

EAST (OUTER) AREA COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, 7TH JULY, 2009

PRESENT: Councillor K Parker in the Chair

Councillors S Armitage, M Dobson,
P Grahame, P Gruen, W Hyde, J Lewis,
M Lyons, A McKenna, T Murray,
D Schofield and K Wakefield

1 Election of Chair

The Chief Democratic Services Officer submitted a report explaining the arrangements for the annual election of the Chair for the East (Outer) Area Committee.

In accordance with Article 10 (paragraphs 10.7 and 10.8) of the Council's Constitution, it was reported that one nomination for the Chair had been received on behalf of Councillor Keith Parker.

Councillor Parker was elected Chair of the Area Committee and took the Chair.

Although it was recognised that a Deputy to the Chair would have no official status, Members proposed and agreed that Councillor Murray should be appointed as Deputy Chair.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That Councillor Parker be elected Chair of the East (Outer) Area Committee for the 2009/10 municipal year.
- (b) That Councillor Murray be agreed as Deputy Chair of the East (Outer) Area Committee.

2 Declarations of Interest

In respect of Agenda Item 11 'Well Being Budget 2009/10' (Minute No. 8 refers), the following declarations of personal interest were made:

- Councillor Parker - as a Governor of Brigshaw High School.
- Councillor Armitage - as a committee member of the Swarcliffe Good Neighbours Scheme.
- Councillor Wakefield - as a Governor of Brigshaw High School.
- Councillor Grahame – as a member of Cross Gates Good Neighbours.
- Councillor W Hyde – as Chair of Cross Gates Good Neighbours.

In respect of Agenda Item 12 'Outer East Area Committee Capital Budget 2009/10' (Minute No. 9 refers), the following declarations of personal and prejudicial interest were made:

- Councillor Gruen – in respect of a funding request for improvements to Fieldhead Carr Community Centre – as Chair of Fieldhead Carr Community Centre Management Committee. Councillor Gruen left the room during the consideration and voting on this particular funding request.
- Councillor Murray – in respect of funding requests to Garforth Jubilee Brass Band and Swillington Parochial Hall – as President of Garforth Jubilee Band and as a Trustee of Swillington Educational Charity. Councillor Murray left the room during the consideration and voting on these two particular funding requests.
- Councillor McKenna – in respect of a funding request from Swillington Parochial Hall - as a Trustee of Swillington Educational Charity. Councillor McKenna left the room during the consideration and voting on this particular funding request.
- Councillor Armitage – in respect of a funding request from Swarcliffe Good Neighbours Scheme – as a committee member of the Scheme. Councillor Armitage left the room during the consideration and voting on this particular funding request.

In respect of Agenda Item 19 'Area Manager's Update Report' (Minute No. 16 refers), the following declarations of personal interest were made:

- Councillor Lyons - as a member of the Inner East Area Panel of East North East Homes.
- Councillor Gruen – as Chair of Aire Valley Homes.
- Councillor Murray – as a member of the Outer South East Area Panel of Aire Valley Homes.
- Councillor Parker – as a member of Yorkshire County Cricket School and of the Outer South East Area Panel of Aire Valley Homes.

In respect of Agenda Item 20 'CCTV (2008/2009) Annual Report for LCC Community Safety CCTV Service in Outer East Area' (Minute No. 17 refers), the following declarations of personal interest were made:

- Councillor Lyons - as a member of the Inner East Area Panel of East North East Homes.
- Councillor Gruen – as Chair of Aire Valley Homes.
- Councillor Murray – as a member of the Outer South East Area Panel of Aire Valley Homes.
- Councillor Lewis – as a member of the WYPTE Passenger Transport Consultative Committee.
- Councillor Parker - as a member of the Outer South East Area Panel of Aire Valley Homes.

(Note: Councillor Grahame joined the meeting at 4.05pm during the consideration of this item.)

3 Open Forum

The Chair referred to the provision in the Area Committee Procedure Rules for an 'Open Forum' period at each ordinary meeting of an Area Committee,

during which members of the public could ask questions or make representations on any matter within the terms of reference of the Area Committee. As there were no members of the public present, no issues were raised.

4 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 24th March 2009 be confirmed as a correct record.

5 Matters Arising

Minute No. 7 Matters Arising – Cross Gates Roundabout Feature

Members discussed issues around the Cross Gates Roundabout Feature. It was noted that there would be a chance to determine public opinion at the Cross Gates Forum to be held the following day.

Minute No. 83 Well Being Budget 2008/09 and Proposals for 2009/10

Members expressed their concerns regarding advice from LeedsWatch for future provision of CCTV and the new legal requirements which seemed to render the use of certain systems prohibitive. This did not include the LeedsWatch system.

RESOLVED – That officers from the LCC Community Safety CCTV service be invited to a future meeting of the East (Outer) Area Committee to present a report on the future arrangements for CCTV provision.

6 Local Authority Appointments to Outside Bodies

The Chief Democratic Services Officer submitted a report and appendices outlining the procedures for Council appointments to outside bodies and requesting the Committee to agree appointments to those organisations falling into the remit of the East (Outer) Area Committee.

The Governance Officer advised that this year there were 13 appointments to be made, and if these reflected the proportion of members from each political group on the Area Committee, 11 appointments should be made from the Labour group and two from the Conservative group. Members were referred to Appendix 2 of the report which listed the appointments to be made.

Members were advised that there were two new organisations to appoint to: Cross Gates & District Good Neighbours Scheme and HOPE (Halton Moor & Osmondthorpe Project for Elders). Although there were three appointments to be made to HOPE, Members were advised that, as these were to be restricted to Members in the Temple Newsam Ward, this could be problematical if HOPE applied for grant aid, as all three Ward Members would have to declare prejudicial interests and the meeting would be inquorate. Councillors Lyons and Hyde were already members of the management committee in their personal capacity.

Members were also requested to note that the Council's Member Management Committee had also agreed that Area Committees should make annual appointments to District and Area based partnerships. Members were advised by the Area Management Officer that Councillor Armitage was the only Member to express an interest in becoming Health and Well Being Champion and thus filling the Area Health and Social Care Partnership vacancy. Councillor Armitage's appointment would be confirmed later in the meeting in the report on the Area Delivery Plan 2008-11 Annual Refresh (Minute No. 15 refers).

Members discussed the issues highlighted by the Governance Officer and agreed that just two Members should be elected to serve on HOPE and these were agreed as Councillors W Hyde and Lyons. The Committee was also advised by Councillor Grahame that she was already a committee member of Cross Gates and District Good Neighbours and it was agreed to formalise this appointment. It was also agreed that Councillor J Lewis would be nominated to the Neighbourhood Elders' Team.

It was agreed to re-elect appointees to the remaining organisations en bloc.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That in respect of the Outside Bodies schedule, approval be given to the following appointments being made for the 2009/10 municipal year:-
 - Cross Gates & District Good Neighbours Scheme – Councillor Grahame.
 - HOPE – Councillors W Hyde and Lyons
 - Neighbourhood Elders' Team – Councillor J Lewis
 - Swarcliffe Good Neighbours Scheme – Councillor Armitage
 - Outer East Area Panel of East North East Homes ALMO – Councillor Lyons
 - Outer South East Area Panel of Aire Valley Homes ALMO – Councillors Parker and Murray
 - North East Divisional Community Safety Partnership – Councillor Dobson
 - Area Children's Partnership – Councillor Murray
 - Area Health and Social Care Partnership – Councillor Armitage (subject to being confirmed as strategic champion for Health and Well Being later in the meeting under Agenda Item 18 (Minute No. 15 refers)).
 - Area Employment, Enterprise and Training Partnership – Councillor Murray

7 North East Divisional Community Safety Partnership Annual Report

The East North East Divisional Community Safety Partnership (DCSP) submitted a report providing Members with an overview of the performance of the North East Divisional Community Safety Partnership and Ward based Neighbourhood Policing Teams for the period 1st April 2008 to 31st March

2009. The report also included details of the initiatives that had been delivered in local communities to reduce crime and disorder.

The Chair welcomed to the meeting Beverley Yearwood, Area Community Safety Co-ordinator (East Leeds) and Chief Inspector Matthew Davison of North East Leeds Police Division, to present the report and respond to Members' queries and comments.

The Chair congratulated the Chief Inspector on his appointment to the North East area.

The following issues were discussed and comments made:

- The impressive statistics that indicated that crime was decreasing overall.
- The nature and location of assaults in Kippax and Methley Ward which had seen an increase in the figures for this crime.
- The need to use the existing structure of community meetings when timing Police and Community Together (PACT) meetings.
- Whether there were any statistics to indicate the promptness of answering telephone calls from members of the public.
- Whether there was an Elected Member representative on the Domestic violence sub group.
- The future of the Professional Witness initiative.
- Members' appreciation that the motorcycle teams were being used again.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That the rising trend for burglaries be noted and the prioritisation of actions to tackle this through partnership working at DCSP and neighbourhood level be supported.

8 Well Being Budget 2009/10

The South East Area Manager submitted a report which provided Members with information on the budget allocation and commitments it had for 2009/10 and provided an update on projects funded from this year's budget.

The Area Management Officer, Martin Hackett, presented the report and advised that, due to the carry over from the previous year, the Well Being budget would be slightly more than anticipated at £244,127.

The Area Management Officer also drew Members' attention, in brief summary, to the following information:

- The gardening scheme - so far 203 gardens had been completed in 11 weeks.
- The 1.5 Neighbourhood Warden posts – these would continue to be funded by the Area Committee until the wider issues of the service had been resolved. The wider issues would be discussed under a separate report on the agenda (Agenda Item 16 – Minute No. 14 refers).

- CCTV – confirmed that the Area Committee would be paying half the cost of the monitoring and maintenance of the cameras but as the Committee would still be responsible for the full BT and YEDL costs, CCTV costs were likely to be higher than reported at the March meeting, at approximately £38,500. The Area Management Officer also reminded Members of the decision taken at the February 2008 meeting that the Area Committee would only consider funding future CCTV projects where match funding was provided for the capital costs and revenue costs were met from a source other than the Well Being Budget.

Members sought clarification on various issues. The Area Management Officer confirmed that Members would be requested at each future meeting of the East (Outer) Area Committee to continue to fund the 1.5 Neighbourhood Warden posts until the review into that service had been completed.

RESOLVED –

- That the report and appendices be noted.
- That the Well Being Budget allocation for 2009/10 be noted as £244,127.
- That the posts of 1.5 Neighbourhood Wardens continue to be funded by the East (Outer) Area Committee until the review into that service has been completed. And on completion of this review, that these posts be considered further by this Area Committee.
- That it be noted that CCTV costs for 2009/10 will be higher than previously reported at a figure now likely to be nearer to £38,500.
- That the commitments for 2009/10 be noted at a total cost of £235,500.

9 Outer East Area Committee Capital Budget 2009/10

The South East Area Manager submitted a report which requested support for several new projects and provided details of the capital budget available for 2009/10.

The Area Management Officer, Martin Hackett, presented the report and advised that, with regard to the request for funding by the Neighbourhood Policing Team for 4 bikes for Cross Gates and Whinmoor Ward, as the West Yorkshire Police had not agreed to fund 50% of the cost, this request would be deferred. The application for funding for the full cost of 4 bikes for Temple Newsam Ward however, was still being requested.

Members expressed their concerns about requests for funding for bikes and sought assurances that their use would be properly monitored.

RESOLVED –

- That the report and appendix be noted.
- That the capital budget allocation for 2009/10 for the East Outer Area Committee be noted as £160,200.
- That the following requests for funding be approved:
 - To St Mary's Church, Kippax for roof repairs - £750

- (ii) To Woodrow Allotments, Methley to replace the existing fence - £7,000
 - (iii) To Garforth Jubilee Brass Band to replace old stand banners and purchase 30 waistcoats - £1,000
 - (iv) To Swillington Educational Trust for refurbishment to Swillington Parochial Hall - £13,500
 - (v) For environmental improvement work to highway at Hollyshaw Lane/Selby Road junction at Halton - £4,230
 - (vi) To Kippax Parish Council for a Ball Wall close to the Youth Shelter close to Kippax Leisure Centre - £2,000
 - (vii) To Garforth Residents Association for a Wicksteed Revolve roundabout in the children's playground at Glebelands, Garforth - £5,000
 - (viii) For highway improvement works at Cross Hills, Kippax - £3,000
 - (ix) To Garforth Guides to improve the environment surrounding the Guide HQ at Barley Hill Road - £6,000
 - (x) To the Neighbourhood Policing Team for the purchase of 4 bikes for PCSOs in Temple Newsam Ward - £2,480
 - (xi) To Kippax North Community Cycling Group for a storage container - £1,350
 - (xii) To Fieldhead Carr Community Centre Management Committee to assist with improvements to the centre - £3,197.33
 - (xiii) To Swarcliffe Good Neighbours Scheme to create a Computer Café - £2,425.41
- (d) That the request of £1,240 from the Neighbourhood Policing Team for 50% of the cost of purchasing 4 bikes for PCSOs in Cross Gates and Whinmoor Ward be deferred.

10 EASEL Action Plan

The Director of City Development submitted a report advising Members of the public consultation and information sharing which was taking place on major changes to the EASEL Area Action Plan (AAP) and advising of the next steps in the progression of the Plan, which involved publication of the AAP, submission to the Secretary of State and Public Examination.

The Chair welcomed to the meeting Sue Speak, Team Leader Local Plans (East), to present the report and respond to Members' queries and comments.

Members raised concerns regarding the length of the consultation and the uncertainty this was causing amongst residents. In reply to Members' particular concerns regarding the failure of DB Shenker to put forward firm proposals, Officers advised that if this company did not come forward with proposals soon, there was the possibility that this area might be reallocated from mixed use to housing.

Members also welcomed the information from Officers that one of the benefits of regeneration was the possibility of identifying a need for another school in the area, as the population would be increasing again.

RESOLVED – That the consultation process and next steps in the process of preparation of the EASEL Area Action Plan be noted.

11 Area Committee Roles for 2009/10

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report which presented the Area Committee with details of their area function schedules and roles for 2009/10 which had been agreed by the Executive Board on 17th June 2009 and included details of further enhanced roles of Area Committee responsibilities from this year onwards.

The Acting Area Manager, Keith Lander, presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

Members expressed their concern about the future presentation of information to Area Committees on their Roles. They requested that the information should be detailed and broken down per Ward where possible and that it should be considered on a systematic basis within a work programme. The Area Management Team agreed to take these comments on board and consider how to bring the information to future meetings of the Area Committee.

Members also raised in particular the issue of the Area Committee's enhanced role in relation to Ground Maintenance and the awarding of an extension to the current contractor.

RESOLVED – That the agreed Area Functions and Other Roles for 2009/10 as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report be noted.

12 Annual Report for Parks and Countryside Service in East Outer Area Committee

The Director of City Development submitted a report which examined the opportunities to develop the relationship between the Parks and Countryside service and the East Outer Area Committee.

The Chair welcomed Kris Nenadic, Principal Parks Area Manager, to the meeting to present the report and respond to Members' queries and comments. He was accompanied by Vicky Nunns, Business Development Manager.

The Principal Parks Area Manager reported that due to the current work at Glebelands, this park would now be added to the list of community parks as listed in Para 3.10 to the report.

In brief summary, the main points of discussion were:

- Glebelands consultation – the omission of disabled facilities and the need to embed the needs of the disabled in consultations. Officers agreed to provide Ward Members with the results of the consultation.
- Grove Road consultation – concern about the lengthy consultation period.

- The £19million programme to improve playing pitches and facilities – Officers advised that this referred to the amount of funding that was being applied for from central Government.
- Thorpe Park – there was concern that the infrastructure was not yet in place. Members were advised that the new developers were disputing that the required square footage had been reached, which would necessitate them to build playing pitches and changing rooms.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That the results of the Glebelands consultation be provided to Ward Members.

(Note: Councillor Wakefield left the meeting at 6.05pm during the consideration of this item and Councillor McKenna left the meeting at 6.07pm at the conclusion of this item.)

13 Community Engagement - Forum Schedule and Election of Chairs 2009/10

The South East Area Manager presented a report proposing a schedule of dates for Community Forums for 2009/10 and requesting Members elect Forum Chairs.

The Area Management Officer, Martin Hackett, presented the report.

Lengthy discussion ensued on who should Chair the Halton Forum. Officers clarified issues that arose, referring Members to the Forum Terms of Reference as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report. The Governance Officer also confirmed that, as the appointments were not covered by the Appointments to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules, there was no requirement for political proportionality.

A vote was taken and Councillor Lyons was elected by a majority vote to the Chair of Halton Forum. Other Chairs were appointed en bloc as proposed in the report.

Members also requested that individual forum Chairs decide whether there should be themed meetings and the dates for Forum meetings.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the schedule of dates be agreed as detailed in section 3.1.1 of this report.
- (b) Forum Chairs be agreed as:
 Cross Gates – Councillor Grahame
 Whinmoor – Councillor Gruen
 Swarcliffe – Councillor Armitage
 Garforth & Swillington – Councillor Murray
 Kippax & Methley – Councillor Parker
 Halton Moor & East Osmondthorpe – Councillor Lyons

- (c) That the Forum Chair for Halton Forum be agreed by a majority vote as Councillor Lyons.
- (d) That the Forum Terms of Reference be ratified.

(Note: Councillors Dobson and J Lewis left the meeting at 6.20pm at the conclusion of this item.)

14 Neighbourhood Wardens - Restructure Proposals

The Chief Officer for Regeneration and Health and Environmental Action Services submitted a report which provided Members with information regarding the restructuring proposals for the Neighbourhood Warden service.

The Acting Area Manager, Keith Lander, presented the report and summarised the key changes. He advised that the proposal was to create Community Environment Officers (CEOs) and there was currently consultation with Unions and staff.

Graham Wilson, Head of Environmental Action and Parking and Paul Spandler, Service Manager, South Environmental Action Team, were in attendance to respond to Members' queries and comments.

Members voiced their serious concerns about the proposals. In brief summary, the following specific concerns were raised:

- That the CEO appointments would be made to the city rather than to particular localities.
- That the link would be lost between community, Councillors and other services.
- That CEOs should not look like Police Community Support Officers.
- That it was an anxious period for the present Wardens and when the proposals for change had been finalised, funding should be considered to keep the present Wardens in work.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted.

15 Area Delivery Plan 2008-11 - Annual Refresh

The South East Area Manager submitted a report presenting a refresh of the Area Delivery Plan 2008-11 to ensure that priorities and actions met with current local needs.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the annual refresh of the Area Delivery Plan 2008-11 be approved.
- (b) That the following strategic 'champions' for 2009/10 be agreed:
 - Culture – Councillor W Hyde
 - Enterprise & Economy – Councillor Murray
 - Learning – Councillor Murray
 - Transport – Councillor Lyons
 - Environment – Councillor Wakefield

Health & Well Being – Councillor Armitage

Thriving Places: –

Housing – Councillor Gruen

Community Safety – Councillor Dobson

Harmonious Communities – Councillor Grahame

- (c) That the continued connectivity with the cycle of community forums and Ward based engagement events be noted.
- (d) That the intention to provide a review of performance against the agreed Area Delivery Plan priorities at the February 2010 meeting be noted.
- (e) That it be agreed to develop a charter as the public facing, resident friendly version of the Area Delivery Plan.

16 Area Manager's Update Report

The South East Area Manager submitted a report updating Members on a range of activity which had been undertaken in recent months by the Area Management Team and/or in conjunction with others.

RESOLVED – That the report and appendices be noted.

17 CCTV (2008/2009) Annual Report - For LCC Community Safety CCTV Service in Outer East Area

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods Directorate submitted the annual report of Leeds City Council's Community Safety CCTV service which highlighted the services provided to demonstrate the effectiveness of the service in reducing the fear of crime and facilitating the apprehension and detection of offenders in areas covered by both mobile and fixed CCTV cameras.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That the deployment of mobile CCTV to areas of concern via local Tasking Groups and Neighbourhood Policing Teams be requested.
- (c) That 6 monthly update reports be received.

18 Dates and Times of Future Meetings

Noted as 8th September 2009, 27th October 2009, 8th December 2009, 9th February 2010 and 23rd March 2010 – all at 4.00pm in the Civic Hall, Leeds.

The meeting concluded at 6.50pm.