

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

WEST AREA COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of meeting held on **11 JANUARY 2012** at

Loxley House from 5.33 pm to 6.56 pm

- ✓ Councillor Unczur (Chair)
- ✓ Councillor Saghir (Vice-Chair)
- ✓ Councillor Chapman
- Councillor Cresswell
- ✓ Councillor Jenkins
- ✓ Councillor McCulloch
- ✓ Councillor Watson
- ✓ Councillor Wood

✓ indicates present at meeting

Citizens and Community Representatives present

- Mr J Herring - Strelley Tenants' and Residents' Association
- Mr J Hose - St Martin's Association of Residents and Tenants

Others and City Council Colleagues in attendance

- Mr M Clough - Beechdale Beat Local Action Group
- Mr M Bowyer) Bestwood Directions
- Mr G Cawthorne)
- Ms L Black - Revenues and Benefits)
- Ms I Denton - Neighbourhood Management)
- Ms H James - Sport and Leisure Centres) Nottingham City Council
- Ms J Knight - Harvey Hadden Sports Complex)
- Mr M Leavesley - Constitutional Services)
- Ms J Ludlow - City Services (Environmental))
- Mr C Holloway - Nottingham City Homes
- Inspector S Payne - Nottinghamshire Police

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

ACTION

27 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Cresswell and from Ms Bainbridge (Bells Lane and Aspley Tenants' and Residents' Association), Ms May (Neighbourhood Management) and Mr Thorpe (Nottingham City Homes Area Panel).

28 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

29 MINUTES

RESOLVED that, subject to amendment in minute 25 resolution (1) of 'Aspley and Bells Lane Community Centre' to read 'Aspley and Bells Lane Partnership', the minutes of the last meeting held on 16 November 2011, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

30 POLICE BUDGETS AND THE TRANSITION TO POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS

Due to the unavailability of a relevant colleague, this item was replaced by a general policing update from Inspector Payne, informing the Committee of the following:

- during the previous 12 months, in West Area there were:
 - 242 burglaries, of which 53 were in Aspley ward (although there were only 21 in December 2011, the lowest monthly figure for this period);
 - 54 robberies, compared to 59 during the previous 12 months;
 - 571 assaults, compared to 594 during the previous 12 months, a large proportion of which were domestic violence related due to the area being a hot spot for this type of crime;
 - 296 car crimes, compared to 257 during the previous 12 months. Due to the high number, the Police were now working with Neighbourhood Watch groups to address the problem;
- in 2011, the 3 policing priorities identified by citizens were burglary, drugs and anti-social behaviour. For 2012 there was only a requirement for 1 priority per ward and, arising from consultation with citizens, this had been identified as anti-social behaviour.

During discussion, it was stated that a focus group was currently concentrating on ways to address the problem of domestic violence.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

31 NORTH LOCALITY HUB

The Committee received a presentation by Gary Cawthorne, Bestwood Directions, detailing the outcomes/performance during the first half of 2011 in regard to youth projects and community work undertaken in the area by the Bestwood Partnership (BP).

ACTION

The main points were as follows:

- BP became a limited company in 2003 and a registered charity in 2009;
- project areas included youth projects, community development, local grant funding, adult training projects, employment advice, health promotion and elderly support;
- the City North Locality Hub was a consortium of the Bestwood Partnership, One Vision Partnership, Broxtowe Partnership Trust, BEST and Aspley and Bells Lane partnership, with Bestwood Partnership being the accountable body for the group.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

32 CITIZEN FIRST

The Committee received a presentation by Lisa Black, detailing the Council's Citizen First scheme, a scheme aimed at improving citizens' access to the Council and its partners' services and information.

The main points were as follows:

- the Citizen First Strategy was part of the Council's wider Transformation Programme, which would deliver major change and improvement across the organisation in the way services were delivered. This would help to ensure Council services were flexible, cost effective and met citizens' needs;
- the aims of the Strategy were to:
 - work with partners to establish a single standard for service delivery, which involved a need to work with other organisations so that citizens knew what to expect from service delivery, conduct and values, regardless of who delivered the service;
 - improve the range and quality of access citizens had to services and information, by working with other organisations so that citizens received:
 - a better telephone service;
 - clearer and better structured information on services available, describing what the Council and partners could and could not do;
 - updated information that was easier to understand;
 - access to services that provided choice in how citizens could request a service, raise issues and deal with public services;
 - ensure that we dealt with citizen queries more quickly, clearly and effectively and worked with other organisations so that citizens could expect:
 - colleagues who would try and resolve the query first time and help improve services;

ACTION

- more queries to be resolved at the first point of contact, regardless of who delivered the service;
- honesty if we could not meet all of their needs;
- well trained, well informed colleagues who delivered high-quality services;
- engage more effectively with citizens and use their feedback to continually improve the standard of services provided;
- work with other organisations so that when citizens wanted to make a comment, compliment or complaint:
 - it was easy to do;
 - there were different ways to do it;
 - a full and joined up response was made as quickly as possible;
 - partners learned from the nature of comments or complaints and they were used to improve services and to find better ways of working;
- change the way the City worked with other organisations by;
 - making changes wherever possible based upon citizen and colleague feedback;
 - making it simpler to deliver services, and for citizens to receive seamless service delivery;
 - using IT where it helped to provide a better service;
 - providing better value for money services.

RESOLVED

33 COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

(Director for Neighbourhoods and Communities)

RESOLVED that further to minute 25 resolution (1) dated 16 November 2011:

- (1) the following be approved as a West Area Community Representatives for the remainder of the 2011/12 municipal year, with the intention of re-appointment for the 2012/13 municipal year at the first meeting of 2012/13:**
- **Ms Gill Bainbridge, Bells Lane and Aspley Tenants' and Residents' Association;**
 - **Mr John Day, St Martin's Church;**
 - **Mr Bryan Mann, Beechdale Community Association;**
 - **Ms Christine Willitts, Tartaniers Group;**
- (2) that the Neighbourhood Manager be requested to ensure that the Aspley Methodist Church had been sent a nomination pack regarding representation on this Committee.**

I Denton

ACTION**34 GAME ON NOTTINGHAM**
(Director of Sport, Culture and Parks)

Ian Holloway, Sports Events Officer, presented the report, which detailed 'Game On', the City's campaign of activities and events themed around the London 2012 Olympic games, including sport, leisure, parks, culture and education, and which was aimed at encouraging local groups and organisations to take part and deliver their own 2012 themed activities.

- the full Citywide programme of events and activities would run from March to November 2012 and was set out in Appendix 1 to the report;
- the community programme of Game On provided local groups and organisations with the opportunity to deliver their own programmes to inspire their communities;
- support would be provided to groups through the production of a Game On Community Toolkit, providing ideas for activities and events delivery of local funding surgeries to support local groups in applying for external funding and the proposed simplification of accessing ward allocated funding;
- one aspect of the 2012 programme would seek to embrace the ambitions of local communities, through Area Committee and Ward Councillor funding requests from local ward based groups, to deliver 2012 themed events and activities, with each Area being asked to allocate £2,012 to support the Programme within the Area for local groups to access to support the delivery of events and activities.

During discussion, it was stated that to assist with effective funding allocation, consideration should be given to creation of two funding 'pots', one generic pot for activities/event which would be taking place across all wards, and one for area/ward specific activities/events.

I Holloway

RESOLVED that

- (1) the Game On branding and Citywide programme of events and activities due to take place in 2012 be noted;**
- (2) local groups and organisations be encouraged to deliver their own 2012 themed activities and events to create a legacy for their local communities;**
- (3) the ward allocation budgets for groups and organisations that wished to deliver localised 2012 events and activities be noted, and the process of accessing this money by contacting Neighbourhood Action Officers in the first instance was approved;**
- (4) the allocation of £2,012 Area Committee funds, to support the programme within the area, for local groups to access to support the delivery of events and activities, be approved.**

35 AREA CAPITAL RESOURCES 2011-13
(Director for Neighbourhoods and Communities)

Further to minute 26 dated 16 November 2011, the Area Manager presented the report, which informed the Committee of the funds available for, and committed to, projects in each ward in relation to the Area Capital Programme 2011-13.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the fund allocation and committed spend in each of the wards, as detailed in appendices 1 and 2, be noted;
- (2) that no action be taken on the Broxtowe Lane and Sniketts schemes (Aspley Ward traffic schemes) until discussion between ward councillors and colleagues had taken place;
- (3) that further to minute 26 resolution (2), Mr Holloway be requested to clarify to Councillor Wood by whom and when works at St Agnes Court were authorised, and from which budget provision it was intended the costs be met.

C Holloway

36 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAM WASTE CORE STRATEGY
(Corporate Director of Development)

RESOLVED that due to the unavailability of a relevant presenting colleague, the report, which detailed the planning policy framework against which all future waste management proposals would be determined, be noted.