

## **OUTER SOUTH COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

**MONDAY, 23RD NOVEMBER, 2020**

**PRESENT:** Councillor N Dawson in the Chair

Councillors D Chapman, J Elliott,  
R Finnigan, B Garner, B Gettings,  
S Golton, A Hutchison, W Kidger,  
L Mulherin and K Renshaw

### **1 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents**

There were no appeals.

### **2 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public**

There was no exempt information.

### **3 Late Items**

There were no late items. Supplementary information had been submitted in relation to Agenda Item 8, Outer South Community Committee Finance Report. This had been published and distributed prior to the meeting.

### **4 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

There were no declarations.

### **5 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies.

### **6 Open Forum**

On this occasion, there were no written submissions.

### **7 Minutes - 2 December 2019**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 December 2019 be confirmed as a correct record.

### **8 Outer South Community Committee Finance Report**

The report of the Head of Stronger Communities provided the Community Committee with an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund, Youth Activity Fund, Capital Budget as well as the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget for 2020/21.

Kimberly Frangos, Localities Officer presented the report.

The following was highlighted:

- Summary of revenue allocation to date and remaining balances.
- Projects for consideration:
  - Rothwell Junior Park Run - £1,000 from Wellbeing Funds and £1,000 from Youth Activity Funds. This was supported by Members.
  - Access to Track Training, Rothwell Harriers - £1,800 from Wellbeing Funds. This was supported by Members.
  - Further to these two applications it was reported that Ward Councillors were working with the organisations to promote physical activity for all.
- Allocations made from Covid Funds.
- Projects approved by Delegated Decision Notice.
- Monitoring information of projects funded by the Community Committee.
- Youth Activity Fund allocations.

In response to Members comments and questions, the following was discussed:

- Further to a request at a meeting of the Local Outbreak Control Board that Youth Activity Funds could be released for covid based initiatives, it was proposed that the Community Committee contact the Executive Member with regards to this. The Chair reported that he would follow this up.
- With regard to Youth Activity Funding it was reported that though the Halloween Festival for Ardsley and Robin Hood did not take place as planned, the funding was used to send out Halloween packs for local children and officers were thanked for their work involved in this.
- Thanks were expressed to Drighlington Food Bank and WF3 Kindness for their work in the Ardsley and Robin Hood area.
- Money Buddies – further information was requested with regards to the sessions provided by Money Buddies and their financial gains measurement which was referred to within the report.
- The pandemic hadn't stopped all youth activities taking place and activities had been provided throughout. Care needed to be taken over spending of the Youth Activities Fund due to the support the spending provided for young people and their families. Consideration needed to be given to the use of Youth Activities for young people during the Christmas break and February half term.
- Concern that proposed budget cuts are aimed at activities that young people are involved with and that future costs for young people's provision may escalate. It was suggested that any monies should be held in reserve for spending on young people's activity.
- It was reported that the new SID on Rein Road had been successful and that another one in the following direction would be useful.

Members were also made aware of spending on small grants and skips. Details of the Capital Budget and Community Infrastructure Levy budget balances were reported.

## **RESOLVED –**

- (1) That details of the Wellbeing Budget position be noted.
- (2) That details of the Covid 19 Budget position be noted.
- (3) That the following Wellbeing proposals be approved:
  - Rothwell Junior Park Run - £2,000 (£1,000 from Wellbeing Funds and £1,000 from Youth Activity Funds)
  - Access to Track Training, Rothwell Harriers - £1,800 from Wellbeing Funds.
- (4) That details of projects approved via Delegated Decision be noted.
- (5) That monitoring information of funded projects be noted.
- (6) That details of the Youth Activities Fund be noted.
- (7) That details of the Small Grants Budget be noted.
- (8) That details of the Capital Budget be noted.
- (9) That details of the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget be noted.

## **9 Outer South Community Committee Update Report**

The report of the Head of Stronger Communities brought Members' attention to an update of the work which the Communities Team was engaged in, based on priorities identified by the Community Committee. It also provided opportunities for further questioning, or to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.

Kimberly Frangos, Localities Officer presented the report. Community Champions were invited to contribute.

The following was discussed:

- Children & Families – The sub-group meeting scheduled for December 1<sup>st</sup> was to be re-scheduled and would be held before Christmas. There would be a Youth Summit in the first quarter of the New Year and this would be held on line.
- Environment – Councillor Dawson had volunteered to fill the vacant role of Community Committee Champion for Environment. This was supported by Members.
- Community Safety – It was proposed to hold a meeting of the Community Safety Forum as soon as public meetings could be held again. There had been a noted rise in domestic violence during the pandemic restrictions. There had also been an increase in the anti-social use of vehicles and parking issues in Ardsley & Robin Hood. These issues had been attended to by the Police and Members expressed their thanks for this. Members also discussed the possibility of concentrating on issues that affected all wards. This was something

that had been planned for the Community Safety Forums. There had been over 900 calls to West Yorkshire Police regarding the misuse of fireworks – none of these had been classed as serious incidents.

- Employment, Skills & Welfare – There had been a rise in Universal Credit claimants across the Outer South area but these were lower than other areas in Leeds and national figures.
- Health & Wellbeing & Adult Social Care – A positive meeting of the Older Person’s Sub Group had been held in November and there would be an extra meeting on 7 December. Further issues highlighted included the delivery of Afternoon Teas across the area and preparations for next year’s International Day of the Older Person. Members discussed holding events on days other than the International day of the Older Person which may meet local needs in a better way. Further discussion included physical activity and how this could be addressed across the Outer South Area – it was suggested that Active Leeds be invited to a future meeting and a suggestion that representatives of the Local Care Partnerships update the Committee or Sub-Group on health issue across the area.
- Community Centres Sub-Group – The sub-group had met earlier in the day. Reference was made to security issues at Morley Town Hall but the main focus had been regarding the future of the Lewisham Park Centre and the Windmill Youth Centre. It was noted that the community centres had been referenced in a report to the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020 Executive Board entitled, ‘Revenue Budget Update 2021/22 and Budget Savings Proposals’. Disappointment was expressed by some Members that the matter had not been brought to the attention of the sub-group to date, and that the sub-group should be part of any consultation exercise and have an opportunity to study the possible business plans for the centres, taking the communities needs into consideration. Further to this it was noted that there would be a period of consultation undertaken before any final decision was made on the future of the centres.

The following motion was then moved by Councillor Finnigan and seconded by Councillor Hutchison:

*The Outer South Community Committee notes that the responsibility for community centres is a Community Committee function. This Community Committee rejects the decision made by Executive Board at its meeting last week to close the Lewisham Park Centre in Morley and the Windmill Centre in Rothwell. This Community Committee believes that democratic decisions should be taken at a local level and agrees that both the Lewisham Park Centre and the Windmill Centre will remain open under Leeds City Councils community centre portfolio. This Community Committee agrees that the Community Centre Sub Group should work on a plan to expand the use of both centres so they have a sustainable future under Leeds City Council ownership.*

In considering the motion, Members discussed the accuracy of it, in terms of whether it reflected the Executive Board resolution of 18<sup>th</sup>

November 2020. . However, having been moved and seconded, the motion as moved was voted upon, with a request that the Committee's vote be recorded, and it was

## **RESOLVED –**

- (1) That the update report be noted.
- (2) That Councillor N Dawson be appointed as Community Champion for Environment for the remainder of the 2020/21 Municipal Year.
- (3) \*The Outer South Community Committee notes that the responsibility for community centres is a Community Committee function. This Community Committee rejects the decision made by Executive Board at its meeting last week to close the Lewisham Park Centre in Morley and the Windmill Centre in Rothwell. This Community Committee believes that democratic decisions should be taken at a local level and agrees that both the Lewisham Park Centre and the Windmill Centre will remain open under Leeds City Councils community centre portfolio. This Community Committee agrees that the Community Centre Sub Group should work on a plan to expand the use of both centres so they have a sustainable future under Leeds City Council ownership.

(\*That with regard to resolution (3) above, Members of the Committee voted as follows:...For: Councillor D Chapman, Councillor J Elliott, Councillor R Finnigan, Councillor B Gettings, Councillor S Golton, Councillor A Hutchison and Councillor W Kidger. Against: Councillor N Dawson, Councillor B Garner, Councillor L Mulherin and Councillor K Renshaw)

## **10 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Monday, 14 March 2021 at 2.00 p.m.