

NORTH WEST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

9TH FEBRUARY 2006

- PRESENT:** Councillor M Hamilton in the Chair
Councillors Bentley, Ewens, Hussain, Illingworth,
Jennings, Minkin, Monaghan and Rhodes-Clayton
- OFFICERS:** Christine Addison, North West Area Manager
Dayle Lynch, Neighbourhoods and Housing Department
John Kearsley, City Services Department
Sue Wraith, Development Department
Andrew Crates, Development Department
Inspector Chris Rowley, West Yorkshire Police
Inspector Peter Olan, West Yorkshire Police
Stuart Robinson, Chief Executive's Department
- MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** Martin Cook, Headingley Network
Rachel Harkess, Headingley Network
Barry Payne, Leeds HMO Lobby
Richard Norton, Friends and Residents of Orville Gardens
Ken Stratford, Burley Lodge Centre
Penny Bainbridge, Cardigan Centre
Dr John Dickinson, Weetwood Residents Association
Lee Ingham, Older Active People
Sharon Knott, Voluntary Action Leeds
Richard Jackson, Voluntary Action Leeds
Sue Buckle, Headingley Resident
Lucy Nokes, Highbury Residents Association
Alison Haskins, The Scarman Trust
Lawrence Wood, PPI Forum, North West Leeds
James Thompson, Community Action, Leeds Metropolitan
University
Katherine Mitchell, Labour Party Campaigner, Headingley Ward
Bill Rollinson, HEAL/Local Resident
Peter Spafford, Headingley Local Resident
Donald Hood, Far Headingley Village Society
Stephen Rennie, Hawksworth Wood Community Association

83 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the February meeting of the North West (Inner) Area Committee held at Headingley Primary School. He apologised for the informal layout of the meeting and as a result he invited those present to introduce themselves.

84 Late Items

In accordance with his powers under Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair consented to the submission of the following late item of urgent business relating to:-

- Area Manager's Report (Minute 99 refers). The report was not available at the time of the agenda despatch and also incorporated results of a number of key meetings held only a few days ago.

85 Declarations of Interest

The following personal interests were declared:-

Councillor Illingworth in view of his personal involvement with Leeds Organic Growers (Minute 93 refers).

Councillor Illingworth in his capacity as a Director and Company Secretary of Kirkstall Valley Park, a not-for-profit limited company which was also a registered charity (Minute 93 refers).

Councillors Hussain and Rhodes-Clayton in their capacity as members on the Woodsley Road Management Committee (Minute 96 refers).

86 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Atha, Councillor Golton, Councillor Morton, Ken Torode and Dr Richard Tyler.

87 Open Forum

In accordance with paragraphs 6.24 and 6.25 of the Area Committee Procedure Rules, the Chair allowed 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:-

Planning and Licensing Issues within Headingley

Martin Cook, Headingley Network made reference to recent/current planning/licensing applications in respect of The Box, The Subway and the Co-operative Convenience store. He sought clarification of the meeting in relation to non-determination of planning appeals, together with an explanation of the Council's Cumulative Impact Policy.

Andrew Crates, Development Department (Planning Services) responded to the questions raised.

Following discussions, the Chair requested that a note on planning issues be prepared by Andrew Crates, together with a report on the current state of play in relation to the Council's Cumulative Impact Policy, with specific reference to take away establishments, for circulation at the next meeting in March 2006.

Leeds HMO Lobby – UUK Report on Studentification

Richard Norton reported briefly on behalf of Leeds HMO Lobby in relation to the UUK's report and conference on 'Studentification'.

He reported that in January 2006, Universities UK had published a report entitled 'Studentification: a guide to opportunities, challenges and practice'. The meeting noted that Leeds HMO Lobby had warmly welcomed the above report.

In conclusion, Richard Norton referred to '*The Guide*' which accorded formal recognition to the problem of studentification. Its checklist provided helpful guidance to universities and councils grappling with the problem. However, Leeds HMO Lobby were of the opinion that '*The Guide*' had fundamental flaws as it entirely omitted the crucial role of national government, and especially legislation. The Committee noted that '*The Guide*' had been launched at a conference in London on 25th January 2006 .

Major Reorganisation of Primary Care Trusts and Oral Health Issues

Lawrence Wood, PPI Forum, North West Leeds reported on the major reorganisation of Primary Care Trusts with effect from the 1st April 2006. He made reference to a forthcoming meeting in the Leeds Town Hall on 17th February 2006 at 1.00 pm to discuss the proposals and urged members of the Committee to attend.

Mr Wood also informed the meeting that following recent targets set by Government, the City of Leeds was well behind in oral health hygiene/education, especially where young children were concerned.

The Committee noted that reports on oral health had been recently submitted to the Scrutiny Board (Health and Well-Being)

Developments at Sparrow Park

Bill Rollinson, HEAL/Local Resident, referred to the above issue and raised his concerns that little progress had been made in an attempt to clean up the area near Sparrow Park. It was noted that at the next meeting of the Headingley Forum, the issue of funding for the area would be addressed.

Following discussions, the Committee requested the North West Area Manager to provide a skip for the area in question and for a meeting to be arranged between Councillor Monaghan, Bill Rollinson and Christine Addison to progress matters of concern.

Height of Wall at Headingley Stadium

Bill Rollinson, HEAL/Local resident referred to the above issue and on behalf of the Broomfield residents he raised his concerns about the height of the Headingley Stadium wall in relation to loss of visual impact.

Andrew Crates, Development Department (Planning Services) responded to the issues raised.

Refuse Bins in Headingley

Peter Spafford, Headingley local resident referred to the above issue and raised his general concerns about the refuse collection service in the Headingley area, in particular the lack of written information available to students and the need for the Council to introduce a 'tagging' system.

Reference was also made to the bottle bank outside the Co-op in Headingley and the Council's failure to empty the bottle bank on a regular basis.

Councillor Monaghan responded to the issues raised and agreed to investigate the matter further with the Director of City Services.

Proposals to redevelop St Ann's Mills and Abbey Mills, Kirkstall

Stephen Rennie, Hawksworth Wood Community Association, referred to the above issue and raised his concerns about the proposed new access road for Abbey Mills which, in his opinion, had failed to meet local or national highway safety standards.

The Chair responded and reminded the meeting of the appropriate mechanisms in place for such issues i.e. Scrutiny process / Planning and Development briefs etc.

The Committee noted that there would be public exhibitions on this issue in Kirkstall Leisure Centre from 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm on 15th February 2006 or 10.00 am to 1.00 pm on 18th February 2006.

The Future of St Ann's Mills and Abbey Mills, Kirkstall

Councillor Illingworth circulated a copy of his response in relation to the Development Department's proposals to redevelop St Ann's Mills and Abbey Mills, Kirkstall.

The Committee noted the content of the document.

88 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2005 be approved as a correct record, subject to amending Ken Stratford's name to read Ken 'Stratford' in the attendance list.

89 Matters Arising from the Minutes

(a) Primary School Review – Proposals for the Far Headingley Primary Planning Area (Minute 70(b) refers)

Councillor Minkin referred to the above issue and reminded the meeting that the proposals would be reconsidered at the Executive Board meeting on 22nd March 2006.

In relation to the proposed closure of Beckett Park Primary School, the Committee noted that this issue would be discussed at the School Organisation Committee on 7th April 2006 at 1.00 pm in the Civic Hall,

Leeds and encouraged members of the public to attend the public meeting.

- (b) Key Messages from Area Forums (Minute 71 refers)
Councillor Minkin referred to the above issue and enquired on the availability of a report on the 'way forward' regarding Ward Forums, including public participation.

The North West Area Manager responded and confirmed that a report on this issue would be available for discussion at the March 2006 meeting.

- (c) Inner North West Area Committee Well-being Monitoring Report (Minute 72 refers)
Councillor Minkin referred to the above issue and enquired if a decision had been made in relation to the renaming the title of the 'Community Compost' project to reflect the wider recycling aims of the project.

Dayle Lynch, North West Area Management responded and agreed to advise Members of the new name.

- (d) Making Leeds Better (Minute 75 refers)
Councillor Minkin referred to the above issue and re-emphasised the importance of the crucial role of the Kirkstall Joint Centre in relation to the local engagement mechanisms for 'Making Leeds Better'.

The Committee supported the above views.

90 Funding Officer – Update

Referring to minute 72 of the meeting held on 8th December 2005, the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a progress report on work undertaken by the Funding Officer Project.

The report also provided information on the Health Check questionnaire which had been developed by the Funding Officer Project to determine the need for capacity building work in Inner North West Leeds.

Sharon Knott, part-time Funding Officer, employed by Voluntary Action Leeds on behalf of the Committee presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted and welcomed.
(b) That the outputs provided in table 1 for the 3rd Quarter period following agreement between Voluntary Action (Leeds) and the North West Area Management Team be noted.
(c) That the establishment of a part time Capacity Building Worker as outlined in Section 4 of the report be considered as part of the Well-being budget report.

- (d) That a report be prepared covering the following issues for consideration at the next meeting in March 2006:-
 - information on the spread of community organisations within the North West Inner area
 - the distinction between a community and a voluntary organisation
 - identifying the gaps
- (e) That the Funding Officer be commended on her work undertaken within the North West Inner area

91 Graffiti Issues in the Inner Area

Referring to minute 23 of the meeting held on 8th September 2005, the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report detailing information on recent initiatives taken to tackle graffiti in the inner area and the outcome of these actions.

The report also provided details of a graffiti 'blitz' which took place in the Hyde Park part of the Headingley ward week commencing 5th December 2005.

Dayle Lynch, North West Area Management presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted and welcomed.
- (b) That the funding of the Inner North West Graffiti Project be considered as part of the Well-being budget report.
- (c) That a report be prepared for consideration at a future meeting providing:-
 - information on where the graffiti team was spending their time detailing specific roads within the area
 - information on how much proactive work was undertaken
 - data on origin and location of referrals
 - further analysis on those areas where there has been a significant impact on graffiti issues within the North West Inner area
- (d) That Gerry Burnham be commended on the excellent work undertaken on graffiti within the North West Inner area.

92 Enforcement of 'To Let' Boards

The Director of Development submitted a progress report updating the meeting on the 'To Let' Boards initiative and to request the Area Committee to consider part funding towards the enforcement regime.

Sue Wraith, Development Department presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

In addition to the above report, the Chair invited comments from Sue Buckle on behalf of Leeds HMO Lobby on the enforcement of letting boards which covered three specific issues, namely Higher Education Institutes (HEI) costs and benefits in Leeds; costs of Letting Boards and resourcing.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted and welcomed.
- (b) That the priorities for enforcement as outlined in Section 5.5 of the report be endorsed, but that free standing boards in front gardens be given the highest priority.
- (c) That the resourcing proposal as outlined in Section 6.00 of the report be considered as part of the Well-being budget report.
- (d) That Higher Education Institutes be contacted with a view to increasing student volunteering to assist with the monitoring of 'To Let' Boards.
- (e) That Planning Services, Development Department be requested to contact landlords reminding them of their commitment to address the issue of 'To Let' boards outside the North West Inner area as part of the voluntary code.

93 Inner Area Well-Being Budget

Referring to minute 72 of the meeting held on 8th December 2005, the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report on the Inner Area Committee's Well-being budget.

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

- (a) Inner North West Well-being Budget 2005-06 – Projects Agreed for 2005-06 (Appendix 1 refers)
- (b) Inner North West Well-being Budget – Capital Programme 2004-07 – Projects Agreed by the Committee (Appendix 2 refers)
- (c) Inner North West Well-being Revenue Budget 2006-07 – Projects Agreed in principle for 2006-07 / Projects for consideration 2006-07 – Not yet agreed (Appendix 3 refers)
- (d) Inner North West Well-being Budget – Capital Programme 2004-07 – Projects Agreed by Area Committee / Projects for Consideration / Capital Budget Summary 2004-07 (Appendix 4 refers)

A revised copy of Appendix 4 was circulated at the meeting which contained two additional budget projects for consideration.

The Chair introduced the report and sought the views of the Committee on the budget projects outlined in Section 3.5 and Appendices 1-4 of the report.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That the position of the Well-Being Budget as outlined in Sections 1.1 to 1.4 of the report be noted.
- (c) That the Strategic Pause information as outlined in Section 2.0 of the report be noted and that approval be given to lifting the strategic pause in line with the information presented in Section 2.4.
- (d) That the Well-being Revenue Budget position as outlined in Sections 3.1 and 3.2 of the report be noted.
- (e) That the Well-being Capital budget position as outlined in Sections 3.3 and 3.4 of the report be noted.

- (f) That the specific Revenue and Capital budget projects as outlined in Section 3.5 and Appendices 1-4 of the report be dealt with as follows:-

<u>Project/Delivery Organisation</u>	<u>Decision</u>
<u>Revenue Budget</u>	
Police Mountain Bikes x 4	Agreed £3,600 and to transfer to the Capital budget
Additional Policing for the Headingley DPPO	Agreed £7,500 to cover additional policing following it's immediate introduction
Additional Policing to tackle graffiti	Deferred pending a wider proposal relating to enforcement
Associated cost with installation of new CCTV cameras	Agreed £10,000, in principle, and for officers to confirm actual costs, locations and to arrange a site visit for Members
Mobile Youth Provision	Agreed £6,500
D: Side Drugs Information Project	Deferred
Hyde Park Unity Day	Deferred
Extension of Older Active People Project	Deferred
Little London Neighbourhood Management	Agreed £15,000, together with an additional £24,000 towards the costs of additional policing across the Inner communities of Little London, Woodhouse, Hyde Park and Burley in 2006/07
Improvement and Feasibility Fund for District Centres	Deferred
Design Guide and Statement Feasibility Fund	Deferred
Woodhouse Ridge Improvements	Deferred pending further analysis of the most appropriate split between capital and revenue

Kirkstall Valley Park	Deferred pending further analysis of the most appropriate split between capital and revenue
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Contingency Fund	Deferred
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Capital Budget

Headingley Environmental Improvements	Deferred
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Burglary Reduction – alleygating in the Archery's	Agreed £5,000
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Burglary Reduction – alleygating fund	Deferred
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Provision of additional litter bins	Agreed £7,000
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Improvements to grass verges, footpaths and highways	Deferred
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Installation of new CCTV in the Hyde Park area	Agreed £45,000 - £50,000
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Little London Multi Use Games Area	Deferred
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Woodhouse Ridge Improvements	Deferred pending further analysis of the most appropriate split between capital and revenue
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Refurbishment of Cobblestones on Buckingham Mount	Refused
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Kirkstall Valley Park	Deferred pending further analysis of the most appropriate split between capital and revenue
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Beckett Park Play Area	Deferred to enable a check to be undertaken of the availability of Section 106 funds for this scheme
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- (g) That a report be prepared on the work undertaken by the Planning Officer on a ward by ward basis for submission to the next meeting in March 2006.
- (h) That further information be provided about the Educational facility for Children-Burley Early Years Centre at the next meeting in March 2006.

- (i) That the Small Grant budget position as outlined in Section 4 of the report be noted.

94 Area Delivery Plan 2006/07 Development

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report providing the meeting with a review of performance on the current Inner North West Area Delivery Plan with specific reference to the outcomes/outputs and whether they had been successfully undertaken or completed.

The report also provided the meeting with a draft Area Delivery Plan for 2006/07 for discussion with a view to determining the content of the final plan.

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

- (a) 2005/06 Action Plan Review (Appendix 1 refers)
- (b) Inner North West Area Committee Action Plan 2006/07 (Appendix 2 refers)

Dayle Lynch, North West Area Management presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That the progress made in delivering the 2005/06 Area Delivery Plan actions to date, together with progress towards completing the Committee's 2006/07 Area Delivery Plan and Action Plan be noted.
- (c) That the contents of the Draft Action Plan for 2006/07 be received and noted.
- (d) That, in the interim period, Members be requested to forward any specific points on the Draft Action Plan for 2006/07 to the North West Area Manager and that arrangements be also made to convene Ward Members sessions to go through the document in greater detail.
- (e) That the Draft Action Plan for 2006/07 be forwarded to the Streetscene Sub Group for consideration.
- (f) That a final version of the Action Plan be submitted to the next Committee meeting for ratification.

95 Key Messages from Area Forums

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report updating the meeting on the feedback of Key Messages from ward forums and sub groups.

Dayle Lynch, North West Area Management presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That this Committee notes the update on actions of previous Key Messages as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report.

- (c) That the new Key Messages outlined in Appendix 2 of the report be noted and the actions proposed be endorsed.

96 Woodsley Road Multicultural Community Centre – Management Project Update

Referring to minute 80 of the meeting held on 8th December 2005, the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report updating the meeting on progress of the Woodsley Road Management Project from April 2005 to December 2005.

Appended to the report was a copy of a document detailing the regular users of the centre for the information/comment of the meeting.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.

97 Housing Act 2004 – HMO Licensing Issues

The Chief Officer of Environmental Health submitted a report advising the Committee of the implications of the Housing Act 2004.

The Committee noted that the major provisions of the Act would be implemented from 6th April 2006 and whilst the implications of the Act had an impact across the whole of the City, it also had a particularly significant effect within North West Leeds.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report and the particular significance that the new legislation would have in North West Leeds be noted.

98 Implementing the Ten Year Strategy: New Statutory Duties and Phases 2 and 3 of the Children’s Centre Plan

The Director of Learning and Leisure submitted a report on the development of a Children’s Centre in every neighbourhood by 2010 as part of the universal welfare state offer which would be a statutory responsibility for Local Authorities in the Childcare Bill.

Discussion ensued on the contents of the report.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
(b) That this report be revisited at the next meeting in March 2006 and that arrangements be made for a representative from the Learning and Leisure Department to be in attendance.

(Councillor Hussain left the meeting at 9.25 pm at the conclusion of the above item)

99 Area Manager’s Report

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted the North West Area Manager’s Report for the information/comment of the meeting.

Christine Addison, North West Area Manager presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments

RESOLVED –That the contents of the report be noted.

100 Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

Thursday 30th March 2006 at 7.00 pm at Hawksworth Wood Children's Centre
(N.B provisional venue only)

(The meeting concluded at 9.30 pm)