

Report of: Head of Locality Partnerships

Report to: Outer West Community Committee
[Calverley & Farsley, Pudsey, Farnley & Wortley]

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Date: 6th November 2023

To note

Outer West Community Committee - Update Report

Purpose of report

1. To bring to members' attention an update of the work which the Communities Team is engaged in, based on priorities identified by the Community Committee. It also provides opportunities for further questioning, or to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.
2. This report provides regular updates on some of the key activities between Community Committee meetings and functions delegated to Community Committees, Community Champions roles, community engagement, partnership and locality working.

Main issues

West Yorkshire Police – Inspector Lise Jones

3. Funding has been approved by the Outer West Community Committee for Outer West ASB and Road Safety operations 2023/24. Officers have now started working extra shifts to tackle speeding and dangerous driving.
4. Speed cameras have now been installed on the A647 and the speed limit has been lowered to 50 on the bypass. Both these combined with the secured funding from the Committee is already starting to make a difference.
5. There have been 2 arrests on separate occasions made in the Rycrofts where both were found in possession of drugs therefore investigations ongoing for PWITS.

6. Work has been carried out into parking issues around Elland Road when there is a match on, this appears to have made a positive impact.

Health and Wellbeing & Adult Social Care – Update from Jon Hindley (Public Health)

Covid 19

7. Nationally there has been an increase in some COVID-19 indicators. While case rates have continued to rise, rates remain low overall with no evidence to date of infection leading to serious illness.
8. The new variant (COVID BA.2.86) is a sub-variant of Omicron, whilst this is being monitored closely this is not a variant of concern, however this may be causing some of the growth but evidence is still emerging.
9. The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) announced the winter vaccination programme has been brought forward as a precautionary measure to deliver greater protection against the potential impact of the new Covid variant, BA.2.86.

Important messages for the public:

10. Vaccines remain our best defence against severe disease and hospitalisation from flu and COVID-19. everyone eligible to take up the vaccine when offered.
11. If you are experiencing any symptoms of respiratory illness, you should avoid mixing with other people, especially those who are vulnerable. This will help combat the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses, including flu. COVID-19 - NHS (www.nhs.uk)
12. How to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19 - NHS (www.nhs.uk)
13. Wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day, especially after you cough, sneeze or blow your nose, and before you eat or handle food
14. Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze and encourage children to do this
15. Regularly clean surfaces you touch often (such as door handles and remote controls) and in shared spaces, such as kitchens or bathrooms

Housing Team – Update from Sophie Roberts (Housing Manager – Pudsey, Calverley & Farsley)

16. The majority of the walkabouts have been done, there are some left to complete, but all will be done before the final quarter of the year.

17. Housing have submitted winter works to Parks, including a hedge reduction to Dawson's Corner, some self seeders and bushes at Littlemoor's and some works at Tennyson Close.
18. Green guardian scheme is currently on hold until they have caught up with works. Housing have referred a number of gardens to them for cut back.
19. The Team have been working on removing moss in high-risk areas such as retirement life complexes and areas where a higher older population. They have been working with CNT and where possible requesting the use of the street sweeper to try and reduce further damage being caused.
20. Housing will start assessing grit in the coming weeks in preparation for colder weather.
21. The Pudsey Team have been working with residents who want to recycle more, particularly with focus on areas with communal bins. They have recently purchased additional green bins for Rycroft Green and Minster flats.

Housing Team – Update from Andrew Sheader (Housing Manager – Farnley & Wortley)

22. Housing Officers are addressing a variety of issues, such as, annual tenancy check-ins, ASB, concerns relating to the environment, doorstep arrears visits where all other means have been exhausted.
23. Revised Flyers have been provided promoting the Mobile Community HUBs and several staff have looked inside the vans. Staff will enclose these in letters and email them to tenants and verbally promote this service. Venues are:
 - The Butterbowl Pub (Mondays 09:30 – 12:00),
 - Henconner Lane/Butt Lane (Mondays 13:00-15:30),
 - The Hanover Arms (Wednesday 09:30 – 12:00)
 - Farnley Village Green (Wednesday 13:00-15:30).
24. Details of 2023/2024 Walkabouts have been emailed to Members.
25. The team continue to make referrals in to Skill Mill and Community Payback.
26. Block Sweeps and Block Inspections continue to take place with a weekly and monthly basis, respectively.
27. Staff continue to report fly tipping, graffiti removal and potholes, ideally via the Online Facility while on site.

28. Car parking and emergency vehicle areas are looking to be repainted in Gamble Hill Croft and Gamble Hill Grange.
29. There are issues around bin collection at Gamble Hill Croft, there has been several incidents where there has been blocked access for the bin crews. Housing is looking into installing signs when access need to be kept clear.
30. The mobile unit is back at the Gambles as there have been incidents of people gaining access into the blocks and causing damage and ASB.

Cleaner Neighbourhood Team- Update from Sharron Almond

31. As Bonfire Night Approaches, crews have been out looking to identify any potential bonfires as this was a huge problem last year.
32. There has been a spate of wheelie bins been stolen and set on fire around the Nutting Groves.
33. CNT have been working hard to clear Flooding Hotpots, particularly over the last week due to the recent storm.
34. Crews have been out in all Outer West wards actively clearing leaves from the Cenotaphs in preparation for any remembrance parades.
35. Due to the current financial situation the Council is facing, the team are looking at cost saving initiatives where possible.

Parks and Countryside - Update from Richard Hern

36. The Team is now getting ready for winter maintenance.
37. Parks will be installing a new playground at Western Flatts early. Works are looking to start early next year over and I likely to take around 12 weeks to complete.

Community Engagement: Social Media

38. The **Social Media Report Appendix** provides the Committee with the latest information on digital posts relevant to the Committee area and details an overview of recent social media activity for the Outer West Community Committee Facebook page.

39. The report covers the last 2 months Sept 2023 – Oct 2023. In this time the page has seen another increase in followers to a total of **1491**.

Corporate Considerations

Consultation and Engagement

40. The Community Committee has, where applicable, been consulted on information detailed within the report.

Equality and Diversity/Cohesion and Integration

41. All work that the Communities Team are involved in is assessed in relation to Equality, Diversity, Cohesion, and Integration. In addition, the Communities Team ensures that the wellbeing process for funding of projects complies with all relevant policies and legislation.

Council Polices and City Priorities

42. Projects that the Communities Team are involved in are assessed to ensure that they are in line with Council and City priorities as set out in the following documents:

1. Vision for Leeds 2011 – 30
2. Best City Plan
3. Health and Wellbeing City Priorities Plan
4. Children and Young People's Plan
5. Safer and Stronger Communities Plan
6. Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy

Resources and Value for Money

43. Aligning the distribution of community wellbeing funding to local priorities will help to ensure that the maximum benefit can be provided.

Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

44. There are no legal implications or access to information issues. This report is not subject to call in.

Risk Management

45. Risk implications and mitigation are considered on all projects and wellbeing applications. Projects are assessed to ensure that applicants are able to deliver the intended benefits.

Conclusions

46. The report provides up to date information on key areas of work for the Community Committee.

Recommendations

47. The Community Committee is asked to note the content of the report and comment as appropriate.

Background documents¹

48. None.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.