

NORTH WEST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 13TH DECEMBER, 2012

PRESENT: Councillor J Akhtar in the Chair

Councillors M Hamilton, J Walker,
N Walshaw, G Harper, B Atha,
J Illingworth, L Yeadon, J Bentley,
S Bentley and J Chapman

Officers:

Stuart Byrne - West North West Area Support
Anne Chamber -Head of Corporate Property Management
Neil Charlesworth - Community Asset Officer
Jason Singh - Locality Manager (West North West)
Juliet Duke - West North West Homes
John Grieve – Governance Services

Members of the Public

Sue Buckle – SHCA
Amanda Jackson – University of Leeds
Rose Black – Leeds University Union
Ben Fisher – Leeds University Union
Stuart Long – Leeds University Union
Howard Eaglestone – Local Resident
Bill McKinnon – Friends of Woodhouse Moor
Isobel Sidebottom – NHPMA
Tony Green – NHPNA
Ken Torode – WPRA
Doug Kemp – WPRA
Janet Kemp – WPRA
Victoria Jaquiss – West Park Centre Refugees
Douglas Gilliam – West Park Centre Refugees
John McKenzie – Cardigan Centre

42 Late Items

There were no late items.

43 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

44 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Towler.

45 Open Forum

- (i) Temporary Event Notices – Tony Green, Chair of the North Hyde Park Neighbourhood Association spoke of the issuing of a Temporary Event Notice for an outdoor event at Hillyridge House, Grosvenor Road, Leeds 6. The event took place on 6th & 7th December 2012 operating from 10.00pm til 4.00am with around 500 people attending the amplified music event.

Many local residents were denied sleep as a consequence of the noise and nuisance. Following the event local people were critical of West Yorkshire Police and the Licensing Authority for granting the event in the first place.

Mr Green said the NHPNA intend to take the matter up with the newly elected Police and Crimes Commissioner but in the meantime better communication between the Police, Licensing Authority, Local Elected Members and local residents would be welcomed. It would also be useful if the Noise Nuisance Service could receive intervention training.

It was reported that Councillor Walker was in discussion with Councillor Gruen, the Executive Board Members responsible (Safer and Stronger Communities) and she was also seeking a multi – agency meeting to discuss the issue of Temporary Event Notices.

Councillor Walshaw suggested that when a TEN was granted, neighbouring properties should be notified similar to planning applications, thus allowing local people the opportunity to comment on the notice.

Councillor Hamilton proposed that the issuing of Temporary Event Notices be referred to Scrutiny with a view to further investigation of the Licensing Policy.

RESOLVED –

- (a) To support Councillor Walker in drawing the concerns of the local community on Temporary Event Notices to the attention of the Executive Board Member responsible.
- (b) That the issuing of Temporary Event Notices be referred to Scrutiny with a view to further investigation of the Licensing Policy.
- (c) That the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development be made aware of the request for scrutiny

- (ii) Remobilisation of the New Generation Transport (NGT) Scheme – Bill McKinnon, Friends of Woodhouse Moor, spoke of a recent meeting with officers from City Development who had suggested that there now was an option whereby the proposed trolley-bus route would no longer run across Woodhouse Moor.

Mr McKinnon said this was a significant improvement and one which should be supported.

The Chair and Councillor Harper said they were aware that a public meeting was taking place with officers from City Development early in the New Year to provide the latest update on route proposals.

RESOLVED - The Area Committee was of the view that the proposed trolley bus route should not run across Woodhouse Moor.

46 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous meetings held on 25th October and 14th November 2012, be accepted as a true and correct record.

47 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Members considered a report by the West North West Area Support Team which identified a number of issues which required further action following the last meeting of the Area Committee.

RESOLVED – To note the progress and outcomes of the issues identified in the submitted report.

48 Area Chairs Forum

The minutes of the Area Chair's Forum held on 11th September 2012 were received and noted.

49 West Park Centre - Update Report

The Director of City Development and the Director of Children's Services submitted a report which provided an update on the temporary closure of the West Park Centre, following health and safety concerns.

The report outlined the actions taken to ensure that user of the facility were supported in identifying alternative temporary accommodation and set out the way forward in terms of the centre's future.

Anne Chambers, Head of Corporate Property Management and Neil Charlesworth, Community Asset Officer, presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report which included the following:

- Members disappointment at the lack of detail in the submitted report
- Concerns at the manner in which the building was closed
- Existing user groups had obtained “temporary” alternative accommodation, making it difficult to plan when unsure of future arrangements.
- Financial burden to existing users due to temporary accommodation issues
- The security and winter protection of the building
- Lack of clarity around projected cost to bring building back into use, understand electrical costs to be in region of £150,000 - £170,000, but £931,000 was the estimated costs for urgent works.
- Clarification around the transfer of the building to Asset Management
- Explore other opportunities for the Centre: Creation of a Development Trust/ voluntary sector asset transfer/ Management by external partners
- Grant funding available for community facilities but only open to Voluntary Community Faith Sector Groups
- Use of Section 106 Contributions from local developments
- Defer funding from other projects in the City (Dortmund Square refurbishment) to fund the necessary works to get the Centre up and running
- The wish of the Area Committee that the facility be retained and brought back into use as quickly as possible, to delay may affect the Centre’s future viability
- Concerns around the consultation process about the future of the centre
- To request that the crucial decisions required, be made by the Executive Board at its meeting in February 2013

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted
- (ii) To note the intention of the Acting Chief Asset Management Officer to prepare and submit a report on the future of the Centre, to the Executive Board in February 2013
- (iii) That the North West (Inner) Area Committee remain of the view that the West Park Centre is a valuable community asset and should continue to operate as an educational, cultural and community facility

- (iv) That the manner in which the West Park Centre was closed and the decision making process around the future of the centre be referred to Scrutiny for further investigation
- (v) That the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development be made aware of the request for scrutiny

50 Environmental Services - Six Month Performance Update on the Service Level Agreement

The Locality Manager (West North West) submitted a report which provided an update on performance against the Services Level Agreement between Inner North West Area Committee and the West North West Environmental Locality Team.

The report covered the six month period from June to November 2012 and provided details on a range of functions being delivered across the area during this period against the priorities and commitments set out in the SLA.

The following appendices accompanied the report:

- Appendix A – Service Level Agreement update – Inner North West Leeds
- Appendix B – Service Requests (11th June to 16th November 2012)

Jason Singh Locality Manager (West North West) presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report and appendices including:

- A complement from Councillor Walshaw suggesting that there was a marked improvement in terms of less litter on the streets
- Could gully cleaning be concentrated in the “known low lying areas”
- The removal of high level graffiti
- The cleaning of moss from pavements in the West Park area
- Increased enforcement of nuisance vehicles/ mobile advertising
- Increased enforcement of “fly parking” on cycle lanes and street corners
- The problem of household refuse bins on streets particularly in the student areas

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) To note there had been a marked improvement in respect of less litter on the streets.

- (iii) That gully cleaning be concentrated in the “known low lying areas”, resources be put into high level graffiti removal and the cleaning of moss from pavements in the West Park area.
- (iv) In planning for 2013/14 could further consideration be given to enforcement action in particular: mobile advertising vehicles, parking on cycle lanes and other inappropriate locations “fly parking”. Working in partnership with the Universities to highlight the problem of household refuse bins on streets.

51 Wellbeing Fund 2012 - 13 Update Report

The Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access & Performance) submitted a report which provided an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund for 2012/13, including the budget monitoring information for Quarter 2.

The report also sought approval for the allocation of the remaining balance within the Hyde Park & Woodhouse Capital Pot.

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

- Appendix 1 2012-13 Wellbeing Budget Statement
- Wellbeing Monitoring: Quarter 2 (2012 - 13)

Stuart Byrne, West North West Area Support Team, presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report and appendices which included:

- A need to further understand the work of the Youth Service
- To note that Hyde Park Unity Day project benefited the Hyde Park and Woodhouse ward not Weetwood ward as indicated in the submitted report

RESOLVED –

- (i) To note the current budget position for the Wellbeing Fund for 2012/13.
- (ii) To note the contents of the Quarter 2 Monitoring Returns.
- (iii) To approve the allocation of the £652.28 remaining balance of the Hyde Park & Woodhouse Capital Pot to fund the capital element of providing festive lights in Little London.

- (iv) That a representative from the Youth Service be invited to a future meeting to provide further details of the service they provide.

52 Area Update Report

The Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access & Performance) submitted a report which provided an update on recent Sub Group business and the current position relating to other project activity including developing the Leeds Citizen's Panel.

The report also informed the Area Committee about the newly established High Rise Management Team.

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

- Appendix 1 – Extending permitted development rights for homeowners and businesses: Technical consultation – Response Form (Department of Communities and Local Government)
- Appendix 2 – Leeds Citizens Panel – Membership Summary

Stuart Byrne, West North West Area Support Team, presented the report and responded to Members queries and comments.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report and appendices including:

- The issues discussed at the Planning Sub Group
- To clarify that the Transport Sub Group had met on a number of occasions but had not been official supported by officers

RESOLVED –

- (i) To note and action as appropriate, the Key Messages arising from the Sub Groups as detailed in section 3 of the submitted report
- (ii) To note the update in respect of the Leeds Citizens Panel Membership
- (iii) To note and welcome the establishment of the High Rise management Team by West North West homes

53 Date and Time of Next Meeting

RESOLVED – To note that the next meeting will take place on Thursday, 21st February 2013 at 7.00pm in St Chad's Parish Centre, St Chad's Vicarage, Otley Road, Leeds, LS16 5JT