

NORTH EAST (OUTER) AREA COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 21ST SEPTEMBER, 2009

PRESENT: Councillor G Wilkinson in the Chair

Councillors A Lamb, J Procter, P Harrand,
A Castle and R Procter

19 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed all in attendance to the September meeting of the North East (Outer) Area Committee.

20 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was submitted by Councillor A Shelbrooke.

21 Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest made at this point, however a declaration was made at a later point in the meeting (Minute No. 28 refers).

22 Open Forum

In accordance with paragraphs 6.24 and 6.25 of the Area Committee Procedure Rules, the Chairman allowed a period of up to 10 minutes for members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Area Committee.

A local resident raised concern about the footpath and area of green space next to Moor Allerton Golf Course. It was reported that there was no lighting and shrubs were overgrown and in need of tidying. It was agreed that the matter be pursued through the involvement of local Ward Members.

23 Minutes - 6th July 2009

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 6th July 2009 be confirmed as a correct record.

24 Matters Arising

Minute No. 10 – 'Parks and Countryside Service – Annual Report – NE Outer Area Services'

In relation to the provision of an outdoor bowling green in Alwoodley, it was reported that Fred Duff, Parks and Countryside, had e-mailed Members about follow up action to date.

Minute No. 11 – ‘Community Safety Partnership – Annual Report 2008/09’

It was reported that statistics relating to theft from vehicles and offender management information had been e-mailed to Members for their information.

Inspector Griffiths advised that it was not cost-effective to invest in a third speed gun for the outer north east area.

Minute No. 8 – ‘Appointments to Outside Bodies 2009/10’

Councillor Wilkinson confirmed that he is entitled to serve on the Outer North East Area Panel (Councillor Wilkinson is currently a Director of the ALMO).

Minute No. 8 – ‘Appointments to Outside Bodies 2009/10 – Moor Allerton Elderly Care’

The Chief Democratic Services Officer submitted a report which updated Members on the latest situation regarding the selection of a nominee to serve on the management committee of Moor Allerton Elderly Care.

RESOLVED – That approval be given to the nomination of a Moortown Ward Councillor to serve on the management committee of Moor Allerton Elderly Care for 2009/10.

25 CCTV Annual Report 2008/09 - NE Outer Area

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report which highlighted the services provided by Leeds City Council Community Safety CCTV, particularly in terms of demonstrating the effectiveness of the service in reducing the fear of crime and facilitating the apprehension and detection of offenders in areas covered by CCTV.

Appended to the report was a financial breakdown for the outer north east area and information about the legal implications relating to CCTV surveillance.

The Chair welcomed to the meeting, Derek Whitehouse, CCTV Co-ordinator, to present the report.

In response to a query, Inspector Griffiths advised that there was a bidding process for the deployment of mobile police vans. It was reported that on average, mobile police vans were deployed in the outer north east area 3 days a month.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted, and 6 monthly update reports be submitted to future meetings.

26 Planning Enforcement - NE Outer Area

The Chief Planning Officer submitted a report which presented Members with information about planning enforcement issues in the outer north east area.

Appended to the report was a document provided by Planning Services entitled 'What can I do if planning rules are broken?'

The Chair welcomed to the meeting the following representatives from Planning Services:

- Martin Sellens, Head of Planning Services; and
- Jim Wigginton, Planning Compliance Manager.

Also in attendance was Sarah Hellewell, Outer North East Community Planner.

In brief summary, the main areas of discussion were:

- Concern about limited staff resources and the significant backlog of cases. *It was advised that the issue of staff resources was being discussed at future meetings of the Joint Plans Panel and relevant Scrutiny Board.*
- Development of the Town and Parish Council's Charter and the need for greater engagement with Town and Parish Councils.
- Concern that complex cases were not being adequately dealt with.
- The need to re-allocate staff resources and improving the process for closing cases. *It was advised that the current backlog of legal notices to be served was between 20-25.*
- The need to keep Ward Members informed of planned enforcement action.

RESOLVED – That the report and information appended to the report be noted.

27 Residual Waste Treatment PFI Project - Update

The Head of Waste Management submitted a report which updated Members on the programme of communications activity supporting the Residual Waste Treatment PFI project.

Appended to the report was a document outlining 'Communications about the Residual Waste Treatment Facility – August to December 2009'.

The following representatives from Waste Management, Environmental Services, attended the meeting and responded to Members' questions and comments:

- Tom Smith, Head of Performance Management and Service Improvement; and
- Andrew Lingham, Senior Project Manager (Waste Strategy).

A DVD presentation on 'What Leeds is doing with its waste' was provided.

The key areas of discussion were:

- Concern about the amount of waste imported from outside of the city. *It was advised that there was a 1% limit on imported waste.*
- Exploring opportunities to remove existing incinerators.

RESOLVED – That the report and information appended to the report be noted.

28 Children's Centres - Phase 3 - Wetherby and Boston Spa

The East North East Area Manager submitted a report which updated Members on progress with phase three children's centres for Wetherby and Boston Spa, and sought agreement to the release of £125,000 from the well-being fund towards construction costs for the Boston Spa Children's Centre.

Members expressed concern that they had not been provided with details of the programme costs relating to the proposed development of Boston Spa Children's Centre. It was suggested that the Area Committee deferred making a decision to receive further information.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the update report regarding the proposed development of Children's Centres at Wetherby and Boston Spa be noted; and
- (b) That a decision on the proposed development of Boston Spa Children's Centre be deferred to receive further information.

(Councillor A Lamb declared a personal interest in this item on the basis of being a Governor at Wetherby High School).

29 Wellbeing Fund 2009/10 - Update

The East North East Area Manager submitted a report which updated Members on both the capital and revenue elements of the Committee's Well-being budget, advised the Area Committee of the small grants approved since the last meeting and invited Members to determine the capital and revenue proposals, as detailed within the report.

The main highlighted points were:

- Members sought clarification about the process for employing locally approved contractors to undertake specific works. Area Management agreed to report back on this issue.
- In relation to the well-being funding application for external improvements to Deighton Road Flats, it was requested that a representative of East North East Homes be asked to contact the Wetherby Ward Members to respond to their concerns about funding the scheme.

- One Member queried whether Barwick Miners Institute had previously been allocated well-being funding. Area Management agreed to report back with clarification.
- Members requested a list of well-being schemes and projects that had been undertaken. Area Management agreed to report back.
- In relation to Projects in Development, one Member pointed out that work was already underway to upgrade Spear Fir Ford, Harewood.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the update report be noted, including the current revenue and capital allocations and balances, the Small Grants and Environment Fund Grants made to date and the projects in development;
- (b) That the following decisions be made in respect of those applications before the Committee for determination -

Revenue

- (i) Wetherby Sports Association – U.14 coaching – £3,168 – **Approved** – (Harewood and Wetherby Wards)
- (ii) Deighton Road flats, Wetherby – external improvements – £2,125 – **Deferred** (Wetherby Ward)

Capital

- (i) Wigton Moor United Reform Church – building safety – £3,896 – **Approved** (Alwoodley Ward)
- (ii) Radio JCom community radio station – £8,000 – **Approved** (Alwoodley Ward)
- (iii) Bardsey cum Rigton Parish Council – Bardsey playground – £10,000 – **Deferred** (Harewood Ward)
- (iv) Barwick Miners Institute – disabled toilet – £15,000 – **Deferred** (Harewood Ward).

30 Area Delivery Plan 2008 - 2011 - Update

The East North East Area Manager submitted a report which updated Members on progress with actions in the Outer North East Area Delivery Plan, 2008-11.

Members were informed that the community engagement event planned for Wetherby had been postponed due to staffing difficulties.

RESOLVED – That the report be received be noted.

31 Dates, Times and Venues of Future Meetings

- Monday, 26th October 2009, Civic Hall, Leeds at 5.30 pm
- Monday, 7th December 2009, Civic Hall, Leeds at 5.30 pm
- Monday, 8th February 2010, Civic Hall, Leeds at 5.30 pm

- Monday, 22nd March 2010, Treetops Community Centre, Alwoodley at 6.00 pm

(The meeting concluded at 7.50 pm.)