

WEST (OUTER) AREA COMMITTEE

FRIDAY, 10TH JULY, 2009

PRESENT: Councillor D Blackburn in the Chair

Councillors A Blackburn, A Carter,
M Coulson, R Lewis, J Marjoram,
A Parnham and F Robinson

CO-OPTEE: Reverend Kingsley Dowling

1 Election of Chair 2009/2010

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

The Chief Democratic Services Officer reported that one nomination for the position of Chair had been received, on behalf of Councillor David Blackburn.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That following an overall majority of votes cast by those Elected Members present at the meeting eligible to vote, Councillor David Blackburn be elected as Chair of the West (Outer) Area Committee for the Municipal Year 2009/10.
- (c) That Councillor Andrew Carter be appointed as Deputy Chair of the West (Outer) Area Committee for the Municipal Year 2009/10 as proposed by Councillor D Blackburn and seconded by Councillor J Marjoram.

2 Late Items

The Chair gave notice that, in accordance with his powers under Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, he had agreed to admit to the agenda a late item of urgent business. This related to an application for funding from the Wellbeing Budget in respect of a Designated Public Place Order (DPPO) by the West Yorkshire Police due to the increase in alcohol related crime and anti-social behaviour in the Farsley area (Agenda Item 18 – Minute 16 refers).

3 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor R Lewis, Liz Navin-Jones (Co-optee), Steve Crocker, West North West Area Manager and Amanda Jackson, Locality Enabler – West Leeds.

4 Declaration of Interests

The following interests were declared at the meeting:

Councillor D Blackburn declared a 'personal interest' in the Update on the Leeds Bradford Corridor report in his capacity as a member of the West Leeds Gateway Board (Agenda Item 13 – Minute 11 refers).

Councillor A Blackburn declared a 'personal interest' in the Area Manager's Report in her capacity as a Director of Groundwork Leeds (Agenda Item 19 – Minute 17 refers). The Councillor also declared a 'personal and prejudicial' interest in her capacity in the Well-Being Fund report as a Director of Groundwork Leeds in relation to an application for funding by Groundwork Leeds (Agenda Item 18 – Minute 16 refers).

Councillor A Carter declared a 'personal interest' in the Update on the Leeds Bradford Corridor report in his capacity as a member of the West Leeds Gateway Board (Agenda Item 13 – Minute 11 refers) and also declared a personal interest in the Area Manager's Report in his capacity as a member of the West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority (Agenda Item 19 – Minute 17 refers).

Councillor J Jarosz declared a 'personal interest' in the Area Manager's Report in her capacity as a member of the West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority (Agenda Item 19 – Minute 11 refers).

5 Open Forum

The Chair gave notice that in accordance with the Area Committee Procedure Rules, there was provision for an Open Forum session of up to 10 minutes at each ordinary meeting of an Area Committee in order to allow members of the public an opportunity to ask questions or to make representations on any matter which fell within the remit of the Area Committee. No issues were raised.

A copy of the minutes of the following Community Forum meetings were also attached for Members' information:

- Pudsey & Swinnow Community Forum - 8th June 2009
- Tyersal Community Forum – 13th May 2009

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the Pudsey & Swinnow Community Forum meeting held on 8th June 2009 be noted.

6 Minutes and Matters Arising - 3rd April 2009

Minute 87 – Outer West Area Committee Well-Being Budget - Update

Sam Woodhead, Area Management Officer gave an update on the proposed agreement with Community Safety in relation to the reviewed costs for CCTV cameras. Members requested further information on this matter as the return of £8,000 was needed as funds in the West (Outer) areas Revenue Budget were low.

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd April 2009 be confirmed as a correct record.

7 Co-optees to the Outer West Area Committee

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report which sought approval for the annual appointment of co-opted Members to the West (Inner) Area Committee, in accordance with Article 10 of the Constitution, which states that there is provision for the Area Committee to appoint up to five non-voting co-opted members to support the Area Committee.

Three nominations were received from the Reverend Kingsley Dowling – Faith Representative, Howard Bradley – Youth Representative and Liz Navin Jones – Business Representative

RESOLVED - That the three existing co-optees be re-appointed, namely:

- Reverend Kingsley Dowling - Faith Representative
- Howard Bradley – Youth Representative
- Liz Navin Jones - Business Representative

8 Local Authority Appointments to Outside Bodies

The Chief Democratic Services Officer submitted a report outlining the Committee’s role in relation to its Elected Member appointments to the community and local engagement category appointments to outside bodies which had been delegated to the Area Committee to decide.

RESOLVED:-

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That in respect of the Outside Body schedule, approval be given to the following appointments being made for the Municipal Year 2009/10:-

ALMO West Inner Area Panel

Councillor R Lewis
Councillor J Marjoram

Divisional Community Safety Partnership	Councillor D Blackburn
Area Children’s Partnership	Councillor M Coulson
Area Health and Social Care Partnership	Councillor J Jarosz
Area Education, Employment, Enterprise and Training Partnership	Councillor D Blackburn

9 West North West ALMO Area Panel Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the West North West ALMO Area Panel meetings held on 11th February and 15th April 2009 be received and noted.

10 Area Committee Roles for 2009/2010

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a revised report on Area Committee roles for 2009/10.

Appended to the report were copies of the following documentations for the information/comment of the meeting.

- Area Committee Roles for 2009/10 – Area Functions (Appendix 1 refers)
- Area Committee Roles for 2009/10 – Other Roles (Appendix 2 refers)

Jason Singh, Area Co-ordinator, West North West Area Management presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.

11 Update on the Leeds Bradford Corridor

The Leeds Bradford Programme Manager submitted a report outlining the key strategic issues that would affect the relationship between West Leeds, the Leeds Bradford Corridor and the Leeds City Region.

Fergus Mitchell, Leeds Bradford Programme Manager gave an update of the work he had undertaken since his appointment in February 2009.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- the need to investigate the lack of public transport especially in the evenings between Leeds and Bradford.
- the need to ensure that various different organisations dealing with different issues on the Leeds Bradford Corridor such as Leeds City Region, West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority, West Leeds Gateway and the Leeds Strategic Housing Board Programme etc work closely together to ensure they all play a crucial part in the whole programme.
- the need to ensure that planning officers from Leeds and Bradford have regular dialogue on major planning applications which affect both regions, such as the Leeds Bradford Airport planning application and the development plans for Tong Village.

The Chair thanked Fergus Mitchell for his attendance.

RESOLVED - That the contents of the report and the comments now made be noted.

12 Annual Report - Parks and Countryside Services in West Outer Leeds

(This item was deferred for consideration at the next West Outer Area Committee meeting to be held in 11th September 2009)

13 Community Safety Issues - Outer West Leeds

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report which sets out the protocol between West Yorkshire Police and Leeds City Council in relation to the day to day working methods and practices of the PCSO's deployed in the Council area.

Appended to the report was an evaluation of activities following Operation Champion held on 20th to 22nd May 2009 in the Pudsey area.

NPT Inspector Richard Cawkwell gave his first update to the Area Committee on Community Safety issues in Outer West Leeds since the last meeting and assured the Area Committee that the Police were now working on the three main priorities which had provided positive feedback.

The Inspector also informed Members that the meetings within the community were well attended and had been very helpful in getting to know what issues had arisen in each community. The meetings had also been successful in feeding back information into the community such as how many arrests had been made and the outcome of incidents that may have occurred in their area.

Inspector Cawkwell informed the meeting that like most areas in the city, due to the present financial climate there had been a rise in burglaries and anti-social behaviour in the Farnley, Wortley, Farsley and Pudsey areas. Criminals were also coming over from the Bradford area to the Pudsey, Calverley and Farsley areas to carry out house burglaries. The Inspector assured the meeting that Police Officers and PCSO's were working until 1.00 a.m. to try and keep on top of this issue. It was reported that there had been some excellent arrests made in relation to burglary and vehicle crime resulting in some key names being given a jail sentence.

The Inspector agreed to provide Members with quarterly crime statistics for the West Outer area.

Members went on to inform the meeting about some of the recent success stories following Police/PCSO intervention.

Gill Hunter, Area Community Safety Co-ordinator provided Members with an update on the success of Operation Champion.

Councillor Coulson raised concerns that an application was now in the pipeline for the re-opening of The Bull public house in Pudsey. The Inspector assured Members that West Yorkshire Police Authority would be putting their objections in against this application.

Councillor Robinson raised concerns relating to the recent spate of hanging baskets being stolen from outside shop premises in the Calverley and Pudsey areas. Gill Hunter, Area Community Safety Co-ordinator informed the meeting that she would raise this matter at a meeting being held at Weetwood Police Station on 22nd July 2009.

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

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the contents of the report and the updates provided by the West Yorkshire Police be noted.
- (b) That the NPT Inspector provide Members with regular quarterly crime statistics for the West Outer area.

(Note: Councillor J Jarosz left the meeting during consideration of the above item).

14 Outer West Area Delivery Plan 2008/2011 - Update Report

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report seeking Members' approval to the updated West Inner Area Delivery Plan (ADP) for 2008-11. The report also informed Members of the proposed content and format of the Area Delivery Plan and provided details of how it would link with the Leeds Strategic Plan.

Sam Woodhead, Area Management Officer presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That approval be given to the draft Area Delivery Plan as detailed in Appendix 1 attached to the submitted report.
- (b) That the following Members be appointed 'Champion' for each partnership theme:

Harmonious Communities:	Councillor J Marjoram
Enterprise, Economy & Transport:	Councillor David Blackburn
Culture & Environment:	Councillor A Carter
Health & Wellbeing:	Councillor J Jarosz
Thriving Neighbourhoods:	Councillor David Blackburn (Community Safety) Councillor Ann Blackburn (Housing)

15 Neighbourhood Wardens - Restructure Proposals

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report in relation to the Neighbourhoods Wardens service.

Appended to the report were copies of the following documents for the information/comment of the meeting:-

- Neighbourhood Warden Line Management Structure – April 2009 (Appendix A refers)
- Job Description and Personal Details – Community Environment Officer (Appendix B refers)

Jason Singh, Area Co-ordinator presented the report and responded to Members' questions and comments. The Officer also informed the meeting that a further report would be submitted to the September 2009 Area Committee meeting following consultation with Trade Unions.

Members expressed their concerns over the restructure as they felt that the Neighbourhood Warden working on the LAMP estates such as the Bawns had made a tremendous difference in the area in combating crime and anti-social behaviour. Residents in the area were concerned that this post might be deleted.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report, its appendices and the comments now made, be noted and passed on to the appropriate officers.

16 Outer West Area Committee Well-Being Fund

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report providing Members with details of the amount of well-being capital and revenue funding available for the financial year 2009/2010, an update on the commitments already made and comment on any of the new applications received to date.

Sam Woodhead, Area Management Officer presented the report and, together with Jason Singh, Area Co-ordinator responded to Members' questions and comments.

Various applicants gave a brief presentation regarding their applications before the Chair asked them all to leave the room while Members discussed and made decisions on their applications.

The Area Committee also noted that the two small grant applications relating to Sloppy Slippers and the Pudsey Carnival did cover funding for more than one Ward.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the contents of the report be received and noted.
- (b) That the following decisions be taken in respect of the applications for funding:

- (i) Refurbished kitchen at Swinnow Community Centre - Approved £5,745.50 (Capital – Pudsey Ward) subject to an explanation from the Area Management Team in the form of an e-mail to Councillor Coulson on why the above quote was selected.
 - (ii) Junior Wardens Scheme for Gambles & Bawns Neighbourhoods – Approved £6,400 (Revenue).
 - (iii) Tannery Path for Gambles neighbourhood – Approved £5,730.50 (Capital – Farnley & Wortley Ward), subject to the paths surface being pushchair friendly.
 - (iv) Youth Bus – Approved £8,000 (Revenue).
 - (v) Funding to Promote and Market Pudsey Town Centre – Approved £5,000 (Revenue).
 - (vi) Refurbishment at Calverley Mechanics Institute – Approved £3,033.60 (Capital – Calverley & Farsley Ward) and £3,045 (Revenue) and that Officers look into the possibility of providing notice boards at these premises.
 - (vii) Late Item - Farsley Designated Public Place Order – Approved £1,800 (Revenue) and £4,809 (Capital).
- (c) That the list of small Grants and Skips made since the last meeting as set out in Paragraph 4.0 of the report, be noted.
- (d) That the budget pressures set out in paragraph 5.0 be noted and agree the capped figure of £2,000 for applications received which are part of the extended schools project.

Note:

- (a) Councillor A Blackburn declared a 'personal and prejudicial' interest in the application for funding Tannery Path for Gambles Neighbourhood, in her capacity as a Director of Groundwork Leeds. The Councillor left the room and took no part in the discussion or vote thereon).
- (b) Councillor J Marjoram left the meeting at the conclusion of the above item.

17 Area Manager's Report

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report informing Members of progress against the Leeds Strategic Plan on a number of projects in the West Inner Leeds area, as determined by the Area Delivery Plan 2009-11, which was, in turn, governed by the Area Committee functions and roles, as agreed by Executive Board in July 2008.

Appended to the report was a copy of a document entitled 'Children Leeds – The Role of the Area Committee Children and Young People's Champion' (Appendix 1 refers) for the information/comment of the meeting.

Sam Woodhead, Area Management Officer presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

In summary, specific reference was made to the following issues:-

- the resounding success of the “Shop Local” campaign undertaken in Pudsey during the Easter weekend.
- that the demolition of the public toilets and replacing with landscaping had still not been completed.
- that the work undertaken on the ginnel adjacent to 52 Town Street had been unsuccessful as the area was covered in weeds and was in need of urgent attention.
- that the retaining stone wall erected as part of the Highways Private Street Works programme on the High Street had now collapsed.

RESOLVED - That the contents of the report and appendices be received and noted.

18 Forward Plan for September 2009

RESOLVED – That, subject to the inclusion of the Annual Report - Parks & Countryside Services, the forward plan of proposed items for the next meeting be received and noted.

19 Dates of Future Meetings of West Outer Area Committee

Friday, 11th September 2009 at Farnley Park Hall.