

INNER WEST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 11TH OCTOBER, 2017

PRESENT: Councillor F Venner in the Chair

Councillors C Gruen, J Heselwood,
J Illingworth, J McKenna, K Ritchie,
A Smart and L Yeadon

Co-optees: Hazel Boutle, Eric Bowes,
Annabel Gaskin and Stephen McBarron.

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE WORKSHOP: PARKS AND GREEN SPACES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and after introductions had been made she introduced the theme for the workshop as Parks and Greenspace.

In introducing the first report the Chair spoke of her disappointment that the report was not fuller.

1st Presentation – Parks and Countryside Interim Report

Joanne Clough, Trading and Operational Support Officer presented the report explaining that this was an interim report and that Parks and Countryside would have a better understanding of their budget position, the outcome of resident's consultation exercise carried out in partnership with Leeds University and the latest Leeds Quality Parks assessment after February 2018. Members were informed that a scheduled annual report would be available then.

The Officer updated the Committee on the work that had been undertaken in each ward and the work which was needed to bring the parks in the area up to standard.

Members heard about the events that had taken place over the summer and were informed of future events.

Members were advised the current Ranger located at Gotts Park was to be replaced by Clare Rodgers in the next few weeks.

At the conclusion of this report Members discussed the following issues:

- Generation of income;
- The Leeds Quality Parks Standard, what work was required and the timescales for all parks to be assessed as having met the standard;
- Funding for parks in the Inner West area and how the funding would be prioritised.

Members noted that the timescale for all parks to reach the Leeds Quality Parks Standard was set at 2020.

2nd Presentation – Play in West Leeds

Helen Foreman from City Development gave a presentation on Children's Play.

The presentation looked at the following:

- The benefits of play for children
- How children view structures man-made or natural as objects for play
- Safe spaces to play without boundaries looking at everywhere as a playground
- Importance of safe routes to access play areas

The Officer focused on street play explaining how streets become recognised as play streets. The Officer set out the benefits of play streets saying that it provided a safe place for children to play out doors, created a community with adults and children socialising

Members discussed the following points:

- Street closes and play in Inner West area
- The need for cross service working
- The need for services to be aware of types of play and equipment that children enjoy
- How areas of shrubs and trees could be used for play in Inner West area.
- Why some areas of the City had much more innovative play equipment in LCC Parks eg, Roundhay, Temple Newsam.

Members were advised that work across services was ongoing to look at types of play and equipment.

3rd Presentation – Kirkstall Valley Park

Amy McAbendroth, Senior Landscape Architect at ARUP and a resident of Kirkstall gave a presentation to the Committee setting out the strategy for delivery.

Amy provided a brief development history to the project and the area covered by the Kirkstall Valley Park she also highlighted spots of interest along the route.

Amy explained the 9 objectives set out in the strategy for delivery of the park:

1. Unification
2. Activity
3. Movement
4. Heritage
5. Ecology and Biodiversity
6. Links to Communities
7. Profile

8. Flood Risk and Resilience

9. Economy

Members were informed of the existing challenges in meeting each of the objectives.

Members heard that eight Key Framework Moves had been formulated to directly address the objectives associated with the creation of Kirkstall Valley Park.

The Committee were informed that the Key Framework Moves recommended priority projects and initiatives to help unlock the park, making it more accessible, usable and enjoyable to the public.

The Members discussed the following points:

- The boundaries of the park
- Consultation with all Members across all three wards
- Access to the park
- Funding for the park and projects
- The Kirkstall Valley Park Board and the need for wider representation on the Board

Cllr. Ritchie spoke of the hard work by Cllr. Illingworth on the Kirkstall Valley Park Board.

The Chair thanked Joanne, Helen and Amy for attending the Community Committee and for their presentations.

At the end of the workshop at 19:30 the Community Committee went on to the Formal Business of the Community Committee.

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 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

20 Apologies for Absence

It was noted that apologies had been received from Cllr. A Lowe and Co-optee Sam Meadley.

21 Open Forum / Community Forums

On this occasion there were no members of the public who wished to address the Committee at the Open Forum.

22 Minutes

RESOLVED - The minutes of the meeting held on 21st June 2017 were approved as a correct record.

23 Finance Update Report

The report of the West North West Area Leader updated the Members on the projects funded through the Inner West Wellbeing Fund and Youth Activities Fund budgets. It also presented new projects for approval.

The report also asked the Community Committee to approve the Wellbeing funding round process and timescales for the 2018/19 Wellbeing budget.

Members were advised of the remaining wellbeing balances for each ward. Members had been provided with a detailed breakdown of spend and also monitoring details of wellbeing projects complete to year end 2016/17. Both of these documents were appendices to the submitted report.

Members noted the continuation of Broadlea Tea Time Club which had been approved by delegated decision.

Members were asked to consider three wellbeing applications set out at points 9-11 of the submitted report for:

- Leeds Country Park and Green Gateways Trail publicity
- Bumps and Babes
- Rainbow House

Members were asked to provide £200 per ward to top up the Priority Neighbourhood Pot to enable and support projects across all wards.

Members were advised that the small grants and skips budget available to spend was £3,133. Members were also informed of the three small grants projects which had been approved since the last meeting.

Members heard that following a recent injection of funds, the current Inner West Capital Wellbeing balance was £34,100.

Members were informed of the remaining balances of the Youth Activities Fund available for each ward to spend.

Members were informed that the application round was to follow the process as previous years, with applications invited between 27th October 2017 and 12 January 2018, for approval at the March Community Committee meeting.

RESOLVED – To:

- a) Note the balance of the Wellbeing budget and Wellbeing spend report at Appendix 1 of the submitted report.
- b) Note the Wellbeing monitoring report at Appendix 2 of the submitted report
- c) Approve the new Wellbeing projects for 2017/18 at points 9-11 of the submitted report
- d) Approved a top up of £200 per ward to the priority neighbourhood pot at point 12 of the submitted report
- e) Note the balance of the small grants and skips at point 17 of the submitted report
- f) Note the balance of the Capital Fund at point 18 of the submitted report
- g) Note the balance of the Youth Activities Fund at point 20 of the submitted report
- h) Approve the application process for the 2018/19 financial year at points 21-24 of the submitted report

Projects approved at the meeting were as follows:

- 9 Leeds Country Park and Green Gateways Trail publicity £1,168 - APPROVED
- 11 Rainbow House £816– APPROVED from Capital funding
- Woodbridges Youth Group £2,415 – APPROVED from Kirkstall Youth Activities Fund

Projects Deferred

- 10 Bumps and Babes £1,200 – DEFERRED for further information

24 Community Committee Update Report

The report of the West North West Area Leader provided the Committee with an update on the work of the sub groups of the Committee: Children and Young People and Environment. The report also updated the Committee on community events, local projects and partnership working that had taken place in the area since the last meeting.

Members were informed that the Inner West Youth Summit would take place on Friday 10th November 2017 in the Leeds Civic Hall Banqueting Suite and would include a Q&A session with the Lord Mayor and Councillors in the Ante-Chamber. Members of the Committee who sit as Governors in the Inner West area were asked to promote the event to get as many schools as possible involved.

It was noted that the sub-group were arranging a visit to the new nursery facility Arium.

Members were informed that CAREVIEW the social isolation app was scheduled to be tested in New Wortley as one of the 6 priority neighbourhoods in October 2017. CAREVIEW looks to reconnect socially isolated residents back into their communities and services which may improve and maintain their overall health and wellbeing. It was noted that this would be a 12 month exploratory trial to transform the prototype to a fully working model with enhanced features.

Each of the Community Champions provided a brief update on the sub groups of the Community Committee.

Steve McBarron the Co-optee for Bramley and Stanningley was thanked for all his work on the Bramley Fun Day which had been a great success. The Committee showed their appreciation with a round of applause.

RESOLVED – To note the report including the key outcomes from the sub groups.

25 Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting of the Inner West Community Committee will be Wednesday 29th November 2017, at 6:00pm. Venue to be confirmed nearer to the date.