

INNER NORTH EAST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 4TH MARCH, 2019

PRESENT: Councillor E Taylor in the Chair

Councillors J Dowson, J Goddard,
S Hamilton, M Rafique, M Shazad and
A Wenham

43 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals.

44 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There were no exempt items.

45 Late Items

There were no formal late items.

46 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

47 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Tunnicliffe and Charlwood.

48 Open Forum

In accordance with the Community Committee Procedure Rules, the Chair allowed a period of up to 10 minutes for members of the public to make representations or ask questions within the terms of reference of the Community Committee.

No matters were raised on this occasion.

49 Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 4rd December 2018, be agreed as an accurate record.

50 Connecting Leeds - Next Phase of Public Engagement - A61

Tom Harker WSP Ltd Consultant, was in attendance at the meeting and provided Members with a PowerPoint presentation. The key points highlighted throughout were as follows:

- The feedback received back from residents identified that local people want a service of which is reliable, accessible to the City Centre, encourages less traffic, provides more park & ride spots, and provides additional priority busses;
- There are currently 250,000 bus trips in Leeds and in the last five years, City congestion has risen by 14%;
- The programme has been successful in securing £500 million investment;
- The vision for Leeds' major transport schemes over the next 10 years.
- As part of the first phase of improvements to the bus network, five routes have been identified – Bradford-Leeds, Adel-Leeds, Alwoodley-Leeds, Oakwood & Roundhay-Leeds, Wakefield & Hunslet – Leeds;
- The 3 Bus-based Park & Ride sites;
- 4 City Centre Gateways;
- Members were informed of local proposals going through consultation, including:
 - Signal controlled crossroads with bus and cycle lanes
 - New Northbound and Southbound bus lanes
 - A new Circular Park and Ride scheme near Alwoodley Gates roundabout – in an attempt to alleviate traffic on the junction;
- The bus lane at Moortown had been approved by Executive Board;
- The consultation period to comment on the proposals is open until Friday 15th March and this can be done via paper, online and an event being held at the Treetops Community Centre on 6th March;
- The next steps in terms of route proposals and Park and Ride.

(Cllr J Goddard arrived at 18:50 during discussion of this item)

In response to questions, the following was discussed:

- Concerns were raised that a build-up of congestion would occur in residential roads/side roads as the proposals stand; Members were informed that the locations being put forward are for suggestions, and the consultation period allows people to review and identify areas of a particular issue.
- Clarity was sought on that where there is a particularly high footfall, the widening of footways will be looked at, ensuring there is provision to upgrade existing pedestrian crossing and providing cycle tracks & cycle lanes where needed.
- Members heard that although the proposals won't diminish congestion completely, the overall objective is to ensure that busses, bicycles and pedestrians can get in and out of the City Centre in a more efficient way.

RESOLVED – To note the contents of the report, the PowerPoint presentation and the comments made by Members during the discussions.

51 LASBT Review Update

Neil Bowden, Anti-Social Behaviour Team Manager, was in attendance at the meeting and presented the report on Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT) review.

Members were informed of the following points:

- LASBT is now a multi-agency team which includes Police, Fire and Rescue services, Housing Leeds, Belle Isle Tenants Management Organisation Youth Offending and Victim Support;
- Three locally based teams covering South and City Centre, East North East and West North West deliver a specialist ASB service;
- Service standards have been made uniform to ensure consistency of delivery across all teams;
- 60% of issues are noise related and the domestic noise and out of hours noise nuisance teams have now joined LASBT and are currently located within the LeedsWatch Service;
- The complex issues of ASB need to be undertaken by more than one agency and it was acknowledged that a partnership approach was required to address the causes of ASB;
- A triage system is proposed to assess the severity of incoming cases to assist in the decision making and that this is best done at the first point of contact;
- Staff training will ensure that officers are confident using all the tools available to them, empower them to provide robust advice, deliver successful early intervention;
- A report is due to go to Executive Board in June 2019 for consideration of the final scheme.

In response to questions, the following was discussed:

- The measurements in place to tackle noise nuisance during the night, and early hours of the morning. Members heard that there is flexibility in regard to day time staff and have identified a gap for the allocation of evening staff but were informed that funding resources is separate on-going work.
- Member's heard that residents dealing with issues from their neighbour, are sent out an information pack, providing advice on how to self-deal with perpetrators, but the need for the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Team to intervene and take action is still acknowledged.
- In terms of the triage referral system, Members received detail on the process the contact centre carries out and that cases identified as needing to be progress further, are transferred over to the ASB Team from Housing.

- Members' referred to Figure 1 of the report, setting out the current ASB structure and were informed of the temporary staffing arrangements in place.

RESOLVED - To note the contents of the report.

52 Meanwood Valley

The Meanwood Valley Heritage Ranger, Communities & Environment was in attendance and provided Members with a presentation on the progress of the Wilderness on Your Doorstep project.

Key points were highlighted as being:

- Meanwood valley runs from urban Leeds to the rural countryside of the north of the city.
- The Meanwood Valley Partnership were awarded with £65,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund, for a joint project which covers all of the Meanwood Valley;
- The project provides opportunities for younger and older people, to enable them to discover and care for wildlife in their locality;
- The project provided the use of innovative methods of interpretation, mobile apps, web content, KS1 and KS2 education sessions and Bioblitzes – helping volunteers to build relevant skills towards gaining employment and relevant educational purposes;
- The public nature events for bat walks had proven to be extremely popular, particularly in Sugarwell Hill and this site had been identified as having 7 species of bats;
- Volunteers are encouraged to attend the training sessions for the Bioblitzes to gain a better understanding of habitats in the wildlife;
- The programme currently have 15 Meanwood Valley Rangers and there are further opportunities for volunteers to join the programme and learn ranger skills;
- It was reported that almost 600 people had attended outreach activities and volunteers are expected to rise in numbers over spring and summer 2019.

Members commented on the Rangers enthusiasm throughout the presentation and thanked the good work the project provided for the local community.

RESOLVED – To note the contents of the report.

53 Finance Report

The report of the Area Leader provided Members of the Inner North East Community Committee with details of its Wellbeing Budget along with the Youth Activity fund for 2018/19 and details of projects approved since the previous meeting under delegated authority of the Director of Communities and Environment.

The following was appended to the report – INE Wellbeing Report 2018/19 (breakdown of approved projects)

Preet Matharu, Localities Officer, presented the report. Members were informed that the 2019/20 budget allocation would be provided in due course, and in light of this Members were asked to consider the following:

- Ward Budgets - £10,000
- Provision of Community Skips - £600 per Ward
- Community Engagement Activities - £1,000

Members heard that two projects have been funded since the meeting in December.

RESOLVED –

- To note the current balances for 2018/19 and the spend to date against these budgets as set out in Appendix 1.
- To note the delegated decisions made since the last meeting of the Inner North East Community Committee as outlined at paragraph 22.

54 Community Committee Update Report

The Area Leader submitted a report which provided a summary of the work programme of the Inner North East Community Committee including the Committee's sub groups and events held in the locality since the last meeting.

Preet Matharu, Localities Officer, introduced the report. Highlighting the success of the activities and events in the locality. Members were advised the INE Finance Sub Group had met and Youth Activity Funding (YAF) applications had been extended.

Neil Pentelow, Senior Localities Officer, was in attendance and highlighted key points in terms of Neighbourhood Improvement, which included:

- Provisional dates for Action Days have been added for April and May;
- Members noted the planning of Leeds Black Music Festival and Leeds West Indian Carnival;
- The Prince Philip Centre User Group is up and running;
- The Mandela Centre User Group met in February.

Member's attention was drawn to paragraphs 17-21 of the submitted report which provided information in relation to the NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group. Members were also referred to Appendix 1 which provided an update on Health and Wellbeing.

Members acknowledged the social media growth to promote work and events within the Inner North East Communities Team. It was noted that their Facebook page currently receives a following of 720 people.

RESOLVED – To note the contents of the report.

55 Community Comment

The Chair noted the opportunity for members of the public to give feedback and/or queries on the reports presented during the formal part of the Community Committee meeting, the intention being that the written response would be provided within 14 days.

There were no comments raised.

56 Dates, Times & Venues of Inner North East Meetings 2019/20

The Committee considered the report of the City Solicitor setting out a proposed schedule of meetings for the forthcoming 2019/20 Municipal Year for Members' consideration:

- 1st July 2019 at 7pm
- 2nd September 2019 at 7pm
- 2nd December 2019 at 7pm
- 2nd March 2020 at 7pm

The proposed dates reflected the current pattern of meetings, however Members were mindful of public attendance and discussed the addition of workshop sessions and altered start times.

RESOLVED – To agree the Committee's meeting schedule for the 2019/20 municipal year as detailed at point 6 of the submitted report and to be included within the Council's Diary for the same period.

57 Any Other Business

Committee Members. Members of the Committee noted that this would be Councillor Taylors last meeting for the 2018/19 Municipal Year, prior to the May elections and her new role as Lord Mayor. The Committee expressed their gratitude and passed on their best wishes to her.

Additionally, Councillor Taylor thanked all of the INE Communities Team for their hard work and support offered to her as Chair.

58 Date and Time of Next Meeting

RESOLVED – To note the date and time of the next meeting as 1st July 2019 at 7pm.