a member of Morley Community Radio. Personal interest in Minute No. 83 biii) Small Grants Applications as a Member of Churwell Action Group. (Also see later Minute No. 83 bii).)

Councillor Grayshon – Personal and Prejudicial interest in Minute No. 88 Morley Community Radio Application for Well-Being Funding as a member of Morley Community Radio. Personal interest in Minute No. 83 vii) Small Grants Applications as a Director of West Yorkshire Playhouse. Personal interest in Minute No. 85 Neighbourhood Improvement Plans as a Member of the Management Committee of Lewisham Park Centre. Personal interest in Minute No. 83 biii) Small Grants Applications as a Member of Churwell Action Group.

77 Apologies

Apologies were submitted on behalf of Mark Forbes of City Services and Sharon House of the Early Years Service.

78 Minutes – 14th February 2005

RESOLVED – That, subject to the agenda item numbers being substituted by the minute item numbers under Minute No. 59 Declarations of Interest, the minutes of the meeting held on 14th February be confirmed as a correct record.

79 Matters Arising

The Area Manager referred to Minute No. 65 (b) that City Services would prefer Members in each Area Committee to nominate an area within the wedge for a day of action during the HELP campaign. Members discussed the options and agreed that the area should be in one of the Wards that had not yet received any help.

Resolved – That Morley Bottoms in Morley North Ward be selected as an area for rubbish clearance for the HELP campaign day of action.

80 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.

In summary, the following issues were raised at the meeting:-

- That residents should contact their local Councillor or the Area Management Team for equipment when arranging a clean-up.
- Copley Lane allotment holders were now happy with progress and would be meeting on 3rd May to decide whether they would prefer to stay or move to a new site.

81 Streetscene Services Area Delivery Proposals

The Director of City Services submitted a report to seek approval for a proposal that, in common with all other Area Committees, the Committee consider making £11,690 available from its revenue Well-Being Budget to finance a dedicated service delivery team in the Committee's area to supplement the core Streetscene service and which would be available to tackle local issues which local Members and the Area Management Team considered were priorities or hot spots in particular locations. The proposal was reliant on all ten Area Committees agreeing to make the money available, and subject to this proviso, service level agreements and work programmes for each team would be drawn up in consultation with each Committee.

Helen Finister, Chief Streetscene Officer, City Services Department, was in attendance to present the report and respond to Members questions.

In brief, Members supported the proposals. Members also discussed the frequency of green bin collections, the contamination of green bins by ordinary waste, the provision of more easily manoeuvrable bins for the elderly and the fact that some properties in the Area were still issued with black bags.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That approval be given in principle to the proposals in the report and for the allocation of £11,690 from the Well Being budget for 2005/06.

82 Fixed Playground Strategy

The Chief Recreation Officer submitted a report outlining the Fixed Play Strategy approved by Executive Board in 2002 for providing a network of equipped playgrounds and informal playspaces across Leeds with particular emphasis on the Committee's area. In addition to the report, a revised schedule detailing the current and proposed status for each site and the associated budget costing for the South Outer Wedge was circulated for the information/comment of the meeting.

Fred Duff, Parks and Countryside Division, Learning and Leisure Department, presented the report and responded to Members' questions and comments. In brief summary, the main points discussed were as follows:

- The problems of vandalism at existing parks and the accessibility of Park Wardens.
- Encouraging community involvement and ownership of local play areas.
- Encouraging the more imaginative and constructive use of Section 106 agreements for play areas, especially for older children.
- Encouraging young people to be more responsible.

RESOLVED -

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

- (b) That the Development Department report to a future meeting on the more imaginative use of Section 106 agreements for green spaces.

83 Area Committee Well-Being Funding – Current Position and Small Grants Applications

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report informing the Committee of the balance of the Wellbeing Budget and Small Grants Fund and giving information on the seven applications from various organisations for funding from the Small Grants Fund.

In summary, Members discussed retrospective applications and how best to deal with them. It was agreed that the Area Manager would prepare a report for the next meeting on dealing with applications between formal meetings of the Committee.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the balances of £94,528 revenue and £373,573 capital in the Area Committee wellbeing funding and the balance of £9,810.87 in the Small Grants Fund be noted.
- (b) That in respect of the Small Grants Fund, the following decisions be made:
- i) That £484 be approved to GASPED for their Community Training Programme.
 - ii) That £1,000 be approved to the Royal Society for St George for their Sunday Tournament.*
 - iii) That £500 be approved to Churwell Youth Club for the refurbishment of their room.
 - iv) That £1,000 be approved to Morley Stars for their People In Action project.
 - v) That £1,000 be approved to the City and Holbeck Police Division for pushbikes for Bike Patrol Morley.
 - vi) That £980 be approved to Morley Elderly Action for the Tea Bar Project.**
 - vii) That £1,000 be approved to The Project for the Theatre for Change Youth Festival.
- (c) That an allocation from the overall revenue Wellbeing funding for the Outer South Area Committee for 2005/06 of £15,000 revenue to a small grants fund for 2005/06 be approved.

*** (Note: Councillor Elliott declared a personal and prejudicial interest in respect of the application on behalf of the Royal Society of St George as a member of the organisation, left the room and took no part in the discussion or vote thereon.)**

**** (Note: Councillor Leadley, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item, left the room and took no part in the discussion or decision.)**

84 Area Well-Being Budget – Proposal for Capital Spend

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report for the Committee to consider the principles by which it could allocate monies from its capital well being budget and to consider potential project ideas.

The Area Manager, Dave Richmond, outlined for Members the options available for allocating the capital well-being money and Members discussed how they would like to see capital monies used.

RESOLVED - That Option 2 be the preferred allocation of capital wellbeing money with a percentage allocation by ward but with a focus on the identified priority neighbourhoods in need within which there could be a split of funds by key theme.

85 Neighbourhood Improvement Plans

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report to the Committee for approval of the Neighbourhood Improvement Plans (NIP) for Newlands and Denshaws in Morley South, Eastleighs and Fairleighs in Ardsley and Robin Hood and John O’Gaunts in Rothwell. The report highlighted the key priorities for action in each NIP and sought approval of Area Committee Well-being Funding up to a maximum of £80,000 capital and up to a maximum of £30,000 revenue to develop and deliver the initial priority projects from all three plans.

Jackie Ingham, Area Management Officer, outlined the key points in the report for these three areas as identified as the most deprived in the Outer South from the nine neighbourhoods that experienced deprivation. From discussions with local residents and Members, for Newlands and Denshaws NIP, drug dealing was identified as an issue of particular concern. For Eastleighs and Fairleighs NIP, young people were identified as a key issue and in John O’Gaunts NIP, anti-social behaviour and crime were the issues of particular concern.

The Chair thanked the Area Management Team for all their hard work on this project. Discussion ensued on the contents of the report. In summary it was felt that the proposals should be approved in principle but individual schemes in which Learning and Leisure, Parks and Countryside are named as project partners, needed to be looked at in greater detail in liaison with the Department of Learning and Leisure.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the Neighbourhood Improvement Plans for Newlands and Denshaws, Eastleighs and Fairleighs and John O’Gaunts and the proposals for monitoring progress on each plan be approved.
- (b) That in respect of the Area Committee Wellbeing Budget:
 - i) That up to a maximum of £30,000 capital and £8,000 revenue to implement the initial prioritised projects for the Newlands and Denshaws NIP be approved.
 - ii) That up to a maximum of £30,000 capital and £9,000 revenue toward the overall costs of the initial projects in the Eastleighs and Fairleighs NIP be approved.

- iii) That up to a maximum of £20,000 capital and £13,000 revenue toward the overall costs of the initial projects in the John O'Gaunts NIP be approved.
- (c) That it be agreed that the three NIP areas initially allocated funding have the highest levels of deprivation in the area and that Newlands and Denshaws and Eastleighs and Fairleighs have high numbers of residents and households compared to most of the remaining NIP areas.
- d) That any resulting underspend, resulting from additional sources of funding being sourced, be allocated to the remaining NIP areas or alternatively be added back into the remaining balance of the capital and revenue Wellbeing Funds.

86 Options for Town Centre Management – Morley and Rothwell Town Centres

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report to the Committee setting out potential models for the delivery of town centre management for Morley and Rothwell centres.

The Area Manager, Dave Richmond, outlined the various options and their merits were debated by Members. In summary, the main issues of discussion raised were:

- That other similar areas with two neighbouring towns had been investigated and visited during the research.
- Evidence showed that towns that had town centre management were more successful and tended to bring in more investment.
- The deterioration of Rothwell town centre.
- Competition from White Rose Centre.
- Concern for shops in local village centres that were also disappearing.

RESOLVED – That Option D for one full-time town centre manager at PO4 with associated budget be agreed as the preferred option but on condition that the post would be for the management of both Morley and Rothwell Town Centres. The manager to split his/her time on a basis to be agreed by all Area Committee Members and that the post would be funded for an initial pilot period of three years.

87 Tingley Athletic Football Club Ground Development

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report informing the Committee of the proposed initiative to develop a home ground site, with training facilities and club house for Tingley Athletic Junior Foot Club.

A member of Tingley Athletic Junior Football Club was in attendance and gave Members more information about the Club. In summary the main issues of discussion centred around the facilities that were currently being used, that access to the proposed site had been changed to Casson Avenue, that assurances had been given that the Club would not

become a licensed premises and that girls would be given greater opportunities to play football.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That £20,000 capital of Wellbeing funding towards the overall cost of the project be approved.

(Note: Councillor Renshaw, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item, left the room and took no part in the discussion or decision.)

88 Morley Community Radio – Application for Well-Being Funding

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report to inform the Committee about a proposed project to set up a Morley Community Radio station by the Morley Community Radio Society.

In the absence of Councillor Finnigan, Councillor Smith took the Chair.

Jackie Ingham, Area Management Officer, outlined the main points of the project in the report. Members discussed the issue of providing wider access by the general public and other schools to the broadcasting station.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That £10,000 capital and £1,100 revenue of Wellbeing funding towards the overall cost of the project be approved.

(Note: Councillors Finnigan, Beevers, Grayshon, Elliott and McArdle having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item, left the room and took no part in the discussion or decision.)

89 Area Manager's Update Report

The Area Manager, Dave Richmond, submitted a report updating Members of progress on South Outer area based matters which were not addressed elsewhere on the agenda. The Area Manager responded to Members' queries and comments.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted.

90 Dates, Times and Venues of Area Committee Meetings 2005/06

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services submitted a report requesting Members to give consideration to agreeing the dates, times and venues of their meetings for the 2005/06 municipal year which commenced in May 2005.

RESOLVED - That the following dates, times and venues be approved for meetings in 2005/06:-
11th July 2005, 12th September 2005, 24th October 2005, 12th December 2005, 20th February 2006 and 3rd April 2006.
All at 5.00 pm alternating between suitable venues in Morley, Rothwell and Ardsley and Robin Hood.

(The meeting concluded at 7.45pm.)