



Report of The South East Area Manager

Meeting: Outer East Area Committee

Date: Tuesday 8th of September 2009

Subject: Area Manager's Update Report

Electoral Wards Affected:

All Outer East Wards

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Council
Function

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

Delegated Executive
Function not available for
Call In Details set out in the
report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report identifies a range of activity which has been undertaken in recent months by the Area Management Team and/or in conjunction with others.

1.0 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

1.1 This report provides an update from the Area Manager on various project work and proposals in the area over recent months, allowing the opportunity for members to request further information or make comment.

2.0 CLEANER GREENER NEIGHBOURHOODS

2.1 Environmental Projects

2.1.1 The local Neighbourhood Wardens and Probation Service 'Community Payback Team' have delivered a number of projects to tackle environmental issues across the area. This has often been a supporting role with residents groups/in bloom groups etc involved. These have included:

- Tidying up and removing undergrowth in problematic ginnels in East Garforth.
- Neighbourhood Warden supported a local community clean up in Garforth.

- A community clean up was carried out in Halton Moor.
- A community clean up was carried out in Micklefield in partnership with Aire Valley Homes.
- Neighbourhood Warden supported Whinmoor B In Bloom group carry out a clean up and planting project. The work also involved Groundwork and a group of 40 corporate volunteers. The group received POCA (Proceeds of Crime Act) funding to help support the planting work across a number of locations in Swarcliffe.
- The local neighbourhood warden supported environmental improvements at Brayton Green. The project involved tidying up a communal garden at a local sheltered housing area.
- A clean up around Naburn Court Sheltered Housing complex and garden area was completed.
- An environmental clean up took place around Naburn Approach close to the Whinmoor Bowling Club.

3.0 INVOLVING COMMUNITIES

3.1 Forums

3.1.1 Between the 23rd of May and the 24th of August 2009 the following forums have been held:

- Halton Moor & East Osmondthorpe – 9 June 2009
- Halton – 11 June 2009
- Swarcliffe – 1 July 2009
- Whinmoor – 6 July 2009
- Cross Gates – 8 July 2009

3.1.2 The minutes of the Halton Moor forum and the Halton forum are attached at the end of this report. The minutes of the other three forums will be attached to the Area Managers report at the October meeting of Area Committee.

3.2 Older Persons Events Week

3.2.1 The Older Persons Sub Group has held monthly meetings since April. This group is responsible for the delivery of Older Peoples week which is scheduled w/c 21 September 2009.

3.2.2 This will see an event in each Outer East ward during that week. The schedule is as follows:

- Monday 21 September – Village Hall, Great & Little Preston
- Tuesday 22 September – St Gregory's Youth & adult Centre, Swarcliffe
- Micklefield Youth & Adult Centre
- Christ Church, Halton
- Miners Welfare Hall, Garforth

3.2.3 The events will have stalls and displays for information, advice and guidance from West Yorkshire Police, Fire Service, Adult Social Care, Aire Valley Homes, LCC Customer Services, NHS, Elderly Network Groups etc. There will be a buffet lunch and entertainment at every event. Transport is provided to each venue.

3.3 Community Centres

- 3.3.1 Area Committee recently provided funding for improvements at Fieldhead Community Centre. The work has now been completed including internal & external painting, new flooring, signage and display cabinets. The Management Committee held an open day on 8th August to re-launch the centre. The purpose of the day was to raise awareness of the centre within the local community and increase the number of users accessing the facility. Area Committee provided funding for this event to the community centre management committee. The day was a great success with medieval Towton, West Yorkshire Fire Service and Police Dogs displays, music production session for young people, sports activities and much more. Approximately 300 residents attended the event, with money being raised to re-invest in activities for the centre.
- 3.3.2 A user group has been established for St Gregory's Youth & Adult Centre to improve the management of the building. £30,000 funding has been secured by two of the user groups: Inside Outside Childcare and Swarcliffe & St Gregory's Community Playscheme. The funding will be used to improve access and security to the building. Following a number of incidents at the centre including a recent break in, a new CCTV system is being installed into the centre with other measures planned.

3.4 Engagement Events

- 3.4.1 In Kippax & Methley and Garforth & Swillington Members previously agreed to a mixture of Forums and events. An event around training, jobs and education is planned in Garforth on September the 23rd at Strawberry Fields Primary School. If this is successful it is likely that a similar event will be held in Kippax later in the year.

3.5 Small Grants

- 3.5.1 Appendix 1 provides a breakdown of small grants funded since the beginning of the financial year.

4.0 MORE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

4.1 Improved outdoor sports and play equipment

- 4.1.1 Renewal of Glebelands children's play park in Garforth is now underway. The park has been cleared of equipment over 2 years ago for health and safety reasons. This project was jointly paid for from Section 106, Area Committee funds and Grantscape funds.
- 4.1.1 Work will be starting very soon to the sports pitches at Skelton Woods (Whinmoor). The main issue to resolve is poor drainage and a programme of works has been drawn up to ensure these pitches are of good quality and provide a much needed resource. This project is funded from Section 106, Area Committee funds and Grantscape funding.
- 4.1.2 The development of sports pitches in partnership with Methley Sports Development Association is due to start on site in the Autumn. £83,000 of Area Committee funding has been committed to support the development of the site. Due to issues with other funders it has been agreed to adopt a phased approach to deliver the scheme.

Previous proposals to install portable changing rooms have raised concern with key funders and as such we are now exploring brick built facilities. The project will be in a number of stages in order for the clubs to start using the site.

- 4.1.4 Area Committee Well Being Funds has been used (Garforth & Swillington 'tasking' budget) to pilot a youth club project on Friday evenings at Garforth Town FC. This will start in early September and further information on how successful it has been will be reported to a future meeting of Area Committee.

4.2 Cricket coaching

- 4.2.1 Area Management organised cricket coaching sessions for young people across the Outer East area for children and young people between 9-15 year olds. This was funded from the Well Being budget and was free of charge to young people. The 10 days of coaching were delivered over two weeks during the summer holidays at Kippax and Whitkirk Cricket Clubs. The coaching was provided by Yorkshire CCC and headed up by Arnie Sidebottom (former Yorkshire and England Cricketer).
- 4.2.2 There were at least 95 children attending each day of the coaching sessions and on some days the figure topped 120. This project has now become one of the most successful activity projects for young people that the committee has funded with attendance increasing year on year.

5.0 REGENERATING AREAS

5.1 Town & District Centre (T&DC) Regeneration

5.1.1 Cross Gates

- 5.1.2 The contract to provide street furniture in Cross Gates, Halton Village and Garforth has now been let as one contract. Work will be completed on all 3 schemes during September/October 2009. The following street furniture will be provided in Cross Gates:

- Removal of existing plastic and metal bins;
- Removal of existing pedestrian guardrail;
- Supply and fit new bins;
- Supply and fit new cycle racks;
- Supply and fit new planters;
- Supply and fit new guardrails (83 mtrs);
- PFI street lighting fittings and fixtures for hanging basket and Christmas lights.

- 5.1.3 The 'heritage style' lights will be installed by SEC under the PFI contract. At the time of writing this report the start date for this part of the scheme had not yet been established.

- 5.1.4 Cross Gates roundabout feature. The Cross Gates Forum met in July and agreed to additional work to the roundabout and alterations to the gates. The additional work will include 3 'Welcome Stones'; the alterations will include metal work to the gates, repainting of gates (red, white and black) and connecting the underlighting.

5.2 Halton Village

5.2.1 Phase 3 of this project will be on site during September/early October 2009 and includes the following work:

- Remove existing pedestrian guardrails;
- Remove existing bins, benches, racks;
- Supply and fit new bins, benches, cycle racks;
- Supply and fit new pedestrian guardrail;
- Supply and fix mushroom bollards;
- Supply and fix bollards near kerb to prevent auto access;

5.3 Garforth Main Street

5.3.1 Phase 3 of this project will be on site during September/early October 2009 and includes the following work:

- Removal of existing benches, bollards, railings
- Supply and install information boards, finger posts, signage, brackets for handing banner
- Street furniture including benches, bins, cycle racks, pedestrian rail
- Steel planters and semi mature trees

5.4 Micklefield Regeneration Forum

5.4.1 The Micklefield Regeneration Forum held its AGM on the 31st of July 2009. The Forum was pleased to report on major successes during the year including the new skatepark and youth shelter which are proving very popular with young people. Other projects such as Peckfield Business Park improvements are imminent, whilst new proposals including improved parking in Garden Village and a cycle lane direct to Micklefield Primary School are being considered and residents being consulted.

5.5 Swarcliffe Regeneration

5.5.1 A number of projects are now being progressed to improve the environment and enhance facilities in the Swarcliffe estate.

5.5.2 Environmental projects include:

- Welcome stones at the main entrances to the estate
- Increased litter bins/benches across the estate
- Information boards at key locations

5.5.3 Projects that will provide enhanced facilities include:

- Youth shelter
- Providing a community sports pitch at ex-St Gregory's Primary School site
- Security improvements to shopping areas
- Security improvements to St Gregory's Youth & Adult Centre

6.0 SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS

6.1 Neighbourhood Management ‘Tasking Teams’

- 6.1.2 The 3 Neighbourhood Tasking Teams in Outer East Leeds continue to work to deliver outcomes around community safety and environmental issues and during the last quarter a number of projects have been delivered.
- 6.1.3 **Garforth & Swillington/Kippax & Methley.** The tasking budget has funded additional Police hours on Friday and Saturday evenings to address high levels of assaults as sb in areas of Kippax and Garforth that are often associated with Public House closing times. An evaluation of this project will be reported to a future Area Committee meeting. There are also proposals in hand to give Kippax and Allerton Bywater Designated Public Place (DPPO) Order status i.e. no street drinking. If the application for a DPPO is successful the cost will be met from that wards ‘tasking’ budget.
- 6.1.4 **Temple Newsam** Tasking budget has funded work to prevent illegal riding of motor bikes in the Halton Moor area and clean up at Bylaw Mansfield Allotment. Tasking team has co-ordinated the launch of the community house including the delivery of a range of advice surgeries for residents to access in their neighbourhood such as 4 families outreach, East North East Homes surgery, Neighbourhood Warden surgery, Debt advice and Police drop ins.
- 6.1.5 **Cross Gates & Whinmoor.** The main areas of concern over recent months has been crime and asb at Stanks Parade shops and Fieldhead Carr (Whinmoor) shops. Police and ASBu have been involved in covert work to identify and prosecute the individuals whilst at the same time the Area Management Team is hopeful of providing the shops with CCTV that the proprietors can monitor themselves.

6.2 Operation Champion

- 6.2.1 Operation Champion has changed in format to increase in frequency and to create a larger impact on communities.
- 6.2.2 There have been two operations across the Outer East area since the last meeting. One operation took place in July in Swarcliffe & Whinmoor and one in August in Halton Moor & East Osmondthorpe. The next Operation is scheduled in September in Garforth & Kippax.

7.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

- 7.1 No specific issues are identified.

8.0 Legal and Resource Implications

- 8.1 No specific issues are identified.

9.0 Recommendations

- 9.1 The Committee is asked:
a) To note the contents of this report

- b) Make comment or request further information as appropriate on any of the items in this report

Background Papers

Executive Board Report 16 July 2008 – Area Committee Roles 2008/09