

INNER WEST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 22ND JUNE, 2016

PRESENT: Councillor K Ritchie in the Chair

Councillors C Gruen, J Heselwood,
J Illingworth, A Lowe, J McKenna and
L Yeadon

CHAIRS COMMENT

The Chair welcomed all to the Inner West Community Committee.

He spoke about the sad loss of Jo Cox MP for Batley and Spen. He said that although he had not known her personally he praised her commitment to helping others and that her death had touched everyone.

The Committee held a minute silence in her memory.

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE WORKSHOP - DRUGS AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The Chair introduced the themed workshop as 'Young People and Drug Crime'

The workshop was to understand the impact that drugs had on young people and the barriers they face in reporting crime.

The workshop was to look at ways to support young people to feel more confident to report crime and view the police more positively.

Cllr. Gruen informed the Committee that the workshop had come about from a children's consultation and activities initiative which had asked children and young people what they liked and disliked about the area that they lived in.

Children and young people from all of the community listed one of the main issues of concern as drugs.

They said that they were able to identify dealers, dealer's cars and homes within the areas that they lived. Some had witnessed parents and peers under the influence of drugs.

When asked if they would report the crime to the police their response was no as they did not want to be labelled as a 'grass' or 'snitch' and were frightened of the repercussion should they be found to have reported anything to the police.

They were of the view that these criminal activities did not make them feel positive about themselves or the area that they lived in.

The outcomes of the consultation had been to the Children's sub group to address the issues raised and to look at actions that practically and proactively made a difference and provided young people with a voice.

A presentation was shown on the feedback from the young people's consultation.

A question and answer session was held with panel members:

Tom Donohoe – Head of Police Contact Centre

PC Dave Burrow – West Yorkshire Police

Shaun Wong – Forward Leeds

Kevin Donelley – Youth Service, Leeds City Council

Small groups of two to four people discussed the following:

What are the barriers to young people reporting crime?

Two projects ideas that will make a difference

A group of young people from Angels of Youth and the King's Project attended the session and provided valuable contributions to the question and answer session and the discussion workshop.

The Inner West Community Committee gave a round of applause to express their gratitude to the young people for their attendance.

All the information from the workshop will be collated into a report and the findings brought to a future meeting for discussion.

Formal Community Committee business commenced at 7:30pm

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Fiona Venner and Alice Smart, and co-optees Sam Meadley and Eric Bowes.

2 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals against refusal of inspection of documents.

3 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There were no exempt items.

4 Late Items

There were no late items.

5 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

6 Open Forum

On this occasion nobody wished to speak at the Open Forum.

The Chair and Members of the Committee requested that this part of the meeting be more widely promoted.

7 Minutes

The minutes of the Outer West Community Committee meeting held on 9th March 2016, were approved as a correct record.

8 Matters Arising

Cllr. Yeadon informed the Committee that the Thank You event organised for those who had assisted and helped with the clean-up of Kirkstall after the Boxing Day floods, had taken place. The event had been a success with free beer provided by The Bridge pub.

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Cllr. Gruen informed the Committee that the workshop had come about from a children's consultation event where children and young people had been asked what they liked and disliked about the area that they lived in.

Children and young people from across the community listed one of the main issues of concern as drugs.

They said that they were able to identify dealers, dealer's cars and homes within the areas that they lived. Some had witnessed parents and peers under the influence of drugs.

When asked if they would report the crime to the police their response was no as they did not want to be labelled as a 'grass' or 'snitch' and were frightened of the repercussion should they be found to have reported anything to the police.

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9 Notification of Election of Community Committee Chair for 2016/2017

The report of the City Solicitor gave formal notification that Cllr. Kevin Ritchie had been appointed to Chair of the Inner West Community Committee by full Council at the Annual Meeting held on 19th May 2016.

RESOLVED – The Community Committee noted that Cllr. Kevin Ritchie was elected Chair of the Inner West Community Committee for the duration of 2016/17 municipal year at the Annual Council Meeting on 19th May 2016.

10 Community Committee Appointments 2016/2017

The report of the City Solicitor invited the committee to make appointments to the following:

- Outside Bodies as detailed at Appendix 1
- One representative to the Corporate Parenting Board
- Community Committee Champions as listed at Appendix 1
- And Children's Services Cluster Partnerships also as listed in submitted report.

The Committee noted that the Inner West Community Committee had no vacancies on the Outside Bodies this municipal year 2016/17.

Members discussed the appointments requesting that dates for the Cluster meetings be checked against the Council Diary. Members said that they had found difficulty attending Cluster meetings as they had clashed with Council commitments, it was agreed that the area team would circulate the dates for the year ahead.

Members noted that the Inner North West Committee have a planning sub group which meets monthly. The sub group have historically covered Kirkstall when it was part of the Inner North West Committee area and still continued to do so. As such the Inner West Community Committee were invited to appoint a Kirkstall Elected Member to attend the sub group.

RESOLVED – That the Committee appointed to the following:

Corporate Parenting Board

- Cllr. C Gruen
- Cllr. A Smart

Community Committee Champion Roles

- Environment
 - Cllr. J Illingworth
- Community Safety
 - Cllr. K Ritchie
- Children's Services
 - Cllr. C Gruen
 - Cllr. A Smart
- Employment, Skills and Welfare
 - Cllr. J McKenna
 - Cllr. J Heselwood
- Health and Wellbeing
 - Cllr. A Lowe
- Adult Social Care
 - Cllr. F Venner

Inner North West Committee Planning Sub Group

- Cllr. J Illingworth

Clusters

Bramley - Cllr. C Gruen

ACES – Cllr. A Lowe

Inner North West Hub – Cllr. L Yeadon

11 Community Committee nominations to Housing Advisory Panels (HAP)

The report of the Chief Officer Housing Management sought nominations from the Community Committee to the Inner West and Inner North West Housing Advisory Panels (HAP's)

The Committee were requested to nominate up to 1 Ward Member from each of the Bramley and Stanningley and Armley Wards to the Inner West HAP.

The Committee was also asked to nominate up to 1 Ward Member from the Kirkstall Ward to the Inner North West HAP, reflecting that the Kirkstall Ward is within the Inner North West HAP boundary.

RESOLVED – That the Committee appointed as follows:

- Inner West HAP
 - Bramley and Stanningley – Cllr. K Ritchie
 - Armley – Cllr. J McKenna
- Inner North West HAP
 - Kirkstall – Cllr. J Illingworth

12 Appointment of Co-optees to Community Committees

The report of the City Solicitor invited Members to consider appointment of co-optees to the Community Committee for the duration of the 2016/2017 municipal year.

The Inner West Community Committee had previously nominated 9 co-optees, 3 for each ward.

The nominations for the appointments were as follows:

Armley Ward:

- Hazel Boutle
- Eric Bowes
- Kim Frangos

Bramley Ward:

- Annabel Gaskin
- Stephen McBarron
- Marvina Newton

Kirkstall Ward:

- Sam Meadley
- Erica Savage (nee Mitchell)
- Mick Park

RESOLVED – That the Inner West Community Committee appointed the following co-optees to the Committee for the duration of 2016/2017 municipal year:

Armley Ward:

- Hazel Boutle
- Eric Bowes
- Kim Frangos

Bramley Ward:

- Annabel Gaskin
- Stephen McBarron
- Marvina Newton

Kirkstall Ward:

- Sam Meadley
- Erica Savage (nee Mitchell)
- Mick Park

13 Adult Social Care Report

The report of the Chief Officer Access and Care Delivery, Adult Social Care highlights steps taken to provide an integrated service for District Nursing, Community Matrons, Intermediate Care Services and area-based Social Work which formerly operated to geographical populations with therapy services spread across intermediate care and domiciliary physiotherapy.

In attendance for this report was an officer from Adult Social Care and the NHS Service Manager.

Members were informed that the 13 new Neighbourhood Teams lead by a Community Matron joins together G.P.'s, Adult Social Care, District Nurses, Intermediate Care Services, Social workers and other agencies such as mental health organisations and third sector organisations. The newly formed local teams meet regularly to discuss cases and the best support for the patient, family, friends and carers.

Armley Ward Members were concerned at the closure of Middle Cross Care Home. They said that they had not received any information or been consulted in relation to the closure. The NHS Service Manager in attendance said that she would clarify the position and respond to Cllr. McKenna and the Communities Team.

The Members asked for clarification as to how the Neighbourhood Teams would align with the GP Practices across the Inner West area. A map is to be provided to the Members to show the areas covered by the 13 Neighbourhood Teams

Members were informed that training and support is ongoing to ensure that there was enough staff available across all the services.

The reported had highlighted that the new Neighbourhood Teams would provide more links to Community Committees and the Community Committee Champions for Adult Social Care.

RESOLVED – That:-

- Members noted the update of the submitted report.
- Members noted the desire to return to the Community Committee Chairs Forum in July with a summary of this round of updates and also a proposal to open discussions about the possibility of holding Integration Workshops involving Members, citizens, health and adult social care professionals, volunteers and third sector representatives and other partners.
- At the request of the Chair, officers agreed to support with the co-ordination of a themed workshop focusing on older people in line with Leeds City Council's breakthrough project, Leeds the best city for people to grow old in.

14 Lettings Policy Review Consultation Update

The report of the Director of Environment and Housing provided an update for the Committee on the consultation for the lettings policy review.

Housing Manager, Lettings and Tenancy Management attended the meeting.

Members were reminded that in February 2016, Executive Board agreed to commence consultation on proposed changes to Housing Leeds' current lettings framework with a view to approving a revised policy in September/October 2016.

The consultation commenced with two Elected Member sessions in early March 2016. This had been followed up by further consultation with local tenant and resident groups, statutory and voluntary sector partners and individual tenants and residents.

Members attention was drawn to point 13 of the submitted report which set out the drivers for change identified by Housing Leeds:

- The majority of the LLPs had been in place for many years and whilst they had been periodically reviewed, there had been little or in some cases, no change.
- They do not comply with equalities legislation leaving the council open to legal challenge based on discrimination.
- They often rely on the judgement that tenancy behaviour is linked to age, rather than evidence.
- There is inconsistent application of the policies with evidence that they restrict housing opportunities to younger people in some communities and result in concentrations in other areas.

Members informed that the lettings policy would still include:

- Giving preference to tenants with a good tenancy record.
- Conducting home visits to prospective applicants prior to making an offer.
- Introducing pre tenancy training for 146 and 17 year olds, and applicants who are unable to demonstrate a good tenancy record.
- Using our good neighbour criteria in areas with significant issues of anti-social and criminal behaviour.

Members were informed that home visits were proving to be helpful in gathering information about tenants and prospective tenants.

The Officer was asked to inform the Committee of the Ealing Verdict which may relate to the Leeds Letting Policy.

Members raised their concerns and discussed issues in relation to the following:

- The bedroom tax needed to be a driver for the lettings policy
- The policy needed to be clear for those employed, or in low paid work and those unemployed.
- Anti-Social Behaviour need to be addressed

- The unemployed, homeless and care leavers needed more support
- Age restricted properties
- Local connection criteria

In response Members were informed that a list would be circulated to show the criteria of all properties on a ward base.

They were also informed that pre tenancy training was given to those who were taking a tenancy for the first time with the offer of how to access support and assistance which included budgeting. The officer said that home visits for first time tenants were proving to be helpful.

The Committee was informed that the new Housing and Planning Act would have an impact on young people in respect of benefits and tenancies.

Members said that Leeds need to have a Lettings Policy which set out strict criteria and was used in a consistent approach.

RESOLVED - Members of the Community Committee commented on the proposals set out in the lettings policy consultation.

15 Finance Report

The report of the Area Leader, West North West updated Members on the projects funded through the Inner West Wellbeing Fund and Youth Activities Fund budgets.

Since the last Committee, two projects had been approved by delegated decision notice:

- All together Armley - £1,000
- Targeted Summer Provision, Leeds Youth Service - £3,080

Members were informed of the remaining Wellbeing balances available per ward for 2016/17 as set out at point 8 of the submitted report. Members were asked to note that meetings with Ward Members were to be arranged between now and September to look at spending and future projects.

Members were asked to consider projects deferred from the March meeting:

Project	Organisation	Amount	Actions taken
Bramley Grit Bin Refills	Highways	£604	Audit of Grit Bins
Assumption Church Centre Development	Assumption Church (Parish of Our Lady of Kirkstall)	£5,000	Site visit undertaken and advice given to organisation on other funding sources
Sound and Vision	HOPS	£10,163	Not identified priority purchases from list
New Migrant Support Project	Communities Team WNW	£3,244	Other projects been explored

Money Buddies	Public Health WNW/ Ebor Gardens Advice Centre	£4,419	Monitoring had been provided
Tackling Noise Nuisance from Student Properties	Leeds ASB Team	£1,000	Need to ensure benefitting Burley
Citizenship Academy	AIM Education	£2,669	

Members were also asked to consider the following new applications:

Project	Organisation	Amount
Leeds Women's Aid Appointment Session	Leeds Women's Aid	£3,656
Get Technology Together	New Wortley Job Club	£3,971
Basketball Sport and Active Lifestyle Project	Police, Leeds Beckett University and Youth Service	£2755.20

Members requested that the Basketball Sport and Active Lifestyle Project be open for all young people to be involved to promote cohesion with young people in Armley.

Members were requested to consider the following applications for the Youth Activities Fund:

Project	Organisation	Amount	Ward
Global Gang	Leeds DEC	£902	Bramley & Stanningley
Breeze Culture Crew	Breeze Leeds	£5,500	Any Ward
West Leeds Activity Centre (formerly the Lazer Centre)	West Leeds Activity Centre	£6,645	£2,215 per ward
AIM High Youth Club	AIM	£2,293	Bramley & Stanningley
Up to You	Urban Angels	£1,260	Kirkstall
Get Outdoors	BARCA Leeds	£1,530.22	Bramley & Armley
Kids Club	Armley Juniors Project 4 Young People	£1,326.50	Armley
Summer Diversionary Project	WY Police, ACES Cluster	£2,225	

The Manager of the West Leeds Activity Centre was present at the meeting to answer Members questions on the project for West Leeds Activity Centre.

Members discussed this application and requested that monitoring should take place in relation to the project and also asked that a contract be drawn up by officers for funding as per 'book and turn up' sessions outlined in the submitted report.

Cllr. J McKenna declared an interest in the last project for consideration as he is a Governor at Swallow Hill Community College. He took no part in the consideration of this project.

Members briefly discussed funding and spending and asked to be kept informed of start dates for the projects and when the money had been spent to enable them to ensure that the money had been spent wisely.

Members were asked to review the previously approved minimum conditions for delegated decisions and agree to the continued use within the appropriate governance framework and with appropriate Member consultation.

RESOLVED – That Members:

- Noted the balance of the Wellbeing at Appendix 2 to the submitted report
- Noted the balance of the YAF budget for 2016/17 at point 21 of the submitted report
- Noted the Wellbeing monitoring report at Appendix 1 of the submitted report.
- Considered the deferred projects listed at 9 of the submitted report with the outcomes of their considerations listed in the table below

Project	Organisation	Amount	Outcome
Bramley Grit Bin Refills	Highways	£604	Defer
Assumption Church Centre Development	Assumption Church (Parish of Our Lady of Kirkstall)	£5,000	Approved
Sound and Vision	HOPS	£10,163	Declined
New Migrant Support Project	Communities Team WNW	£3,244	Withdrawn
Money Buddies	Public Health WNW/ Ebor Gardens Advice Centre	£4,419	Approved
Tackling Noise Nuisance from Student Properties	Leeds ASB Team	£1,000	Approved
Citizenship Academy	AIM Education	£2,669	Declined

- Considered the new Wellbeing applications listed at 14,15,& 16 of the submitted report the outcomes are listed below

Project	Organisation	Amount	Outcome
Leeds Women's Aid Appointment Session	Leeds Women's Aid	£3,656	Approved
Get Technology Together	New Wortley Job Club	£3,971	Declined
Basketball Sport and Active Lifestyle Project	Police, Leeds Beckett University and Youth Service	£2755.20	Approved

- Noted the Youth Activity Fund projects approved by delegated decision listed at appendix 3 of the submitted report
- Considered the new Youth Activity applications listed at point 23 of the submitted report outcomes listed below

Project	Organisation	Amount	Ward	Outcome
Global Gang	Leeds DEC	£902	Bramley & Stanningley	Defer
Breeze Culture Crew	Breeze Leeds	£5,500	Any Ward	Decline
West Leeds Activity Centre (formerly the Lazer Centre)	West Leeds Activity Centre	£6,645	£2,215 per ward	Approved for book & turn up
AIM High Youth Club	AIM	£2,293	Bramley & Stanningley	Approved
Up to You	Urban Angels	£1,260	Kirkstall	Approved
Get Outdoors	BARCA Leeds	£1,530.22	Bramley & Armley	Approved
Kids Club	Armley Juniors Project 4 Young People	£1,326.50	Armley	Approved
Summer Diversionary Project	WY Police, ACES Cluster	£2,225		Approved

- Reviewed and agreed the minimum conditions as set out in point 24 of the submitted report.

16 Community Committee Area Update

The report of the Area Leader West North West updated the Community Committee on the work of the three sub groups of the Committee: General Purposes, Children and Young People and Environment.

Members were asked to consider a Highways focus for the October meeting themed workshop. Members requested the Chief Highways Officer to attend.

The Committee was informed that the World War 1 Commemoration would take place at the Bramley Memorial on the 1st July with a bugler at 7.30am with a service at 10.45am.

The shops located close to the memorial have been supportive of the event with display boards in their windows linked to World War 1. The display boards which were paid for by the Committee will be used at other venues after the event.

The Chair and the Committee thanked co-optee Annabel Gaskin for all her hard work in support of the event.

The Committee was informed of free boat trips through the locks of the Leeds Liverpool Canal on 1st and 3rd July.

Members were also informed that Armley Helping Hands had been nominated by Provident Life and if successful could win money towards the new mini bus. The nominations are online and the Committee was asked to show their support.

17 Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting of the Inner West Community Committee will be on Wednesday 12th October 2016 at 6pm.