

INNER NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 13TH DECEMBER, 2023

PRESENT: Councillor I Wilson in the Chair

Councillors E Flint, A Garthwaite,
A Hannan, J Heselwood, A Marshall-
Katung and J Pryor

25 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals against refusal of inspection of documents.

26 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of Press and Public

There were no exempt items.

27 Late Items

There were no formal late items. However, there was supplementary information in relation to Agenda Item 8 - Finance Report for two Wellbeing Fund applications which had been considered by Members at a pre-meeting.

28 Declaration of Interests

No declarations of interests were made at the meeting.

29 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Ahktar and Brooks.

30 Minutes - 27th September 2023

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 27th September 2023, be approved as a correct record.

31 Discussion Topic - Love Where You Live

This report introduced the discussion topic of Love Where You Live. Officers from Anti-Social Behaviour Team, Leedswatch and Cleaner Neighbourhoods provided information based on activities in LS6.

The officers present highlighted the following points:

- The Noise Service and the Anti-Social Behaviour Team had created a dedicated service in 2021 to combat the issues in the LS6 area. They had expanded on the service for the area by adding two more response officers working seven days a week from 5pm to 4am.

- The Universities pay for the service as a solution to curtailing noise issues. Prior to the dedicated team there had been a large number of calls in relation to serious incidents of noise nuisance. It was noted that since 2021 the number of calls had reduced by 60%.
- There had been an improvement in response rates from one hour to 33 minutes.
- Call handling had improved from 45 minutes to 12 minutes.
- Calls had decreased and the service was now getting an 80% approval rating, with customers saying they had a better experience since 2021.
- Leeds Beckett and University of Leeds had extended the service of the Council and it was now locally focused.
- It was acknowledged that there were key points in the university calendar, and these were addressed.
- It was noted that West Yorkshire Police had reported 3 months ago that crime was down in the area by 62%. It was the view that this was due to agencies being more visible.

Cllr Marshall-Katung joined the meeting at 6.30pm during the discussion.

The discussion topic also included a short presentation from Beth a local resident, which highlighted the steps taken to create a community street.

Beth informed the Committee how the Community Street had started by providing the following information:

- She had created a community garden in 2018 for all residents in the street to use. After the student changeover in 2019 the street was such a mess, she had started a bin yard and other permanent residents got involved.
- On arrival all students are greeted and given the 'Welcome to Quarry Place' letter and offered a planter. The letter explains the different recycling methods for glass, food waste and composting. It also provides information about the local area and about being a good neighbour.
- At the end of the students stay second hand kitchen items are collected and left for incoming students to take.
- Leftover food is collected and presented to Rainbow Junction and clothes are distributed to homeless charities.
- Due to the success of the community street, the street now has more permanent residents, and they are actively involved in the project. It was noted that some of the students decided to stay in the street for another year and they also became involved in the project.
- The Committee were advised that there was enthusiasm to roll out the community street idea across the surrounding four streets. There was also interest in this project from other areas of the city.
- In Beeston they have costed a project for a bin yard at £2,100 which is cheaper than the Council can do it. It was noted that bin yards are also good during high winds as the bins are not blown over causing hazards on the pavements.

- It was noted that there were still some issues with landlords fly-tipping, but she thanked the support of the Community Committee for organising community skips to deal with this issue.
- She said that the residents now have good student engagement and are planning a community street event. The community is knitting together and sharing ideas.

The Chair liked the idea of improvement to bin yards in other areas and suggested that the Refuse Team may wish to consider the use this idea for bin yards in similar streets across the city.

Cllr Garthwaite joined the meeting at 6.45pm prior to the start of the table discussions.

Feedback from the table discussions included:

Woodhouse Moor and Woodhouse Park

- More seating was required.
- To make Woodhouse Park more accessible for disabled users. It was noted that one of the residents was organising a walk-through of the park to highlight the issues faced by disabled users. The Chair requested that he be kept up date on the findings.
- To install toilets in the park.
- The road linking the park and the moor is extremely busy and difficult to cross.
- There is a rat problem on Woodhouse Moor with people throwing food for the pigeons.
- There is only one park warden at present.
- There is a lack of signage.
- It was suggested that Parks and Countryside and cleansing be invited to the Committee's sub-group.

Noise nuisance

- It was the view that the user's perspective of the of the call handling and response times was not the same as the information presented by officers.
- It was the opinion of residents that the measuring of noise from a distance or from within a car was not the same as living close to people partying and playing music, especially in the early hours of the morning when any noise is intensified.
- Residents were dismayed at the lack of officers to deal with issues on the Halloween weekend. It was noted that there had not been enough officers that weekend due to illness. Residents were of the view that this should have been communicated to the residents. It was noted that there had been zero calls from the Inner North West area. Residents disputed this data.
- It was the view that although the response time was good the issues were not being dealt with. The Committee was advised that there was no legal requirement to provide an out of hours noise service. It was noted that the measure of noise was subjective, and some officers were more effective than others in dealing with issues.

- Residents were disappointed that the Neighbourhood Helpline had been discontinued last August as it had worked well in conjunction with anti-social behaviour.
- It was suggested that if there is another consultation about the service, residents need to be consulted too.

Hyde Park area

- Hyde Park Christmas which is a free shop of items left by students should be for the Inner North West community in Hyde Park.
- The Committee were informed that the bowling green which was made into a football pitch could not be used by local people as the Sport Students from the university are always using it. It was suggested that signs are put up to say that the pitch is for local people.

Highways

- Residents informed the Committee that there was an issue with vehicles causing obstruction and dangerous parking especially on corners. It was suggested that Highways and Councillors should be informed if this was an ongoing issue in an area and look at parking restrictions. It was also suggested that action days could be organised to address parking issues.

The Chair requested written responses for all issues raised.

RESOLVED – To note the content of the report, the presentations and comments made.

Cllr Flint left the meeting at 7:20pm at the end of this item.

32 Inner North West Community Committee Finance Report

The Head of Locality Partnerships submitted a report that set out the overall delegated budget position for the Community Committee and invited Members to note the latest position, as submitted, and determine the funding applications contained within the report.

The Locality Officer informed the Committee of the following points:

- The Wellbeing Budget has a remaining balance of £13,642.41.
- The Youth Activity Fund has a remaining balance of £1,871.78.
- The Capital Budget has a remaining balance of £9,035.38.
- Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) has a remaining balance of £39,261.77.
- It was noted that with the agreement of the Chair supplementary information for two Wellbeing Projects should be added to this item for ratification. Minute 27 refers to the applications considered by Members at a pre-meeting.

Wellbeing projects considered and determined as follows:

WELLBEING PROJECTS		
Project	Amount	Determined
Move Mates	£2,517.00	Approved
Your Backyard; Getting Active in Inner North West Funding	£3,800.00	Approved
Soup & More Community Christmas Lunch	£1,000.00	Approved – It was noted that this would now be a lunch provided in the New Year.
Headingley & Ireland Wood Children’s Centre, Psychodynamic Counselling	£5,000.00	Approved - £3,000
Headingley Onwards, Improving Wellbeing through Mindful Photography	£600.00	Approved

RESOLVED –

- a. Details of the Wellbeing Budget position and new applications listed (Table 1) be noted.
- b. That having considered the funding applications submitted to the Committee, all applications, as referenced within the submitted report be determined as set out in the minute above.
- c. Monitoring information of its funded projects (paragraph 17) be noted.
- d. Details of the Youth Activities Fund (YAF) position and new applications listed (Table 2) be noted.
- e. Details of the Small Grants & Skips Budget and new applications listed (Table 3) be noted.
- f. Details of the Capital Budget and new applications listed (Table 4) be noted.
- g. Details of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) (Table 5) be noted.

33 Inner North West Community Committee Update Report

The Committee received a report Of the Head of Locality Partnerships which provided an update on the key activities being undertaken by the Communities Team based upon the priorities identified by the Community Committee.

RESOLVED – To note the content of the report.

34 Date and Time of Next Meeting

RESOLVED – To note the next meeting of the Inner North West Community Committee will be on 6th March 2024 at 6pm.

35 Open Forum

In accordance with the Community Committee Procedure Rules, the Chair allowed a period of up to 10 minutes for members of the public to make representations or ask questions within the terms of reference of the Community Committee.

Residents informed the Committee of the following:

- It was the view that the Open Forum item would better at the beginning of the meeting.
- The Hyde Park Unity Pantomime was to be held on Saturday 16th December.
- A 6 week horticultural experience was being offered to local people on low incomes. Anyone interested should contact the Locality Officer who could put them in contact with Beth.
- Rainbow Junction is open Monday and Thursday and will be offering Christmas Lunch.
- There were lots of events happening at the Left Bank and people should check the webpages.

CHAIRS COMMENT

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting as their views were appreciated. He wished everyone a Happy Christmas.

The meeting concluded at 20:05