

## **NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

### **AREA TWO COMMITTEE (BASFORD AND BESTWOOD WARDS)**

#### **MINUTES**

of meeting held on **30 MAY 2012** at

Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham from 4.30 pm to 5.55 pm

#### **Present**

- ✓ Councillor Grocock
- ✓ Councillor Ottewell
- ✓ Councillor Arnold
- ✓ Councillor Norris
- ✓ Councillor Smith
- ✓ Councillor Wildgust

✓ indicates present at meeting

#### **Community Representatives**

- |                 |   |   |
|-----------------|---|---|
| Miss M Hemphill | - | Area 2 Panel Chair                            |
| Mr R Glass      | - | Leen Valley Community Association             |
| Mr M Nawrocki   | - | Leen Valley Tenants and Residents Association |
| Mr G Hall       | - | Old Basford Neighbourhood Watch Association   |
| Mr P England    | - | Whitemoor Neighbourhood Watch Association     |

#### **City Council colleagues, partners and others in attendance**

- |                  |   |                                |   |             |
|------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|-------------|
| Miss K Follows   | - | Implementation Officer,        | ) |             |
|                  |   | Crime and Drugs Partnership    | ) |             |
| Miss D Griffin   | - | Neighbourhood Development      | ) | Communities |
|                  |   | Officer                        | ) |             |
| Mr N Harvey      | - | CCTV Monitoring Officer        | ) |             |
| Ms H May         | - | North Locality Area Manager    | ) |             |
| Mr G Nijran      | - | Neighbourhood Development      | ) |             |
|                  |   | Officer                        | ) |             |
| Miss C M Jackson | - | Constitutional Service Officer | - | Resources   |

**Please note: except where otherwise indicated, all items discussed at the meeting were the subject of a report which had been circulated beforehand.**

**1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

**RESOLVED that Councillor Ottewell be appointed Chair for the 2012/13 Municipal year.**

**2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR**

**RESOLVED that Councillor Grocock be appointed Vice-Chair.**

**3 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Maria Wright.

Councillor Grocock paid tribute to Pat Chambers who had recently passed away. Pat had been a Community Representative for many years and had worked very hard on behalf of the Area at the Bestwood Community Centre. Her input would be sadly missed.

Councillor Grocock expressed his disappointment that Alvin Henry, the former Street Scene Manager for Area 2 had been moved to a new location within the City. Alvin had done an excellent job in keeping the Area's streets clean and dealing with fly tipping over the past months and would be sorely missed in the Area.

**4 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interests were made.

**5 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED that, the minutes of the last meeting held on 25 January 2012, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.**

**6 CCTV REPORT**

(Director of Neighbourhood Services)

Dale Griffin, Neighbourhood Development Officer, presented the report informing the Committee of the decision to install a CCTV camera on the corner of Jacklin and Lytham Gardens, Top Valley. The decision had been made due to the area being a crime hotspot. It was felt that the installation of the camera would be helpful in reassuring the Community. There had been consultation with Community Protection and local residents. Of the 97 properties which the consultation documents had been delivered to, 26 responses had been received and they were all positive. As a result, the process to install the camera had commenced.

Neil Harvey of the Woodlands Control Room explained the functionality of the camera and advised the meeting that work would commence on the installation of the camera during week commencing 6 June 2012. The installation was however dependant on Western Power for connection of power to the column.

**ACTION**

The following issues arose out of the discussion which followed:

- Neil Harvey assured the meeting that the images produced by the camera would be of good enough evidential value to successfully prosecute on;
- it was agreed that it was disappointing that there was no police representation at the meeting as it would have been useful to have police input on this item. Heidi May the North Locality Manager agreed to raise the issue with the police and seek to ensure that there was police representation at future meetings of the Committee;
- in response to a query about the life expectancy of the camera and the maintenance required, Neil Harvey advised that the camera would be in operation 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and that similar camera's had been in operation for 15 years. Certain parts would inevitably wear out and would be repaired and maintained by the supplier TIS;
- at the request of Councillor Grocock, Councillor Norris, as Portfolio Holder for Area Working, Cleansing and Community Safety agreed to chase Western Power in relation to the connection of power to the camera.

**H May**

**Councillor  
Norris**

**RESOLVED that the decision to install a CCTV camera on the corner of Jacklin and Lytham Gardens, Top Valley be noted.**

**7 BESTWOOD WEEK OF ACTION – MARCH 2012**

Ms Katy Follows, Implementation Officer, Crime and Drugs Partnership gave a presentation to the Committee on the Bestwood Ward Week of Action that took place during March 2012.

The following information was provided to the Area Committee:

- the week involved the following organisations; Neighbourhood Management, Nottinghamshire Police, Community Protection, City Services, Family Community Teams, Nottingham City Homes, Bestwood Churches, Notts Fire and Rescue, Community Payback, BigTop Partnership, Henry Whipple School and Decade of Better Health;
- the focus of the week was community engagement and taking pride in the neighbourhood. The week had been re-branded to reflect this;
- the Week of Action had been launched with 'Bestwood Community Matters'. A booklet had been distributed to all households in the Ward containing local information;
- the objectives of the week were as follows:
  - to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB):

**ACTION**

- extra resources were available from the metal theft initiative;
  - ASB patrols had taken place on Chediston Vale Park;
  - there had been 10 arrests for non payment of fines;
  - 9 stop checks had been conducted;
  - 11 pieces of intelligence had been submitted;
  - 5 potential truants had been reported;
- to improve the local environment:
- over 45 issues had been resolved during the week - fed in from Councillors, citizens and partners;
  - 173 square metres of graffiti had been removed;
  - 6 fixed penalty notices had been issued for littering;
- to increase awareness of the penalties associated with dog fouling:
- there had been 100 hits on FIDO (Faeces Intake Disposal Operation) and adjacent properties had been leafleted;
  - 1 fixed penalty notice had been issued for dog fouling – further operations were to be carried out;
  - dog fouling visits had been carried out;
- to reduce incidents of motoring offences:
- Cleansweep Operation had stopped 38 vehicles and 11 fixed penalty notices had been issued;
  - Speed watch had been conducted with Big Wood and Southglade Schools;
  - 15 fixed penalty notices had been issued for not wearing seatbelts;
  - 3 fixed penalty notices had been issued for use of mobile phones;
- to raise awareness of domestic violence services and generate pledges for the 'Man Enough' campaign:
- ten pledges had been made during events in the week – several citizens had taken information away with them;
- to engage young people in Bestwood:
- a competition had been held in schools on Love You, Love Bestwood – entries were displayed around the Area throughout the week;
  - a Children's Committee had been established at the Ridge – children decided upon the structure of the committee. Elections were to be held soon;
  - 54 young people attended youth sessions in the week;
- to increase the numbers of citizens receiving Neighbourhood Alerts:
- 256 people had signed up to Neighbourhood Alert during this week;

**ACTION**

- to increase the numbers of citizens accessing local health services and pledging to the Decade of Better Health:
  - 23 local people had pledged to live a healthier lifestyle at the Love You, Love Bestwood event;
  - 19 people had signed up directly to access services on offer at the event;
  - 32 referrals were made during the week;
  - 8 local people expressed an interest in becoming Changemaker volunteers;
- The launch event had attracted 50 attendees across 18 different community organisations and there would now be a regular meeting in the ward. The partnership between Police and Schools was very successful with positive feedback from partners, schools and young people. This work would be continued. Local businesses were now taking responsibility for cleansing service road off Arnold Road.
- Community Protection and Neighbourhood Services were working better together to combat dog fouling. The booklet was very popular and had generated interest and new members for both the Scouts and the Boys Brigade.

Arising from the presentation, a number of issues and questions were raised:

- whilst he welcomed the Week of Action, Councillor Grocock expressed some concern that the same issues were being tackled year after year. His observations related primarily to speeding problems and dog fouling;
- Heidi May, North Locality Manager explained that the focus of the Week of Action had moved from crime to one of community engagement. In particular, there had been a lot of input from children both in terms of producing art work and in helping out with Speedwatch;
- it was agreed that dog fouling of pavements continued to be an issue. The number of reports may have reduced but it was thought that more citizens may be clearing the mess up themselves rather than reporting it;
- Councillor Norris advised the meeting that as a result of a reconfiguration of services and reduced budgets, it would not be possible to have a Week of Action in every ward for the forthcoming year. Wards with the highest indices of multiple deprivation would be having Weeks of Action and this did not include Basford or Bestwood. There would however, still be Days of Action on particular topics e.g. dog fouling, rubbish amnesty, graffiti. Councillors expressed their commitment to do what they could on these issues regardless of whether or not there were days/weeks of action;
- Councillor Wildgust requested that advantage be taken of the 256 people signing up to Neighbourhood Alert during this week to encourage more residents to form residents and tenants groups in the Area;

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that officers and other agencies involved be thanked for their efforts during the Week of Action;**
- (2) that Ms K Follows be thanked for her presentation.**

**8 AREA TWO COMMITTEE WARD COUNCILLOR BUDGET POSITION  
2011/12  
(Director of Neighbourhood Services)**

Dale Griffin, Neighbourhood Development Officer, presented the report informing the meeting that Ward Councillors budgets committed spend towards projects to benefit Area 2 for 2011/12 was £65,441. Uncommitted funds amounted to £30,641, £16,844 for Bestwood and £13,797 for Basford.

In the discussion which followed, Councillors raised a number of issues and received responses as follows:

- where there had been an under spend on specific items/projects the money went into a Local issues Fund which enabled Neighbourhood Development Officers to have a pot of funds to pay for meeting rooms and to get emergency repairs carried out etc;
- Councillor Grocock expressed concern about the lack of progress on the Southglade Multi Use Games Areas. Dale Griffin explained that the Project Officer was liaising with procurement colleagues to put the work out to tender;
- Heidi May, North Locality Manager, advised the meeting that a report would be produced in the near future setting out individual Councillor budget allocations for 2012/13. There would be a basic budget of £5000 each with top-ups depending on indices of multiple deprivation ratings in the Wards.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the available uncommitted Ward Councillor Balance as at 23 March 2012 of £30,641 be noted;**
- (2) that the committed projects during 2011/12 be noted;**
- (3) that the de-committed schemes within Basford Ward be confirmed;**
- (4) that the decision for any under-spends of projects be re-allocated to the appropriate Local Issues Fund to support local neighbourhood issues and Neighbourhood Development Officer activities**

**9 WARD PRIORITIES**

(Director of Neighbourhoods Services)

Following the new Locality management structure and development of Ward Action Plans, consultation had taken place with partners, councillors and citizens using a variety of methods to set ward priorities. These were set out in Appendix 1 to the report. They would be used to formulate Plans for the next year.

The following points were raised in the discussion which followed:

- the priorities should be regarded as a flexible list. They would be adapted if new issues were raised;
- concern was expressed that Councillors were continually passing on issues to officers and were not receiving feedback on whether or not matters had been dealt with. This particularly applied to ward walks and estate inspections;
- Heidi May, the North Locality Manager advised the meeting that Neighbourhood Development Officers would bring a Ward Report to each Area Committee meeting giving an update on the priorities and what had been achieved in respect of each of them. There would be more emphasis on ward delivery;
- Councillor Grocock requested that the improvement of the visual appearance of grassed and open areas be added to the Bestwood list of priorities

**RESOLVED that the ward priorities outlined in the Appendix be noted.**

**10 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED that the Committee meet at 4.30pm on the following Wednesdays at Loxley House:**

**2012**  
**19 September**  
**28 November**

**2013**  
**27 February**