

INNER NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 17TH JULY, 2014

PRESENT: Councillor J Akhtar in the Chair

Councillors: J Bentley, S Bentley,
J Chapman, C Towler, J Walker and
N Walshaw

1 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest.

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors G Harper and J Pryor.

3 Minutes - North West Inner Area Committee - 27 March 2014

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2014 be confirmed as a correct record.

4 Open Forum

In accordance with the Community Committee Procedure 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 Area Committee. On this occasion no issues were raised.

5 Notification of Election of Community Committee Chair for 2014/15

The report of the City Solicitor formally notified Members of the appointment made by Council at the Annual meeting held on the 9th June 2014 to the position of Inner North West Community Committee Chair.

RESOLVED – That it be noted that Councillor J Akhtar was elected as Chair of the Inner North West Community Committee for the duration of the 2014/15 municipal year.

6 Introduction to Community Committees

The report of the West North West Area Leader set the scene for the new Community Committee and sought approval of a set of minimum conditions for any decisions that may need to be delegated, or taken, between formal Community Committee meetings. Members were also asked to consider and approve the priorities for the rest of 2014/15.

Members were informed of the role of the new Community Committee and how it would focus on engaging local communities and consider reports that have a more local significance. Changes to the delegated decision process were also explained which would enable the Area Leader to take delegated decisions following consultation with Members.

Attention was also brought to suggested discussion topics for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the introduction of Community Committees be welcomed.
- (2) That the minimum conditions set out in the report with regard to the need for delegated decisions to be taken between formal Community Committee meetings be approved.
- (3) That the topics for engagement as listed in the report be approved.

7 Community Committee Appointments

The report of the City Solicitor invited the Community Committee to make appointments to outside bodies, the Corporate Carers Group, Community Committee Area Lead Members and Children's Services Cluster Partnerships.

RESOLVED – That the following appointments be made:

Outside Bodies:

Better Communities Leeds Board of Directors

Deferred for further discussion with Better Communities for Leeds

Cardigan Centre

Councillor N Walshaw

Swarthmore Education Centre

Councillor G Harper

Ireland Wood Children's Centre Management Committee

Councillor S Bentley

Inner North West Local Housing Advisory Panel

Councillor J Walker

Councillor J Chapman

Area Lead Members:

Environment & Community Safety – Councillor N Walshaw

Children's Services – Councillor S Bentley

Employment, Skills and Welfare – Councillor J Pryor

Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care – Councillor J Akhtar

Children's Services Cluster Partnership Representatives:

ESNW – Councillor J Bentley

Inner NW Hub – Councillor J Pryor

Open XS – Councillor J Akhtar

Corporate Carer's Group

Councillor S Bentley

8 Community Committee Sub Groups

The report of the West North West Area Leader set out the roles of the Inner North West Community Committee Sub Groups and sought nominations to the position of Chair of each group. Nominations were also sought for both Elected Member and resident representatives from each ward to the Sub Groups.

It was suggested that the Joint North West Transport Sub Group be disbanded and any further transport issues could be picked up at future meetings.

Sub Group feedback would continue through the Area Update report.

RESOLVED – That the following Sub Groups and Memberships be approved for the 2014/15 Municipal Year:

Planning Sub-Group

Councillor N Walshaw (Chair)

Councillor G Harper

Councillor S Bentley

Community representatives: S Buckle, M Thomas, R Tyler, B Mitchell/G Rawinsky, D Hall, M Charlton

Environment Sub-Group

Councillor C Towler (Chair)

Councillor J Walker

Councillor J Bentley

Community representatives: P Hall, J Davison, H Eagleston

Children & Young People's Sub Group

Councillor S Bentley (Chair)

Councillor J Chapman

Councillor J Pryor

Councillor J Akhtar

9 Employment, Skills and Welfare Priority Neighbourhoods Report

The report of the Head of Service, Employment and Skills sought endorsement from the Inner North West Community Committee for the proposal to develop a West North West Employment, Skills and Welfare Priority Neighbourhoods Board.

The Board would serve the whole of the West North Wedge with a particular focus on those areas where there were low employment and skills. Members' attention was brought to the proposed membership of the Board which was detailed in the report and would involve all key stakeholders. Key issues for the Board to tackle would include NEETs and opportunities for young people and those with mental health problems. It was anticipated that the inaugural Board meeting would take place in September.

In response to Members comments and questions, the following was discussed:

- It was felt that there should be more Elected Member representation. It was reported that there would be Elected Member representation from each Community Committee in the West North West wedge.
- A need to ensure that BME communities were represented and supported.
- A strategic partnership role would be taken at wedge level but more localised priorities would be identified. Data could be disaggregated at a ward level.
- Concern regarding the lack of services in Weetwood and the need for a Weetwood representative on the Board.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted and the establishment of a new West North West Employment, Skills and Welfare Priority Neighbourhoods Board be endorsed in principle subject to further consideration of Elected Member involvement.

10 Wellbeing Update Report

The report of the West North West Area Leader provided the Inner North West 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. It also provided end of year monitoring for 2013/14, an update on the Youth Activity Fund, and outlined proposals for the interim management of the Inner North West Wellbeing budgets following the move of Kirkstall Ward to Inner West Community Committee.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the current budget position for the Wellbeing Fund for 2014/15 be noted.
- (2) That the content of the end of year monitoring returns for projects funded in 2013/14 be noted.
- (3) That the current position of the small grants and skips pots and those small grants and skips that have been approved since the last meeting be noted.
- (4) That the current position of the Youth Activity Fund and projects supported to date through this be noted.

11 Community Committee Discussion Topic: Children's & Family Health

The report of the West North West Area Leader introduced the Community Committee Topic: Children's & Family Health. A discussion paper was appended to the report along with a proposed engagement plan.

Prior to splitting into smaller workshop groups, the Community Committee was briefed by Jancis Andrew, Children's Services and Tim Taylor, Public Health.

Issues highlighted included the following:

- There had been a reduction in the number of children going into care – this had been supported by the work of the clusters and early intervention work.
- Higher levels of school attendance.
- Reduction in the number of NEETs.
- Increase in levels of childhood obesity – it was recognised that some areas of Inner North West had higher childhood obesity than elsewhere in the city. There was funding available over the next two years to tackle this. There would be a preventative approach and a focus on healthy eating and physical activity.

The following issues were reported back to the Community Committee after the workshop discussions:

- Improving engagement with parents, children and young people - developing Parent and Student Voice.
- Links to Breeze events and use of the Youth Activity Fund.
- The availability of safe greenspace/parks for young children and young people.
- Work with fast food providers to provide more healthy options.
- Work with schools and children's centres
- Cluster governance.

- Provision of a community space/centre.
 - Have a better understanding of the roles and priorities of the clusters – strengthening Elected Member and cluster relationships
 - Supporting the obesity project that Public Health will be launching later in the year -working with Dee Lazenby and Open XS
 - Link with the Scrutiny Report to look at the findings and relevant opportunities for improvement
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- Improve links through the Children & Young Peoples sub group with relevant partners, Children's Services and Elected Members
 - Recognise the lack of and difficulty in accessing Leisure Centres from the Open XS Cluster

Member's attention was brought to the proposed engagement plan. The use of social media was discussed and it was reported that a Facebook page had been set up and would be used to promote events and community activities. It was further reported that a communications professional would be working with the Area Support team.

12 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Thursday, 9 October at 7.00 p.m.