

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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To Note

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 third meeting of the Inner East Neighbourhood Improvement Board took place on 10th November. 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. The November meeting had a specific focus on some of the more challenging issues in East Leeds, namely antisocial behaviour in several neighbourhoods, the local response to it and where the need for further support has been identified in order to progress issues. Also discussed at the meeting were the priority neighbourhood action plans. The next meeting of the Inner East Neighbourhood Improvement Board is scheduled to take place in February 2017.
3. The Inner East Environmental sub group met on 4th July. Issues discussed included an update on the Environmental Service Level Agreement, and an update on the Keep Harehills Tidy campaign. There was also a discussion about the domestic waste strategy and how this is shaped to meet local needs and the challenges ahead in terms of a growing city and a growing population.

4. On 12th October, over 30 people came together at the Bangladeshi Centre in Harehills to take part in an evening of food and conversation. The Harehills 'Conversation Dinner' brought together local people from a range of different backgrounds along with local councillors and encouraged them to socialise together through conversation topics contained on a pre-determined 'menu'. The event was deemed a great success with some positive feedback from those who attended. The event was aimed at reducing social isolation but also to encourage people from different backgrounds to have a greater understanding of each others lives in order to build stronger communities. The catering and chefs for the evening were provided by the Heritage Food Company and the locally-based Roma Café.



5. On 2nd November, the Inner East Community Committee hosted a 'transport conversation' at the Vinery Centre in Burmantofts. Elected members and several local residents were in attendance to discuss their views on the local and citywide transport infrastructure. The event followed on from a report that was presented at the last community committee which set out the most wide-reaching transport-themed consultation ever undertaken in the city. The contributions made to both discussions will be fed into the overall consultation process – which included an online survey – and the results will be fed back to the community committee in due course.
6. As in recent years, the Communities Team again this year organised a package of positive diversionary activities to take place in Harehills over two evenings across bonfire night. In a partnership consisting of Safer Leeds, CATCH, LCC Active Sports, LCC Youth Services, West Yorkshire Fire Service, Positive Futures, One Formation, Thomas Danby and West Yorkshire Police, a programme of activities including football tournaments, food and drink, music and female-only sport sessions were put on in and around Harehills on the 4th and 5th November. It is estimated that over 200 young people engaged with the activities across the two nights and it is testament to the success of these activities that there were very few reported incidents of antisocial behaviour during this period.

DON'T MISS OUT
 Join us at The Ark, Hovingham Avenue, LS8 3QY
 No need to book - everyone welcome **FREE**

FRIDAY 4TH NOV 2016
DJ School UK DJ workshop,
6:30-9pm - 13-19 years

SATURDAY 5TH NOV 2016
Alfie & Moses - 6:30-9pm
Beatbox & rap writing, 13-19 years
Ark Youth Club open 5-10pm both nights

Please do not put your life and others safety at risk by misusing fireworks
 Please be aware that West Yorkshire Police have the powers to implement a 'Dispersal Order' to deal with individuals who are engaging in anti social behaviour and affecting residents or visitors to the area.
What does this mean:
 The Dispersal Order enables uniformed Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) to direct persons to leave the area. You will be informed which location you are to leave and the route you must take.
 You may also be required to surrender an item being used to harass, alarm or distress members of the public e.g. fireworks.
 You will also be informed how long you have to remain out of the area, this can be up to 48 hours.
Please note that a person who has been directed to leave the area and fails to do so, commits a criminal offence.

Leeds Safer Leeds RDS West Yorkshire CATCH WY

7. At the time of writing this report, the Communities Team are in an advanced planning stage of delivering an Inner East Youth Summit, funded by local councillors through the Youth Activities Fund. Adopting a successful model that has been used for other similar events across the city, the team have arranged the Inner East event to take place on 6th December at Shine in Harehills. The youth summit will bring together 60 young people from across the area and a range of organisations who currently provide out of school activities for young people across Inner East Leeds. The purpose of the event is primarily to engage with young people about the activities they currently take part in and consult with them on activities that they would like to take part in. The outcomes of the event will be used to shape the council's provision of young people's activities across Inner East that are funded by the community committee's Youth Activity Fund. The outcomes of the event will be reported to the next community committee in March.
8. It was reported to the last Community Committee in September that the Communities Team in partnership with Gipsil had submitted a Community Led Local Development Strategy to the government in a bid to acquire European funding to support local employment and enterprise. The community committee is pleased to report that the strategy has been supported in principle by the Department for Communities and Local Government. This decision means that a formal funding bid will now be written by the Local Action Group which must be submitted by 31st January 2017. If successful, the bid will bring in £1.5m (£3m including required match funding) of external funding into Inner East Leeds.
9. In support of one of the core community committee priorities to reduce incidents of domestic violence, the community committee has again this year supported the 16 Days of Action Campaign against domestic violence and abuse. The campaign took place between the 25th November and 16th December The community committee

allocated some Wellbeing funding towards supporting local projects that both raise awareness about domestic violence, how to report it and also that deal face to face with people who have experienced domestic violence. A précis of the projects that were funded in support of this campaign is included as Appendix 1 of this report.

10. One issue that has been of concern to ward members in recent months has been perceived increases in levels of antisocial behaviour and criminality in a number of 'hotspots' in the area. South Seacroft and streets comprising the Sandhursts and Dorsets in Harehills are two of the identified areas. The ASB issues in South Seacroft have also been accompanied by an almost continuous movement of unauthorised traveller encampments within the ward which has brought its own challenges. In response to both of these issues being raised by ward members, the Communities team have been part of a bespoke piece of work to address them. Multi-agency 'task and finish' groups have been set up to address the issues and to agree focused actions to tackle the problems. These pieces of work are on-going and further updates will be provided as part of this report at future community committee meetings.
11. On 18th October, a partnership of local organisations, local residents and council services came together to undertake a community clean-up at a local primary school in Burmantofts. The clean-up took place at a ginnel that is used by pupils who attend All Saints primary school. The ginnel is a popular thoroughfare to the school and is well used by pupils and parents. Work undertaken included removing the area of litter and other debris and also re-edging the grassed side of the ginnel to widen the footpath. The clean-up resulted in a full flat-bed truck of litter and other debris.



12. On 28th November, Leader of the Council, Judith Blake and Chief Executive, Tom Riordan, attended a visit to the Killingbeck & Seacroft ward. The programme for the visit was put together by the Communities Team in consultation with ward members. During the three-hour visit, the visiting party were taken to several sites across the ward, taking in both the positives and the challenges. Sites visited included LS14 Trust, OIL, Chapel FM, Deacon House and several sites identified for new housing developments, including the Seacroft Hospital site. This visit concludes the Leader and Chief Executive visits to the three inner east wards, with the Gipton & Harehills

visit taking place on 9th November 2015 and the Burmantofts & Richmond Hill meeting taking place on 27th June.



13. During October, the community committee supported several recruitment events for the new Aldi supermarket being constructed on the corner of Regent Street and Skinner Lane. These sessions took place at the Compton Centre and the One Community Centre in Lincoln Green. A further session also took place at the Reginald Centre. 97 people attended these sessions collectively (37 at the Compton Centre and 51 at the One Centre) and support arrangements were advertised for those who needed follow-up advice and support. However, the vast majority of those who attended did not follow up on this offer of support. This has been identified as a concern, and as a result the Communities Team are working with the Employment & Skills service on a piece of work to proactively follow this up with the individuals concerned.
14. The Communities Team 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 this report, the Inner East Community Committee Facebook pages had been “liked” by 410 people, an increase from 343 at the time of the last Community Committee in September. 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.
15. Several ward member meetings for each of the three Inner East wards have taken place since the date of the last Community Committee. These meetings provide the opportunity to discuss ward-specific issues, some of which are included in this report.
16. 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

17. 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. Members note the contents of the report and make comment where appropriate.