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WEST (OUTER) AREA COMMITTEE

FRIDAY, 15TH SEPTEMBER, 2006

PRESENT: Councillor A Carter in the Chair

Councillors A Blackburn, D Blackburn,
J Jarosz, R Lewis, F Robinson and
L Russell

20 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting which was being held at Tyersal Social Club, Tyersal Road.

21 Declaration of Interests

Rev. Kingsley-Dowling declared a personal and prejudicial interest in an application for funding a small grant for St John's Community Hall and left the room during consideration of this item. (Agenda Item 11 Minute 28 refers).

22 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence from the meeting was received on behalf of Councillor Coulson.

23 Open Forum

In accordance with paragraphs 6.24 and 6.25 of the Area Committee Procedure Rules, the Chair allowed a period of up to ten minutes for members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Area Committee.

On this occasion, no matters were raised under this item.

24 Minutes - 7th July 2006 and Matters Arising

Minute 8 – Planning Application – Cemetery Road

The Chair pointed out that the application presented to the Area Committee at its last meeting for 189 dwellings on Cemetery Road, Pudsey by Spawforth Associates on behalf of the developers, David Wilson Homes was not the application lodged with the Development Department.

Minute 9(b) – Local Authority Appointments to Outside Bodies

Paul Dishman, Area Co-ordinator, informed the meeting that arrangement for a meeting with Bradford City Council Members for Tong and Bradford Moor had temporarily been postponed at the request of Councillor Coulson due to his holiday commitments and would be arranged for October 2006.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7th July 2006 be confirmed as a correct record.

25 Area Manager's Report

The West Leeds Area Manager submitted a detailed report providing a short update on the progress made in implementing the Area Delivery Plan during the last three months June to August 2006 and linking these to the corporate priorities of the City Council. The report also identified progress being made through the support of partner organisations on the West Leeds District Partnership. A formal invitation will be sent out to all West Leeds Councillors inviting them to the Annual General Meeting of the District Partnership to share achievements / successes so far.

Steve Crocker, West Leeds Area Manager presented his report and informed the meeting that at the District Partnership meeting held this morning there was quite an interesting presentation on building schools for the future, which will be presented again at a future West Outer Area Committee meeting.

The Chair referred to the decision of Somerfield to close their anchor supermarket store in the town centre in October and went on to explain what steps the authority had taken in connection with this unwelcome proposal. He went on to inform the meeting that various parties, who had been informed of the regeneration proposals for the town centre, had been contacted and hopefully someone will be interested in taking over the premises.

In response, Steve Crocker informed the meeting that final offers are due in next Friday and it is unlikely that a non-food chain outlet will be taking over the building. He went on to say that West Area Management are keeping a close eye on this project.

Member expressed concern that a reputable food chain store needs to take over the building otherwise it would not help a regenerated town centre.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the actions of the West Area Management Team in delivering the actions agreed in the Outer Area Delivery Plan 2006/2007 be noted.
- (b) That the changes to West Leeds District Partnership “Strategies for Success” outlined in paragraph 3.51 and Appendix 1 attached the submitted report, be noted.

26 Youth Services - Annual Report

Consideration was given to a joint report from the Youth Service which provided the Area Committee with an opportunity to explore in depth the objectives, delivery and effectiveness of Youth Service provision in the area.

Tony Edwards, Senior Area Youth Worker gave a brief presentation and responded to Members' questions and comments.

The Officer invited Members to view the Mobile Unit outlined in paragraph 4.7 of the report.

The Chair thanked the Youth Officer for his presentation.

RESOLVED - That the report and appendices be noted.

Note: Councillor Jarosz arrived at the meeting during consideration of the above item.

27 Every Child Matters - The West Area Project

The Chief Officer (Development), Children's Services Unit submitted a report and gave a presentation on the current progress on delivering the change for children agenda in West Leeds, its Children's Services Unit and the review of the local partnership arrangements for children's services under the auspices of Children Leeds.

Members were made aware that proposals for changes to children's services are being piloted in the West Leeds area and the presentation outlined details of the West Leeds Project covering the following elements:

- The scope of the project
- The project team
- The project board
- Timescales
- Achievements to date
- The developments in the Director of Children's Services Unit
- Outcome of the review by Children Leeds and next steps
- Links to Area Management
- Links to Area Committees
- Learning the lessons and city wide roll out

The Officer informed the meeting that a draft of the West Area Project was in the process of being completed and informed the meeting that a copy will be sent out to Members of the West Outer Area Committee. She went on to say that the project team are happy to talk to people should they have any queries with regard to the project.

Members queried the extent of Area Committee involvement in the project. In response, Mariana Pexton informed the meeting that a report is to be submitted to Executive Board on 20th September 2006 outlining the next developments to enable the Council and its partners to fully deliver the requirements of the Children Act 2004. One big emphasis is about local ownership but it has not been decided how that should happen.

The Chair thanked Mariana Pexton for her interesting presentation.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the contents of the report and presentation be noted.
- (b) That a copy of the draft West Leeds Project be forwarded to Members of the Area Committee for comment.

28 Outer West Area Committee Well-Being Budget

The West Leeds Area Manager submitted a report to update Members on the current amount of capital and revenue funding available for wards in the Inner West area for the financial year 2006/07 and the commitments already approved. The report and appendices also sought approval for new projects commissioned by the Area Committee.

Fiona Wilkinson, Area Management Officer presented the report and responded to Members' questions and comments.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the amount of Well-Being Budget remaining for the Outer West Area Committee be noted.
- (b) That the following decisions be made in respect of new projects and requests for funding from the Well-Being Budget contained in appendices to the submitted report:-

REVENUE

- (i) d:side – Children In Crisis Project - £850 Approved.

CAPITAL

- (ii) Farfield Primary School, Farsley – Permanent Youth Base - £6,000 – Approved, in principle, pending further details of the project being submitted.
- (iii) CCTV Camera Heights Drive - £700 Approved.
- (c) That approval be given to increase the small grant allocation for the remainder of 2005/2006 financial year to £5,000 and
- (d) That the applications for Small Grants and Skips as outlined in paragraph 4.0 and Appendix 3 be approved and noted.
- (e) That the I Love West Leeds Round-up update as outlined in Appendix 4 be noted.
- (f) That the Groundwork project report as outlined in Appendix 5 be noted.

Note: Reverend Kingsley-Dowling declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the application for small grant funding for St John's Community Hall and left the room during consideration of this item.

29 Recycling - Bawn Estate

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report providing a short update for the Area Committee on the proposed community recycling facility on the Bawns estate.

Farnley and Wortley Ward Members reported that a meeting has been arranged for Ward Members to discuss this matter further with the Director of City Services.

RESOLVED - That the report be deferred for further information to be presented at a meeting with the Director of City Services.

30 Operation Apollo

Members with detailed information on the Apollo 17 operation, which includes information on activities undertaken, results and feedback from the partner agencies involved in the three day multi-agency operation.

Inspector Granville Ward, Leeds West and Gill Hunter, Area Community Safety Officer presented the report and responded to Members' questions and comments.

A long discussion ensued and, in brief, Members asked for assurances that the off road motor bike is only covering the Area Committee areas which have made a contribution towards this project (Inner / Outer West and Outer North West). In general, Members of the Area Committee were impressed with the way PCSO's are interacting with local people.

The Chair thanked the Inspector and Gill Hunter for their attendance.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted.

31 Leeds Mental Health Trust

The Area Committee considered a report from Leeds Mental Trust requesting the views of the Area Committee on how local peoples' views will be heard, the membership proposals of the new foundation trust,

Two booklets containing information on the Foundation Trust consultation provided by Leeds Mental Health Teaching Trust was tabled at the meeting.

The Committee received a presentation from Mr Guy Musson, Leeds Mental Health Teaching NHS Trust which provided Members with the opportunity to ask questions and express opinions on how Leeds Mental Health Teaching Trust could involve service users and local people in the development of future plans and services.

It was noted that a consultation form will be distributed to all Members of the Area Committee.

RESOLVED - That the report and booklets be noted.

Note: Councillor R Lewis left the meeting during consideration of the above item.

32 Making Leeds Better Progress Report

The Area Committee noted a report on the Making Leeds Better Programme which gave an update on Making Leeds Better Vision for West Leeds - a strategy programme for improving health and social care in the City.

RESOLVED - That the report and the progress on Making Leeds Better be noted.

33 Community Centre Report - Management Status & Current Stock Condition

The West Leeds Area Manager submitted a report to brief Members on the current state of the Neighbourhood and Housing portfolio of community centres to be transferred to West Leeds Area Management and outlines the current state of their management committees.

Paul Dishman, Area Co-ordinator presented the report and together with Steve Crocker, West Leeds Area Manager responded to Members' questions and comments.

The Area Committee were informed that David Mackey, West Leeds Area Management Officer will be leaving the authority to return to Australia at the end of the month. Members wished him well for the future.

West Leeds Area Management Officers informed the meeting that they will report back on issue of renewal of lease of land at Hillside Hall.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

34 Any Other Business

(a) ALMO'S

The Chair reported that it has been decided that there will be three ALMO's as opposed to the present six. Members agreed that there should be an item on the agenda for the next West Outer Area Committee meeting to be held on 3rd November 2006 regarding ALMO's and the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing or his representative should also be invited to the meeting.

(b) Yorkshire in Bloom

At the last Council meeting held on 13th September 2006 Councillor Robinson reported on the success of Leeds as a City at being awarded silver in

Yorkshire in Bloom. The Chair indicated that the Area Committee should be thinking about entries for 2007 and the part that West Area Committees should play.

It was agreed that a report should be submitted to the 3rd November meeting.

(c) Proposals for Youth Facility at Tyersal Social Club

Members were asked to stay behind at the end of the meeting to view the rooms proposed for the use as a youth facility at the Tyersal Social Club.

35 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Friday, 3rd November 2006 at 2.00 p.m. at Farnley Hall, Farnley Park, Hall Lane, Leeds LS12 5HA.

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