

OUTER NORTH EAST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 7TH MARCH, 2016

PRESENT: Councillor G Wilkinson in the Chair

Councillors N Buckley, A Castle, D Cohen,
P Harrand, A Lamb, J Procter and
M Robinson

46 APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS

There were no appeals against the refusal of the inspection of documents.

47 EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items identified where it was considered necessary to exclude the press or public from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be considered.

48 LATE ITEMS

There were no late items of business

49 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R Procter

50 DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

There were no declarations of any disclosable pecuniary interests.

51 OPEN FORUM

In accordance with Paragraphs 6.24 and 6.25 of the Community Committee Procedure Rules, the Chair allowed a period of up to 10 minutes for Members of the Public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Community Committee.

On this occasion, there was one representation who wished to address the Committee

The Chair invited Nick Fawcett, Clifford Parish Council to address the Community Committee

Mr Fawcett thanked Members for the opportunity to address the Community Committee. He said the purpose of his attendance was to seek the views of the Community Committee in establishing a closer working relationship with Parish and Town Councils within the Outer North East Area.

Members welcomed the suggestion commenting that communication between the various parties could be further improved, whilst acknowledging the already established ONE Town and Parish Council that was supported and facilitated by members of the Communities Team (ENE). It was suggested that the regular exchange of agendas and minutes would be a useful starting point and the possibility of co-opting Parish & Town Councillors onto the Community Committee on certain issue may also be helpful.

The Chair thanked Mr Fawcett for his attendance and representations; he requested officers to draw up proposals for a closer working relationship with Parish and Town Councils which would be brought back to a future meeting of this Committee once the on-going Scrutiny Board Inquiry into Community Committees had been concluded.

RESOLVED – That the East North East Area Leader be requested to draw up proposals for a closer working relationship with Parish and Town Councils which would be brought back to a future meeting of this Committee.

52 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – The minutes of the previous meeting held on 14th December 2015 were approved as a true and correct record.

53 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no issues raised under matters arising

54 West Yorkshire Police - New Operating Model (Leeds)

The Chair introduced and welcomed Sgt Sue Maclachlan from West Yorkshire Police who would address the Committee on the “New Operating Model Leeds”.

Also in attendance were Chief Inspector Ian Croft, Superintendent Lisa Atkinson and Beverley Yearwood, Area Community Safety Co-ordinator, Environment & Housing.

A copy of the “New Operating Model Leeds” was circulated at the meeting.

In addressing the document Sgt Maclachlan spoke in detail about the following:

- Leeds District Mission Statement

- The District Structure Overview and the resources available to the district; including the Neighbourhood Team, the Crime Team, the Ops Team and the Partnerships Team
- Neighbourhoods – East Leeds – Overview
- Neighbourhood Sergeant – An explanation of the role Neighbour Sergeants and their supervisory responsibilities in: Crime, Offender Management, Partnership Work and problem solving. Issues they should not get drawn into were also highlighted
- The role and responsibilities of Neighbourhood Ward Officers
- The role and responsibilities of PCSO's

Sgt Maclachlan said in terms of resources available, there were no noticeable or significant changes in the Outer North East Area; the force was committed to the Neighbourhood Policing Policy.

The Chair highlighted a number of acronyms contained within the circulated document: POPI's, IOM and ASB

Sgt Maclachlan provided clarification on the referred to acronyms

Councillor Buckley raised the issue of PAC's meetings, suggesting they appeared to be not well publicised and requested if the public could be made more aware.

In responding Sgt Maclachlan said enquiries would be made with a view to providing additional PR for the Moor Allerton area

The Chair thanked Officers for their attendance and contributions; it was welcomed and appreciated by Members of the Committee

55 The Role of Outer North East Community Committee in Neighbourhood Planning

The Chief Planning Officer submitted a report which sought the views of Members in exploring the role of this Committee within the neighbouring planning process.

It was reported that currently Community Committees had no statutory role in the process; however, they were in a unique position between local communities and the City Council to assist in the production and delivery of a neighbourhood plan.

The following document was appended to the report for information/comment of the meeting:

- Production of Neighbourhood Plans in the Outer North East area (Appendix A referred)
- CIL Neighbourhood Fund – Spending Guidance for Community Committees (Appendix B referred)

Heather Suggate, Principal Planning Policy Officer, City Development, presented the report and responded to Members comments and queries.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report together with the appendices which included:

- An update on Neighbourhood Planning within Leeds
- Neighbourhood Planning in the Outer North East area
- Ward Member and Community Committee Involvement to date
- Future Arrangements for Ward Members and Community Committee Involvement
- Neighbourhood Plans Statutory Process
- Delivery of Neighbourhood Plans

It was reported that Collingham with Linton Parish Council were progressing well with their Neighbourhood Plan but there application was currently the subject of a Judicial Review.

In offering comment Councillor Procter said that it was his understanding that progress on neighbourhood plans should be reported to the appropriate Community Committee and that previous reports to the Executive Board did express this intent. He said Neighbourhood Plans could impact on neighbouring Parish & Towns Councils and it was important for the Community Committee to have that overview so as to feed into the planning process.

Councillor Cohen said if Community Committees are to be involved in the formulation of Neighbourhood Plans officers must engage with Community Committee

In responding Ms Suggate gave assurances that progress on Neighbourhood Plans would be brought back to this Committee.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That Neighbourhood planning be included as a standard item on future agendas of this Community Committee
- (ii) That Pre-submission and post-submission draft plans be circulated to Ward Members and the Chair of the Community Committee for comment during the formal publicity period
- (iii) Ward Members and the Chair to be notified of the examiner's report and date of referendum

56 Environmental Service Delegation – 2016/17 Priorities

The Chief Officer, Environmental Action Services submitted a report which sought the views of Members as to what issues the Locality Team should focus on in the 2016/17 Municipal Year.

John Woolmer, Head of Service (ENE Locality), Jessica Hodgson (Team Leader, (Outer East Leeds Area) together with Ben Fligg and Winston Green (Chargehands) were in attendance at the meeting.

Mr Woolmer presented the report and responded to Members comments and queries.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report which included:

- The delivery of the household bulky waste collection service
- In zones /neighbourhoods where the Council was the predominant landlord to support and ensure its tenants were contributing towards the effective management of household waste
- Working with Community Committees to identify practical opportunities to work with community residents to improve recycling and re-use rates to reduce landfill costs

In offering suggestions as to where further resources should be focused, Members identified the following areas:

- The reclaiming of sections of footpaths and pavements across the area as a consequence of verge creep
- To investigate further opportunities for glass re-cycling facilities within the area.

The Chair thanked officers for their attendance and acknowledge the good work carried out within the area in particular their efforts during the unprecedented rainfall during the Christmas /New Year period.

RESOLVED –

- (i) To welcome and support new functions introduced in the 2015/16 Service Agreement including the introduction of a zonal approach/team
- (ii) To continue to work with Members and other stakeholders to develop the draft Service Agreement for 2016/17 to provide a clear focus in each ward across the area
- (iii) To support and pursue further waste management and recycling opportunities within the Service Agreement
- (iv) To include with the Service Agreement the reclaiming of sections of footpaths and pavements across the area as a consequence of verge creep
- (v) To investigate further opportunities for glass re-cycling facilities within the area.

57 East North East Employment and Skills Plan 2015/16

The Head of Communities & Partnerships submitted a report which provided an update on the progress of the work of the Skills Board in 2014/15 for the East North East area as a whole and, for the three specific Community Committee areas.

The report also described the revised structure of the ENE Employment and Skills Board and Plan for 2015/16 and provided an update on the employment & skills activities, business and school engagement

Jane Hopkins, Head of Communities & Partnerships, Children's Services presented the report and responded to Members comments and queries.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report which included:

- Revised structure of the East North East Employment and Skills Board and Plan for 2015/16
- Priorities and Achievements to date

In offering comment Councillor Robinson said that he welcomed the move to a more thematic approach with a more data driven approach and greater engagement with businesses

Referring to section 5 of the submitted report "outcomes from employment & skills activities" Councillor Lamb said that of the 530 people seeking employment only 97 had obtained employment. He said that as a business owner within the area he had found it increasingly difficult to fill vacant positions and was left with the impression that people did not want to work.

Councillor Procter said that as an employer he too had found it difficult to recruit and retain suitable people, the processes for recruiting were stacked against the employer.

In responding Mrs Hopkins said there were a number of barriers to gaining employment, disincentives within the benefits system may influence an individual's decision to pursue employment.

Councillor Lamb said he would welcome the opportunity to access such schemes.

Mrs Hopkins gave an assurance to Councillor Lamb that officers from Communities and Partnership would contact him with a view to providing advice/ information on employment schemes

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted

- (ii) To receive updates from the Employment and Skills Board on an annual basis
- (iii) That officers from Communities and Partnership contact Councillor Lamb with a view to providing advice/ information on employment schemes

58 Children's Transport Policy

The Chief Officer, Partnership Development and Business Support submitted a report which provided a briefing on issues relating to the policy for home to school transport assistance and the implementation of that policy.

The report included background information detailing changes that were approved by the Executive Board in 2013 and information about the impact of those changes.

John Bradshaw, Programme Lead, together with Paul Bollom, Head of Service (Commissioning) Children's Services, presented the report and responded to Members comments and queries.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report which included:

- The statutory provision
- Discretionary Provision – Post 16 SEN Home to School/College
- Discretionary Provision - Faith Transport
- Discretionary Provision – Post 16 Mainstream Home to School/ College
- Discretionary Provision – Not the nearest School
- Impact of Changes
- Local Representations

In offering comment Councillor Robinson said he was disappointed with the existing policy because it left some parents at a disadvantage

In responding Mr Bradshaw said the policy had been applied fairly and consistently across the city but accepted a small number of parents, particularly in rural areas, considered the policy to be unfair.

It was suggested that if the policy was to be amended to accommodate a particular area, those changes would be applied on a city wide basis which could substantially increase the number of pupils qualifying for transport assistance

Mr Bradshaw said there was provision within the policy for unique situations; provision of taxis for example, there was additional assistance for families on low means and there was also an appeals process.

Referring to the provision of taxis, Councillor Procter requested if he could be supplied with details of the number of pupils travelling to school by taxi in the Outer North East area and the cost of that provision.

Officers confirmed the requested information would be provided.

A discussion then ensued as to how home to school distances were calculated, officers confirming that GIS (Geographic Information System) software was used in the calculation of home to school distances

The Chair thanked officers for their attendance and explanation

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted
- (ii) That details of taxi provision for pupils within the Outer North East Area together with associated costs be supplied to Councillor J Procter

59 Community Committee Update Report

The Area Leader submitted a report which provided an update on the Work Programme for the Outer North East Community Committee

The following document was appended to the report for information/ comment of the meeting:

- The minutes of the Moor Allerton Partnership (MAP) meeting held on 17th December 2015 (Appendix A referred)

Andrew Birkbeck, Area Officer, presented the report and highlighted the main issues.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted

60 Outer North East Wellbeing and Youth Activity Funds Budgets

The East North East Area Leader submitted a report which provided an update on the current position of the Outer North East Community Committee's budgets and set out details of applications seeking Wellbeing Funding and Youth Activity Funding.

Appended to the report were copies of the following documents for information / comment of the meeting:

- Outer North East Community Committee Wellbeing Revenue (Appendix A referred)
- Outer North East Community Committee Youth Activity Funding (Appendix B referred)

- Outer North East Community Committee Priorities 2015/16 (Appendix C referred)
- Outer North East Community Committee – Draft Wellbeing Budget 2016/17 (Appendix D referred)

Andrew Birkbeck, Area Officer, presented the report and responded to Members comments and queries.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report together with the appendices which included:

- Available funding for the current financial year.
- Clarification around some of the projects seeking financial assistance.

RESOLVED –

- (i) To note the spend to date and current balances for the 2015/16 financial year.
- (ii) That the following project requesting Wellbeing Funding be determined as follows:

Project	Organisation	Amount Granted (£)
Wetherby & District Development Fund	Leeds City Council	£15,000
Scarcroft Village Playground	Scarcroft Village Playground Group	£7,000
Renovation of Court No.2	Shadwell Tennis Club	£3,300

- (iii) That the following projects requesting Youth Activity Funding be determined as follows:

Project	Organisation	Amount Granted (£)
Autism Support Group	EPOSS Cluster	£1,000
Lego Club	Leeds Library and Information Services – Scholes Library	£350

Hire of a Climbing Wall at Scholes Gala	Scholes Village Hall Trustees	£550
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- (iv) To note that the following applications had been approved since the Community Committee on 14th December 2015 under the delegated authority of the Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens and Communities)

Project	Organisation	Amount Granted (£)
EPOSS Holiday Programme	EPOSS Cluster	£10,000
Zone Engage	The Leeds Judean Club for Boys and Girls trading as The Zone	£4,7000

- (v) To note the draft budget position for 2016/17 as set out in appendix D of the submitted report

61 Outer North East Parish & Town Council Forum

The East North East Area Leader submitted a report which set out the main issues discussed at the latest meeting of the Outer North East Parish and Town Council Forum held on 4th February 2016. The minutes of that meeting were submitted for information/ discussion.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the report and minutes from the Outer North East Parish and Town Council Forum held on 4th February 2016, be noted
- (ii) That where appropriate to support the Outer North East Parish and Town Council Forum in resolving any issues raised.

62 Dates, Times and Venues of Community Committee Meetings 2016/2017

The City Solicitor submitted a report which sought the Community Committee's formal approval of a meeting schedule for the 2016/2017 Municipal year and to determine if there are any revisions to the current meeting and venue arrangements.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.

- (ii) That the proposed scheduled of meetings for 2016/17 be determined as follows:
 - Monday 13th June 2016
 - Monday 12th September 2016
 - Monday 12th December 2016
 - Monday 20th March 2017
- (iii) That the meeting venues continue to alternate between the Civic Hall during the winter months and at various venues held within the three wards during the summer months. All meetings to commence at 5.30pm

63 Commemorating the First World War: Battle of the Somme

The Chief Officer Communities submitted a report which informed Members of a planned programme of activity in the city to commemorate the centenary of the first day of the Battle of the Somme. In particular, the historical significance and the role played by the city's volunteer battalion, the Leeds Pals.

Members' views were sought on proposals for local commemoration events on 1st July 2016.

The East North East Area Leader reported that as part of the local commemorative events there was a proposal to mark the contribution made by the Leeds Pals Battalions by employing buglers to play the "Last Post" to mark the point in time at which men went "Over the top" at 7.30am on 1st July.

It was reported that funding was available up to £900 for each Community Committee which could include the cost of the buglers and the balance to be available to support additional local events.

RESOLVED –

- (i) To note that £900 was available to the Community Committee to support additional local events, split equally between the three wards
- (ii) To agree that any that any funds not spent by an individual ward be made available to the other wards

64 Date and Time of Next Meeting

RESOLVED – That the next meeting be arranged for Monday 13th June 2016 commencing at 5.30pm (Venue to be confirmed at a later date).

COUNCILLOR ANN CASTLE

The Chair reported that today's meeting would be the final time when Ann would be in attendance as a Council Member. Ann would be retiring in May and was not be seeking re-election in the forthcoming Local Elections.

Members joined the Chair in wishing Councillor Castle their best wishes for the future.