

## INNER WEST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, 17TH NOVEMBER, 2020

**PRESENT:** Councillor H Bithell in the Chair

Councillors L Cunningham, C Gruen,  
J Heselwood, J Illingworth, J McKenna,  
K Ritchie, A Smart and F Venner

### **CO-OPTED MEMBERS PRESENT**

Hazel Boutle, James Grey, Stephen Garvani, Steve Harris, and Stephen McBarron

### **CHAIRS OPENING COMMENTS**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the remote meeting of the Inner West Community Committee.

The Chair explained that internet connectivity may be an issue for some participants and suggested it may be appropriate to appoint a Vice Chair who could assume the Chair should the Chair lose connectivity. The Chair proposed that Councillor Julie Heselwood be nominated as the Vice Chair, the proposal was seconded, upon been put to the vote the motion was passed.

#### **1 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents**

There were appeals against refusal of inspection of documents.

#### **2 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public**

There were no exempt items.

#### **3 Late Items**

There were no late items.

#### **4 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

#### **5 Apologies for Absence**

No apologies were received.

#### **6 Open Forum / Community Forums**

On this occasion there were no submissions from members of the public.

#### **7 Minutes - 27th November 2019**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019, be approved as a correct record.

#### **8 Matters Arising**

Cllr McKenna requested an update on the issue raised at the Open Forum in November 2019, by Ms O’Keefe. She raised concerns in relation to a site listed on the Site Allocation Plan which was used as a sports ground in the community.

It was noted that no update was available, but officers would make enquiries and the Chair would email Members in relation to this matter.

## **9 Priority Neighbourhood Update**

The report of the Chief Officer Communities updated the Inner West Community Committee on the work being undertaken within the New Wortley Priority Neighbourhood and the ‘Big Asks’ that have been put forward to the Neighbourhood Improvement Board, in relation to improving this area.

In attendance for this item were:

- Stuart Byrne – Localities Programme Manager
- Rachel Marshall – Localities Manager

The Members of the Inner West Community Committee were shown a presentation which provided information on the work that has taken place in the New Wortley area.

Members were informed of the following points:

- It was recognised that the New Wortley area had a number of issues including vandalism, fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour;
- A strategic framework was set up which focussed on 4 key strands which were;
  - Cleaner and greener spaces,
  - Children and Young People,
  - Employment, skills and welfare,
  - Health and Wellbeing.
- It was recognised that Wellington Stores had become a focal point for a number of the issues in the area including drugs and anti-social behaviour. A closure order for the site was put in place and the site was demolished;
- Anti-social behaviour in the area had dropped by 65% although there were still some issues to be addressed;
- A number of activities have been developed in the area for the residents including wellbeing weekends where people can engage in healthy options activities such as learning about healthy foods, exercise, with the introduction of a men’s walking group;
- Produced a Local Services Handbook to be handed out to each tenant. This is not just for the residents of New Wortley but also for the wider West Leeds area;
- The Armley Volunteer Hub was the 5<sup>th</sup> busiest in Leeds, with 1000 formal referrals, the work of the hub is continuing in the second lockdown. However, there has been an increase in mental health issues and the hub has now employed a Mental Health Support Worker. The hub has also secured funding for a Communities of Interest Worker to work with people from the diverse community;

- The Children and Young People’s Support Worker has developed a good working relationship with the schools in the area and are working towards Healthy Holiday Activities;
- New Wortley had been the pathfinder for this type of work and this has now been mirrored across the city in other priority neighbourhoods;
- Work is progressing with partner agencies creating better outcomes for the area. There has also been engagement with the community, however, it was noted that this has been limited this year due to Covid restrictions;
- There is a lack of third sector partners which has placed a pressure on the New Wortley Community Centre who have been trying to take on as many projects as possible, but are struggling due to resource issues;
- Lack of funds for investment around developments which would have drawn on Sector 106 money;
- As part of the ‘Big Ask’ a plan had been developed to improve connectivity, it is hoped that the remodelling of the Gyrotory will improve the infrastructure in this area. The team were also looking at investment to provide a play area on Jailey Fields for young people and making the area safe and free from drugs.

Members’ discussions included:

- Improved education for this area;
- Capital funding and CIL funding for the area;
- A positive report with innovative activities and practices with ideas that could be rolled out across the West Leeds area;
- The Young People’s Board;
- Traffic and infrastructure issues in the area.

Members of Inner West suggested a meeting with Cllr Coupar, the Executive Member for Communities. The Chair offered to arrange a meeting in relation to issues raised in the meeting, especially in relation to infrastructure in and around New Wortley.

**RESOLVED** – To note the Content of the report.

*Cllr Illingworth joined the meeting during in this item.*

## **10 Finance Report**

The report of the Head of Stronger Communities 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 for 2020/21.

Members were informed of the follow points:

- Paragraph 18 showed the remaining balance of £33,029.01 for the Wellbeing Fund. A full breakdown of the projects was listed in Table 1;

- Members were requested to consider the following application were set out at paragraphs 21 – 23 of the submitted report and also within the supplementary information which had been circulated to Members.
  - Burley Foodbank Distribution Centre (part of Leeds N&W Foodbank) for £1,064
  - Crafting Corner – Women’s crafting group for £1,110
  - Bramley Community Christmas Comedy & Variety Show for £1,350
  - Inner West Youth Community Committee for £870 (£290 per ward)
  - A Midsummer Night’s Showcase in Bramley Park for £500
  - Breeze Saturday Night Project Christmas Activity Box Amount applied for was set in 3 options dependent on what was to be provided
    - Option 1: £3,160.00
    - Option 2: £4,385.00
    - Option 3: £5,120.00
- Table 2 provided a breakdown of payments by ward for Covid payments;
- Table 3 showed the wellbeing projects that had been funded but had not started yet due to Covid restrictions. It was noted that some organisations were still hoping to provide some of the activities before the end of the financial year. Members made the suggestion that money put aside for VE and VJ Day, be put into a separate pot for use on another project;
- Monitoring information had been provided by Barca in relation to the Young people-led participative research / social action project;
- A total of £30,926.04 has been allocated to projects for the Youth Activity Fund, as listed in Table 4 with a remaining balance of £19,132.35;
- Table 5 and 6 presented the small grants and skips provided;
- Table 7 gave a breakdown of the capital budget projects;
- Table 8 showed the remaining CIL budget after the latest injection into the CIL Budget.

Cllr McKenna requested an update in relation to funding for use on the Victoria Parks. It was noted that no update had been received, but this would be chased up and reported back to Members.

**RESOLVED** – To note the following:

- a. Details of the Wellbeing Budget position (Table 1)
- b. Wellbeing & Capital proposals for consideration and approval (paragraph 21-23)
- c. Details of Payments from Covid-19 Wellbeing Budget (Table 2)
- d. Details of Projects funded by the committee that have not yet started (Table 3)
- e. Monitoring information of its funded projects (paragraph 28-30)
- f. Details of the Youth Activities Fund (YAF) position (Table 4)
- g. Details of the Small Grants Budget (Table 5)
- h. Details of the Community Skips Budget (Table 6)

- i. Details of the Capital Budget (Table 7)
  - j. Details of the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget (Table 8)
- Page

The Members also approved the following applications:

1. Burley Foodbank Distribution Centre (part of Leeds N&W Foodbank) - St Matts Leeds for £1,064
2. Crafting Corner – Women’s crafting group. Community Links and Leeds City Council for £1,110
3. Bramley Community Christmas Comedy & Variety Show. Bramley Community Centre (managed by BEA) for £1,350
4. Inner West Youth Community Committee Leeds Youth Service for £870 (£290 per ward)
5. A Midsummer Night’s Showcase in Bramley Park Front Room Productions for £500

Members requested further information in relation to Breeze Saturday Night Project Christmas Activity Box.

## **11 Update Report**

The report of the Head of Stronger Communities updated the Community Committee of the work which the Communities Team is engaged in, based on priorities identified by the Community Committee. It also provided the opportunity for further questioning, or to request a more detailed report on a particular issue. The report also provided updates on some of the key activities between Community Committee meetings and functions delegated to Community Committees, Community Champions roles, community engagement, partnership and locality working.

Member’s attention was drawn to paragraphs 35-37 which provided the update from Public Health which included a number of links including one for the prevention of suicide.

The Chair informed the Committee that the laptop project was now up and running. The project had gone into partnership with Digital Access West Yorkshire. Members were advised that the information was on social media and where possible Members were requested to share the information. Drop off points were listed as Hyde Park Bookshop, KVDT Unit 11, Armley Hub and Bramley Community Centre. It was noted that laptops can be dropped off during the current restrictions.

Cllr Heselwood advised the Committee about West Leeds Unwrapped. The Facebook page had been set up to support local businesses in West Leeds. The Community were encouraged to add their businesses and for the community to use for shopping.

The Chair thanked Cllr Heselwood and the Community for all the hard work in setting this up and emphasised the importance of shopping locally in the current climate.

It was noted that the figures bought for use outside school gates to discourage parking, had proved effective and that local schools seemed to have a rota for their use. Although, during the current Covid restrictions it was not thought that they were being used.

RESOLVED – To note the content of the report.

**12 Date and time of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Inner West Community Committee will be Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021, at 6:00pm.

*The meeting concluded at 19:50*