

INNER SOUTH COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 1ST MARCH, 2023

PRESENT: Councillor M Iqbal in the Chair

Councillors G Almass, S Burke, E Carlisle,
W Dixon, A Maloney, A Scopes, P Truswell
and P Wray

38 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals.

39 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There was no exempt information.

40 Late Items

There were no formal late items noted but there was supplementary information submitted in relation to item 10 - Inner South Community Committee Finance Report.

41 Declaration of Interests

In relation to agenda Item 10 (Finance Report) Councillor Truswell drew the Committee's attention to one of his Other Registerable interests, that being his role as a Trustee for 'Health for All', this being because the organisation had submitted a grant application.

In relation to agenda Item 10 (Finance Report) Councillor Iqbal drew the Committee's attention to one of his Other Registerable interests, that being his role as Chair of the 'Hamara Healthy Living Centre', this being because the organisation had submitted a grant application.

42 Apologies for Absence

No apologies were received for the meeting.

43 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on the 30th November 2022 be approved as an accurate record.

44 Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed members of the public and the Housing Area Manager, Jamie Martin, in attendance at the Committee meeting.

45 Open 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 time may be extended at the discretion of the Chair.

Road blockages around Dewsbury Road

A member of the public raised issues regarding the roadblocks installed on side streets off Dewsbury Road, particularly focusing on Trentham Street. These road access closures were outlined to have caused built up traffic and dangerous driving in residential areas, with children often playing out on the streets. Members of the Committee responded stating the blocks had been installed by the Council's Highway department to resolve issues of serious car accidents caused by speeding and dangerous driving and was meant to act as a permeable drive through, however, it was noted some modifications would be needed to alleviate the reported issues. Attempts had been made to improve traffic flow by using the layby near a bus stop as additional bus parking but as there are utilities beneath the layby it would incur high costs to move them. Data had been gathered by Highways and only 1-2% of cars were noted to violate speed limits on these side streets. There is an ongoing conversation with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority for funds to improve public safety on side streets with central reservations proposed to discourage dangerous, reactive turning.

Intimidating beggars outside shops

A member of the public raised concerns regarding aggressive beggars at local shops, with reports of public disturbance, shop lifting, and feelings of vulnerability posed, particularly when using cash machines. Tents had been erected within a local shopping centre which was deemed an inappropriate location. Members responded, outlining the issues complexity with disparity between retailers reporting issues to the Council and Police. The conversation with the Police was noted to be ongoing and a Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) was proposed to deal with persistent anti-social behaviour in the local area and once a PSPO is in place it provides the Police with a clearer approach to deal with the matter, responding to the sub-set of aggressive beggars.

Vagrant camping in Cross Flatts park

A member of the public raised issues regarding homeless people camping within a local park in Beeston. Ward Members noted they were aware of the issue and offered to be a point of contact as they are in liaison with the relevant Council departments and the Neighbourhood Police team, with support offered to the unhoused sleepers.

Sex workers and trap houses

A member of the public raised concerns regarding sex workers present on Tempest Road, particularly in the early morning, which was deemed inappropriate for local residents and children. Members responded, noting, a trap house had been shut down in the area, but unfortunately another had opened in close proximity and may boost such activity in the area. Police are aware of the issue and a phone number can be provided for enquiries, open from 11am to 11pm, dedicated for the sensitive issue of sex workers. It was also outlined that presence or sale of sex is not a crime within UK law, it is the

act of soliciting that is illegal. Due to the vulnerability of women working on the street the approach should not be heavy handed and a Council, Police and Charity working partnership is in place to devise ways to offer help without penalising sex workers. Diverse cultural differences across the inner city were noted with integration and understanding being a bridge between groups. Low and imperfect quality of housing stock contributes to such issues.

46 Waste Strategy Update and Local Refuse Performance Report

The report of the Chief Officer, Environmental Services provided the Inner South Community Committee with an update on the development of the revised Leeds Waste Strategy and Recycling Plan, an update on current local refuse performance and an opportunity for Members to feedback on the existing issues/challenges faced in how kerbside collections are delivered and enable a discussion on local solutions.

The Chief Officer for Environmental Services outlined the following information to the Community Committee:

- Refuse collection in Leeds covers an estimated 800,000 people and 360,000 households, with the largest garden waste collection in the UK.
- National legislation regarding refuse collection was set to be revised to create consistency of collection across the country, allow greater responsibility for waste creation on the private sector and for Local Authorities to create additional waste streams for different waste types, including glass, food and garden.
- The date for the new legislation to be implemented was yet to be confirmed by the Government due to the scale of required changes, however 2025 is a rough guideline.
- Leeds uses a bottle bank system for glass with a facility in Knottingley recycling and creating new bottles and jars. Food waste goes into the black bin, not separated from general waste, as done so by some Local Authorities.
- New legislation will impact Leeds' process for separate food and glass kerbside collection.
- Producers of packaging and retailers may face fees depending on type and weight of materials used which will feed back into Local Authority revenue streams. Some concerns noted were absorbing these fees, with costs passed onto consumers and potential greenwashing if fees are paid for green waste strategies conducted by Local Authorities.
- A new deposit return scheme for plastic and cans, where packaging can be brought back to shops, or via reverse vending machines, for money back was proposed under the new legislation and may create incentives against littering and less waste in household bins.
- Just 0.5% of waste in Leeds goes to landfill with the rest recycled, reused or incinerated, with the ash created being used for road aggregate.
- Data analysis from 2022 showed 14% of black bin waste was recyclables and 7% was glass. Under new legislation, routes and contracts would be designed against available data with a predicted 50-60% decrease in overall black bin waste.

- A carbon impact model has been developed for Leeds allowing assessment as to how much carbon refuse operations produce which can be used to inform future decisions that are best for the planet.
- The current carbon position for the whole service has a net reduction (benefit) in CO2 to contribute towards the city's Zero carbon ambitions of about 31,000 tonnes a year.
- The view for the future was noted as, embracing new legislation, trial blue bin glass collection and consult with Councillors and the public on new processes.
- Localised reliability of collection information was available at page 20 of the report, with 2.5 million bins covered across the three wards. The table for missed collections was based on complaints of non-collection, the main reason for missed collection was obstructions such as cars.
- The Council offers an assisted collection service for those who have difficulty emptying bins independently with around 6000 of these collections across the city.
- Poor collection services were noted to have arisen during the pandemic as workers had to cover unfamiliar routes, this can also apply during summer months with crew cover over holidays. Overall service level post pandemic was noted to be recovering.

The Community Committee discussions included:

- At the last Committee meeting, residents raised concern during the Open Forum regarding missed collections in Cottingley and disputed the obstruction claims for non-collection.
- Issues receiving the end of day report, sent to Ward Members, detailing bins missed for collection were noted. It was outlined this report is developed through reports of non-collection.
- In response to a question regarding the deposit return scheme, it was outlined that the logistics were not clear, there were no pilot programmes run in England to date and an upturn in glass packaging was not anticipated in response to additional costs for plastic and cans on producers and consumers.
- Promoting the use of correct waste bins is conducted through social media and advertising, developing new green bin stickers and improved public information on where waste goes, including the incineration process.
- If reported, a missed bin collection will generally be re-arranged for the next day with a target to be no later than 3 days after being reported.
- A request was made for Cottingley specific, robust data to be brought to a community meeting in Beeston on the 15th of March 2023 along with the refuse process for bagged waste explained.
- With the 2nd main reason for missed collection being roadworks, particularly those done through utility companies, it was noted that changes to start and end dates for the roadworks are the main issue. The commission for granting permission and enforcement for non-compliance and nuisance was queried.

- The fall in recycling rates were noted to be fractional, reflective of national trends and the denominator is there is more being put in black bins.
- New routes for refuse collection were under consideration, despite national legislation proposals casting some uncertainty for future processes. A draft design will be brought back for Committee Members.
- Aggressive crew members should be reported to management. The culture of refuse workers was noted to be changing through initiatives such as regular appraisals.
- Information regarding turning waste into electrical power, and how it fits into the wider West Yorkshire region, will be brought back to Members.
- The response time when contacting team leaders in the refuse department with queries or complaints, was noted to take longer than expected.
- It was confirmed that all informative stickers produced by the refuse department were under review, with a scope to be localised to wards.
- The Middleton Park ward was noted to have 372 households as part of the assisted collection scheme, around double the amount of the two other Inner South wards. Every two years those covered under the scheme are contacted to review their need; it was suggested a link to the Housing department may be beneficial as part of the review.
- The carbon impact model was supported as part of the Council's Climate Emergency Declaration.

RESOLVED - That the content of the report, along with members comments be noted.

47 Inner South Community Committee - Update Report

The report of the Head of Locality Partnerships updated members on the work in which the Communities Team was engaged in based on priorities identified by the Community Committee.

The following points were highlighted:

- The local Police Inspector had intended to attend the meeting; however, other work commitments had arisen and sent their apologies.
- An update on recent work by the Committee appointed Champion for Children's and Families was provided, noting, a hybrid sub-group meeting was scheduled for the 6th of March 2023 at Dewsbury Hub or online. Positive consultation feedback had been received from the Children's Summit event and thanks were extended to the Localities Officer and Health and Wellbeing Champion for their work on the wellbeing goody bags.
- The Champion for Environment and Community Safety outlined a sub-group meeting will take place on 4th April 2023, with a Police representative scheduled to attend. An update will be provided at the next Inner South Community Committee.
- The Champion for Health and Wellbeing outlined a sub-group meeting had been held a week previous to the Community Committee, with a

report to follow which will request the Committee to reserve some funding for future Health and Wellbeing initiatives.

The Community Committee discussions included:

- The details on page 25 of the report, regarding disability and racial hate crimes were concerning. The incidents stem from one individual and the Neighbourhood Police Team have allocated time and resources to address this.
- The Police representative had been contacted to attend the Environment and Community Safety sub-group on the 4th of April with a request for updated crime statistics for the area.
- It would be of use for a set time or extended Community Committee meeting to discuss the crime statistics as a commitment to addressing challenges faced for the Inner South area.
- Clarification was sought as to the Holbeck Together constitution changes as they no longer were wanting a Council appointment.

RESOLVED – That the content of the report, along with members comments be noted.

48 Inner South Community Committee - Finance Report

The Head of Locality Partnerships submitted a report to update the Community Committee on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund, Youth Activity Fund (YAF), Capital Budget as well as the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget (CIL) for 2022/23.

Members were informed of the following points:

- The Wellbeing Revenue for 2022/23 was displayed at Table 1 of the report which stood at £86,388.67
- The Wellbeing Budget Ring-fences were outlined as, a small grant allocation was fenced at £2,500 for Hunslet & Riverside with an additional £1,000 proposed, a small grant allocation was fenced at £3,000 for Beeston & Holbeck with an additional £1,000, proposed (or remaining wellbeing balance funds if less than £1000 available).
- An additional ring-fence of £300 (£100 per ward) for sub-group funds was agreed.

Projects set out in the report were discussed, and agreed as follows:

Project Title	Ward	Amount	Decision
Beeston Youth Theatre	Beeston & Holbeck and Hunslet & Riverside	£5,503 (Beeston & Holbeck £4,787.61 and Hunslet & Riverside £715.39) (Wellbeing)	Approved
Hunslet Foundation Junior Rugby Project	Beeston & Holbeck and Hunslet & Riverside	£6,750 Beeston & Holbeck £1,350 Hunslet & Riverside £5,400 (Wellbeing)	Approved
		£3,606	

Champions Soccer Saturday	All	(Beeston & Holbeck £1,022.66, Hunslet & Riverside £2,130.42 and Middleton Park £452.91) (Wellbeing)	Approved
SEND Activity Day	All	£1,000 (Beeston & Holbeck £390, Hunslet & Riverside £170 and Middleton Park £440) (Wellbeing)	Approved
Sandon Mount/Woodhouse Hill Road	Hunslet & Riverside	£2,219.20 (Wellbeing Capital)	Approved
Summer programme – Oddsocks Theatre Performance	Middleton Park	£3,609 (Wellbeing)	Approved
New Activity equipment 2023	Middleton Park	£5,654 (Wellbeing Capital)	Approved
Tech Made Easy	Hunslet & Riverside	£3,261 (Wellbeing)	Approved
Kidz Klub residential	All	£5,740.32 (£1,913.44 per ward) (Wellbeing/YAF)	Approved
Breeze in the Park	All	£11,400 (Beeston & Holbeck £1,900, Hunslet & Riverside £1,900 and Middleton Park £7,600) (Wellbeing/YAF)	Approved
Tulip Street Signage and Seats	Hunslet & Riverside	£10,078 (CIL)	Approved
Cranmore & Raylands Community Centre	Middleton Park	£8,000 (Wellbeing)	Approved
Cottingley Community Centre	Beeston & Holbeck	£12,000 (Wellbeing)	Approved
DAZL Inner South: Culture in my community	Beeston & Holbeck and Middleton Park	£3,932.64 (£1,966.32 per ward) (Wellbeing/YAF)	Approved
Learn, Share, Love Food Project	Middleton Park	£7,790 (£3,950 Wellbeing & YAF (£3,840))	Approved
Hamara Gym Capital Project	Hunslet & Riverside	£105,426 (CIL)	Approved*
Compost	Hunslet &	£9,000 (£4,500 Hunslet &	

Collective Leeds	Riverside and Middleton Park	Riverside and £4,500 (Middleton Park) (Wellbeing)	Approved
Alternative Art Youth Provision Project	Hunslet & Riverside and Middleton Park	£8,500 (Hunslet & Riverside £1,445 and Middleton Park £7,055) (Wellbeing/YAF)	Approved
Let's Move: South Leeds Event	Beeston & Holbeck and Hunslet & Riverside	£750 (Beeston & Holbeck £375 and Hunslet & Riverside £375) (Wellbeing)	Approved
Belle Isle Slow Cookers/Air Fryers Health Promotion	Middleton Park	£4,500 (Wellbeing)	Approved
St Peters Court	Hunslet & Riverside	£925 (Wellbeing)	Approved
Lodge Terrace Bin Yard	Hunslet & Riverside	£3,609 (Wellbeing)	Approved
Belle Isle Kicks	Middleton Park	£3,056 (Wellbeing)	Approved
Karate Competition	Middleton Park	£2,000 (YAF)	Approved

The following was discussed:

- The funding application for Beeston Youth Theatre was approved as the theatre is a valued community asset but a future sustainability plan was requested to fund self-reliantly in the future.
- The funding application for Hunslet Foundation Junior Rugby Project was approved as the project supports local children but, again, a future sustainability plan was requested to fund self-reliantly.
- The Mini Breeze festival held in August 2022 had finished earlier than scheduled, so it was hoped the Breeze in the Park would be a better experience for the public. It was outlined the event should be inclusive for people with disabilities, with a section of the park allocated for such activities rather than a separate event.
- A sustainability plan was requested for the approved Cottingley Community Centre project, along with a schedule for completion of the works.
- *The Hamara Gym Capital Project was approved; however, subsequent to the approval of CIL funding for Tulip Street Signage the remaining CIL balance was £59,453.45, which was less than the amount requested by the Hamara Centre. In order to obtain the remaining funds, the Committee agreed to use any leftover Wellbeing funds to top up this grant. The underspends will come from unused ring fences or underspends from projects.

- The Hamara Gym was a community asset that had been missed since its closure and the lift required works to make it accessible and fit for purpose. The Committee requested security that the gym will be affordable and accessible for all, in line with the HALO Project ambitions.
- The Alternative Art Youth Provision Project was approved but the amount to be funded from Beeston & Holbeck (£3,060) will be covered by Middleton Park's budget. The project is valuable to the community for children who are often hard to reach and a sustainability plan to cover future provision was requested.
- Lodge Terrace Bin Yard was approved but mitigation and risk should be assessed with the potential for the works to cost more than proposed, requiring due diligence.
- The Karate Competition was agreed to be funded from the Middleton Park YAF budget, but it was noted the events attendees will likely be from the wider Leeds area with 600 participants expected.

RESOLVED –

- 1.) That the Wellbeing/Youth Activity Fund and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Neighbourhood Fund applications be approved as set out above
- 2.) To note;
 - a.) the content of the report
 - b.) Details of the Wellbeing Budget position (Table 1)
 - c.) Wellbeing ring fenced budgets for consideration and approval (paragraph 20 onwards)
 - d.) Wellbeing proposals for consideration and approval (paragraph 23 onwards)
 - e.) Details of the projects approved via Delegated Decision (paragraph 43)
 - f.) Monitoring information of its funded projects (paragraph 45 onwards)
 - g.) Details of the Youth Activities Fund (YAF) position (Table 2)
 - h.) Details of the proposed Small Grants Budget (Table 3)
 - i.) Details of the proposed Community Skips Budget (Table 4)
 - j.) Details of the Capital Budget (Table 5)
 - k.) Details of the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget (Table 6)

49 Dates, Times and Venues of Community Committee Meetings 2023/2024

The report of the City Solicitor requested Members to consider agreeing the proposed Community Committee meeting schedule for the 2023/2024 municipal year.

The report seeks to schedule 4 Community Committee business meetings for 2023/24, in line with previous practice. The proposed meeting schedule for 2023/24 is as follows:

- Wednesday, 28th June 2023 at 2pm
- Wednesday, 6th September 2023 at 2pm
- Wednesday, 29th November 2023 at 2pm
- Wednesday, 28th February 2024 at 2pm

Members considered the proposed meeting schedule and deemed it appropriate to commence meetings from 1pm instead of 2pm, in order to

adequate time to be allocated for the Public Open Forum and items brought to the Community Committee

RESOLVED – To agree the dates as listed above with the caveat of commencing all meetings from 1pm.

50 Any Other Business

A message of thanks was extended by the Committee to Councillor P Truswell for his contribution to the community and Council as he will be standing down from his role as an Elected Ward Member.