

Report of: Jane Maxwell, East North East Area Leader

Report to: Inner East Community Committee – Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Gipton & Harehills. Killingbeck & Seacroft wards

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For Decision

Community Committee Update Report

Purpose of report

This report provides an update on the work programme of the Inner East Community Committee, its recent successes and current challenges.

Main issues

1. Since the last Community Committee, work has progressed in a number of areas, including via ward member meetings and the local Neighbourhood Improvement Partnerships.
2. The second meeting of the Inner East Neighbourhood Improvement Board took place 14th July. This strategic board, chaired by the Executive Member for Communities, has been brought together to identify and tackle issues in the five 'priority neighbourhoods' in East Leeds. As well as looking at the action plans from each of the Neighbourhood Improvement Partnerships (NIPs) there were also bespoke agenda items on the Keep Harehills Tidy campaign and the refuse collection service, young people and community cohesion and private sector housing. Minutes from this meeting are attached to this report as Appendix 1. The next meeting of the Inner East Neighbourhood Improvement Board is scheduled to take place on 4th October.
3. The next Community Champions meeting is scheduled for 12th September 2016. Service leads will be in attendance and the meeting will be an opportunity to discuss current work programmes and to identify potential areas of work for the champions to get involved in.

4. The Inner East Environmental sub group met on 4th July. Issues discussed included an update on the Environmental SLA, and update on the Keep Harehills Tidy campaign and update on the bulky waste collection service, including a pilot programme in high-rise blocks in Lincoln Green. Some structural changes to the East North East Locality Team were also presented. There was also an item on the Environmental Service Level Agreement (SLA) for 2016/17. Members of the subgroup agreed that there would be no changes to the 2015/16 SLA but that any amendments to the agreement for 2017/18 would be progressed via the Environmental Subgroup.
5. Ward member meetings have taken place for all three Inner East ward since the date of the last Community Committee. Amongst the issues discussed at these meetings was some bespoke consultation on the local lettings policy, which was initially presented at the Community Committee on 16th June. Gipton & Harehills members were briefed on primary school places, while at the Killingbeck & Seacroft meeting there was a broad discussion around antisocial behaviour and tenant issues.
6. On 27th June, Leader of the Council, Judith Blake and Chief Executive, Tom Riordan, attended a visit to Burmantofts & Richmond Hills ward. The programme for the visit was put together by the Communities Team in consultation with ward members. During the two-hour visit, the visiting party were taken to numerous sites across the ward, taking in both the positives and the challenges. Sites visited included Cross Green to see the group repair scheme and the community garden, the new St Vincents community building, the Vinery Centre and Ivy Mount shopping parade. There was also a visit to the site of the former Butterfield Manor care facility and adjacent former hostel buildings which have lain derelict for the past several years. Following the visit, the Chief Executive wrote to the owners of the land requesting an update on plans to develop the site and we have since been informed that a planning application has now been submitted to develop the site into a new care facility, which was a really positive result.
7. The Town and District Centre improvements for Harehills are now into their final stages. A mini launch event took place on 13th July to publicise the installation of 16 lamppost banners which have been designed by children from three local primary schools. The event received some positive publicity, including coverage in the Yorkshire Evening Post and the Yorkshire Reporter. The remaining 16 banners will to be put up at the end of September, coinciding with a piece of public artwork in the grounds of the Compton Centre. These final arrangements will be marked by a launch event.
8. During the course of the summer holidays, the Communities Team have helped to plan and execute several community galas and fun days across Inner East which have been funded through the Inner East Community Committee. Each of these events play an important role in bringing communities together and also displaying the strong partner networks that have been established. They also constitute a considerable part of the Communities Team workload over the summer months.

❖ **Burmantofts Gala – Saturday 25th June**

Approximately 2,000 people attended the event which took place on Oxton Fields in the heart of Burmantofts. The event had a seaside theme and coincided with Refugee week. Highlights of the event included performances from local school children and the diversity of the attendees.

❖ **Lark in the Park – Saturday 23rd July**

This was the 11th year for this well established community event, organised by a partnership of local organisation lead by Community Unity and supported by staff from the ENE Communities Team. The event at East End Park had a sporting theme to help promote East End Park as an “Active Park”. The running track and Silly Olympics went down particularly well. The estimated attendance was circa 2000 people.

❖ **Seacroft Children & Young People Days - 28th & 29th August**

These events took place at Seacroft Village Green and the Denis Healy Centre. They collectively attracted over 600 people. The Gigglebox silly photo booth was a popular attraction as were the bouncy castles, silly Olympics, Seacroft Seaside and climbing wall. Fruit and water was distributed to the families and young people to encourage healthy living. The Denis Healy event also saw the unveiling of the new Seacroft Sports area which features multiuse sports pitches. A football tournament took place with local young people as well as tennis matches. The healthy living theme continued at this event with young people making their own fruit smoothies.

❖ **Harehills Children & Young People Day – 4th August**

This event took place in Harehills park and was very well attended from start to finish. Activities included a BMX track, cycle displays, face painting, bouncy castles and a climbing wall. 600 people attended throughout the day.





9. At the last Community Committee in June, a workshop was held to consult around barriers to employment in East Leeds. This helped to inform the strategy for the East Leeds Community Led Local Development (CLLD) bid which was submitted on 31st August following approval by the Local Action Group (LAG), comprising of public sector, private sector and third sector representatives. A decision as to whether the strategy has been accepted is due in October, at which point a formal bid will be prepared to be submitted in November.
10. The Communities Team ENE have continued to use the Inner East Community Committee Facebook pages to promote the work of the committee as well as advertising community events and local opportunities. At the time of writing, the Inner East Community Committee Facebook pages had been “liked” by 343 people, an increase from 304 at the time of the last Community Committee in June. The Facebook pages continue to be an important communications tool between the council and local residents and services and work is ongoing as to how this resource can be further utilised.
11. An action tracker document has been created to help drive forward the priorities and achieve defined and measurable outputs from the community committee meetings. This document is attached at Appendix 2. It provides a review of all agreed

community committee actions, including those established in the community committee workshop sessions.

Conclusion

12. The work of the Communities Team in partnership with council departments, external partners and with elected members is working towards the priorities of the Community Committee and the aspirations of the new neighbourhood improvement approach. This programme of work should be seen as a work in progress which is consolidating the Community Committee's role as a local decision-making body by strengthening the links between the local authority and the communities it serves.

Recommendations

1. That members note the contents of the report and make comment where appropriate.