

INNER NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 15TH JANUARY, 2015

PRESENT: Councillor J Akhtar in the Chair

Councillors J Bentley, S Bentley, G Harper,
J Pryor, C Towler, J Walker and
N Walshaw

21 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of a disclosable pecuniary interest.

22 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor J Chapman.

23 Minutes - 9 October 2014

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2014 be confirmed as a correct record.

24 Open Forum

In accordance with the Community Committee Precedure 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 Community Committee. The following issues were discussed:

- How to improve publicity of future Community Committee meetings.
- Lack of sports facilities particularly in the Hyde Park area. The Royal Park site was mentioned as a suitable location for developing sports facilities and further issues discussed included funding.
- Environmental issues – concern was expressed about rubbish. It was reported that there had been a meeting with Environmental Services shortly before Christmas and it was suggested that this could be the theme for the next Community Committee workshop. It was also suggested that noise nuisance be included. There had been additional noise control work funded by the Community Committee and the results of this would be reported back.
- Concern was expressed about the lack of parking for residents and occurrences where residents had been fined. It was suggested that some kind of scheme be implemented for residents.

25 Wellbeing Update Report

The report of the West North West Area Leader provided the Community Committee with an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund for 2014/15 and the current position of the small grants and skips pots and those small grants and skips that had been approved since the last meeting. The report also provided an update on Youth Activity Funds, seeking approval of

the remaining funding and asked the Committee to note the decommissioning of the previously earmarked Community Development Work and to consider alternate uses of this funding.

Members attention was brought to the Wellbeing Statement appended to the report and reference was made to the Bedford Arms Project in Weetwood. It was reported that the Council had entered discussion with OPAL with a view to developing a Community Hub.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the current budget position for the 2014/15 Wellbeing Fund be noted.
- (2) That the current position of the small grants and skips pots and those small grants and skips that had been approved since the last meeting be noted.
- (3) That the current position of the Youth Activity Fund and funded projects be noted.
- (4) That the decommissioning of the previously earmarked Community Development Work project be noted and alternative use of this funding be considered.

26 Area update report

The report of the West North West Area Leader provided Members with a summary of recent sub group and forum business. It also asked the Committee to make an appointment to the vacant position on the Housing Advisory Panel.

Reference was made to the briefing for Environmental Champions regarding the briefing on the possible future delegation to Community Committees. Feedback to the briefing was requested by the end of January. It was agreed to circulate this to Members of the Committee and it was suggested that a meeting take place with representatives of Parks and Countryside.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the Key Messages from Sub Groups and Forums be noted.
- (2) That Councillor J Akhtar be appointed to the Inner North West Housing Advisory Panel.

27 Helping Local People Into Work - Discussion Report

Members split into workshops for the following themed discussion: Helping Local People Into Work.

Jane Hopkins, Head of Employment and Skills opened the discussion and made reference to the numbers out of employment across the City and more specifically in the Inner North West Area. It was reported that there were a lot of challenges to be faced and some of the initiatives carried out by the Council and its partners were highlighted. These initiatives covered issues relating to

school leavers and older people, connections to the labour market and improving skills.

The following feedback was received from the workshop groups:

- Overcoming barriers to employment
- Childcare
- Getting young people from education into employment
- Work experience opportunities for young people
- Outreach work and bridging the gap for young people out of education and employment.
- Support for interviews and interview skills.
- Support for community organisations.
- Volunteering opportunities

28 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Thursday, 12 March 2015 at 7.00 p.m.