

INNER EAST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 19TH SEPTEMBER, 2024

PRESENT: Councillor L Farley in the Chair

Councillors A Ali, M Ali, K Dye, D Jenkins,
A Khan and N Manaka

15 Chairs Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed everybody to the meeting and wished Cllr Manaka a Happy Birthday. He reflected on the difficulties over the past few months, a primary issue being the Harehills disturbance, and he passed on his thanks to the police, local communities, and volunteer groups, as well as the involvement of local Elected Members. Positive outcomes were highlighted in terms of bringing people together and building cohesion to make a difference in the community.

16 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals.

17 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There were no exempt items.

18 Late Items

There were no formal late items. However, supplementary information was published before the meeting, on the Council's website in respect of a finance application regarding Agenda Item 10 – Finance Report. Minute No. 24 refers.

19 Declaration of Interests

No interests were raised.

20 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillors J Tudor and S Arif.

21 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 remit of the Community Committee.

A local resident attended the meeting and explained he has been living in the area for 22 years and would not have known about the meeting if it wasn't for one of the local ward councillors. He explained he used to Chair the East End Park Community Association and resigned 20 years ago. The resident in particular raised concern regarding a missed opportunity for members of the public to come together, to discuss local concerns.

In responding, the Chair confirmed the Inner East Community Committee covers a wide geographical area and acknowledged the financial and resource implications in terms of advertisement of such meetings. The Chair however did touch on the positive work undertaken by Elected Members and is aware of the numerous issues across local communities. The Chair also commented on an upcoming project working with St Vincent's Centre and All Saint's Richmond Hill Church of England Primary School, to create a community garden space. It is hoped that the community garden will bring people together.

The resident questioned whether there are any current community association groups and sought advice on how one is established. Committee Members confirmed there are a number of groups and organisations across the Inner East Community Committee area and confirmed a Burmantofts and Richmond Hill residents meeting taking place on Monday, 30th September 2024 where a number of groups and organisations will be getting together at Ebor Gardens Community Centre.

Michelle Stanley, (Leeds Health and Care Academy) attended the meeting for one of the agenda items, and responded as part of the Open Forum item by offering her support as she recognises the benefit of working collaboratively on integrated health and social care and how their service can connect with communities. Michelle commented that the local authority can benefit from being part of a wider system approach.

The Chair concluded by confirming the success to any community is the community itself and thanked the resident for attending the Open Forum and highlighting his concerns. It was confirmed that a discussion outside of the meeting with the resident will take place.

22 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday, 20th June 2024 be approved as a correct record, subject to minor amendments to:

- The factual amendment of the word 'Nowell' be corrected in Minute No.10 – Update Report and;
- The inclusion of a sentence to Minute No.13 – Finance Report to read 'Members commented on the difficult position regarding the budget for projects and reasoning behind declining some projects, and commented that whilst the Junior Sports HUB do fantastic work, they have been funded 62k over the last 2 years'.

23 Employment, Skills & Education Report

The report of the Head of Locality Partnerships presented a report which introduced a discussion around Employment, Skills and Education in the Inner East with Elected Members and partners on the opportunities available to people, to reduce deprivation.

Representatives from the Community Learning Partnerships (Burmantofts and Richmond Hill area) provided an update on what is available in the community, in terms of the services they provide. Members were informed that support is available for:

- Adult learning.
- ESOL.
- Digital skills.
- Confidence building.
- Guide people into customer service jobs in the health care sector.
- Un-employed single parents to get educational training*.
- An in-house counsellor is available and can provide 1-1 support.
- Volunteers assisting children with reading abilities.
- Gardening programmes.
- Cooking groups.
- Yoga groups.

*It was noted that this support is available in East Leeds just now. However, adult learning is city-wide.

Representatives from Community Learning Partnerships explained that they produce a weekly newsletter and can add details of the Community Committee meetings that take place, for residents to utilise the meeting more.

In responding to questions from Committee Members, the following was confirmed:

- There are similar networks in the other Community Committee areas such as We Are Seacroft.
- Leaflets with information can be provided to Elected Members and a point of contact should Members need to refer people.
- The programme is fully funded for people over 19 and un-employed. However, if they are in work, a small contribution is required.
- The team are keen to provide more support and opportunities for children. However, this is dependent on funding and receiving successful bids.

A representative from Leeds University (Lifelong Learning Centre) also attended the meeting and provided information on their services to assist adults who have not accessed universities before. She explained:

- Their offer is to inform adults of their options and routes available to them.
- If an adult does not have GCSE's, there may be other options in terms of routes into university.

- The importance of recognising strengths in adult learners.
- The services role is going out into the community and relaying positive messages about higher and further education.
- The service also signposts people to other institutions and organisations.
- The service offers taster days on campus for groups, as well as short activities and sessions.

The representative confirmed she is happy to link up with any community groups / people that Elected Members may have in mind, to talk to them about their options and routes.

The Chair highlighted the importance of breaking down psychological barriers that are keeping people from studying.

A representative from Leeds Health and Care Academy attended the meeting and explained her role in the work talent hub and care careers. She explained:

- The talent hub aims to hide complexities offers from across providers and connects education, training, and employment.
- Several routes have been designed to get people into opportunities that suit their personal circumstances and ambitions.
- The service work with partners, to flip the recruitment model to see if the job is right for the person, rather than the person being right for the job.
- People are supported into employment but offer of support is also available for their wellbeing whilst they are in work.
- The service is Quarter 1, worked with 320 residents. 39% of those were from priority wards.
- The service is invited to Scrutiny Board in October 2024, and more information will be provided at that meeting.
- The service connects initiatives that are already available and guide people through them, rather than sign posting them.
- There are 350 jobs alone across the NHS, and there is many opportunities for people.
- There is a young people and schools engagement programme and the teamwork with people aged 4-16. The service are also an anchor institution and there is a mandatory requirement that social value is added as per contracts and commissioning.

Community Committee Members discussed:

- Positive benefits in terms of collaborative working.
- There is work to be done in terms of engaging with members of the local community and providing them with the relevant information so that they can make informed decisions.
- Recognising that the community is our workforce.
- Good work that has taken place across priority wards to assist people getting into employment.
- The importance of the retention element of recruitment.

- Opportunities for Leeds Health and Care Academy to do community events / speak with organisations. It was confirmed this is possible.
- Liaising with existing third sector organisations.

The Chair thanked all the partners for attending the meeting and providing updates. The Chair suggested that a job session is formalised on an annual / bi-annual basis.

RESOLVED – To:

- Note the information provided during the meeting by the partners in attendance.
- Note the intention that a job session will be formalised, with relevant partners.

24 Inner East Community Committee - Finance Report

The report of the Head of Locality Partnerships provided an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund, Youth Activity Fund as well as the CRIS and Community Infrastructure Levy Budget for 2024/25.

Projects as outlined in the submitted report were discussed and agreed as follows:

Project	Organisation	Ward	Amount	Decision
Public Space CCTV Cameras – Inner East	LeedsWatch	Burmantofts & Richmond Hill and Killingbeck & Seacroft	£5,000 BRH (Wellbeing) and £4,000 K&S (CIL)	Approved
Damasq Boxing Club	DAMASQ Ltd	Burmantofts & Richmond Hill	£5,000 (Wellbeing)	Declined
West Yorkshire Fire Youth Intervention's programmes	West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	Gipton & Harehills	£2,000 (Wellbeing)	Declined*
East Side Story	East Side Story	Killingbeck & Seacroft	£1,000 (Wellbeing)	Approved
Gipton & Harehills Christmas Trees and Lights	Safer Stronger Communities Team	Gipton & Harehills	£15,000 (CIL)	Approved
Project Youth – Nanu Girls Youth Club	Nanu Sports Foundation	Gipton & Harehills	£5,000 (YAF)	Approved
Height Control Barrier – Cross Osmondthorpe	Leeds City Council	Burmantofts & Richmond Hill	£10,200 (£5,100 Capital and £5,100 CIL)	Approved

Lane				
Burmantofts & Richmond Hill Christmas Trees & Lights	Safer Stronger Communities Team	Burmantofts & Richmond Hill	£3,453 (CIL)	Approved
Bilal Youth Club – Table Tennis	Leeds Youth Service	Gipton & Harehills	£296 (Wellbeing)	Approved
Bilal Youth Group – Residential	Bilal Youth Group	Gipton & Harehills	£5,288 (Wellbeing)	Declined*
Gipton Gala	Gipton Together	Gipton & Harehills	£1,000 (Wellbeing)	Approved provisionally (further clarity required at the next meeting)
IE Youth Provision	Leeds Youth Service	All	£3,000 in total (£1,000 Wellbeing G&H £1,000 Wellbeing BRH and £1,000 Wellbeing K&S)	Approved
Empowerment Experience	That Name Woman	Killingbeck & Seacroft	£700 (Wellbeing)	Approved
Prince Philip PHAB Club request for help to fund Staff and Entertainment	PHAB	All	£1,098.31 in total (Wellbeing - £109.83 BRH, £219.66 G&H and £768.81 K&S)	Approved
Entertainment Trip to Scarborough Beach	Amal Eritrean Community Leeds	Gipton & Harehills and Burmantofts & Richmond Hill	£1,014 (Wellbeing)	Approved Wellbeing - £234 G&H and £780 BRH
Sensory Garden	Gipton South Children's Centre	Gipton & Harehills	£2,000 (Wellbeing)	Approved
Community Sports Day	Junior Sports Hub	Gipton & Harehills	N/A didn't take place	N/A
Inner East Youth Summit	Leeds City Council	All	£3,000 (YAF)	Approved

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting to be held on Thursday, 28th November, 2024

Event Management and Coordination of the Harehills Unity Day	Breeze, Leeds City Council	Gipton & Harehills	£1,019k (Wellbeing)	Declined*
Supplementary Item				
Community Festive Events	Safer Stronger Communities Team LCC	Gipton & Harehills	£2,500 (Wellbeing)	Approved

*Further to the provisions of the Council Procedure Rules 16.5, Councillor M Ali required it be noted his vote in favour of these applications.

Members acknowledged that the CCTV cameras are costly, in some situations, they can assist the police well. Further to a comment regarding reports for the cameras, it was noted that LeedsWatch haven't been able to provide them due to staffing.

The Localities Officer highlighted the following information:

- The Wellbeing Budget Position 2024/25 remaining balance stands at £125,260.26. A breakdown per ward is provided at Table 1 of the submitted report.
- The Youth Activities Fund Position 2024/25 remaining balance stands at £25,793.69. A breakdown per ward is provided at Table 2 of the submitted report.
- A breakdown of the Small Grants & Skips 2024/25 is provided at Table 3 of the submitted report.
- The Capital Budget 2024/25 has a remaining balance of £31,842.78. A breakdown per ward is provided at Table 4 of the submitted report.
- The Community Infrastructure Levy Budget 2024/25 remaining balance stands at £85,892.94. A breakdown per ward is provided at Table 5 of the submitted report.
- Since the last Community Committee on 20th June 2024, the following projects have been considered by Delegated Decision Notice (DDN), Ebor Gardens Junior Equipment and Community Engagement Activities & Support to the Wider Community. Further to this, Members requested more information regarding Ebor Gardens Junior Equipment, but supported the project in principle.
- Since the last Community Committee on 20th June 2024, no projects have been declined.

RESOLVED – To:

- a) Note details of the Wellbeing Budget position.
- b) Note details of the Youth Activities Fund position.
- c) Note details of the Small Grants Budget.
- d) Note details of the Capital Budget.
- e) Note details of the Community Infrastructure Levy Budget.

- f) Note details of the projects approved via Delegated Decision and request that more information in relation to Ebor Gardens Junior Equipment is provided.
- g) Consider the projects as outlined above.

25 Inner East Community Committee - Update Report

The report of the Head of Locality Partnerships provided an update of the work which the Communities Team is engaged in, based on priorities identified by the Community Committee. It also provided an opportunity for further questioning, or to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.

The report also provided regular updates on some of the key activities between the Community Committees, Community Champion roles, community engagement, partnership and locality working.

West Yorkshire Police representatives attended the meeting to provide a focused update on the recent Harehills disorder. The following was highlighted:

- The main issue was social services speaking with a family in Harehills and taking children into temporary care. Off the back of that, massive inequalities were identified with the Roma community.
- The Roma community are facing inequalities from all aspects. Children in care from the Roma community has increased by 22.4% over the last couple of years and 26.5% of people in England and Wales live in overcrowded homes.
- 3 days post the disorder, a Roma working group has been established and officers have been deployed to work with the community. It is now in its second phase.
- It has been identified that people from the Roma community are from all different areas over Asia and Europe and there has been an issue with interpreters.
- 2 Romanian police officers have been identified working for West Yorkshire.
- A contact point has been established at Bellbrooke Centre.
- Officers carried out a door knocking exercise around areas with evident inconsistencies and these areas were mostly where the Roma community are residing.
- Letters have been issued in different languages, as well as Romanian.
- The disorder was mainly young children, and the police are working with schools to try and work on school attendance and ensure young children from that community are isolating themselves from other communities. It was also commented that a large majority of the Roma community go to their native country over the 6-week school holiday, and this has enabled officers to speak with primary school networks.
- As of 2nd August 2024, 27 people have been arrested in relation to the disorder and 22 of them have been released on bail, the rest have been charged and remanded for their offences. The arrest phase came to a halt over the 6-week school period, and the arrest phase is now

back into force. The police are linking with agencies to bring those individuals forward.

The Committee discussed the following matters in responding to the update from the police:

- Councillor M Ali commented that the use of the term Roma is not considered respectful by the community and the term Romany is preferred.
- There is a lack of trust within the Roma community and responsible authorities, third sector organisations and volunteers must make an effort to build confidence and relationships with the Roma community. Members also commented on the importance of changing perceptions of the police, so they are seen as an authority who can be trusted.
- Positive work in terms of engagement with schools.
- Acknowledge the issues associated with not having the right interpreters and taking it as a lesson learnt for the future.
- Pastors are people the Roma community can trust, and they will be helpful with sharing messages.
- Members thanked the police for their work during the disturbance and for their follow-up work post incident.
- Further to a point of clarity, it was confirmed that a PCSO officer is assigned to go to CATCH weekly.

Members were informed that there will be a discussion around forming an engagement partnership, with key partners and will focus on how the engagement strategy can work better with different communities.

The police commented that they have identified a young individual who will be going into schools and is someone in the Roma community who will be held accountable for their actions.

RESOLVED – To note the contents of the report and update provided during the meeting.

26 Any Other Business

The Chair requested that options be looked at in terms of a workshop focused on financial wellbeing and to include partners such as Money Buddies and Green Doctor Leeds. The intention being that partners can have conversations with residents regarding the winter period.

RESOLVED – To note the intention to pull together a workshop around financial wellbeing prior to the next formal meeting, taking place on Thursday, 28th November 2024.

27 Date and Time of next meeting

RESOLVED – To note the date and time of the next meeting as Thursday, 28th November at 6pm. The venue is TBC but will be in the Harehills ward.

The meeting concluded at 20:00.