

## INNER SOUTH COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 29TH NOVEMBER, 2023

**PRESENT:** Councillor M Iqbal in the Chair

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

**26 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents**

There were no appeals.

**27 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public**

There was no exempt information.

**28 Late Items**

There were no formal late items, however, there was supplementary information submitted in relation to item 10 – Inner South Community Committee Finance Report, which had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting, with agreement from the Chair.

**29 Declaration of Interests**

The following declarations of interest were made at the meeting:

Councillor E Carlisle declared a disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI) in relation to Agenda Item 10, Inner South Community Committee Finance Report, Rise & Shine Youth Provision, as his spouse was employed by St Luke's Cares and the organisation had applied for Wellbeing funds. Details of this application can be found in the supplementary information pack. In declaring his DPI, Councillor Carlisle took no part in the discussion or decision making of this specific funding application.

Councillor Paul Wray declared an 'Other Registerable Interest' in relation to Agenda Item 10, Inner South Community Committee Finance Report, Involve Leeds Refurbishment Project, as he was a trustee for the Involve Centre who had submitted a CIL funding bid.

Further details for these funding applications are available below at minute 35.

**30 Apologies for Absence**

No apologies for absence were received.

**31 Minutes**

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of September 2023 be confirmed as a correct record, subject to the following amendments:

- Minute 21, the Inner South Community Committee Update Report -  
The hours for the dedicated phone line for issues relating to sex

workers was to be checked and followed up for calls outside of 0:700am – 23:00pm and not 11:00am – 19:00pm.

- Minute 22, the Inner South Community Committee Finance Report – To include a point of discussion for the Middleton Park Juniors FC funding bid regarding that the data and cost breakdown for winter provision was to be provided back to Members and that the decision could then be made via a delegated decision process prior to the start of the club's winter training sessions at the end of September.

## **32 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.

The following three topics were raised as submissions for the Open Forum.

### Refuse at Aldi and Poundland on Tunstall Road

The litter surrounding the site was an increasing issue and when cleaned up, it seemed to reappear the next day. This posed concerns in regard to attracting vermin, public health and was not aesthetic for the community. Member responded that the bin store for the shops had been moved which had caused capacity issues, and new bin store planning proposals had been rejected on the grounds of Highways concerns. The Cleaner Neighbourhoods department and Environmental Enforcement were working to resolve the issues; however, enforcement was noted to be a long process. The yucca bin provided to the rear of Poundland was not fit for purpose or capacity and a message of thanks to the community effort to proactively clear the site was extended. Aldi were responsible for about 95% of the site but the litter and refuse to the rear of Poundland was thought to be the most significant. Local enforcement was to be contacted the day following the Committee meeting, but a legal process argument was ongoing.

### Council Budget Constraints and Asset Transfer Plans

The responsibilities and powers of the Council to potentially transfer assets back to community ownership was queried as a possible option to address budget issues and ongoing cuts to Local Authority funding. Members responded, noting, as a public body the Council was unable to hide assets, an asset review was ongoing and although keen on community asset transfer for certain Council owned buildings, standards had to be met in regard to the state, safety and energy efficiency of the building. It was a possible option with Holbeck Community Centre being transferred to Holbeck Together, and if groups or organisations had assets for transfer in mind, they should get in contact. The practical reality was that the Government was above Local Authority power and transparency remained a challenge.

### Stourton Park and Ride Bus Provision

As there had been reduced services, particularly on weekends, it had affected the public's ability to access the city centre and had increased traffic and was in opposition to the Council's encouragement for the public to utilise public

transport and reduce overall carbon output. Members responded, noting, this was an issue they were aware of and frustrated by as the bus services were run as private businesses, receiving contracts from the Government and it should not be the case that if a route is not highly profitable it is removed. A South Leeds Live report had recently covered this issue. The best process to address this was through the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) consultation, with events planned at Leeds Museum on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December at 2pm and 5pm to promote public engagement. There was cross party agreement that the best option was to re-franchise bus services and the issue affected all three Wards.

### **33 Inner South Community Committee Update Report**

The report of the Head of Locality Partnerships brought Member's attention to an update of the work in 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.

The following points were highlighted:

- The Children's and Families Champion provided an update, noting that, recent Sub-Group meetings had been cancelled due to illness, the most recent meeting had been on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September 2023. The Youth Summit had been confirmed for the 26<sup>th</sup> of February 2024 and relevant schools and partners had been invited. The meeting date for the next Sub-Group was to be confirmed and circulated.
- The Environment and Community Safety Sub-Group meeting was scheduled for the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2024.
- The Health and Wellbeing Champion provided an update, outlining that there had been some attendance at recent Sub-Group meetings, but more volunteers were needed, with further meeting dates to be circulated. Provision for the Mental Health First Aid courses were ongoing, with one planned for each Ward, expected to be held in January, and if demand increased, more could be scheduled, but they required at least 10 attendees per session. Services were available for younger people to support positive mental health and it was proposed that the Localities Officer could be the point of contact for bookings, with courses for level 1 to 3 qualifications available. The Vitamin D campaign was to be re-established and a Wellbeing funding ringfence was proposed as part of the finance report for the Sub-Group.
- A CCTV update was available from point 20 to 27 of the report, with input from West Yorkshire Police (WYP) and Leeds Watch.
- An update from Public Health was detailed from point 28 to 63 of the report.
- A Community Engagement update was available from point 64 to 71 of the report, detailing recent Beeston Hill Community Association and Inner South Youth Partnership meetings.
- The Social Media report was appended to the report, Beeston Market was the most engaged with topic on Facebook.

WYP Officer, Inspector Mark Lund, attended the meeting and provided the Committee with an update, outlining the following information:

- There had been a slight increase in staff for the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT).
- Sergeant Devlin had replaced Sergeant Spencer as the Lead for Beeston and Holbeck Ward and was noted to have good knowledge of the Inner South area and will manage the policing approach.
- The data outlined a decrease in overall crime. There had been an increase in theft from motor vehicles however, this was expected to fall again following an arrest. Hate crime figures had increased but this was suspected to be due to increased tension with the ongoing conflict in the middle east.

In response to questions from Members, the following points were discussed:

- The work of community litter picking was recognised, and a message of thanks was expressed for their voluntary, community beneficial work.
- Further information relating to point 40 of the Public Health update regarding heating on prescription within the cost of living context was requested.
- Work was ongoing to boost social media posts, however, issues using a Council purchasing card to make payments had been difficult to arrange as payments had been blocked.
- The Neighbourhood Centre co-ordination was noted to be significant given that it was a difficult time for small businesses and methods to promote a strong local economy were sought.
- Theft from motor vehicles was high within the Inner South area which largely stemmed from the vast amount of cars parking for Leeds United FC home games, that were believed to be easy pickings for criminals. Advice was to not leave any valuables on display.
- The reduction in the figures for doorstep parcel theft showed positive, collaborative work results.
- WYP Officers had not noticed an increase in reports of bike theft but would look into it. Members had received notification of bike thefts occurring in the Victoria and Riverside area.
- The lead Inspectors across the three wards were meeting to discuss enforcement options relating to powers to oversee security responsibilities, in response to issues for residents paying management fees but feeling inadequate security was being provided. It was noted that the Police were only able to make recommendations.
- It was noted that youths had been congregating and often setting off fireworks late at night in Brickfield Park. In response WYP outlined that PSCOs do not regularly monitor the area at night but would seek to increase hours through offering extended working time.
- In response to a query regarding burglary figures for Middleton Park increasing over September and October, it was noted, these figures also cover, sheds, garages and businesses and a team of burglars had been arrested so it was expected that these figures will fall.
- Advise to residents to reduce the possibility of being burglarised was noted as, keeping car keys out of sight, install CCTV, speak to

neighbours, install good locks, make your house look hard to target and to be vigilant over Christmas when more valuables will be kept in the house.

- In response to Members reporting anti-social behaviour on Thorpes Street and at the Cinder path in Middleton Park, it was noted that these issues will be passed onto the relevant WYP Officers.
- Although there was some feeling of fatigue surrounding public reporting of crime, a positive outcome of a joined up, engaged approach between WYP, the public and relevant partners were the arrests made and trap houses closed at Beeston Hill. WYP thanked those involved in the problem solving group, supported intelligence gathered through Members and the public and noted severe charges had a longer lasting impact on resolving drug dealing issues.
- WYP Officers were thanked for their ongoing hard work, within the budget constraints and encouraged the public to positively engage with the Neighbourhood Policing Team.

**RESOLVED** – That the contents of the report, along with Members comments, be noted.

#### **34 Best City Ambition Refresh**

The report of the Head of Policy provided the Inner South Community Committee with an update on the Best City Ambition refresh and sought to gather input from Elected Members and residents.

The Head of Policy outlined the following information:

- The ambition was the overall vision for the City, following on from the previous strategy named the Best Council Plan, which had consulted with Community Committees two years previous.
- The previous feedback provided by Members had been reflected on and reviewed to be incorporated into the ambition, particularly focused on the comments regarding the importance of monitoring progress and to be more community based.
- 2021 census data had contributed to the refreshed plans and further comments were sought from Members to develop the first update of the document.
- The Best City Ambition was the overall vision for the future of Leeds and was built upon the three pillars (health and wellbeing, inclusive growth and net zero) alongside promotion of the Team Leeds values.
- Tackling poverty and inequality was a key strategic element of the ambition and despite the financial context, plans remained ambitious and optimistic.
- The Best City Ambition had been adopted in February 2022 and had replaced the Best Council Plan. Since its adoption peer reviews had been conducted which had contributed to wide ownership of the ambition across Council Departments, partners and stakeholders.
- Key focuses for the evolution of the ambition were to fill gaps in the current version, refine the three ambition statements, underpin the fifteen

priorities and to develop the Team Leeds approach. The updated version was scheduled for submission to Full Council in February 2024.

- The plan was ambitious and optimistic despite the Council facing immense budget constraints. The ambition was long term and although barriers to provision were noted, reductions for service delivery were not sought.
- Models for assessing progress were outlined to be conducted through key performance indicators contained in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Inclusive Growth Strategy and Climate Action Plan.
- Long term analysis will be provided via the Leeds social progress index (SPI) and periodic deeper city analysis will be provided every three years by the Joint Strategic Assessment (JSA).
- As part of the SPI, an online tool was shown to Members which allowed breakdown of data to a Ward level, identifying a range of indicators. It was noted that this data will change over time and more will be added.
- The following relevant data for the Inner South Wards was reported;
  - The total population for the Inner South was 83,000. This had grown by 1.2% (or 1,000 people) compared to Leeds average growth rate of 8.1%
  - Population density was higher than the Leeds average. If the city was divided into football pitch sized areas of land, the Inner South had 23 people living on each pitch, compared to 20 as the Leeds average.
  - Home ownership was lower in Inner South, at 38% compared to the 58% average across Leeds. There were also more people in social rented housing – 28% compared to Leeds average of 20%.
  - In 2011, 20% of people in the Inner South took the bus, whilst 40% drove. Only 3% worked from home (WFH). In 2021, bus percentage had fallen to 12%, and those driving has decreased to 36%. WFH has risen to 28%.
  - Education - *Level 4 Qualification Attainment Rate*, The Leeds average was 34.7% and the Inner South Average was 30.3% and for *No Formal Qualification Rate*, the Leeds Average was 18.2% and the Inner South Average was 24.3%
  - Religion – The Christian population was 33K in 2021, down from 41K in 2011. The Muslim population had increased by 3K since 2011, to a total of 10K. Like Leeds and National data, non-religious was the second most popular response.
  - Health outcomes - *Good & Very Good Health*, the Leeds average was 83% and the Inner South average was 82% and for *Bad & Very Bad Health*, the Leeds average was 5%, the Inner South average was 6%.
- The SPI online tool was shown to Members, outlining how data was compared through a ranking system to inform long term measures and guide focus to areas most in need of resources.  
[The Leeds Social Progress Index | Inclusive Growth Leeds](#)
- The data will track the progress of the ambition and indicators can be tracked year by year for each Ward.

Members discussions included the following points:

- Further breakdown for health figures for the SPI, with comparative data will be useful to compare health outcomes and opportunities and provide perspective and context.
- The online tool was an initial version, with a more updated and richer version to be created through gathering new data and conducting a JSA every three years.
- Although it was desirable to be able to break data down to a street level to identify pockets of deprivation within a Ward, which may require more attention and resources, it was not yet achievable, however, it may be available in time.
- In response to a question regarding what was to be actioned from the data, it was outlined that the tool was not previously available, was democratised evidence, can be used to track decision and resources allocation and informed a wide scope of Council strategies and the Team Leeds approach.
- There were two parts to the plan's ambitions, to provide data and engage with communities as data needs context and open conversation to help people who are struggling.
- Social reality needed to be applied to the data to better understand its dynamics.
- Ranking Wards from 1 to 33 may not be best practise for data that had marginal differences and the online tool needed a narrative element and also an option to compare a Ward's data against an average for the City.
- It was outlined that Mosaic data was not proposed to be incorporated to the tool, but the JSA will be based on Council, National Statistics and Census lifestyle data to allow depth and create super output area data.
- In response to a query relating the reliability of the data to tackle emerging issues it was noted that it was to be updated annually and sample data and public responses will be taken into account.
- To allow consistency, all data was subject to assurance criteria, the methodology for each index which informs the overall score, was agreed to be sent to Members after the meeting.
- It was confirmed that the data on shelter was only gathered from Council housing. Data on vacant private housing was challenging to gather but a better reflection on this was needed whilst also being reliable.
- The Gross Value Added (GVA) data for Middleton Park was concerning and it was noted that the areas experiencing the highest deprivation correlated with low GVA.

**RESOLVED** – That to the contents of the report and presentation, be noted, along with the comments and recommendations as made by Members as part of the discussion.

### **35 Inner South Community Committee Finance Report**

The report of the Head of Locality Partnerships provided the Community Committee with an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund, Youth Activity Fund (YAF), Capital Budget as well as the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget for 2023/24.

The Localities Officer presented the report, outlining the following information:

- The remaining Wellbeing Budget balance was available at point 20 of the report, with the Ward split as Beeston & Holbeck (£18,928.64) Hunslet & Riverside (£5,718.35) and Middleton Park (£35,206.09)
- The following Wellbeing, Capital and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Neighbourhood Fund Ring-fences that were agreed were available from points 21 to 25 of the report:
  - £10,000 from the Capital budget for improvements to Holbeck Moor (Beeston & Holbeck).
  - £10,000 from the CIL budget for the Hunslet Urban Realm project (Hunslet & Riverside).
  - £3,500 (£1,166.66 per ward) from the Wellbeing budget for this year's Youth Summit.
  - £1,192.50 (£397.50 per ward) from the Wellbeing budget for the Health & Wellbeing sub-group ringfence
- The funding applications for determination were detailed from point 26 to 39, with additional applications contained within the supplementary information pack.
- The Youth Activities Fund Position was detailed at point 48 to 51 of the report with the remaining balance as Beeston & Holbeck: (£7,615.63), Hunslet & Riverside: (£7,474.16) and Middleton Park: (£13,803.98).
- The Small Grants budget balance was available at Table 3, Community Skips budget at Table 4, Capital budget at Table 5 and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) budget at Table 6, with allocations due for Capital and CIL.

During consideration of the funding application, the following was discussed:

- The Inner South – Bumpy application was deferred, in order for more information to be gathered regarding the benefits it provided for young people as the organisation had recently been shown on local news TV. The focus had been on excluded and bullied children and not those engaged with anti-social behaviour, so a request was made for the organisation meet with Members to clarify and discuss.
- Clarification on the breakdown of each Ward's contribution for the funding requested by the application submitted by Middleton Park Juniors was provided.
- The Middleton Park Juniors application had been deferred at the previous meeting in September as a breakdown of provision costs was requested. The bid had been amended and the amount requested reduced by £2,000.
- As some of the costs had almost doubled and clarification regarding required and presented information was sought, the secretary for Middleton Park Juniors was in attendance and noted that the cost for pitch hire had increased since evenings had become darker and required flood lighting for extended periods.
- It was confirmed the application and associated cost breakdown had been submitted by the Chairman for Middleton Park Juniors.
- The Raylands Way Grassed Area application had been submitted by the Housing Association Panel (HAP) and was proposed to be funded



as a 50/50 split, by the Committee and the HAP. This application was to be supported by Middleton Park Members subject to the use of Capital funds only.

- How the Rise & Shine Youth Provision would be run for young people in Middleton Park was queried as it was proposed as an outreach offer, with provision mainly being based in Beeston.
- A representative for St Luke’s Care was in attendance and noted that long term there were plans to widen the scope of the scheme to enable provision within the Middleton Park Ward and will liaise with Schools and Youth Services to engage with young people.
- Middleton Park Members decided to decline their part of the funding for the Rise & Shine Youth Provision, it was agreed that St Luke’s care would draft a proposal to engage with young people in the Middleton Ward and liaise with Middleton Park Ward Members to outline options for future provision in the area.
- Funding for the Cross Flats Park Multi games area flood lights was agreed but investigation into the call out charge was requested. It was noted the application had been submitted as there was no maintenance budget to complete repair work.

**RESOLVED –**

- a. That the details of the Wellbeing Budget position, be noted. (Table 1)
- b. That the Wellbeing ringfence for consideration and approval, be noted. (paragraph 21)
- c. That the Wellbeing proposals for consideration and approval, be noted. (paragraph 26).
- d. That funding proposals as detailed in the report for consideration, be determined as follows:

Project Title	Ward	Amount	Decision
Clayton Ginnel	Hunslet & Riverside	£3,000	Agreed
Inner South – Bumpy	Beeston & Holbeck, Hunslet & Riverside and Middleton Park	£6,680	Deferred
Cross Flatts Park Bowling Club	Beeston & Holbeck and Hunslet & Riverside	£10,000	Agreed
Middleton Park Juniors – cost of living support	Beeston & Holbeck, Hunslet & Riverside and Middleton Park	£9,350.50	Agreed
Cross Flatts History Trail	Beeston & Holbeck and Hunslet & Riverside	£13,000	Agreed
Involve Leeds	Hunslet &	£7,500	

Refurbishment Project	Riverside		Agreed
Church Street – Communal Fencing improvements	Hunslet & Riverside	£1,500	Agreed
Flaxton Gardens – Bollards	Hunslet & Riverside	£1,000	Agreed
Flaxton Street – Drying area improvements	Hunslet & Riverside	£2,400	Agreed
Folly Lane – Fencing	Hunslet & Riverside	£6,900	Agreed
Greenmount Court – Bollards	Hunslet & Riverside	£1,200	Agreed
Raylands Way Grassed Area	Middleton Park	£2,700	Agreed
Coopers Field – Sign & Lectern	Middleton Park	£1,500	Agreed
Cardinal Court Bench	Beeston & Holbeck	£850	Agreed
Rise & Shine Youth Provision	Beeston & Holbeck, Hunslet & Riverside and Middleton Park	£11,520 £7,488.00 for Beeston & Holbeck and £1,612.80 for Hunslet & Riverside	Agreed (Beeston & Holbeck and Hunslet & Riverside only)
Cross Flatts Park Multi games area Flood lights	Beeston & Holbeck and Hunslet & Riverside	£1,632	Agreed
Hunslet Grit Bins	Hunslet & Riverside	£9,700.34	Agreed
Ringfence - Improvements to Holbeck Moor	Beeston & Holbeck	£10,000	Agreed
Ringfence - Hunslet Urban Realm project	Hunslet & Riverside	£10,000	Agreed
Ringfence - Youth Summit	Beeston & Holbeck, Hunslet & Riverside and Middleton Park	£3,500 (£1,166.66 per ward)	Agreed
Ringfence - Health & Wellbeing Sub-Group	Beeston & Holbeck, Hunslet & Riverside and Middleton Park	£1,192.50 (£397.50 per ward)	Agreed

- e. That the details of the projects approved via Delegated Decision, be noted. (paragraph 40)
- f. That the details of the declined projects, be noted (paragraph 41)
- g. That the monitoring information of its funded projects, be noted. (paragraph 42)
- h. That the details of the Youth Activities Fund position, be noted. (Table 2)
- i. That the details of the Small Grants Budget, be noted. (Table 3)
- j. That the details of the Community Skips Budget, be noted (Table 4)
- k. That the details of the Capital Budget, be noted. (Table 5)
- l. That the details of the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget, be noted. (Table 6)

**36 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**RESOLVED** – That the date and time of the next meeting on Wednesday, the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2024 at 1.00pm, be noted.