

OUTER WEST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 28TH SEPTEMBER, 2016

PRESENT: Councillor M Coulson in the Chair

Councillors A Blackburn, D Blackburn,
J Jarosz, T Wilford and R Wood

16 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals against refusal of inspection of documents.

17 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion Of The Press And Public

There was no exempt information.

18 Late Items

There were no late items.

19 Declaration Of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

20 Apologies For Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Andrew Carter, Amanda Carter, and Richard Lewis.

21 Open Forum / Community Forum

In accordance with Paragraphs 4.16 and 4.17 of the Community Committee Procedure Rules, at the discretion of the Chair a period of up to 10 minutes may be allocated at each ordinary meeting for members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Community Committee. This period of time may be extended at the discretion of the Chair. No member of the public shall speak for more than three minutes in the Open Forum, except by permission of the Chair.

Alison Nussey and Lorraine Marsden attended the Community Committee to speak about Radcliffe Lane Day Care Centre.

The Chair explained that the closure of Radcliffe Lane Day Care Centre did not fall within the terms of reference of the Community Committee, however he would allow them to speak and that their comments would be noted in the minutes. The minutes of the Community Committee are presented to full Council.

Ms Nussey spoke first informing the Committee that she was the carer for her mother who used the centre. She explained that the centre was used by the elderly and provided a service both for the elderly and their carer's in the Pudsey area. She said that the centre provided her mother with activities and company whilst giving her valuable respite from caring for her mother. She said that the alternative centre would be an hours bus journey, which was too long for her mother and her as she is also getting older.

Ms Marsden informed the Members that she was the full time carer of her mother who had multiple needs including dementia and could not use the centre. However, she had wanted to speak at the Committee to express her views that the closure of the centre would be a great loss for the area, for both the people who used the centre and those who cared for them. The fact that the carers themselves were getting older, there was a real need for something local.

The Chair and the Committee noted their concerns and thanked Ms Nussey and Ms Marsden for their attendance at the meeting.

22 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 15th June 2016 be approved as a correct record subject to the amendment of minute 11- Finance Report the resolution amended for Love Pudsey Youth Café from £8,320 to £2,080.

23 Matters arising

Minute 8 –Appointments to Outside Bodies

Cllr. Wood asked that it be noted he had been appointed by Member Management Committee to the Robert Salter Charity

It was noted that Councillors Amanda Carter and Josephine Jarosz were to meet on 18th October with the Executive Member for Children's Services, Cllr. Mulherin to discuss the role of the Children's Service Champion and the Corporate Parenting Board representative.

24 Finance Update Report

The report of the West North West Area Leader provided the Community Committee with an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund for 2016/17 and the current position of the Small Grants and skips pots.

Members were advised that taking into account the project underspends and carry forward figures from 2015/16, the total fund available for new projects in 2016/17 was £149,482.55. This funding had now been committed to 26 projects for 2016/17. Taking into account underspends and the balance following the funding round there would be £8,830 still available for allocation for Wellbeing Revenue in the 2016/17 budget.

Members noted that there was £41,600 in Capital monies available for allocation in 2016/17.

Members were informed that the Youth Activity Fund (YAF) had committed funding for 9 projects for 2016/17 with a balance of £3,394 for allocation this financial year.

Members were asked to approve the recently reviewed process for funding YAF, which had been discussed by Members at their General Purposes Sub Group held on 23rd August. It had been suggested by Members that there should be 2 funding rounds and any late applications to only be considered under exceptional circumstances. In the event that an application is received the Communities Team will consider the application and seek permission from the Chair for the application to be circulated to Members for approval by a delegated decision.

Members were asked to approve the method by which Wellbeing grants are approved for 2017/18. It was proposed that the funding round followed the same process as last year. Applications would be invited between 28th October 2016 and 13th January 2017, for approval at the Community Committee meeting in March 2017. Members would be consulted with before and during the process with a proposed workshop on Monday 13th February 2017, to review all applications.

RESOLVED – The Committee resolved:-

- To note the current budget position for the Revenue Wellbeing Fund for 2016/17.
- To note the Small Grants and skips that have been approved since the last meeting at Table 1
- To note the current budget position for the Youth Activities Fund and consider any applications received for 2016/17 at Table 2
- That Members approve the process set out in appendix 1 to funding the YAF
- To agree the recommended application round process and funding priorities for 2016/17

25 Employment and Skills Update

The Head of Communities and Partnerships presented the report of the Chief Officer Employment and Skills which updated the Community Committee on employment and Skills Service activity and noted key employment data for the area.

Members were informed that take up of services had decreased across the area. The number of people accessing the services in the Outer West area had decreased since from 883 in 2015/16 to 691. Analysis of service activity was set out in ward areas at point 2 of the submitted report.

Members noted that outcome volumes for jobs had decreased from the previous year by 19% and that skills had shown a minimal decrease of 8%. However, it was noted that 27% of people who had accessed employability support had gained employment and 89% of people who had accessed skills provision had completed their courses. Positive news was noted that in the Farnley Wortley area, 35% of people accessing the service had found work.

Members were advised that a review of those in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance was currently taking place.

Members were informed that a decision had been taken, for the previously contracted young people's Information Advice and Guidance service delivered by Aspire IGEN to be delivered in house. Members were told that this would provide an integrated service to young people by co locating and aligning services for the city's most vulnerable adolescents. There are currently 2 people working at the City Centre Hub and it is hoped that more staff will have been recruited to posts by the end of October.

Members were advised that over 170 adult learning courses had been delivered or planned in the area. Courses included:-

- Brush up courses in English, Maths and Language
- Childcare
- Computing

Members were advised that a plan was to be prepared to confirm recruitment arrangements at the new Aldi on Tong Road. Members also noted that retailers at the new Armley Retail Park were to be contacted. Members were informed that roadshows had been completed for the casino.

Members noted the three main priorities of the West North West Employment Skills and Welfare Board as set out in the submitted report and the appended 2016/17 plan.

Members were informed that the Leeds Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair had been successful. Future events would take place in the City as localised events were not well attended by young people or businesses.

Members noted that partnership working was progressing with Interserve and Reid.

Members discussed: -

- Monitoring of gambling and the social effects of gambling
- The need for local hubs in areas of need
- Links from City Centre hub to local hubs

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- To note the content of the report.
- To receive a further update in 2017 to include detail and progress on the ESIF programme.

26 Community Committee Update Report

The report of the West North West Area Leader updated the Community Committee on the work of the three sub groups of the Committee: Environment, Business, Employment and Skills and General Purposes.

Members were informed that the partnership working between West North West Locality Team and Parks and Countryside had progressed and was working well.

Members noted that the Dog Show and Fun Day held at Pudsey Park in July had been a success.

The Committee were informed of the outcome of the General Purposes meeting held on 23rd August where members had reviewed the commissioning process for Youth Activity Fund where it was suggested that 2 commissioning rounds be held and any late applications would only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

Members attention was drawn to point 15 of the submitted report which detailed the next meeting of the Business Employment and skills sub group to be held on 12 October where the group will discuss LS128 and how it moves forward.

Members discussed the following points:-

- Bin emptying in the parks on a weekend
- Bus service changes in the area
- Big lunch events
- Newsletter
- The Community Committee Plan

RESOLVED – That the Community Committee;

- Note the report including the key outcomes from the sub groups
- Approve the Outer West draft community plan and the recommended key priorities for 2016/17
- Share and promote the social networking platforms for the Outer West Community Committee

27 Leeds Transport Conversation

The report of the Chief Officer Highways and Transport informed the Community Committee of the Transport Conversation and engagement process and sought feedback and input from Members on the future strategic approach to transport in the city and the development of a proposition and delivery plan for the £173.5 million fund due to be allocated following the cancellation of the NGT project.

Gary Bartlett Chief Officer for Highways and Transport and Dave Pearson of West Yorkshire Combined Authority Transport were at the meeting and gave a presentation to the Committee and then took part in a question and answer

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Friday, 13th January, 2017

session with Members and members of the public who had attended the meeting.

Members were advised that following the cancellation of the NGT project Leeds now needed to provide the Government with a proposition and delivery plan by the end of the year, in order to release the £173.5 million funding.

In response to the NGT decision a city wide debate on the future of transport strategy was launched with a Transport Summit on 10th June 2016. The summit was attended by 170 stakeholders from across the city and included Members. At the summit the Leader of Council announced the start of the City's largest ever Transport Conversation to seek the views from key stakeholders, partners and communities from across the city.

Members were informed that there were two phases the first being the launch of an on-line survey which opened 2nd August and had been extended to 11th November. For those unable to access the on-line survey hardcopies were available at Community Hubs, One Stop Centres and Libraries. The officer informed the Committee that currently there had been over 4000 responses.

Members noted that two workshops had taken place on 15th and 20th September. They also noted that the Transport Conversation feedback would be fed into the development of an outline series of proposals for the spend of the £173.5 million, this would be presented to Executive Board on 19th October 2016.

Members were informed of the issues currently facing Transport as:

- Congestion on major routes in to the city
- Air quality in the city centre
- Economy – with increased jobs in the city
- Change in demographics for all areas
- Changes in technology including driverless taxis and smart ticketing
- Population growth
- Fall in bus usage
- New housing developments in all areas of the city
- The Leeds Bradford corridor and the opportunities this link presents
- The local challenges of Dawsons Corner, A6110 and New Pudsey Station

RESOLVED – That the Community Committee;

- note the wider strategic context of the Transport Conversation which will extend beyond a first phase conversation into the Spring / Summer of next year, informing a wider transport strategy for the City and your area over the next 20 years;
- note the Department of Transport £173.5 million offer for public transport improvements, in the context of a currently planned report to Executive Board on 19th October and the planned submission of strategic investment case to the Department of Transport

- provide feedback and advise on the key priorities for transport investment in the city and the local community.

A question and answer session hosted by Outer West Community Committee and attended by Members, members of the public, the Chief Officer Highways and Transport and Dave Pearson of West Yorkshire Combined Authority Transport discussed the following issues:-

- Dates and times for transport conversation were not always conducive for workers
- To offer the survey to people travelling to and from work on buses
- Oystercard system similar to London which has set prices and a regular service – a long discussion took place on this system.
- Clear routes into the city centre
- Part way to having Smartcard system, do have M Card which allows travel on all buses
- The need to move towards a flat fare
- The use of contactless cards – not able to secure the system for this currently
- A bus service like London – it was explained that for a city to have its own bus service it needs to have an elected Mayor.
- Quality bus contracts
- Better infrastructure
- Need for fixes in the long, medium and short term
- More park and ride located around the City
- Poor bus service in and around Pudsey
- Transport system in Manchester, Sheffield and Newcastle highlighted as having good transport systems
- Challenges on orbital routes
- New scheme to make City Square the gateway to the City
- The need for a scheme to alleviate traffic round Armley Gyratory
- Lack of parking at train stations
- Difficult to get to train stations
- Walkways, and cycle ways not clear from Pudsey to New Pudsey Station, need better lighting on route and at station and make more secure for those on foot or cycling.
- Need for transport hubs in lead stations and district centres
- Need to learning from Core City colleagues and experiences of travel systems in Europe
- Work place parking charges
- More local railway stations
- Too many cars on roads
- Need to consider solutions for crossing the river
- Need to consider the future of driverless cars

This session lasted 1hour 30 minutes and was an open and honest session enjoyed by all who had attended.

Cllr. Wood said that this was a good process for engaging with the Community on transport issues and was impressed with how the session had been handled by officers.

The Chair thanked Members, Officers and members of the public for attending the meeting.

28 Date and Time of next meeting

The next meeting of the Outer West Community Committee will be held on Friday 13th January 2017 at 1:00pm venue to be confirmed.