

WEST (OUTER) AREA COMMITTEE

FRIDAY, 13TH JULY, 2007

PRESENT: Councillor A Carter in the Chair

Councillors A Blackburn, D Blackburn,
Mrs A Carter, M Coulson, J Jarosz,
R Lewis, F Robinson and L Russell

CO-OPTEEES: Rev. Kingsley-Dowling

1 Election of Chair

The Chief Democratic Services Officer submitted a report outlining the arrangements for the annual selection of the Chair of the Area Committee.

In accordance with the agreed procedure, the Chief Democratic Services Officer reported that two nominations for the Chair had been received, on behalf of Councillor Jarosz and Councillor A Carter, and those Elected Members present at the West Outer Area Committee meeting were asked to take a formal vote.

Members were also asked to consider Councillor D Blackburn as Deputy Chair and to represent the Area Committee at District Partnership meetings.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That following an overall majority of votes cast by those Elected Members present at the meeting eligible to vote, Councillor A Carter be elected as Chair of the West (Outer) Area Committee for the 2007/2008 Municipal Year.
- (b) That following an overall majority of votes cast by those Elected Members present at the meeting, Councillor D Blackburn be elected as Deputy Chair and to represent the Area Committee at District Partnership meetings.

(Councillor Andrew Carter took the Chair)

2 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair thanked Members for their support and for the change of time of this meeting. The change was due to the Chair being committed to a meeting with the Chief Executive of the Environment Agency who will be visiting Leeds for the day.

3 Late Items

In accordance with his powers under Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair consented to the submission of two late items of business requesting application for funding (Minute 13f refers).

The Chair agreed to the submission of the two late items as the applications related to events which are to take place over the school summer holidays.

4 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Steve Crocker, West Leeds Area Manager and Mr Howard Bradley, Co-optee.

5 Declaration of Interests

The following personal interests were declared at the meeting:

- Councillor A Blackburn in her capacity as a Board Member of West/North West ALMO Board (Agenda Items 11 & 15)(Minutes 10 & 15 refers)
- Councillor D Blackburn in his capacity as a member of the West Leeds District Partnership and West Leeds Gateway Board (Agenda Items 16, 18 & 19) (Minutes 17, 18 & 19 refer)
- Councillor A Carter in his capacity as a member of the West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority and West Leeds Gateway Board (Agenda Items 16, 17, 18 & 19)(Minutes 15, 16, 17 & 18 refers)
- Councillor J Jarosz in her capacity as a member of the West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority (Agenda Item 17)(Minute 16 refers)
- Councillor M Coulson in his capacity as a member of the Governor of Pudsey Grangefield (Agenda Item 16)(Minute 15(e) refers)

6 Open Forum

The Chair made reference to the provision contained in the Area Committee Procedure Rules for an Open Forum session of up to 10 minutes at each ordinary meeting of an Area Committee to allow members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the remit of the Area Committee. On this occasion, no members of the public were present.

7 Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th April 2007

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 20th April 2007 be confirmed as a correct record.

8 Appointment to Outside Bodies

The Chief Democratic Services Officer submitted a report and appendices outlining the Committee's role in relation to its Elected Member appointments to community and local engagement category appointments to outside bodies which had been delegated to the Area Committee.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Friday, 14th September, 2007

RESOLVED - That Councillors A Carter and R Lewis be appointed to Borough of Pudsey Charity for a 3 year period.

9 Re-appointment and Appointment of Co-optees

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report which sought approval for the annual appointment of co-opted Members to the West (Outer) Area Committee.

Members were reminded that the Area Committee could appoint up to 5 co-optees. Two nominations were received from Rev. Kingsley-Dowling and Howard Bradley (Farsley Youth Development Project).

RESOLVED - That Rev. Kingsley-Dowling and Howard Bradley both be appointed as Co-optees to the West (Outer) Area Committee for the 2007/2008 municipal year.

10 Political Nominations to ALMO Area Panels

The Strategic Landlord submitted a report which requested the nomination of Elected Members to the Outer West ALMO Area Panel

Appended to the report was a copy of the ALMO Area Panel Terms of Reference.

RESOLVED - That Councillors A Carter and R Lewis be appointed to the ALMO Outer West Area Panel.

11 Area Functions Schedule for 2007/2008

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report on the Area Functions Schedule 2007/08. The report gave details on the updated Area Function Schedules and detailed the budgets available for delegated services for 2007/08.

The delegated functions to the Area Committee as at Appendix 1 attached to the report, included the following:

- Youth Service
- Community Centres
- Leeds Community Safety - CCTV Cameras
- Neighbourhood Wardens
- Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs)
- Waste Management – Recycling Banks
- Public Conveniences
- Well-Being Budgets

Paul Dishman, West Area Co-ordinator presented the report and informed the meeting that an update report on the Green Hill Community Centre would be

submitted to the next Area Committee meeting in September. He also pointed out at the meeting that in addition to the Well-Being Fund figures, the Executive Board had agreed a £500,000 one-off release of General Fund Reserves at its meeting in April 2007 to accommodate a further £50,000 allocation for each of the ten Area Committees on a non-recurring basis.

It was also pointed out that this extra allocation which had been added to the revenue Well-Being budget was recommended by the Executive Board for use in two areas of strategic importance for the Council as a whole. These were:

- To carry out review of conservation areas in their geographical area (this was a Best Value indicator for the Council and it was felt that it was best addressed at a local level) and,
- Introducing residents' only parking/extra parking provision in particular areas of concern.

It was suggested that each of the three Wards in the West Outer area be allocated £15,000 to be spent in the conservation area of their choice as indicated above and that agreement should be reached between Ward colleagues as to which conservation area should be put forward at the next West (Outer) Area Committee meeting.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That approval be given to the updated Area Function Schedules for 2007/08.
- (b) That an update report on the future of Greenhill Community Centre be submitted to the next meeting of West Outer Area Committee Meeting.

12 Community Safety Issues - Outer West Leeds

Inspector Tom Horner, West Yorkshire Police gave an update on Community Safety issues in the West Leeds area for the past six weeks.

Attached as Appendix A to the submitted report was an update on Operation Champion which took place in May 2007. The Operation was a three day event which covered the Swinnow area as well as parts of the Pudsey and Tyersal areas. Inspector Horner informed the meeting that Operation Champion had been a tremendous success, officers were still working on some of the intelligence given and the Police were able to carry out drug raids in the area.

A lengthy discussion ensued and Members attributed the success of Operation Champion to the careful planning of both Inspector Horner and Gill Hunter, Community Safety Officer.

The Officers and Police were also congratulated on getting the passageway at the back of the Co-op Shop in Pudsey closed. Nuisance had been caused by

youths in the area who used this passageway as a urinal and as a place where they could take drugs etc.

Members regarded that the Police and PCSOs were now exhibiting a more positive attitude in the area by attending Surgeries/Forum meetings, working with and integrating with local youths in the area and generally being seen in the area. The Police were pleased with positive partnership working with the Youth Service and reported that residents had noted the positive effects of this, particularly in respect of Westroyd Park.

Inspector Horner also informed the meeting that from the 1st August 2007 Pudsey Weetwood Police Station would be known as North West Leeds Division. He then went on to explain the proposed changes to policing in West Yorkshire and that from October 2007 there would be more Police officers in the Neighbourhood Policing Teams which will mean more Officers in local areas dealing with local issues.

Referring to Minute 83(a), 20th April 2007 – Community Safety – Designated Public Places Order (DPPO) in Farsley, Inspector Horner tabled a detailed document titled ‘Pudsey DPPO Analysis’ and a table of options regarding additional Policing as part of his presentation for the DPPO application as referred to in Minute 11(c)(iii) below.

Members raised issues in relation to anti-social behaviour, criminal damage and under age drinking in the Farnley area which had necessitated extra PCSOs working this ‘hotspot’ area. Ward Members felt that there were Licensing issues which needed to be addressed in order that some of the problems could be solved. The Chair informed the meeting that he had discussed these problems with Inspector Horner and Tom O’Neill WYPA and had a recent meeting with Councillor J L Carter, who is a Member on the Police Authority, where he was informed that this was a City-wide issue.

Inspector Horner referred to the Smart Water campaign which the Area Committee had supported. The launch would take place on 24th July.

The Chair thanked Inspector Horner and Gill Hunter for their attendance.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the Pudsey/Swinnow Operation Champion evaluation and the detailed update from West Yorkshire Police be noted.
- (b) That the name change of Pudsey Weetwood Division to North West Leeds Division from 1st August 2007 be noted.

13 Outer West Area Committee Well-Being Budget

The West Leeds Area Manager submitted a detailed report providing details of the amount of Well-Being capital and revenue funding available for the 2007/08 financial year and the commitments already approved.

Clare Wiggins, West Area Management Officer presented the report and responded to Members' questions and comments.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the report and information appended to the report, which included the committed and available revenue and capital Well-Being Budgets for Wards in the Outer West area, be noted.
- (b) That following approval in principle to the Bramley Fireplace Scheme project in April 2006, for which a contribution of £25,000 capital funding was agreed, that it be noted the Project will now be supported in the 2008/09 budget and it will be revenue rather than capital support.
- (c) That the following decisions be taken in respect of new projects and requests for funding from the Well-being Budget contained in appendices to the submitted report:-

CAPITAL

- (i) Fencing Horsforth New Road Side - **£2,500 Approved** – The West Area Manager be instructed to write a letter to Highways Services informing them of this Area Committee's reservations at having to support this application.

REVENUE

- (ii) West Leeds Holiday Sports Programme - **£5,000 Approved**.
 - (iii) Reinforcement of Designated Public Places Order (DPPO) – Pudsey – **£10,948 - Approved Option 2** for the period from 21st July 2007 to 5th January 2008 and that regular update reports be submitted to Area Committee.
 - (iv) Fastrax Motorbike Project - **£880 – Approved**
- (d) That approval be given to set aside £15,000 (revenue) from the 2007/08 Well-being budget for small grants
 - (e) That approval be given to the small grant applications outlined in Appendix 5 of the submitted report
 - (f) That the following decisions be taken in respect of the small grants applications, **tabled as late Items**:-
 - (i) Farnley Community Life, Art Canvas Mural - £500 Approved.
Ward Members to be consulted on the location for the proposed Graffiti Art work.
 - (ii) Gardening in the Community - £500 Approved.
 - (g) That approval be given to assign the proposed designated amounts of Well-being budget funding for 2007/08 for the provision of skips (£2,594) and communication/consultation (£2,000)

(Note: After consideration of the above item both Councillors Mrs A Carter and Coulson left the meeting at approximately 10.10 a.m.)

14 Parks & Countryside Update for Outer West Leeds

The Chief Recreation Officer gave a presentation which would give an updating Members on the following issues concerning Parks and Countryside.

- The work of the service generally, including updates on quality assessments, satisfaction survey etc
- The work of the service within the area, including area specific updates on projects, quality assessments, satisfaction survey etc and,
- Plans and aspirations for the area.

Also appended to the report was a copy of the presentation.

The Chair welcomed Phil Staniforth to the meeting who responded to Members' questions and comments as he gave the Area Committee an update on Parks and Countryside across Leeds, pointing out the key achievements made throughout the City and, in particular, an extensive update on the parks in the West Outer Area.

The Officer gave an update on numerous parks and allotments in the West Outer area and the work undertaken and the work outstanding in Calverley Park, Victoria Park, Pudsey Park, Tyersal Park. A long discussion ensued where Members queried whether Section 106 Agreement money had been contributed to the work needed at the Farsley Recreation Ground and New Farnley Recreation Ground. In response, the officer informed the meeting that he hoped to have some plans in late July and August and would be consulting local Ward Members.

Councillor Russell informed the meeting that he had made a contribution from his MICE money towards some general improvements in Farnley Recreation Ground. In response, the officer advised the meeting that he would check up on this work and update Ward Members.

During discussions on the work outstanding at Post Hill, Members expressed their concerns that both Councillor A Blackburn and Councillor M Coulson, as Members on the Post Hill Consultative Group, had not been invited to its Annual General Meeting. The Officer informed the meeting that he would investigate and report back to Members.

The Chair thanked Phil Staniforth for his presentation.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the contents of the report and presentation be received and noted.
- (b) That the Chief Recreation Officer be requested to investigate and report back to the Chair and Members as to why Councillor A Blackburn and Councillor M Coulson have had no further invitations to the Post Hill Consultative Group meetings.

Note: Councillor R Lewis arrived at the meeting at approximately 10.15 a.m. during consideration of the above item.

15 Environmental Health Update

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report providing an update on the work of the West Leeds Environmental Health Team during the previous financial year, together with information on the priorities of that team within their service plan for the coming year 2007/08 and the five key priorities identified for the coming year:-

- To achieve the national performance indicators in relation to housing standards, decency and empty properties.
- To deliver the capital programme through loans, grants and regeneration projects.
- To investigate and respond to requests for service from the public in relation to public health matters.
- To support the 2012 Public Health Agenda
- To develop their work with partners including District Partnerships, Area Housing Partnerships, Primary Care Trust, Anti-Social Behaviour and Care and Repair to support the narrowing the gap agenda.

Ruth Lees, Service Manager, Environmental Health Services West Area Team presented the report and responded to Members' questions and comments.

The main issues raised were as follows:

New Smoking Legislation which bans smoking in public places. Members were informed that a team of Enforcement Officers were now visiting public houses etc enforcing the ban but there had been an increase in noise complaints with regard to patrons going outside to smoke.

Empty Properties – Members requested an update on two outstanding properties at School Street and Hawthorne Close. In response, the Officer informed the meeting that the property at School Street was still being investigated. Members were also informed that the owner of the property at Hawthorne Close had only recently accepted a price for the sale of the property.

The Chair thanked Ruth Lees for her attendance.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and presentation be received and noted.
- (b) That the reference to New Wortley LAMP mentioned in paragraph 3.15 of the report is in the Armley Ward and not the Farnley and Wortley Ward.

16 Pudsey Bus Station Public Information Event

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report to update Members on the recent Pudsey bus station public information event which took place to raise awareness of the Pudsey Bus Station proposals.

Clare Wiggins, West Leeds Area Management presented the report and, together with Paul Dishman, Area Co-ordinator, responded to Members' questions and comments.

Members were surprised to hear that there had been some adverse comments from local groups regarding the development of the current bus stands and short stay car park in Market Place. The Area Committee felt that these refurbishments would encourage shoppers into the Town Centre, especially now that there is going to be an advertising campaign for Pudsey Market and the Farmers Market.

RESOLVED - That the report be received and its contents noted.

17 Update on the Leeds Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI) for West Leeds

The West Leeds Area Manager submitted a report to update Members on the current application for LEGI funding in West Leeds and to inform them on the aims and objectives of what this funding will achieve in tackling worklessness in deprived neighbourhoods in the Outer Area wedge.

Paul Dishman, Area Co-ordinator presented the report and responded to Members' questions and comments.

Members expressed their concerns that through collaboration with West Leeds Area Management, it is also the intention to provide out reach services to Little London and Burley Lodge, as this area is not part of West Leeds.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That support be given to the application by BARCA-Leeds to the LEGI Programme Board to secure LEGI investment in West Leeds.
- (ii) That the West Area Manager be instructed to arrange a briefing meeting for Ward Members with LEGI Officers.

18 West Leeds Gateway Update

The West Leeds Area Manager submitted a report to provide Members with an update on progress on the West Leeds Gateway Regeneration area and to seek support for the next steps in developing the programme.

Appended to the report was a detailed work programme for the West Leeds Gateway Area Regeneration Team.

Paul Dishman, Area Co-ordinator presented the report responded to Members' questions and comments.

Members expressed their concerns at the lack of consultation with Ward Councillors before decisions were being made at the West Leeds Gateway Board.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That progress to date on the West Leeds Gateway, as outlined in the submitted report, be noted.
- (ii) To endorse the need to establish project governance arrangements
- (iii) That the proposed programme of work for the Regeneration Team for 2007/08, as outlined in the submitted report, be approved.

19 Dates, Times and Venues of Future Meetings

Friday, 14th September 2007 at 2.00 p.m. at Pudsey Civic Hall.