

SOUTH (OUTER) AREA COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY, 2008

PRESENT: Councillor T Grayshon in the Chair

Councillors C Beverley, J Dunn, J Elliott,
R Finnigan, B Gettings, T Leadley,
L Mulherin, K Renshaw, S Smith and
D Wilson

64 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed all in attendance to the February meeting of the South (Outer) Area Committee.

65 Exclusion of Public

RESOLVED – That the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of agenda item 18 entitled, Area Manager's Report – West Ardsley Community Centre. Information in relation to this item has been designated as exempt on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of proceedings that if Members of the public are present that there would be a disclosure to them of information relating to the financial or business affairs of an organisation as designated within paragraph 10.4(3) of the Access to Information Procedure Rules.

66 Declaration of Interests

Agenda Item 8 – 'Future Plans for Partnership Working' (Minute No. 70 refers)

Councillor Elliot declared a personal interest in this item due to being Director of Aire Valley Homes, Leeds.

Councillor Gettings declared a personal interest in this item due to being a Member of Outer South Leeds ALMO Area Panel.

Agenda Item 9 – 'Community Engagement' (Minute No. 71 refers)

Councillors Elliot and Gettings declared a personal interest in this item due to being Members of the Morley Literature Festival Organising Committee and Morley in Bloom Committee.

Councillor Finnigan declared a personal interest in this item due to being a Member of the Morley Literature Festival Organising Committee.

Agenda Item 13 – 'Thorpe Recreation Ground' (Minute No. 75 refers)

Councillor Dunn declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item due to being an attendee of Thorpe Community Forum, which had requested Wellbeing funding for the construction of a new playground and Multi-Use Games Area at Thorpe Recreation Ground. (Councillor Dunn remained in the meeting to make a representation, but did not vote on the item).

Agenda Item 14 – ‘Churwell Park Provision of CCTV’ (Minute No. 76 refers)
Councillors Elliot, Finnigan, Grayshon and Leadley all declared a personal and prejudicial interest due to being Members of Churwell Action Group, which had requested Wellbeing funding for the installation of CCTV in Churwell Park. (Councillors Elliot, Finnigan, Grayshon and Leadley withdrew from the meeting and did not vote on the item).

Agenda Item 15 – ‘Morley Town Hall – Wellbeing Capital Proposal’ (Minute No. 77 refers)
Councillors Elliot, Finnigan, Grayshon, Gettings and Leadley all declared a personal interest in this item due to being Members of Morley Town Council.

Councillor Beverley declared a personal interest in this item due to his wife being a Member of Morley Town Council.

Agenda Item 16 – ‘Care and Repair Leeds: Garden Maintenance Service Report’ – (Minute No. 78 refers)
Councillors Elliot, Gettings and Leadley all declared a personal interest in this item due to being Members of the Morley Elderly Action Management Committee, which operated a similar Garden Maintenance Service.

Agenda Item 19 – ‘Outer South Area Committee Wellbeing Budget Report’ – (Minute No. 81 refers)
Councillors Elliot and Gettings declared a personal interest in this item due to being Members of Morley in Bloom Committee.

Councillors Elliot, Gettings and Leadley declared a personal and prejudicial interest due to being Members of Morley Elderly Action and did not vote on the item.

Further declarations of interest were made at later points in the meeting (Minute No’s 72, 74 and 81 refer).

67 Apologies

An apology for absence was submitted by Councillor Golton.

68 Minutes of Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous South (Outer) Area Committee meeting held on 17 December, 2007 be approved as a correct record.

69 Open Forum

In accordance with paragraphs 6.24 and 6.25 of the Area Committee Procedure Rules, the Chairman allowed a period of up to ten minutes for members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Area Committee.

Churwell Park Provision of CCTV

The Committee was informed that Drighlington Parish Council had recently installed CCTV. It was reported that operation of the CCTV had been a success.

70 Future Plans for Partnership Working

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report on the future of area based partnership working in Leeds, including proposals for changing the structure of partnership working to reflect changes that were taking place across organisational boundaries.

Keith Lander, Area Co-ordinator provided a summary of the issues detailed within the report and the following key points were discussed:-

- Members noted the proposed changes in District Partnership arrangements and organisational boundaries. Members felt that some District Partners could work more effectively together, including focussing on issues within the Outer area and not just the Inner area.
- Members discussed future proposals for partnership working. The Area Co-ordinator reported that under future proposals, Area Committees would play a central role in partnership working.
- It was reported that under the proposals, Members would be encouraged to nominate Elected Members to act as thematic champions.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the Area Committee endorses the principle of utilising Area Committee meetings to improve partnership working so far as it relates to the Strategic Plan (subject to further negotiation with key partners);
- (b) Nominates Elected Members with an interest and availability to act as champions for the specific themes dealt with by the sub-groups;
- (c) Supports the idea of bringing together partnership working on the basis of the geography covered by the new 'South East Area' (in so far as this is seen as the best solution on an operational basis).

(Councillor Mulherin joined the meeting at 4.14 pm during the consideration of this item).

71 Community Engagement

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report, which proposed changes to the way in which community consultation was undertaken on behalf of the Area Committees in South Leeds.

The Area Co-ordinator was in attendance at the meeting to present information and respond to Members' questions.

In brief summary, the following points were discussed:-

- The Committee was informed that under the proposals, each ward would be offered a minimum of two major consultation events per year.
- Members also considered other processes that would be taking place throughout the year.
- Members expressed support for the proposals. One Member stated that the consultation events would bring groups together and provide a useful opportunity to discuss wider ward-based issues.
- Another Member raised concern that there was no reference in the report to local Parish/Town Councils and local organisations. The Area Co-ordinator advised that Parish/Town Councils and local organisations would welcome being actively involved with the events.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the Area Committee supports the proposal to deliver two specific community events per ward per year; and
- (b) Requests a proposed schedule of additional consultation events, which will be offered in the area for the forthcoming year.

72 Town Centre Management - An update

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report, which updated the Committee on the work of the Town Centre Management Project in Morley and Rothwell since September 2007.

Peter Mudge, Town Centre Manager was in attendance at the meeting to discuss recent developments and respond to Members questions and comments.

In brief summary, the following points were discussed:-

- The Committee was informed that the next annual summits were scheduled to take place on Friday, 29th February 2008 (Rothwell) and Thursday, March 6th, 2008 (Morley).
- Members considered the possibility of retailers extending their opening hours in Morley and Rothwell. The Town Centre Manager (TCM) reported that 3 further dates for evening shopping had been scheduled to take place.
- Members discussed arrangements for celebrating Rothwell 600. It was agreed that Members for Ardsley and Robin Hood would be kept informed.
- The TCM reported that the Rothwell Entertainments Committee and the TCM were in the process of confirming arrangements for booking and overseeing events for the Town Centre.
- The TCM reported that bi-monthly meetings had taken place with Wm Morrison's and interested parties to discuss a number of issues.

- Reference was made to the future development of Rothwell and various issues were discussed.

RESOLVED - That the contents of the report and information appended to the report be noted.

(Councillor Elliot declared a personal interest in this item due to being a Member of the Town Centre Management Board).

73 Priority Neighbourhood Development Worker

The Committee received a report from the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods, which provided Members with a summary of the work undertaken by the Priority Neighbourhood Development Worker, and which requested the Committee to approve funding of the post for a further 12 months in order to continue the work outlined in the report and assist the Committee in achieving its community engagement role.

Sarah Henderson, Area Management Officer was in attendance at the meeting to update the Committee and respond to Members questions and comments. Laura Kilfoyle, Priority Neighbourhood Development Worker was also in attendance, but left the meeting during the Committee's consideration of the recommendations outlined in the report.

The following key points were made:-

- The Committee discussed specific projects that the Priority Neighbourhood Development Worker had been involved with and the significant progress that had been made.
- Some Members expressed concern that it was necessary to review funding for the post on an annual basis.

RESOLVED -

(a) That the contents of the report be noted; and
(b) The Area Committee approves £31,622 funding from the Wellbeing budget 2008/2009, subject to the budget being approved by the Executive Board, for a twelve month extension to the Priority Neighbourhood Development Worker post.

74 Windmill Youth Club - Well Being Capital Proposal

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report in relation to a request for funding for a number of complimentary works to Windmill to link into the Section 106 funding allocated for the enhancement of community facilities in the Rothwell area.

The Area Management Officer updated the Committee on the contents of the report and responded to Members questions and comments.

The key points highlighted were:-

- The Area Management Officer reported that the project would provide a comprehensive backlog maintenance scheme to Windmill Youth Club. Members noted the specific timescales associated with the Section 106 funding.
- One Member suggested that a Rothwell Ward Councillor could be invited to become a Trustee of the development at Windmill.
- The Committee noted an amendment to 6.0 of the report to read ‘... Once the work is complete, the building will be brought up to category A standard’.
- One Member queried whether Rodillian High School still used the Youth Club. The Area Co-ordinator agreed to seek clarification on this matter and report back.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted; and
- (b) The Area Committee approves the allocation of £30,707 from the Rothwell Ward Wellbeing capital allocation.

(Councillor Renshaw declared a personal interest in this item due to being LEA Governor of Rodillian High School).

75 Thorpe Recreation Ground

The Principal Area Manager South Parks and Countryside submitted a report, which requested funding to enable the progression of the design for the construction of a new playground and Multi Use Games Area at the Thorpe Recreation Ground.

Vicky Nunns, Business Development Manager (Learning and Leisure) attended the meeting to update the Committee on the contents of the report and respond to Members questions and comments.

RESOLVED - That the Area Committee notes the contents of the report and agrees to allocate £8,000 to facilitate the design and consultation work as outlined in the report.

76 Churwell Park Provision of CCTV

The Principal Area Manager South submitted a report in relation to a request for funding from Churwell Action Group for the installation of CCTV in Churwell Park.

In the absence of Councillor Grayshon, who had declared a personal and prejudicial interest and left the room, Councillor Gettings assumed the Chair for this item.

The key points of discussion were:-

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Monday, 14th April, 2008

- Members discussed the quality of the images produced using CCTV and queried whether they met police standards. The Business Development Manager confirmed that the images did meet police standards.
- The Committee considered whether it might be useful to receive a presentation from Leeds Watch and West Yorkshire Police on the benefits of CCTV and the use of footage in prosecutions.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted; and
- (b) The item be deferred to the next Area Committee meeting to enable Members to receive further information from Leeds Watch and West Yorkshire Police on the benefits of CCTV and the use of footage in prosecutions.

77 Morley Town Hall - Wellbeing Capital Proposal

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report in relation to a request for funding to purchase new equipment and undertake some building repairs to enhance and upgrade the condition of four community rooms.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted; and
- (b) The Area Committee approves the allocation of £11,000 from both Morley North and Morley South Ward Wellbeing capital allocation and £9,000 from the additional Wellbeing revenue allocation.

78 Care and Repair Leeds: Garden Maintenance Service Report

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report, which updated Members on the Garden Maintenance Service project by Care and Repair, Leeds and requested funding to support the continuation of the service.

The Committee was provided with a brief overview of the key issues detailed within the report. In brief summary, the main points highlighted were:-

- One Member requested a breakdown of the work undertaken by Care and Repair, Leeds.
- The Committee considered similar garden maintenance schemes, for eg, Morley Elderly Action.
- Members considered problems relating to the disposal of high volumes of garden waste. Members discussed whether Care and Repair could operate its own composting scheme or link up with the scheme operated by the Parks and Countryside Department.
- It was agreed to publicise the scheme in the Outer South Newsletter.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted; and
- (b) The Area Committee agrees to allocate additional funding of £2,981.00 to continue the Garden Maintenance Service this year.

79 Marsh Street Car Park

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report, which updated the Committee on the progress of the Town and District Centre Regeneration Scheme at Marsh Street Car Park in Rothwell.

The Committee was provided with a brief overview of the key issues contained within the report. In particular, Members were informed that the project had overspent and there was still some unfinished works on site, including landscaping and signage. It was reported that the scope of the landscaping works was under review and the Town and District Programme Board was still awaiting a final total of costs incurred and quotes for the unfinished items.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted; and
- (b) The Area Committee agrees to receive further information on the scheme once the Programme Board has agreed a final funding figure.

80 Area Manager's Report

The Committee received a report from the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods, which detailed the range of activities that were currently taking place throughout the Outer South area of Leeds.

Following a brief summary of the key points detailed within the report, a question and answer session ensued. The main areas of debate were:-

- In relation to additional litterbin provision, one Member expressed concern that the Ardsley and Robin Hood area was still awaiting the installation of some litterbins. It was reported that Environmental Services had been contacted about this issue and a response had been forwarded to address the matter.
- Members referred to Appendix 3 of the report, which detailed the locations for additional litterbins. It was noted that some of the litterbins had been damaged and were in need of replacement. Members queried whether replacement of the litterbins could be funded through the central services budget. It was reported that there was already provision for replacing the litterbins within the Wellbeing Budget.
- In relation to Queensway Car Park, Morley, Members discussed the importance of Parking Services monitoring the use of car parking spaces. Members supported a proposal to have 3 hours free parking

at sections 1 and 2 to enable shopping within the Town Centre as well as at Wm Morrisons.

- A representative of Kaleidoscope attended the meeting to discuss the request for a rental reduction of £3,000 per annum for the use of West Ardsley Community Centre. Members considered the range of events that had taken place at the Community Centre. It was noted that the Community Centre was not currently used after 6.00 pm. One Member sought clarification regarding what progress there had been on developing work for 8-13 year olds. The Area Co-ordinator agreed to report back to the Committee with a response.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted;
- (b) That the Area Committee agrees to hold an informal meeting to consider the ADP;
- (c) Approves the location list for the 2007/08 additional litterbin allocation as outlined in 5.3 of the report;
- (d) Agrees to provide £5,000 towards additional litterbins in Rothwell as outlined in 5.8 of the report, subject to an amendment to read that '£5,000 towards additional litterbins in Rothwell has been requested';
- (e) Agrees to allocate £15,000 towards the 2008 Morley Literature Festival, subject to sufficient budget availability;
- (f) Confirms its support for the sale of the public convenience at Midland Street, Woodlesford under the terms outlined in section 8.3 of the report.
- (g) Agrees that Option Two, as detailed within the report be identified as the Committee's preferred option for parking provision at the Queensway Car Park; and
- (h) Approves the request for a rental reduction of £3,000 per annum to Kaleidoscope for the use of West Ardsley Community Centre, subject to an annual review.

81 Outer South Area Committee Well-being Budget Report

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report, which updated Members on both the capital and revenue elements of the Committee's Wellbeing budget, provided a progress report on the capital and revenue projects that had been commissioned to date and invited Members to determine the proposals for Wellbeing funding that were detailed within the report.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the Area Committee notes the position of the Wellbeing Budget as set-out in section 3.2 of the report, including the additional allocation of £50,000 revenue funding;
- (b) That the following decisions be made in relation to the Wellbeing funding proposals, which have been submitted for determination to this meeting:-

- Tingley Athletic Football Club – The Crescent Regeneration – Car Park Provision - **£12,000** (2007/2008 Capital Budget) – **Approved**
- John O’Gaunts in Bloom – John O’Gaunts Junior Allotments - **£425** (2007/2008 Capital Budget) – **Approved**
- Groundwork – John O’Gaunts Environment Improvements/Planters - **£2,350** (2007/2008 Capital Budget) – **Approved**
- Environmental Services – Additional Litterbin Allocation - **£600** (2007/2008 Capital Budget) – **Approved**
- Environmental Services – Rothwell Additional Litterbin Allocation - **£5,000** (2007/2008 Capital Budget) – **Approved**
- Corporate Property Management – Morley Heritage Society - **£1,800** capital and **£400** revenue – (2007/2008 Capital and Revenue Budget) – **Approved**
- Environmental Services – Improvements to Recycling Sites – Morley – **£6,162.25** (2007/2008 Capital Budget) – **Approved**
- Environmental Services – Improvements to Recycling Sites – Rothwell - **£6,452.80** – (2007/2008 Capital Budget) – **Approved**
- Corporate Property Management – Windmill Community Centre - **£30,707** – (2007/2008 Capital Budget) – **Approved**
- Corporate Property Management – Morley Town Hall - **£22,000** capital and **£9,000** (additional) revenue – (2007/2008 Capital and Revenue Budget) – **Approved**
- Churwell Action Group – Churwell CCTV - **£5,378** – (2007/2008 Capital Budget) – The item be deferred to the next Area Committee meeting to enable Members to receive further information from Leeds Watch and West Yorkshire Police on the benefits of CCTV and the use of footage in prosecutions.
- Thorpe Community Forum – Thorpe Open Space - **£8,000** – (2007/2008 Revenue Budget) – **Approved**
- Morley Elderly Action Gardening Maintenance Scheme – Morley Elderly in Action - **£7,500** – (2007/2008 Revenue Budget) – **Approved**
- Care and Repair Leeds – Garden Maintenance Scheme - **£2,981** – (2007/2008 Revenue Budget) – **Approved**
- Area Management – Priority Neighbourhood Development Worker - **£31,622** (2007/2008 Revenue Budget) – **Approved**
- South Leeds PCT – Teenage Health Bus - **£4,000** – (2007/2008 Revenue Budget) – **Approved**
- Morley in Bloom – Morley in Bloom - **£2,303.57** revenue and **£1,835.40** capital – (2007/2008 Capital and Revenue Budget) – **Approved**
- Out of School Activities Team – Pilot Breeze Technology - **£750** – (2007/2008 Revenue Budget) – **Approved**; and

(c) That the Wellbeing revenue projects agreed as listed in Appendix 1 and the Wellbeing capital projects agreed as listed in Appendix 2 be noted.

(Councillor Renshaw declared a personal and prejudicial interest due to her residing on the same street as Tingley Athletic Football Club and did not vote on the item).

82 Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

Monday, 14th April 2008 at 4.00 pm
(Venue – East Ardsley Community Centre, Main Street, East Ardsley, WF3
2AP)

(The meeting concluded at 6.55 pm)