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## Report of the Director of Neighbourhoods & Housing

### Outer South Leeds Area Committee

Date: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2007

Subject: Area Managers Report

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#### Electoral Wards Affected:

Ardsley & Robin Hood  
Morley North  
Morley South  
Rothwell

#### Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities   
Women   
Disabled people   
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

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## Executive Summary

This report details a range of activities taking place within the Outer South Leeds Area, providing information to the committee to enable further information to be sought if required.

### 1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To bring to Members' attention in a succinct fashion, brief details of the range of activities with which the Area Management Team are engaged, and that are not addressed in greater detail elsewhere on this agenda. It provides opportunities for further questioning or the opportunity to request a more detailed report on a particular issue.

### 2.0 Town Centre Management

2.1 At its meeting in September the Area Committee agreed to establish a Town Centre Management Board (TCMB) to oversee this project. The Area Committee agreed the composition of the body which included Councillor's Judith Elliott and Stewart Golton as representatives of the Area Committee. The Board has regrettably had to accept the resignation due to ill health of Keith Robinson (Morley Chamber of Trade) as its Chair. In the absence of a nomination from a retail representative Councillor Stewart Golton was elected as Chair. The Board considered draft terms of reference, but following guidance received from the Governance Services Unit the following draft (**Appendix 1**) is presented for approval.

- 2.2.1 As any sub group of the Area Committee is only permitted to act in an advisory or consultative manner, Members are also asked to delegate £43,503 for 2006/07 from the Area Committee's Well-being budget to the Area Manager, as the Area Committee's designated officer, in order to facilitate the operation of the Town Centre Management Scheme. In addition, Members are asked to give the Area Manager the authority to spend the delegated budget on behalf of the Area Committee, following appropriate consultation with the Town Centre Management Board.

Members are also asked to agree that this delegation to the Area Manager be limited to £1,000 for any one single item of expenditure without referral back to the Area Committee. If the Area Manager has any reservations regarding proposals being put forward by the TCMB, then he will refer these matters to the Area Committee for determination.

## **2.2.2 Legal and Resource Implications**

The Council's constitution permits an Area Committee to establish area or issue based forums, such as the Morley and Rothwell Town Centre Management Board, to act in an advisory or consultative capacity only.

Specifically, paragraph 7.3 of the Area Committee Procedure Rules, which forms part of the Council's constitution, states that the Area Committee shall determine the terms of reference for any forum established and how the membership of it will be decided.

Members are now invited to approve the terms of reference and the membership of the sub group, as detailed within the terms of reference, and as set out in this report.

With regard to resource implications, Members are being asked to delegate £43,503 for 2006/07 from the Area Committee's Wellbeing budget to the Area Manager and approve the arrangements detailed within paragraphs 2.2.1

- 2.3 The Morley Summit took place on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January at Morley Rugby Club. Over a hundred people attended the evening. Keynote addresses were given by Prof Rachael Unsworth Leeds University and Judith Fozzard Action for Market Towns. A panel chaired by Dave Richmond and comprising the two speakers and Councillor Robert Finnigan, Colin Challen MP and Richard Templeman (Morley Chamber of Trade) took questions from the floor. A summary report of the evening will be prepared and circulated.
- 2.4 The Rothwell Summit will take place on Friday March 16<sup>th</sup> at the Parish Meeting Room, Rothwell. The format will be as used for the Morley Summit with a similar panel of speakers, final details to be confirmed.
- 2.5 Work continues to progress to identify suitable accessible office space in both Morley and Rothwell, I remain upbeat that partner agencies may be able to assist with this issue.

## **3.0 John O'Gaunts Youth Shelter**

The Area Committee at its July 2006 meeting agreed an additional capital amount for this equipment. Installation is expected before the end of the month.

#### **4.0 South Leeds District Partnership**

The South Leeds District Partnership has held a review away day in December 2006, the outcomes of which were presented at the Board meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2007. The review and discussion at the Board resulted in a revised structure and membership which streamlined the Partnership. It was agreed to retain an Area Committee representative (via the chair) from both Inner and Outer South and a representative (through Area Management) to cover regeneration.

Other membership of the Board will comprise of representatives from the sub-partnerships which are: Children Leeds, Health and Well Being, Employment/Education and Training Group; Participation and Engagement (via the Voluntary and Community Sector 'Super Forum'), District Housing Partnership; Community Safety Partnership. It has also been agreed to establish a cultural and cohesion partnership which will be developed by Leeds Voice  
The Board also received a discussion paper on Fuel Poverty for sub-partnerships to support and take action as appropriate.

#### **5.0 Morley Literature Festival**

5.1 The newly constituted organising committee met for the first time on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February. A draft brief for the appointment of a Festival Director has been compiled for circulation to all arts networks.

#### **6.0 Community Centres**

6.1 The Outer South Community Centres Sub Committee met on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January and the minutes are attached at (**Appendix 2**) for approval.

#### **7.0 Town & District Centres Regeneration**

##### **7.1 Morley Bottoms**

7.1.1 The following details provided the basis of a recent update to Morley Members, including representatives of the Town Council. Work continues to progress well on what is a very complex project. However, due to the commercially sensitive nature of some of the issues it would not be appropriate to discuss in this report as it is considered that disclosure at this moment in time would prejudice the outcome of negotiations. Once matters have progressed further full details will be placed before the Area Committee.

7.1.2 The first part of the traffic survey was completed in January 2007. A further stage of the survey is now to be funded in order to provide the estimated cost of the scheme.

7.1.3 Detailed design of the proposed lay by and public realm works is nearing completion. Legal Services are progressing action to terminate the advertising hoarding use of the lay by site. Legal Services have been advised to treat this as a priority. It is anticipated that a decision will be made by June 2007 and the hoardings removed by July 2007. A Road Traffic Order has been submitted to enable short stay car parking in the lay-by and this should be confirmed in June/July 2007. Further funding is required for the processing of the Road Traffic Order and this has been agreed with the Town & Districts Program Board

- 7.1.4 Section 215 Planning Enforcement Notices have been served on the three identified properties on Brunswick Street. Action against the owners of these properties is progressing. Elsewhere, on this agenda additional monies are sought to fund the work of a building surveyor. The surveyor is required in order to provide a detailed and fully costed schedule of works, which is attached to each of the Notices. In addition to being a statutory requirement of the Notice, once the schedules have been completed officers will also be able to assess whether it will be practical and cost effective for the Council to undertake the repair works and place a charge on the freehold title of any refurbished properties. This would mean the Council would recover the monies when the property was sold.
- 7.1.5 Officers are preparing a report on the status of the project for the Town & Districts Program Board. The Board will consider the merits of the project at the end of February. It is hoped that Board will continue to support the project and the monies originally identified to assist with the delivery of the project will be safeguarded for the Morley Bottoms area.

## **7.2 Marsh Street Rothwell**

Following final consultation in autumn 2006 on design proposals, suggestions from this were integrated where possible and all design and construction details were finalised and completed in January. Planning permission has been given and a contractor identified (it will be a company called 'Colass').

An onsite start date was provisionally (weather pending) arranged for 19<sup>th</sup> February and if all goes to plan, the work should be complete in 7 months time approx end August. In construction like this there will be some disruption to normal service however this will be kept to a minimum. Throughout the construction period the car park will remain open except for those sections where improvement work is being done (predominantly the whole area between One Stop Centre/library and the recycling place).

The scheme will continue to be project managed by Mouchel Parkman, one of LCCs contracted professional engineering consultancy services. A name and number of a contact for members of the public will be provided for any queries. The construction firm should also be putting up information on site and Mouchel Parkman will be putting out information to surrounding premises as well as the library. Members of the Rothwell Town Centre Partnership and Inter-Agency Group will also be informed.

## **8.0 Oakwell's & Fairfaxe's Neighbourhood Improvement Plan**

- 8.1 At the last meeting Members agreed to commission a feasibility study to site a community facility on the Oakwell's & Fairfaxe's Estate. It is expected that this report will be completed in early March.

## **9.0 Operation CAVA**

A CAVA operation was recently run on John O'Gaunts (16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> January) a full report on the outcomes will be distributed to Ward Members.

## **10.0 Recommendations**

10.1 The Area Committee is asked to note this information.

10.2 The Area Committee is asked to agree the Terms of Reference for the TCMB.

10.3 The Area Committee is asked to agree the financial arrangements as detailed in 2.2