

NORTH WEST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 22ND SEPTEMBER, 2011

PRESENT: Councillor J Akhtar in the Chair

Councillors B Atha, J Chapman,
B Chastney, M Hamilton, J Illingworth,
J Matthews, L Yeadon and N Walshaw

OFFICERS: Jane Maxwell, West North West Area Leader
Stuart Byrne, West North West Area Management
Zahid Butt, West North West Area Management
Jason Singh, West North West Environmental Locality
Manager
Lynne Hamshaw, West North West Homes Leeds
Ryan Platten, City Development
Keith Mack, Environment and Neighbourhoods
John Grieve, Resources Department

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Dr Richard Tyler, Leeds HMO Lobby
Amanda Jackson, University of Leeds
Jo Johnson, Leeds Metropolitan Students Union
Ben Fisher, Leeds University Union
Bryony Lawless, Leeds University
Marian Charlton, Cardigan Centre
Ms N Ford, Broomfield resident
Joan Brown, Cardigan Triangle Community Association
Sergeant Dan Wood, West Yorkshire Police
Ken Waterworth, Vesper Road resident
Shelia Waterworth, Vesper Road resident
Sue Buckle, South Headingley Community Association
Josie Green, NHPNA
Tony Green, NHPNA

17 Late Items

In accordance with his powers under Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair agreed to accept supplementary information in respect of agenda item No. 10 Delegation of Environmental Services – Service Level Agreement, which was not available at the time of agenda despatch. (Minute No. 26 refers)

18 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Chastney declared an interest in Agenda Item No. 11, West North West Homes Leeds – Involvement in Area Committees, as a Director of West North Homes. (Minute No. 27 refers)

19 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor S Bentley and G Harper.

20 Open Forum

In accordance with paragraph 6.24 and 6.25 of the Area Committee Procedure rules, the Chair 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:

- (i) **Co-operative Store – Cardigan Road** – Joan Brown, Cardigan Triangle Community Association spoke about the anti-social issues that had arisen in the area following the granting of a 24 hour alcohol licence. Sergeant Dan Brown confirmed that there was increased activity in the area when young people leaving nightclubs in the early hours would frequent the store.

It was the general opinion of Members that the granting of 24 hour alcohol licences in residential areas was not welcome.

RESOLVED – That the Chair of the Area Committee be requested to write to the Licensing Authority highlighting the adverse affects on residential amenity as a consequence of granting 24 hour alcohol licences in residential areas.

- (ii) **Houses in Multiple Occupation – Planning Workshop (Item No. 13 refers)** – Dr Richard Tyler , Leeds HMO Lobby – In passing comment on this item. Dr Tyler said that such a policy was long overdue. In the past many people had suffered a lot of grief through a lack of control and it was hoped the proposed policy would address this.
- (iii) **Litter on streets** - Ms N. Ford, Broomfield Road resident – Spoke about the large amount of litter in the Broomfield, Newport and Brudenell areas which was a potential health hazard. Many of the properties in the area were family dwellings but this did not appear to be understood by the large student population. Could students be made more aware that families were also living in this area and could the City Council ensure that adequate resources were assigned to the area to address the litter problem. It was reported that visitors to the area often commented upon the poor tidiness of the streets.

Sue Buckle, Ashford Grove resident and Councillor Illingworth echoed Ms Ford's comments. Another resident suggested that refuse from hot food takeaways also played a substantial part in the untidiness of the area.

In responding Jason Singh, Environmental Locality Manager for North West Inner Area said that litter and street cleansing was a major problem in the area. There were a lot more resources allocated to this part of the city because of the large amount of student housing, but, it was not just a case of keeping the streets clean but changing peoples behaviour.

Councillors Hamilton and Matthews suggested more frequent bin collections, given the concerns raised, there was clearly something not working.

Officers pointed out that litter bin collection was a central service and not a delegated function

Councillor Atha suggested prosecuting landlords for public nuisance offences, this may result in the landlords taking greater responsibilities for their tenants.

It was suggested that the Chair write to the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods requesting that more frequent refuse collections take place in the North West (Inner) Area to address the concerns raised by local residents and local Ward Members.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the Chair write to the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods requesting that more frequent refuse collections take place in the North West (Inner) Area to address the concerns raised by local residents and local Ward Members
- (ii) That the issue of prosecuting landlords for public nuisance offences be investigated further by officers

21 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Councillor Hamilton requested a minor correction to Minute No.4 (City of Leeds Girls High School) and also to Minute No. 6(a) deleting the reference to Headingley Primary School and replacing it with Headingley Community Centre

RESOLVED – That with the inclusion of the minor amendments, the minutes of the previous meeting held on 14th July 2011 be accepted as a true and correct record.

22 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- (a) Headingley South Stand Development (Minute No. 4(e) refers) – Councillor Walshaw sought clarification as to whether an upgrade of the sound system would be included as part of the development proposal?. Officers to clarify the position at the next meeting.
- (b) Kirkstall District Centre (Minute No. 6 (c) refers) – It was reported that a date had been fixed to brief Members on the current status of the Kirkstall District Centre Development.
- (c) Local Authority Appointments to Outside Bodies (Minute No.8 refers) - Following the resignation of Councillor P Ewens from the Burley Lodge Centre Management Committee there was now a need for the Area Committee to fill this vacancy.

RESOLVED – That Councillor G Harper be appointed to the Burley Lodge Centre Management Committee for a one year period commencing from 22nd September 2011.

- (d) Area Committee Roles for 2011/12 – (Minute No.9 refers) - It was reported that the appointment of a Corporate Parent, representing the Area Committee was still outstanding.

RESOLVED – That Councillor S Bentley be appointed as the Area Committees Corporate Parent representative for a one year period commencing from 22nd September 2011.

- (e) Backcliffe Wood House (Minute 4 (b) refers) – Officers was reported that there was a restriction on the property prohibiting the house being let to students. It was further reported that the owner had requested that the restriction be lifted or partially lifted to allow students to live at the property.

RESOLVED - It was the view of the Area Committee that student housing at this property would not be supported.

23 Area Chairs - Forum Minutes

The Assistant Chief Executive (Planning, Policy and Improvement) submitted a report on a requirement to submit copies of the Area Chairs Forum Minutes to Area Committee meetings.

A copy of the Area Chairs Forum minutes of a meeting held on 17th June 2011 were appended to the report for the information and comment.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That the minutes of the Area Chairs Forum meeting held on 17th June 2011 be received and noted.

24 Delegation of Environmental Services - Service Level Agreement

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report which provided details of a Service Level Agreement (SLA) drawn up for the delivery of environmental services in the North West Inner Area. The report sought Members approval to sign off the Service Level Agreement.

Appended to the report was a copy of the Draft budget for 2011/12 together with a copy of the Service Level Agreement for the Delegation of Environmental Services.

In addition to the above appendix, a copy of the 14 week mechanical sweeping schedule, the litter bins – allocation of budget and mechanical route coverage had been circulated as supplementary information.

Jason Singh, Environmental Locality Manager for North West Inner Area presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

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

- To ensure resources were flexible enough to cope with the demands of a large student population
- The downtime of mechanical vehicles
- To explore the possibility of the outright purchase of cleansing vehicles as opposed to lease hire
- To explore further opportunities for partnership arrangements
- To consider the wider use of fixed penalty notices
- Budget to be flexible across the three Area Committees

RESOLVED – That the Service Level Agreement for the delivery of delegated environmental services be approved.

25 West North West Homes Leeds - Involvement in Area Committees

West North West Homes Leeds submitted a report which outlined the purpose of West North West Homes involvement with the Area Committee and suggested ways of making their involvement as productive and meaningful as possible.

The report also provided information on progress of current partnership work relevant to Area Committee work.

Lynne Hamshaw, Neighbourhood Performance Manager presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

In the discussion that ensued Members made specific reference to the following issues:

- Co-ordination of service
- Develop consistent approach with Area Strategies
- Looking at the places where we live, learn and work
- Clear Links – Resources joined up to deliver an improved service
- Local lettings
- Maintenance contractors

RESOLVED –

- a) That the contents of the report be noted
- b) That further update reports be provided on a six monthly basis commencing March 2012
- c) That a representative from the Housing Maintenance Contractor (Morrison's) for West North West Homes be invited to attend the a future meeting of the Area Committee

26 Leeds Anti Social Behaviour Team

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report which provided details of the changes to the Anti Social Behaviour Service, the new process for dealing with anti social behaviour in Leeds and details about the three new area based multi agency teams.

Keith Mack, Performance and Information Manager presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

In the discussion that ensued Members made specific reference to the following issues:

- Improving information sharing between partners
- Improving communication
- Making the best use of resources
- Understanding the causes of anti-social behaviour

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted

27 Houses in Multiple Occupation - Planning Workshop

The Director of City Development submitted a report setting out details of three Planning Workshops which would assist in the establishment of a Policy to control changes of ordinary dwellings to houses in multiple occupation (HOMs)

Ryan Platten, Community Planner, Inner North West Area presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

In the discussion that ensued Members made specific reference to the following issues:

- Welcome and support the proposed Policy
- The role and assistance of Landlords in establishing such a Policy
- The involvement of the Universities and other Further Education Colleges

RESOLVED –

- a) That the contents of the report be noted
- b) That Councillors: N Walshaw be nominated as the Ward representative for Headingley to attend the relevant workshop, other Ward Members to be identified at a later date.

28 The Major Benefits and Added Value of Capital Well Being Funding in West North West Leeds

The West North West Area Leader submitted a report responding to a request at a recent Area Leader's meeting to explore the added value of Wellbeing Funding for Capital Projects. The report described how the Capital Wellbeing Budget in the West North West Area had been spent, for what purpose and the benefits gained from it's expenditure.

Appended to the report was the Capital Wellbeing Review (Appendix 1 refers)

Jane Maxwell presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report and appendices.

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

- Develop community capacity
- Address community safety issues
- Enhance Town and District centres
- Improve the environment, green space and parks
- Enhance community assets
- Deliver highway repairs and improvements and parking schemes and encourage sustainable transport schemes

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted

29 Area Committee Wellbeing Funding

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report which provided an update of the current budget position of the Wellbeing Fund, set out details of recent monitoring claims for Area funded projects, provided advice on new requests for Area Committee Wellbeing Capital Funding, put forward proposals to change the small grant budget allocation process and sought consideration of new small grant applications.

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

- Wellbeing Budget Statement (Appendix 1 refers)
- Project Monitoring Summaries (Appendix 2 refers)
- Bedford fields Community Woodland Garden Summary (Appendix 3 refers)
- Small Grant Applications (Appendix 4 refers)

Stuart Byrne North West Inner Area Management presented the report and responded to Members' comments and queries.

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

- An update on the Bedford Fields Community Woodland Garden
- Small Grant Applications and a proposal to change the allocation process
- A summary of the New Small Grant requests

RESOLVED-

- a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- b) To note the Wellbeing monitoring returns for quarter one 2011/12.
- c) That the request for capital funding for the Hyde Park and Woodhouse ward (Bedford Fields Community Woodland Garden project) be approved in principle, Ward Members to determine the final amount offered
- d) That the method of distributing the small grant by ward be undertaken on a first come first serve basis
- e) That the following New Small Grant Requests be dealt with as follows:

	<u>Project</u>	<u>Decision</u>
(i)	Leeds Gathering –	Application Not Granted
(ii)	Healthy Living –	Approved £365
(iii)	Open XS Lantern Festival –	Approved £365
(iv)	Ways of Sitting –	Application Not Granted
(v)	Headingley Litfest 2012 –	Approved £365
(vi)	Burley Binyards Gardens Maintenance Project –	Approved £365
(vii)	The Hooter –	Approved - £365
(f)	That in respect of (e) above, the applicants to confirm viability of the project in light of the amount offered	

30 Date and Time of Next Meeting

RESOLVED – To note that the next meeting will take place on Thursday 27th October 2011 at 7.00pm at Kirkstall St Stephen’s Church Hall, Leeds