

NORTH WEST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

8TH SEPTEMBER 2005

PRESENT: Councillor M Hamilton in the Chair
Councillors Atha, Bentley, Ewens, Golton, Illingworth,
Jennings, Minkin, Monaghan and Morton

OFFICERS: Christine Addison, North West Area Management
Tom O'Donovan, North West Area Management
Paul Brook, Development Department
Paul Gough, Development Department
Dave Sherborne, Development Department
Helen Finister, City Services Department
Jane Cash, Learning and Leisure Department
Ann Allcock, Neighbourhoods and Housing Department
Lianne Jones, Neighbourhoods and Housing Department
Michael Phillips, Neighbourhoods and Housing Department
Inspector Tim Kingsman, West Yorkshire Police
Stuart Robinson, Chief Executive's Department

**MEMBERS OF
THE PUBLIC:**

Martin Cook, Headingley Network
Rachel Harkess, Headingley Network
Dr Richard Tyler, Leeds HMO Lobby
Barry Payne, Leeds HMO Lobby
Ben Thomas, BBC
Penny Bainbridge, Cardigan Centre
Chris Pickering, Local Resident
Norma Hardie, Local Resident
Sally Morozouska, Local Resident
Mick Dewhirst, St Michael's Pre-School
Emma Butcher, Leeds Metropolitan University
Carine Aguet, University of Leeds
Chris O'Malley, Irish Music Project, Leeds
Des Hurley, Irish Music Project, Leeds
Margaret Spink, Little London Arts/CALLS
Hannah Carey, Little London Arts/CALLS
M Outram, Local Resident
Graham Mann, Highbury Residents Association
Jack Cullum, Local Resident
Brian Senior, Yorkshire Metropolitan Housing Committee
Ken Stratford, Burley Lodge Centre
M Woolley, Oakfield Resident
M J Spier, Oakfield Resident
S E Griffiths, Local Resident
John Griffiths, Local Resident
Alice Smithson, Local Resident
Maureen Evans, Local Resident
Betty Smith, Local Resident
Betty Carr, Local Resident
Beth Smithson, Local Resident

23 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the September meeting of the North West (Inner) Area Committee held at the Shire View Centre. In particular he also welcomed Councillor Monaghan to his first meeting of the Committee.

24 Declarations of Interest

The following declarations of personal interest were declared:-

Councillor Illingworth in view of his personal involvement with Leeds Organic Growers (Minute 28(d) refers).

Councillors Hamilton and Illingworth as employees at the University of Leeds (Minute 32 refers).

Councillor Illingworth in his capacity as a Director of Kirkstall Valley Park (Minute 35 refers).

25 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Hussain, Ken Torode and Chris Webb.

26 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 10 minutes for members of the public to make representations or ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Area Committee.

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

Dr Richard Tyler (Leeds HMO Lobby) – Student Housing Project Group

Dr Tyler drew the Committee's attention to the poor turnout in the Headingley By-Election (9.5%) and the projected volatility of the student housing market (Unipol's Owners Briefing 2005), and therefore the urgent need for management of the HMO situation in and around Headingley. He reported that the Student Housing Project Group, charged with this responsibility, had not met for five months, despite lobbying of Members and Council Committees by Leeds HMO Lobby. In consequence, the Lobby had passed a vote of no confidence in the Council and exhorted the Area Committee to restore residents' confidence by ensuring the Student Housing Project Group was reinstated urgently, with the powers recommended by the Lobby at the Area Committee meeting held on 30th June 2005 (Minute 4 refers).

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the current position be noted.
- (b) That the Student Housing Project Group be relaunched with an Elected Member in the Chair from this Committee and that a series of meetings be arranged with Members and officers with a view to resolving this issue without delay.

Graham Mann –Highbury Residents Association

Graham Mann made reference to Mission Field, an area of land owned by St Chad's and sought the reassurances from the Committee that any planning application for homes on this area of open space would be refused. The Committee further noted that there would be a public meeting on this issue at St Chad's Parish Church Centre on 22nd September 2005 at 7.00 pm.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the current position be noted.
- (b) That this Committee supports the Mission Field area of land as greenspace and would object to any proposed planning development.

Des Hurley - Irish Music Project, Leeds

Des Hurley circulated a paper on 'The Gathering', an Irish traditional music and arts festival to be held in Headingley / Hyde Park / Woodhouse between 10th-13th November 2005.

He requested a financial contribution of £1,000 from the Area Committee under the Small Grants Programme towards the running of the event.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the paper be received and noted.
- (b) That the event be supported and welcomed by the Committee.
- (c) That the request for £1,000 from the Small Grants Budget be refused for the reasons outlined at the meeting.

(Councillors Morton and Minkin joined the meeting at 7.25pm and 7.30 pm during the discussion of the Irish Music Project item).

27 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – That, subject to the following correction, the minutes of the meeting held on 30th June 2005 be confirmed as a correct record:-

'Matters Arising from the Minutes (Minute 86 refers)'

- (c) Housing Act 2004 - Licensing of the Private Rented Sector (Minute No 67 refers)
The passage 'in relation to the compulsory registration of certain HMOs (properties consisting of 3 or more storeys and or 5 or more residents)' should have read 'in relation to the compulsory registration of certain HMOs (properties consisting of 3 or more storeys **and** 5 or more residents)'

28 Matters Arising from the Minutes

(a) Community Land Trusts (Minute 6 refers)

Dr Tyler reported that the Headingley Development Trust was now incorporated as an Industrial and Provident Society and would be launched at 11.00 am on Saturday 17th September 2005 at Headingley Primary School. Local organisations and residents were urged to join and support the Trust.

(b) Housing Act 2004 – Licensing of the Private Rented Sector (Minute 6 refers)

Dr Tyler reported that at a meeting of the Private Rented Sector Strategic Working Group on 23rd August 2005, it was reported that a paper on Mandatory HMO Licensing would be presented to the Executive Board in due course and also a paper on Additional HMO Licensing and Selective Licensing would be presented to the Board later this year. On 7th April 2005, the Area Committee resolved that ‘the Council needed to urgently consider a discretionary licensing scheme for remaining HMO properties’ (Minute 94 refers) and Dr Tyler asked that steps be taken to ensure that the Inner NW Area’s resolution would be forcefully argued in the paper to the Executive Board.

The Chair responded and trusted that the paper to the Executive Board would support this Committee’s resolution.

(c) Inner North West Area Committee Well-Being Budget Report (Minute 12 refers)

Councillor Morton referred to the ‘expressions of interest’ he had raised at the previous meeting held on 30th June 2005 and requested that these be included within the overall proposals for 2005/06.

Tom O’Donovan, North West Area Management responded and confirmed that the expressions of interest would be addressed.

(d) Waste Solution for Leeds (Minute 20 refers)

Councillor Illingworth informed the meeting that there had been a delay in relation to the Certificate for Accreditation for the Leeds Organic Growers.

(e) Highways Service Performance Report (Minute 21 refers)

Councillor Minkin referred to the proposed number of illuminated adverts on street lighting columns and urged that the Area Committee should not lose sight of this very important issue. It was further noted that the Scrutiny Board (Environment and Community Safety) would be receiving information on the Streetlighting PFI at their Board meeting in October 2005.

29 Co-opted Members

Referring to Minute 17 of the meeting held on 30th June 2005, the Chief Democratic Services Officer submitted a report on provisions for the possible appointment of Co-opted Members on to the Area Committee.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That in view of the open and democratic way in which the Area Committee continues to operate and thereby allowing members of the public the opportunity to speak and air their views throughout Area Committee meetings, this Committee resolves not to appoint Co-opted Members for this municipal year.

30 North West Inner Area Committee Well-Being Budget Report

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report on the Well-Being Budget for the North West Inner Area.

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

- Inner North West Well-being Budget 2005-06 – Projects Agreed for 2005-06
- Inner North West Well-being Budget – Capital Programme 2004/07

Christine Addison and Tom O'Donovan, North West Area Management presented the report and responded to Members questions and comments.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That the budget position of the Well-being Budget as referred to in Section 1.1-1.2 of the report be noted.
- (c) That the Strategic Pause information outlined in Section 2.0-2.3 of the report be noted and that the future development of projects as referred to in Section 2.4-2.6 of the report be further discussed in a review of the Area Delivery Plan.
- (d) That in respect of those expressions of interest outlined in Section 3.3 of the report, this item be deferred pending further discussions and revisited at the December meeting or by a Special Meeting of the Committee.
- (e) That the Well-being revenue projects agreed for 2005/06 as referred to in Appendix 1 be noted.
- (f) that the Well-being capital projects agreed as referred to in Appendix 2 be noted.
- (g) That the small grant budget position outlined in Section 4.1- 4.4 of the report be noted and that in respect of the application received from the Irish Music Project, Leeds the request for £1,000 towards 'The 'Gathering Project' be refused.

31 North West Inner Area Committee Area Delivery Plan Update and Review

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a progress report, together with a review of the Area Delivery Plan and Action Plan.

Appended to the report was a copy of a document entitled 'Area Delivery Plan – Action Plan – Inner North West Area Committee Action Plan 2005/06' for the information/comment of the meeting.

Christine Addison and Tom O'Donovan, North West Area Management presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

Detailed discussion ensued on the membership of each sub group under the Theme Task Group recommendations, together with the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan Area Recommendations outlined in Section 3.3 – 3.4 of the report.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That approval be given to the establishment of three Area Committee Sub Groups to look at service provision within the delegated functions, i.e. Community Safety, Children and Young People and Streetscene.
- (c) That the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan proposals outlined in Section 3.3-3.4 of the report be approved and developed in line with the future Area Delivery Plan.

32 Streetscene Environment Services

The Director of City Services submitted a report on an overview of the performance of the City Services Environment Services and the provision of a service level agreement for the localised teams.

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

- Area Management Performance Indicators – City Services – Inner North West
- Area Management Service Level Agreement 2005 – Streetscene Services dated July 2005
- Education and Awareness in Leeds 2005-2006 Programme

Helen Finister, City Services Department presented the report and responded to Members questions and comments.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report and appendices. In summary, reference was made to the following issues:-

- clarification of the number of Enforcement Officers currently in post within the City Services Department
- clarification of student levels from University of Leeds/Leeds Metropolitan University within the Headingley area for new 2006/07 term

- clarification of enforcement powers against landlords
- the need for a Scrutiny Inquiry to be undertaken into Streetscene, in particular around the area of enforcement
- the need for the Streetscene sub group to address those specific issues contained within the appendices.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That the Education and Awareness programme, together with the proposed Service Level Agreement for the area be noted and welcomed.
- (c) That the Streetscene Sub Group be requested to address those specific issues contained within the appendices and that, in the interim period, Councillor Morton be also requested to e-mail those Members on the Committee for their views/approval on a proposal for a Scrutiny Inquiry to be undertaken into Streetscene.

(Councillor Golton left the meeting at 8.15 pm at the conclusion of the above item)

33 Area Based Graffiti Action

Referring to minute 11 of the meeting held on 30th June 2005, the Director of City Services submitted a report on area based outcomes of graffiti action and to agree a method against which future action can be measured for the information/ comment of the meeting.

Helen Finister, City Services Department presented the report and responded to Members questions and comments.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That this Committee notes the brief presentation from ENCAMs on the methodology to be used to assess, monitor and measure cleansing issues such as graffiti.
- (c) That a report on the outcomes of the area bases surveys which identified issues, trends and recommendations for future action be submitted to a future meeting.

34 Abbey Mills, Kirkstall – Planning and Development Brief

The Director of Development submitted a report on the preparation of the Planning and Development Brief for the Grade II Listed Abbey Mills, Kirkstall, for the information/comment of the meeting.

Paul Gough, Development Department presented the report and responded to Members questions and comments.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report and the individual comments raised by Councillors Atha, Illingworth and Minkin on the public

consultation exercise were duly noted by officers from the Development Department.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That the individual comments raised at the meeting on the public consultation exercise be noted and that any further comments be forwarded to the Director of Development before the 31st December 2005 deadline.

35 The Proposed Consultation Exercise for Abbey Mills and St Ann's Mills, Kirkstall

The Director of Development submitted a report on the details of the proposed refurbishment of the Abbey Mills and St Ann's Mills sites in Kirkstall and the proposed consultation exercise for the information/comment of the meeting.

Appended to the report was a copy of the Executive Board report entitled 'Abbey Mills and St Ann's Mills, Kirkstall' which had been presented to the Board meeting on 15th December 2004 for Members' guidance.

Paul Brook, Development Department, presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report and appendices.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That the individual comments raised at the meeting on the consultation exercise process be noted and that any further comments be forwarded to the Director of Development before the 31st October 2005 deadline.

36 Designated Public Places Order (DPPO)

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report on the Designated Public Places Order (DPPO) for the information/comment of the meeting.

Tom O'Donovan, North West Area Management presented the report.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report and arising from a number of public concerns about the process within the Headingley area, Inspector Tim Kingsman, West Yorkshire Police responded and agreed to discuss individual matters with members of the public outside the meeting at the conclusion of the item.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That the process outlined for a Designated Public Places Order (DPPO) be noted.

- (c) That the Area Manager be requested to seek evidence of the need for a Designated Public Places Order (DPPO) in the Headingley area.

37 Kirkstall Joint Services Centre (JSC) Update Report

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a progress report on the current position of the Kirkstall Joint Service Centre (JSC) for the information/comment of the meeting.

Lianne Jones, Neighbourhoods and Housing presented the report and responded to Members questions and comments.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
(b) That a progress report on this issue be submitted to this Committee in six months time and, that in the interim period, officers be requested to prepare a Communication Plan which would achieve the objectives outlined in Section 3.3 of the report.

38 Road Accidents in North West Inner Area

The Director of Development submitted a report summarising the injury accident/casualty totals in the four wards which make up the North West Inner area for the information/comment of the meeting.

Dave Sherborne, Development Department presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

Detailed discussion on the contents of the report with specific reference to the length of road statistics outlined in Section 3.2.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
(b) That in respect of those areas listed in Section 3.2 of the report, the Director of Development be requested to supply further information to Members in due course.
(c) That Members of the Committee be requested to work up further proposals on those areas which require more statistical information i.e. full accident details etc for submission to the Chair in the first instance.

39 Sports Pitch Strategy Update

The Chief Recreation Officer submitted a progress report on the Sports Pitch Strategy.

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

- location of the sports pitches within the North West (Inner) Area
- details of the sports pitch hierarchy
- a list of all Learning and Leisure sites and their requirements in terms of improvements and the associated costs
- a SWOT analysis for each Area Committee

Jane Cash, Learning and Leisure Department presented the report and responded to Members questions and comments.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That the progress to date made with the Sports Pitch Strategy be noted and welcomed and that this Committee confirms its awareness of the practical implications of its implementation and supports the future playing pitch development in line with the strategy.

40 Key Messages from Area Forums

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report on key messages from the Area Forums for the information/comment of the meeting.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That the Transport Group be requested to look at the issue of car parking in the ASHORE area, including parking enforcement.

41 About Leeds – The City Council’s Newspaper

The Acting Chief Officer, Executive Support submitted a report on the City Council’s newspaper ‘About Leeds’ which sought a financial contribution from the Area Committee.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That this Committee notes the potential of the newspaper as a future tool for communications.
- (c) That the request for financial contribution as outlined in Section 3.0 of the report be refused for 2005/06.

42 Little London Neighbourhood Improvement Area

The Chief Regeneration Officer submitted a report on the Little London Neighbourhood Improvement Area for the information/comment of the meeting.

Tom O’Donovan, North West Area Management presented the report and responded to Members’ questions and comments.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That a further report on this issue be submitted to the next meeting in October for consideration.

43 Chair’s Closing Remarks

The Chair thanked the Shire View Centre for the use of the room and refreshments and reminded the meeting that the launch of ‘Celebrate Headingley’ was being held between 16th-18th September 2005 with many exciting events planned.

- 44 Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting**
Thursday 20th October 2005 at 7.00 pm at Weetwood Primary School,
Weetwood Lane, Leeds 16.

(The meeting concluded at 9.30 am)