

## OUTER NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

**MONDAY, 6TH MARCH, 2023**

**PRESENT:** Councillor E Thomson in the Chair

Councillors P Alderson, B Anderson,  
C Anderson, C Campbell, R Downes,  
B Flynn, J Garvani, S Lay and  
P Wadsworth

### **42 APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS**

There were no appeals against refusal of inspection of documents.

### **43 EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

There were no exempt items.

### **44 LATE ITEMS**

There were no late items.

### **45 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS'**

In relation to agenda Item 10 (Finance Report) Councillor Lay drew the Committee's attention to his role as a volunteer at the Otley After School Club, this being because the organisation had submitted a grant application.

### **46 Apologies For Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Bromley and Shemilt.

### **47 Minutes - 30th January 2023**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023 be approved as a correct record.

### **48 Matters arising**

#### Minute 36 – LEEDS 2023

It had been noted that Ward Members had not had any contact with their Neighbourhood Hosts. The Chair had tried to get the Hosts and Karen Murgatroyd to attend the meeting. However, due to time limits in the Hosts working week they had been unable to attend. Members again raised concerns that they had not been consulted on the events scheduled for their wards.

The Chair said that she would try again to get the Neighbourhood Hosts to contact Ward Members.

It was noted that the Ward Members were unhappy with the lack of interaction from the Neighbourhood Hosts, they only wished to assist in supporting the events and linking up with local organisations.

#### **49 Open Forum**

In accordance with Paragraphs 4.16 and 4.17 of the Community Committee Procedure Rules, at the discretion of the Chair a period of up to 10 minutes may be allocated at each ordinary meeting for members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Community Committee. This time may be extended at the discretion of the Chair.

#### The Commitment

The Commitment are a small organisation established in 2019 whose aim is to accelerate action for environmental change. Two members of the Commitment attended the Open Forum and provided a presentation for Ward Members to see.

Members of the organisation are asked to pledge to only vote for politicians who commit to environmental change. It was noted that they have no agenda, no policies to push but do provide the views of voters in Leeds. Some of the views were read out to the Community Committee.

The Community Committee were informed that 11,000 commitments had been made nationally with 338 people making the commitment from Leeds. It was noted that 95% of people who had made the commitment honoured the commitment. The main reasons for people making the commitment were:

- For future generations
- Protection and restoration of nature
- Air quality and public health

The Commitment value democracy and have a realisation of how Councils work and the limited resources available to them. The organisation wanted to work with Councils to bridge the gap between the public and the politicians.

Responding to questions from the Community Committee Members the following information was provided:

- No studies had been carried out by the Commitment on poorer sections of the community. However, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation has carried out studies and worked with vulnerable communities. The Commitment work across all demographics and assist with issues such as heating and transport.
- The Commitment is a small team of six people, but they work with other groups and partners. Information about them can be found on social media.

The Community Committee were grateful for the Commitment's attendance at the meeting and were happy for discussions about how to move forward with the climate emergency agenda in local communities.

## Wildlife Friendly Otley – Nature Recovery Plan for Otley

Two Members of Wildlife Friendly Otley attended and provided a presentation outlining the Nature Recovery Plan for Otley.

A brief background to biodiversity and its importance was provided to the Community Committee. Members were informed that the United Kingdom was one of the worst countries at protecting biodiversity. Otley Town Council declared a Biodiversity Emergency and as a result of this declaration a Nature Recovery Plan was written for Otley. The Plan has eight action points listed as:

1. No use of pesticides/ herbicides/ fungicides
2. Baseline survey work with Town Council to improve nature reserves.
3. Habitat restoration
4. Create community orchards
5. Provide hands on support for privately owned spaces and gardens
6. Look at new types of lighting – It was noted that LED lighting reduced reproduction of insects and bats.
7. Cleaning of the River Wharfe – which had received a poor rating due to raw sewage being dumped which had affected fish, birds etc.
8. Communication and working together

Responding to questions from the Community Committee the following information was provided:

- Encourage gardeners to create a small area for a mini meadow and to offer signs saying that the area had been left for wildlife to alleviate fears that people were leaving their gardens in an untidy state. It was noted that work was needed in relation to relaxed mowing by Parks and Countryside.
- Members suggested that the group should speak with their local Ward Members who would be able to advise them of appropriate land which could be turned to rewilding areas. It was noted that some mapping had been undertaken of sites for rewilding, and the group were happy to consult with Councillors and residents.
- The group would prefer not to use pesticides, herbicides and neonicotinoids but did recognise that Japanese Knotweed was difficult to remove. However, there were other methods available which were more environmentally friendly to remove such invasive species as the Japanese Knotweed. Members were advised that volunteers are available to assist with clearing weeds from footpaths and pedestrianised areas.
- It was recognised that LED lighting had been installed to street lighting in relation to assist with the Climate Emergency and to save money. However, this was now found to be worse for certain species and more research was required for a more appropriate lighting solution.
- In relation to the planting of whips the group were upset that the Council had not advised them of the planting, as they would have been able to assist with where was appropriate to plant them and would have been able to provide care for them. It was noted that concerns

had been raised at Plans Panels about the issues in relation to the planting of whips and the number of whips which perished.

- It was noted that Councillors would be happy to support the funding of 'bee bomb' seeds to assist with rewilding of appropriate areas.

The Community Committee thanked the two members of the group for attending the meeting.

A resident of Cherry Lea Court attended and explained to the Community Committee the issues that her and other residents of Cherry Lea Court face in relation to parking.

It was noted that Cherry Lea Court is a private road. However, parents dropping off children at Benton Park School, park on the road blocking in residents. Members heard that on occasion the parents are abusive even more so than the children. The residents were requesting that the yellow lines be renewed as they had faded.

The residents had also noticed that school buses when dropping off and picking up were causing pollution with diesel fumes and noise as they were sat idling the engines. During summer months the trees whilst in full leaf alleviate some of the issue, but during the winter months the noise and fumes have been an issue.

The residents were also concerned for safety on the main road due to the speed of road users and this also caused an issue for access to and from Cherry Lea Court, especially with cars and vans parking close to the entrance and blocking visibility. It was the view of the residents that yellow lines were required on this stretch of road. The Committee were informed that the residents had tried to contact the Council but were constantly told to use the electronic system. It was noted that most of the residents of Cherry Lea Court are in their eighties, and most are reluctant silver surfers.

Cllr Wadsworth said that as Chair of the Transport Sub-Group he would take this issue forward.

A resident of Guiseley attended the meeting on another road related issue this was the junction of Hollins Hill and Hawksworth Road. He wanted to raise concern about the number of accidents in this particular area and was concerned that someone would die if the issue was not resolved.

It was noted that former Cllr Graham Latty had raised this issue on previous occasions. However, nothing seems to have been done to address the issue. The resident said that for a number of years he had sent emails to the Highways Department setting out the issues and providing solutions, but nothing had happened.

It was noted that the Police had only recorded 2 accidents in this area. The resident was of the view that speed on this section of road was an issue and reducing it to 30mph would alleviate some of the incidents.

Cllr Wadsworth said that the issue had been discussed on numerous occasions at the Transport Sub-Group and the Highways Section were currently looking into this issue and running a model for the signals at this junction. He said that he would follow up on this work with the Chief Officer, Highways.

Another Resident of Guiseley attended the Open Forum and raised the following issues:

1. Barclays Bank closing on 12<sup>th</sup> April and the fact that this was the last remaining bank in the area. Residents would now have to travel to Leeds or Bradford to use a bank. It was his view that the area needed a banking hub. He said that he had contacted the MP Stuart Andrew who was looking into this but had been told that premises for the hub were an issue.
2. Potholes on the A65 were an issue especially in the location of Westside and Nunroyd Park.
3. The resident also wished to know what was happening in relation to Micklefield House and Orchard Way Car Park

Members explained that the process of setting up a banking hub was not a short process. Cllr Alderson said that he would contact Stuart Andrew MP about banking services in the area. It was suggested that a mobile banking hub may be suitable alternative for Guiseley.

Cllr Wadsworth, as Chair of the Transport Sub-Group explained that potholes are currently taking 21 days to be filled. He said he would contact Highways Section in relation to the potholes which had been highlighted.

Cllr Wadsworth explained that the Orchard Way Car Park was currently with City Development, and he would look into what is happening and feedback.

The Chair thanked all the speakers for their attendance at the meeting.

The report of Chief Officer for Operations & Active Leeds provided the Outer North West Community Committee with a presentation on the planned Rob Burrow 2023 Leeds Marathon. The presentation provided an update on the planned arrangements for the Marathon which is due to take place on Sunday 14th May 2023. The presentation set out how Run For All are proposing to operate and deliver the marathon and detailed in outline a series of logistical considerations connected with the event.

The Community Committee were informed of the following points:

- The Marathon and Half Marathon will be run on the same day, with both Starting and finishing at Headingley Stadium. It was noted that the Marathon would start at 9:00am.
- The route would take in the City Centre past the universities, going along Otley Road, out to Otley, Arthington and Pool. The event will cause impact to the road network with road closures. This would be co-ordinated by a professional traffic management group in liaison with LCC Highways. Further details of all road closures would be available on the website. It was noted that Parish and Town Councils had been advised of the route and the road closures.
- The event is being hosted by the city in recognition for the work of Kevin Sinfield and Rob Burrow for their support to the MND community. This is to be a fundraising event with £300,000 raised so far for all charities.
- It was noted that there was to be significant communication with residents, Councillors, Police, Adult Social Care in terms of Care Teams and Care Homes, and key stakeholders such as Ambulance Service, Fire Service, public transport and Leeds Bradford Airport.
- Communication had been sent to local scout groups and organisations highlighting opportunities for them to get involved with the event.

Members discussions included:

- Good opportunity for local businesses.
- Suitable diversions for traffic movement around the city.
- Street cleansing before and after the event.
- Road closures and how managed throughout the event.
- Route through Otley Town Centre.

**RESOLVED** – To note the content of the report and presentation.

## **51 Highways - Leeds Safe Roads Vision Zero**

The report from Safe and Sustainable Travel provided the Outer North West Community Committee with an understanding of the recently adopted Vision Zero Strategy and its action plan and to gather input from Elected Members and residents. The presentation provided the Committee Members with an understanding of the current road safety situation in their area.

The Community Committee were informed of the following points:

- Until 2013 deaths and serious injuries from road crashes had been steadily falling. However, that decline has now plateaued and the

steady rise in numbers since had led to a rethink and refresh to the Local Authority's approach to road safety. The presentation highlighted the need for a new approach to road safety and an opportunity to enter into a dialogue as to what the Road Safety Team can do for each area, building on what had been offered in the past.

- The Vision Zero Strategy and Action Plan was adopted by the Executive Board in September 2022. It is the ambition that no one will be killed or suffer serious injuries on roads in Leeds.
- Traditionally road safety had talked about accidents, how to prevent fatalities and set out the reasons for accidents. However, the safe system approach now looks at system designers, road user hierarchy and a systematic approach to build a safer road system.
- Although, there is an encouragement for people to use healthy options of travel such as walking and cycling, these are classed as vulnerable road users.
- Everyone can assist in delivering a Vision Zero approach by taking responsibility to follow the Highway Code. The Council needs to lead by example and is looking at changes to road systems, traffic management, Transport Strategy, public health and education. Safe roads partnership includes West Yorkshire Police, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, National Highways, National Health Service, Ambulance Service, Road Safety Charities. The safe roads partnership activities include Police Operations and enforcement – SPARC, SNAP, Amberland etc, National Highways, safety cameras. The proposal is for behaviour change campaigns and targeted communications.
- The Vision Zero Safe System Pillars of Action are safe speeds, safe roads, safe vehicles, safe behaviours and people and post-collision learning and care.
- It was noted that the Highway Code had been updated in 2022 and there were to be new criteria in relation to speed cameras which was being done nationally but Leeds was already in the process of making the changes.

Members discussions included:

- Adding this item to the Youth Summit on 24<sup>th</sup> March.
- Reduction of speed on roads in the Outer North West area specifically the stretch of Ring Road between Rodley Roundabout and Horsforth Roundabout.
- Speed limits in residential areas specifically close to playgrounds and schools.
- Use of Speed Indication Devices (SID's)
- The need for ongoing conversations between Ward Councillors and Highways Section.
- More information in relation to the new nearside pedestrian crossing structures.
- Targeted education in relation to new infrastructure including cycling.
- The need for Police and Highways to make comments on planning applications.

Members were advised:

- That training and educational talks had been provided to schools in the area.
- The Police were on board with the Vision Zero Strategy
- Work in relation to cyclists was on the agenda
- Work was progressing for a more joined up approach between the Police and Highways Section.

Members suggested that Vision Zero should be a standard agenda item for the Transport Sub-Group.

**RESOLVED** - To note the contents of the report, presentation and Vision Zero Strategy and Action plan.

*Cllr Downes left the meeting at 16:00 during this item.*

*Cllr Flynn left the meeting at 16:55 at the end of this item.*

## 52 **Outer North West Community Committee Finance Update Report**

The report of the Head of Locality Partnerships 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 2022/23.

Members were provided with the following information:

- The remaining balance of the Wellbeing Budget is £17,290.31 with a breakdown of projects listed at Table 1 of the report
- Members were requested to consider the following applications:

Project	Organisation	Wards	Amount
New windows for Rawdon Community Library	Rawdon Community Library Ltd	Guiseley & Rawdon	£5,124.13 (CIL)
Otley After School Club	Otley Youth & Community Centre	Otley & Yeadon	£4,906.00 (YAF)
Yeadon & Rawdon Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter, Photocopier	Yeadon & Rawdon Neighbourhood Watch	Guiseley & Rawdon	£2,497.20 (Wellbeing)
Springfield Park, Boardwalk	Leeds City Council, Parks & Countryside	Guiseley & Rawdon	£5,137.40 (Wellbeing)
Summer Bands in Leeds Parks 2023	Leeds International Concert Season	Otley & Yeadon	£660.00 (Wellbeing)

- Members noted that since the last meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023 no projects had been considered or approved by DDN and no projects had been declined.
- It was noted that monitoring information would be provided at the next meeting.
- Members were advised that the remaining balance of the Youth Activity Fund was currently £31,041.84. A total of £23,410.40 has been allocated to projects and these were listed in Table 2 of the report.
- The Small Grants and Skips Budget has a remaining balance of £1,391.73. Table 3 provided the breakdown of allocations from the Small Grants and Skips Budget.
- The Outer North West currently has a Capital Budget of £46,109 available to spend. Table 4 provided Members with a breakdown of projects and allocations per ward.
- Members noted that the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget had a remaining balance of £115,082.83 with Table 5 providing a detailed summary of allocations per ward.

Members discussions included:

- *Table 1* - Ward Members queried the amount for the Guiseley Christmas Lights as not everything had been provided in the original application.
- *Wellbeing and Capital Projects:*
  - Members requested Locality Officers to check if project outlined at Paragraph 22 Yeadon and Rawdon Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter, Photocopier could be funded through Capital budget rather than Wellbeing Fund.
  - Ward Members requested Project listed at Paragraph 23 Springfield Park, Boardwalk be funded by CIL instead of Wellbeing Fund.
  - Horsforth and Guiseley and Rawdon Ward Members asked Locality Officers to look into applications for Summer Bands in Leeds Parks 2023 for parks in their wards.
- It was noted that the application considered and approved by delegated decision for the Menston Cricket Club did fall within the Leeds Boundary.
- *Wharfemeadows Bowling Club* – Members were advised that this application was currently with Legal Services. Locality Officers said that they would follow up on this issue to have it resolved as soon as possible so it could be granted. Members noted that the Localities Team had been in contact with Mr Harper with regards to this application.
- *Table 5* – It was acknowledged that Yeadon Bowling Club, Disabled Toilet £4,374.28 had been withdrawn and should not have been included on Table 5.
- *Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)* – Members were informed that the CIL budget was due an injection into the fund. It was noted that under current national government guidance on spending CIL was 5

years. Members requested a check on spending within the CIL budget and requested information on how much CIL money is provided to the Parish and Town Councils within the Outer North West area.

- *Monitoring Information* – Members requested an update on monitoring information of projects funded through the Community Committee.

**RESOLVED – To**

- Note details of the Wellbeing Budget position (Table 1)
- Consider funding proposals for approval (paragraphs 20-24) with outcomes provided below:

Project	Organisation	Wards	Amount	Outcome
New windows for Rawdon Community Library	Rawdon Community Library Ltd	Guiseley & Rawdon	£5,124.13 (CIL)	APPROVED
Otley After School Club	Otley Youth & Community Centre	Otley & Yeadon	£4,906.00 (YAF)	APPROVED
Yeadon & Rawdon Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter, Photocopier	Yeadon & Rawdon Neighbourhood Watch	Guiseley & Rawdon	£2,497.20 (Wellbeing)	Deferred for further information into using Capital budget
Springfield Park, Boardwalk	Leeds City Council, Parks & Countryside	Guiseley & Rawdon	£5,137.40 (CIL)	APPROVED
Summer Bands in Leeds Parks 2023	Leeds International Concert Season	Otley & Yeadon	£660.00 (Wellbeing)	APPROVED

- Note details of the projects approved via Delegated Decision (paragraph 25)
- Note monitoring information of its funded projects
- Note details of the Youth Activities Fund (YAF) position (Table 2)
- Note details of the Small Grants and Skips Budget (Table 3)
- Note details of the Capital Budget (Table 4)
- Note details of the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget (Table 5)

**53 Outer North West Community Committee Update Report**

The report of the Head of Locality Partnerships provided the Community Committee with an update on the work of the Localities Team based on the priorities identified by the Community Committee and the key activities which had taken place since the last meeting.

**RESOLVED – To note the content of the submitted report and its appendices.**

**54 Dates, Times and Venue Report**

The report of the City Solicitor requested Members consideration to agreeing the proposed Community Committee meeting schedule for 2023/2023 municipal year.

Members were requested to consider the dates set out at Paragraph 5 of the submitted report.

Members were also requested to consider a proposal put by Cllr Bromley for the meeting start time to be changed to 12.30 instead of 13.30.

During discussions Members raised concerns that an earlier start time of 12.30 could cause an issue, due to overlap of meetings scheduled on Monday morning. It was the view that meetings could start earlier with a proposal put forward for 1:00pm. Members requested the clerk to look at the draft Council Calendar for potential clashes of formal Council meetings and to provide information in relation to this and proposals for change of dates if necessary.

Cllr Lay also proposed that future meetings take place at different locations to allow Members of public to attend from the different wards. During this discussion it was noted that a few of the Community Committees were meeting in the Civic Hall so that their meetings could be webcast. Members were of the view that the first meeting should take place in Greenacre Hall and discussions could be had as to venues for future meetings.

**RESOLVED** – To note the change of start time to 1:00pm and for the clerk to provided information in relation to proposals for change of dates.

*Meeting concluded at 17:35*