

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

WEST AREA COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of meeting held on **14 JULY 2010** at the

Bilborough Learning Centre/Keys to Success from 5.34 pm to 6.43 pm

indicates present at meeting

- ✓ Councillor Chapman
- Councillor Cresswell
- Councillor Foster
- Councillor James
- ✓ Councillor Long
- Councillor Unczur
- Councillor Watson
- ✓ Councillor Wood

indicates present at meeting

In attendance

- Mr J Herring - Strelley Tenants and Residents Association
- Mr C Thorpe - Resident

Also in attendance

- Ms K Curnow - Neighbourhood Management)
- Ms J Fox - Libraries)
- Mr A Greener - Waste Management) Communities
- Mr A Houldsworth - Highways Construction)
- Ms J Ludlow - City Services)
- Mr P Saunders - Waste Management)
- Mr C Holloway - Aspley Housing Offices) Nottingham City Homes
- Mr N McMenamin - Democratic Services) 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 Council Unczur be appointed Chair of the Area Committee for the Municipal Year 2010/11.

2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED that Councillor Wood be appointed Vice-Chair.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors James and Watson, and from Mr J Hose of S.M.A.R.T.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

5 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 10 March 2010, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

6 SPENDING PROFILE

(Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities)

Ms Curnow, Area Manager, introduced the report, explaining that individual ward councillor allocations had been reduced by £1,000 to £9,000 for 2010/11. It was proposed to commit allocations to help projects and community groups as agreed by the Area Committee, in order that cross-cutting One Nottingham outcomes and Corporate Plan themes were addressed.

In the discussion which followed, a number of issues were raised and points made:

- Ms Curnow agreed with a councillor's assertion that a review of how Local Area Groups operated was desirable, and that a discussion was planned with the recently-appointed Inspector Payne on the preferred way forward;
- in response to a councillor's question, Ms Curnow agreed to provide a detailed breakdown of costs in respect of the ward walks allocation;
- councillors expressed support for building on the positive impact of the Nottingham in Bloom initiative in the area, and requested that funding be made available for a bulb-planting programme in late autumn 2010. Councillors also requested that the Nottingham in Bloom Project Manager, Ms J Walker, be invited to the September 2010 meeting of the Area Committee to discuss this further;
- Mr Houldsworth of Highways Construction advised that his service had a number of old granite kerb stones which were no longer used on highways, but which could potentially be put to use as part of floral

K Curnow

displays. Ms Curnow undertook to compile further, similar suggestions for discussion at the September 2010 meeting.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the allocation of monies as detailed at Appendix One to the report be approved;
- (2) that the delegation of decisions to the Area Manager, or in their absence, to the Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities, regarding funding from the provision for Community influence and Engagement within the overall Area Allocation budget, be approved, with reports on any such decisions being submitted to the next available Area Committee; K Curnow
- (3) that a further report, identifying exact carry over of unallocated monies in 2009/10, be submitted to the September 2010 meeting of the Committee; K Curnow
- (4) that the Nottingham in Bloom Partnership Manager be invited to the September 2010 of the Committee to discuss planning and funding a bulb-planting initiative in West Area; K Curnow
- (5) that the contribution of the projects funded under ward budgets to Local Area Agreement targets be noted.

7 NOTTINGHAM CITY HOMES ENVIRONMENTAL AND AREA CAPITAL FUND ALLOCATIONS 2010/11

(Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities)

Mr C Holloway, Housing Manager, introduced the report, requesting the Committee's support for the proposals of the Nottingham City Homes (NCH) Area 3 Panel at Appendix One to the report, and its approval of the Area Capital allocations at Appendix 2 to the report.

In the discussion which followed, it was explained to councillors' satisfaction that the funding allocations for individual wards was directly proportional to the numbers of NCH properties in each ward. It was also explained that area capital funding of £72,000 in Aspley ward and £168,000 in Bilborough ward was as yet unallocated. The Area Manager also reported that several issues had come forward from local communities and that she would circulate these to councillors separately. A councillor suggested that a ward walk, focussing on the issues raised in the report, would be beneficial.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the proposals of the Nottingham City Homes Area 3 Panel at Appendix One to the report be supported;
- (2) that the Area Capital allocations for environmental schemes at

Appendix 2 to the report be approved, it being noted that approximately £240,000 remained unallocated;

- (3) that the Area Manager and Housing Manager arrange a ward walk so that councillors could familiarise themselves with the issues being addressed locally, and also to inform decisions on how best to target unallocated funds.**

**K Curnow
C Holloway**

8 DRAFT WASTE STRATEGY – ‘WASTE-LESS NOTTINGHAM’ - CONSULTATION

(Director of Neighbourhood Services)

Mr A Greener, Waste and Energy Manager, and Mr P Saunders, Waste Management Project Officer, introduced the draft Municipal Waste Strategy, which proposed a framework and timetable for achieving an even more sustainable waste service for Nottingham in the period to 2030. The draft Strategy was designed to build on Nottingham’s leading position nationally on energy and waste issues.

Mr Greener and Mr Saunders made the following points:

- the draft Strategy consultation period lasted 12 weeks, from 12 June 2010, and a simplified version of the Strategy and consultation questionnaire had been circulated via the Arrow;
- the draft Strategy focussed both on maximising the most sustainable methods of waste management, while also minimising the carbon effects of waste management. Nottingham had in recent years been successful in increasing recycling levels to 36%, but to achieve revised recycling targets of 50%, certain waste streams and, in particular food waste, needed addressing through the development of anaerobic digestion. More effort was also needed in respect of reuse and waste prevention;
- Nottingham’s levels of landfill waste were among the lowest in England, at 16%. However, the draft Strategy had set an ambitious target of zero waste going to landfill. Reducing landfill, even from its current low base-line, represented the most significant single issue in reducing the City’s carbon impact from waste management;
- a similar culture change to that already achieved among citizens on recycling issues would be necessary for such issues as composting, reuse, food waste handling and waste prevention if the targets in the draft Strategy were to be achieved.

In the discussion which followed, a number of points were made:

- councillors welcomed the progress made on waste, recycling and energy issues in Nottingham in recent years, and agreed that the focus needed to shift from recycling to energy production and waste prevention in future;

- a councillor highlighted the difficulties of fly-tipping at the recycle centre on Bracebridge Drive. Mr Greener acknowledged that there was a need for strong enforcement acting in tandem with waste management functions, and explained that his service worked closely with Community Protection Officers to identify and target 'hot spots'. It was also reported that replacement bins were charged at £10, which was below the unit cost of £19;
- it was anticipated that the successful free bulky waste pilot in the Bells Lane area would be rolled out over the City in due course;
- it was explained that very stringent regulations were in place in the wake of the BSE outbreak in 2000 to prevent food waste being reintroduced to the animal food chain;
- a councillor highlighted the benefits of wormeries in dealing effectively with food waste.

RESOLVED

- (1) **that the publication of the draft Waste Strategy be noted and Mr Greener and Mr Saunders be thanked for their report and attendance;**
- (2) **that the Committee's comments help inform the consultation exercise on developing the draft Waste Strategy.**

9 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED that the Area Committee meet at 5.30 pm at the Council House on the following Wednesdays during the remainder of the current Municipal Year:-

2010

**15 September
10 November**

2011

**13 January
10 March
12 May (provisional)**