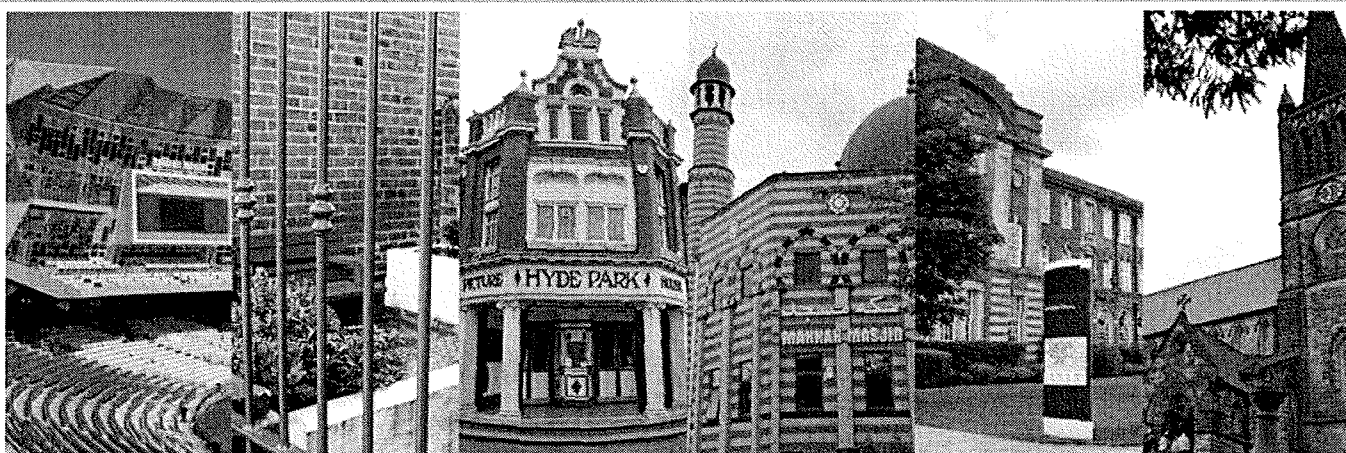


**Community  
Committee**



# **Inner North West Community Committee**

## **Review of the year 2014/15**



## **ABOUT THE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

#### **INNER NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**10 September 2015 7pm**  
**17 December 2015 7pm**  
**3 March 2015 7pm**

The Inner North West Community Committee is attended by councillors and local residents from Headingley, Hyde Park & Woodhouse and Weetwood wards.

The role of the Committee is to improve local service delivery and ensure resident voices are heard.

They also invest their 'Wellbeing' funding and Youth

Activities Fund monies in community projects across the three wards.

In this update we'll look at last year's achievements and highlight some of the fantastic community projects supported by the Committee.

Local residents are welcome to attend the meetings, see 'dates for your diary' for more information.

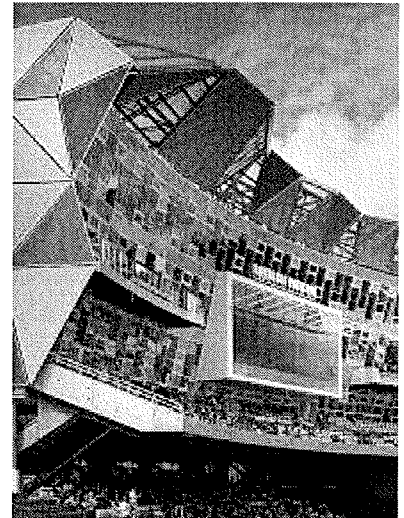
# Community Committee Topics - 2014/15

## THEMED MEETINGS

The Inner North West Community Committee held four themed meetings during the 2014/15 municipal year. The meetings give local Councillors an opportunity to focus in on issues of importance to their local area. Topics covered over the past year include:

- Children and Family health
- Making the most of local community assets
- Supporting local people back into employment
- The local environment and student changeover

This newsletter will look at each of these topics in turn and discuss how having this focus has helped to make improvements in the Inner North West area.



## Children and Family Health - July 2014

The Committee met on 17 July 2014 to look at children and family health. One area of focus for discussion was an increase in levels of childhood obesity. It was recognised that some areas of Inner North West, particularly Little London, had some of the highest childhood obesity rates in the city.

The Community Committee agreed to provide wellbeing funds to support the delivery of the Fit Kids project; promoting recreational and fitness activities to help young people get involved in useful activities and improve their health and general wellbeing. This is in addition to educational workshops to tackle anti-social behaviour, criminal activities, smoking, alcoholism and drugs.

A key action that emerged from the meeting was the need to gain a better understanding of the roles and priorities of the Schools Clusters to strengthen Elected Member and Cluster relationships. This has led to the inclusion of Cluster representation at the Inner North

West Children & Young People's Sub Group and involvement in the assessment of applicants for Youth Activities Funding.

The Youth Activity Fund has been used to support after school and holiday activities for young people. The Community Committee funded a wide variety of projects including trapeze skills, performing arts sessions, skateboarding, sports camps and Minecraft workshops.

The Community Committee also funded a transition programme through wellbeing funds for young people leaving Hawksworth Wood Primary School. This project helps children make the difficult transition between primary and secondary education and tackle the drop off in school performance that can happen between primary and secondary school.

## **Making the most of local community assets - October 2014**

The Inner North West Community Committee, at its meeting on 9 October, focused on making the most of local assets (particularly community centres) and ensuring community influence upon their use. The meeting involved representatives from both council and third sector run local centres, service centre users, and service providers.

The Cardigan Centre, Woodsley Road Community Centre and HEART Centre were all in attendance and helped provide a local perspective on how they delivered services. The workshops focused on how partners can work together with the Community Committee to deliver actions, which support this theme. One of the key challenges included running a successful and sustainable community centre. Independent centres have to make their physical space pay, renting office space or creating a different type of offer in each room for hire. There was a plea from all of the third sector centres for the Council and other statutory services to use their centres for meetings and events, and asked for support in marketing their offer to the local authority and its partners.

The Community Committee now has a Facebook page, which it uses to promote events going on in the local area, including those taking place at Community Centres. Community Centres are used as venues for Community Committee meetings and the Committee has also used wellbeing funds to support various projects. One such project included the allocation of £10,500 to allow for local organisation OPAL to purchase the leasehold on the Bedford Arms Pub site in the Silk Mills, so that they could develop a new LS16 Community Centre. The Community Committee has offered further wellbeing funds to the project in 2015/16 by allocating £7,500 towards the refurbishment costs of the building.



## **Supporting local people back into employment- January 2015**

The Inner North West Community Committee held a workshop on employment and looked at how services could work more closely to support local people back into work. Presentations were delivered on subjects including Families First, the benefits of volunteering and the claimant commitment. Representation at the meeting included the Department for Work and Pensions, Volunteer Centre Leeds, Open XS Cluster, Employment and Skills, third sector and community groups, Housing Leeds, Libraries, Universities, Children's Services and local residents.

A work programme has been developed to support the outcomes from the meeting. These include; piloting a targeted approach with Families First and partners to better connect support services for tenants within the new regeneration area. Employment & Skills are also exploring how to better engage and respond to Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities through the Community Committee. Possibilities for progressing Community Hub delivery within new venues are being explored, and discussions are currently underway with the Community Hub manager.

## **The local environment and student changeover – March 2015**

The Inner North West Community Committee held its workshop on the local environment and student changeover on 12 March 2015. This has had a direct impact upon the Community Committee environmental delegation, as the Community Committee has identified a number of unique challenges relating to the changeover period when student tenancies end in June and the environmental issues that this can cause. Through discussions at the Community Committee and the Environment Sub Group a number of operational changes have been made within environmental services to tackle these challenges.

As a result of this a number of projects have been supported through wellbeing to enhance the service. These projects included nearly £3,500 for the Leave Leeds Tidy initiative which is run by Leeds University, which encourages residents to reuse and recycle unwanted items, and £10,000 for a dedicated noise nuisance patrol, ring-fenced to the LS6 area. Nearly £1,000 was approved for additional dog fouling and littering patrols in the area and just short of £12,000 wellbeing funds for additional staff to be allocated to work on Woodhouse Moor.

The Area Support Team has also worked with Leeds Beckett's University Students' Union to develop a new project which will aim to boost volunteering around changeover time to address environmental issues in the area, just over £5,000 is being spent on this project.

Officers from the Area Support Team have also been meeting with partners to discuss plans for student changeover and will continue to look at innovative and sustainable ways to improve the local environment in the Inner North West area.

