

NORTH WEST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 2ND APRIL, 2009

PRESENT: Councillor J Monaghan in the Chair

Councillors B Atha, S Bentley, J Chapman,
B Chastney, P Ewens, M Hamilton,
J Illingworth, J Matthews and L Yeadon

OFFICERS: Steve Crocker, West North West Area Manager
Jason Singh, Deputy Area Manager
Chris Dickinson, North West Area Management
Jade Corcoran, City Development Department
Dylan Griffiths, Chief Executive's Department
Jane Maxwell, Chief Executive's Department
Neil Evans, Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods
Susan Upton, Environment and Neighbourhoods
Stuart Robinson, Chief Executive's Department
Inspector Ian Croft, West Yorkshire Police
Inspector Fran Naughton, West Yorkshire Police

**MEMBERS OF
THE PUBLIC:**

Dr Richard Tyler, Leeds HMO Lobby
Barrie Payne, Leeds HMO Lobby
John Dickinson, Weetwood Residents Association
Rob Damiao, University of Leeds Students Union
Scott Blakeway, Unipol Student Homes
Amanda Jackson, University of Leeds
Sophie Hughes, Leeds Metropolitan University
Sue Buckle, South Headingley Community Association /
Friends of Woodhouse Moor
Bill McKinnon, Friends of Woodhouse Moor
Janet Kemp, Supporting the Elderly
Doug Kemp, West Park Residents Association
Steve Harris, Kirkstall Festival
Penny Bainbridge, Cardigan Centre
Mercia Southorn, North Hyde Park Neighbourhood
Association
Josie Green, North Hyde Park Neighbourhood
Association
Tony Green, North Hyde Park Neighbourhood
Association
Martin Staniforth, North Hyde Park Neighbourhood
Association
Marian Smith, North Hyde Park Neighbourhood
Association
T Hall, Local Resident
C Hall, Local Resident
I Harker, Local Resident

C Mc Quillian, Local Resident
Helen Graham, Local Resident
Philip Graham, Local Resident
Greta Parker, Tagore House Tenants Group
T Morgan, Tagore House Tenants Group
Craig Clements, Local Resident

88 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the April meeting of the North West (Inner) Area Committee held in the James Graham Building, Jubilee Room, Headingley Campus, Church Wood Avenue, Leeds 6.

He informed Members that the meeting was inquorate due to no Members being present from the Hyde Park and Woodhouse ward.

He announced that Inspector Ian Croft, West Yorkshire Police would be leaving the area due to promotion and, on behalf of the Area Committee, he thanked him for his contribution to the North West Inner area.

89 Late Item

In accordance with his powers under Section 100B (4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair consented to a late item of business relating to a report entitled 'Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)' which had been previously submitted to the Area Committee on 5th February 2009 and subsequently deferred at that meeting.

The report was late due to the Chair's wish that the report should be considered as supplementary information in conjunction with the report on the Review of Private Rented Sector Housing (Agenda Item 9) (Minute 96 refers).

90 Declarations of Interest

The following personal interests were declared:-

- Councillor J Chapman in her capacity as a Director of West North West Homes ALMO (Agenda Items 11 and 12) (Minutes 98 and 99 refer)
- Councillor J Illingworth in view of him renting a Council owned allotment which was located a few metres from the proposed BMX site on Kirkstall Road (Agenda Item 14) (Minute 101 refers)

91 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor K Hussain and Councillor L Rhodes-Clayton.

A number of apologies received from members of the public were reported.

92 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.

- (a) Proposed BBQ Designated Area on Woodhouse Moor
Martin Staniforth, North Hyde Park Neighbourhood Association reported his concerns regarding the proposed bbq designated area on Woodhouse Moor. He stated that the proposed bbq designated area should be disposed with and the money budgeted to fund be used instead for essential repairs to the moor.

In addition to the above comments, the Chair allowed two further members of the public to speak on this item who raised issues around potential damage to trees on Woodhouse Moor; bonfires; refuse and out of date byelaws on the Council's website.

Councillor P Ewens joined the meeting at 7.15 pm during discussion of the Woodhouse Moor BBQ issue. The Chair informed the Members that the meeting was now quorate.

Arising from the above discussions, it was moved by Councillor B Atha and seconded by Councillor L Yeadon that the Area Committee should strongly oppose any bbq activity on Woodhouse Moor and to prosecute those responsible through enforcement.

An amendment was moved by Councillor B Chastney and seconded by Councillor M Hamilton that the agreed consultation process on this issue should continue with those interested parties and to report back any concerns at the next meeting in July 2009.

The amendment was voted upon and carried.

In conclusion, the Chair requested that a meeting should be convened, as soon as possible, with North West Area Management, North Hyde Park Neighbourhood Association, Friends of Woodhouse Moor and South Headingley Community Association to discuss the way forward.

- (b) Review of Leeds Unipol Code for Shared Student Housing Consultation Process
Scott Blakeway, Unipol Student Homes informed the meeting that Unipol Student Homes were reviewing the Leeds Unipol Code for Shared Student Housing.

As part of the consultation process, Unipol was now seeking the views of as many interested parties as possible before 24th April 2009.

The Chair responded and encouraged Members and the general public to convey their comments prior to the above deadline.

(c) Environmental Impact on New Generation Transport (NGT) Bus System

Councillor J Illingworth referred to the above issue and raised his concerns about the proposals and the consultation process.

Jason Singh, Deputy Area Manager, responded and confirmed that a report on this issue would be submitted to the next meeting in July 2009.

93 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2009 be approved as a correct record.
- (b) That the update on matters arising from the previous minutes be noted.

94 Matters Arising from the Minutes

(a) Leeds Housing Strategy (Minute 84 refers)

Dr Richard Tyler, Leeds HMO Lobby, referred to the proposed meeting with Rob McCartney, Housing Strategy and Commissioning Manager, and North West Area Management to discuss the process by which links between Inner North West Area Committee Strategy and the Leeds Housing Strategy could be developed. He suggested to the meeting that it would be useful if Huw Jones, Re'new could take part in the discussions in view of his involvement with this specific issue.

Jason Singh, Deputy Area Manager responded and agreed, in principle, to this suggestion which was subject to a departmental service level agreement.

95 Sustainable Communities Act

The Head of Planning Policy and Improvement submitted a report providing background information on the Sustainable Communities Act and its implications for Leeds.

Dylan Griffiths, Planning, Policy and Improvement presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- the powers to allow appeals against planning approvals
- the powers to decriminalise dangerous and obstructive car parking
- the powers to introduce fixed penalty notices for garden rubbish
- the powers to introduce regulations covering cold food take away's
- the powers for Planning Inspectors to take notice of local conditions when determining planning appeals

RESOLVED –

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

- (b) That Members of the Committee be requested to forward any further comments/proposals on the Sustainable Communities Act to Dylan Griffiths, Planning, Policy and Improvement via North West Area Management prior to the deadline of 15th May 2009.
- (c) That North West Area Management be requested to circulate a copy of the comments/proposals to Members of the Committee and the North West Inner mailing list for information/retention.

96 Review of Private Rented Sector Housing

The Director of City Development submitted a report advising Members of the contents of the Private Rented Sector review that had been commissioned by the Minister of Housing.

The purpose of the review was to consider the contribution and potential of the Private Rented sector in the context of change within the housing market.

In addition to the above report, a copy of a report entitled 'Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)' previously considered and deferred at the Area Committee on 5th February 2009 was circulated as supplementary information to assist Members in their deliberations on this matter.

Jade Corcoran, Community Planning Officer, City Development presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- the need for all houses in multiple occupation and the private rented sector to be licensed
- the need for greater protection for tenants
- the need to review the conditions/timescales around right to buy properties
- the need to address the shortage of social housing
- the need for more privately owned properties being transferred to ALMOs
- the need for this Committee to support the findings of ECOTEC report and the Glassworks Inquiry
- the need for the authority to be more strategic in its approach to private rented sector housing
- the need for progress in this area and to focus on landlord licensing

In concluding, the Chair made reference to the supplementary information circulated and requested Members to give consideration to the recommendations outlined in the report previously submitted to the City Centre Plans Panel meeting held on 6th November 2008.

RESOLVED –

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

- (b) That approval be given to lobbying the Communities and Local Government, MPs, the Local Government Association and other appropriate organisations in order to advance legislative change.
- (c) That consideration be given to reviewing planning policy with regard to HMOs and student accommodation through the emerging Local Development Framework (LDF) process in order to ensure that the authority had robust policies in place.

97 Well-being Report

Referring to Minute 81 of the meeting held on 5th February 2009, the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report on the Well-being budget.

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

- (a) Wellbeing Capital Proposals 2009/10 (Appendix 1 refers)
- (b) Wellbeing Revenue Proposals 2009/10 (Appendix 2 refers)

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

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

The West North West Area Manager raised the issue of the fees for the Headingley Town and District Centre Scheme that were no longer scheduled to proceed. The Executive Board report of 4th March 2009 stated that that these fees amounting to £52,308.59 should be defrayed from Wellbeing Funds allocated to the Inner North West Area Committee.

Following a brief discussion, Members agreed to pay a proportion of the fees from the 2009/10 Well-being budget and the balance to be paid from future years.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That the well-being funding allocations to capital and revenue projects for 2009/10 be approved or refused in accordance with the document appended to these minutes.
- (c) That in relation to the well-being capital proposals for 2009/10, approval be given allocating the remaining £10,127 evenly between the four North West Inner wards i.e. £2,531 per ward.
- (d) That this Committee notes that the Weetwood Ward allocation was yet to be determined by the Ward Members.
- (e) That in relation to the well-being revenue proposals for 2009/10, this Committee notes that the total amount approved for revenue projects was £219,400.
- (f) That in relation to the fees for the Headingley Town and District Centre Scheme that are no longer scheduled to proceed, such fees amounting to £52,308.59 be defrayed from well-being funds allocated to the Inner

North West Area Committee and that approval be given to pay a proportion of the fees from the 2009/10 well-being budget and the balance to be paid in future years.

98 North West Inner Ward Members Feedback Regarding Streetscene Issues

Referring to Minute 34 of the meeting held on 25th September 2008, the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report on feedback received from North West Inner Ward Members regarding Streetscene issues.

Neil Evans, Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- the need for one Elected Member from each ward to meet with Streetscene on a monthly basis to discuss areas of concern and to ascertain if resources had been allocated efficiently
- the need for the Environment Sub Group to act as a monitoring organisation
- clarification of progress in relation to green bags and the difficulties encountered with the system in flats
- the difficulties around leaf collection and the need for a list of problem areas/streets to be supplied to Elected Members
- the problems associated with litter bins being positioned in the wrong place and those going missing at bus stops
- the recent introduction of traffic regulations in relation to corners and thereby giving better access to refuse vehicles
- the problems associated with call centres around missed bin collections and the need to provide a weekly or monthly report on missed collections to enable effective monitoring
- the need to re-introduce the notification of refuse vehicle breakdowns to Elected Members for dissemination to residents
- the need to introduce a more formalised procedure in relation to refuse and recycling
- clarification of the resources required to enable Streetscene Services to operate a more efficient service

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods be requested to forward the comments raised to Streetscene Services for appropriate action.

99 Relationship and Reporting between Streetscene Services and Area Committees

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report outlining the current Streetscene Services arrangements, links with area management and elected members and current reporting mechanisms.

Neil Evans, Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- clarification of the resources available in determining Streetscene's priorities in relation to the proposed introduction of the District Local Environment Quality Survey (DLEQS) methodology
- the need to increase the frequency of gully cleansing and for Elected Members to identify those sites which require urgent attention by Streetscene Services
- clarification as to who judges the standard of cleaning and the need for more resources in those inner city areas, especially around leaf collection
- the need for more community engagement in view of the positive feedback received from residents and for this model to be fed into Streetscene Services
- clarification of the enforcement powers available to the authority in relation to parked cars when engaging in street cleaning and the need for closer communication with residents

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That further reports on this issue be submitted to this Committee on a six monthly basis.
- (c) That the issues raised at this meeting be discussed further at the Environment Sub Group
- (d) That this Committee endorses the following actions:-
 - the use of District Local Environment Quality surveying and measuring methodology at a local level, subject to surveying resource implications that needed to be identified and agreed
 - the process outlined in Section 3.3 of the report in relation to how area committees and area management can assist Streetscene Services with customer/community engagement
 - to encourage the desirable process of individual ward member meetings with Streetscene officers
 - the use of the 'probability/impact' approach to service prioritisation

100 Residual Waste Treatment Project: Update and Communications and Community Engagement Strategy

The Executive Project Manager/Head of Performance and Communications (Environmental Services) submitted a report on the current status of the

Residual Waste Treatment PFI Project, together with seeking Members feedback on the proposed strategy for communication and community engagement for the Residual Waste Treatment PFI Project.

Neil Evans, Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods and Susan Upton, Recycling and Waste Manager presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- the need for the department to investigate the suitability of a potential waste disposal site located on the Ring Road (i.e. near Sandos)
- the need to address the traffic situation in relation to the Kirkstall site

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That this Committee notes the current status of the Residual Waste PFI project and the bids recently received.
- (c) That the above feedback on the proposals for communication and community engagement for the Residual Waste Treatment Project be fed back to the Council as it progresses.
- (d) That the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods be requested to undertake a review of the Horsforth site with a report back to a future meeting.

101 Area Manager's Report

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report on a number of projects and initiatives in Inner North West Leeds that were not addressed elsewhere on the agenda.

Steve Crocker, West North West Area Manager presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- the need to congratulate those officers and organisations who had been involved in the successful transfer arrangements of the former Headingley Primary School to Headingley Development Trust
- the need for ward members to be actively involved in the arrangements for the feasibility of a dirt jump track
- the need for Members of the Committee to receive case history information relating to the Butcher Hill Village Green status
(Chris Dickinson, North West Area Management responded and agreed to liaise with Councillor B Atha on this issue)

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That, subject to legal advice, this Committee supports the comparative advantages of pursuing village green status at Butcher Hill.

- (c) That in relation to Royal Park School, this Committee reaffirms that any agreed scheme must have a benefit to the local community.
- (d) That this Committee congratulates those officers and organisations who had been involved in the successful transfer arrangements of the former Headingley Primary School to Headingley Development Trust.

102 Pricing and Lettings Policy for Community Centres

Referring to Minute 54 of the meeting held on 13th November 2008, the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report requesting Members to endorse and implement a revised Pricing and Lettings Policy across Inner North West Leeds.

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

Specific reference was made to the non attachment of Appendix 1 to the report in relation to the discount policy.

Chris Dickinson, North West Area Management agreed to email a copy of the document to Members of the Committee for their retention/information.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That approval be given to endorsing the revised Pricing and Lettings Policy for implementation in the inner north west community centres.
- (c) That approval be given to the indicative implementation date of 1st October 2009 and should this date be not achieved, the policy would be implemented as soon as operationally possible.

103 Forum and Sub Group Update Report

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report providing Members with full minutes from Ward Forums and Sub Groups that have taken place since the last Area Committee together with further information of future meeting dates for the Committee's forums and sub groups.

Councillor J Ilingworth referred to the Kirkstall Burley Forum minutes of the meeting held on 7th October 2008 and informed the meeting that it was Councillor L Yeadon who chaired the forum.

Chris Dickinson, North West Area Management responded and noted the correction.

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

104 Dates, Times and Venues of Area Committee Meetings 2009/10

The Chief Democratic Services Officer submitted a report requesting Members to give consideration to agreeing the dates, times and venues of their meetings for the 2009/10 municipal year which commences in May 2009.

RESOLVED-

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That approval be given to the following dates, times and provisional venues for the 2009/10 municipal year in accordance with Section 3.1 of the report:-

2nd July 2009 – Hawksworth Wood Primary School
17th September 2009 – West Park Centre
22nd October 2009 – Abbey Grange
10th December 2009 – Little London Community Centre
25th February 2010 – Unipol Conference Room
22nd April 1010 – venue to be confirmed

(NB: All meetings to commence at 7.00 pm)

(The meeting concluded at 9.30pm)

Addendum
to the Inner North West Area Committee
Minutes of 2nd April 2009

Well-being Capital 2009/10

Inner North West Allocation

Project Name	Delivery Organisation	Amount Requested	Amount Approved
Capture Car	West Yorkshire Police	£ 5,000	£ 5,000
Capture House	West Yorkshire Police	£ 8,000	£ 8,000
Off Road Motorbikes	West Yorkshire Police	£ 1,500	£ 1,500
Environmental Action Van	Environmental Action Team	£ 3,000	£ 3,000
Hyde Park Corner Improvements	LCC Area Management to Action	£ 5,000	£ 5,000
	TOTAL	£ 22,500	£ 22,500
		Budget Remaining	£ 10,127

Headingley Ward Allocation

Project Name	Delivery Organisation	Amount Requested (£)	Amount Approved (£)
Town and District Centre Improvements	LCC Area Management to Action	£ 20,000	£ 20,000
	TOTAL	£ 20,000	£ 20,000
			0

Hyde Park and Wood House Ward Allocation

Project Name	Delivery Organisation	Amount Requested (£)	Amount Approved (£)
Woodsley Road Improvements	LCC Area Management to Action	£ 40,000	0
Woodhouse Masterplan Projects	LCC Area Management to Action	£ 40,000	£ 20,000
Burley Willows Estate Improvements	Groundwork	£ 13,000	0
Binyards to Gardens	Hyde Park Source	£ 14,152	0
	TOTAL	£107,152	£ 20,000
		Budget Remaining	£ 0

Kirkstall Ward Allocation

Project Name	Delivery Organisation	Amount Requested (£)	Amount Approved (£)
Cragside Recreation Ground	LCC Parks and Countryside	£ 40,000	£ 14,334
Sandford Road Play Area	Groundwork	£ 19,000	£ 19,000
Butcher Hill Play Area	LCC Parks and Countryside	£ 10,000	£ 10,000

Minutes approved as a correct record
on 2nd July 2009

	TOTAL	£ 69,000	£ 43,334
		Budget Remaining	£ 0

Weetwood Ward Allocation (budget available £20,000)

Project Name	Delivery Organisation	Amount Requested (£)	Amount Approved (£)
	TOTAL	0	0
		Budget Remaining	£ 20,000

Well-being Revenue 2009/10

Project Name	Delivery Organisation	Amount Requested	Amount Approved
Woodhouse Ridge Maintenance	Woodhouse Ridge Action Group	£ 7,500	£ 2,500
Small Grants Pot	LCC Area Management	£ 10,000	£ 10,000
Festivals	LCC Area Management	£ 12,000	£ 12,000
Festive Lights	LCC Area Management	£ 11,000	£ 11,000
Skips	LCC Area Management	£ 5,000	£ 5,000
Community Planning Officer	LCC Planning	£ 46,350	£ 46,350
Environmental Action Officer	Environmental Action Team	£ 35,000	£ 35,000
Funding Officer	Voluntary Action Leeds	£ 51,000	£ 30,000
Mobile Youth Provision	LCC Youth Services	£ 7,800	£ 7,800
Design Statement and Conservation Area Budget	LCC Area Management	£ 15,000	£1 5,000
Transport Survey	LCC Area Management	£ 5,000	£ 5,000
Merry Go Round	Older Active People	£ 25,000	£ 10,000
Community Repaint	Seagulls	£ 5,000	£ 5,000
Green Streets	Green Streets	£ 18,432	£ 15,000
Student Changeover	Streetscene	£ 20,000	£ 9,750
Binyards to Gardens	Hyde Park Source	£ 14,152	£ 0
Woodhouse Moore Community Day	To be confirmed	£ 5,000	£ 0
Hawksworth Film Project	Interplay	£ 11,000	£ 0
DPPO	West Yorkshire Police	£ 5,000	£ 0
Graffiti Database	LCC Environment Enforcement	£ 2,600	£ 0
Fuel Savers	Fuel Savers	£ 3,000	£ 0
Participatory Creative Arts Programme	Little London Arts	£ 11,940	£ 0
Hyde Park Cricket Club	Hyde Park Cricket Club	£ 2,300	£ 0
	TOTAL	£314,922	£219,400
		Budget Remaining	£ 0

Minutes approved as a correct record
on 2nd July 2009