

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

WEST AREA COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of meeting held on **20 FEBRUARY 2013** at

Loxley House from 5.30 pm to 7.15 pm

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

Community Representatives

- Mrs J Smith - Aspley and Bells Lane Partnership
- Ms N Silvers - Aspley Community and Training Centre
- ✓ Mr B Mann - Beechdale Community Centre
- Ms G Bainbridge - Bells Lane and Aspley Tenants' and Residents' Association
- Mr W Grantham - Birchover Community Association
- Ms P Witton - Broxtowe Partnership Trust
- Ms T Griffiths - Cinderhill Community Association
- ✓ Ms W Smith - CONGA (City of Nottingham Governors' Association)
- ✓ Mr V Plant - Neighbourhood Watch Association
- Mrs C Willetts - Nottingham Tartanaires Marching Band
- ✓ Mr J Hose - St Martin's Association of Residents and Tenants
- Mr J Day - St Martin's Church

✓ indicates present at meeting

Citizens, Others and City Council Colleagues in attendance

- Ms H James - Leader)
- Ms M Belle))
- Mr J Black)) 53rd Scout Group
- Mr A Curzon) Group Member)
- Mr T Martin))
- Mr M Stevenson))
- Mr M Leavesley - Constitutional Services)
- Ms J Christou) Neighbourhood Management)
- Ms D Wilson)) Nottingham City Council
- Mr R Kent - Quality and Commissioning)
- Ms L Graham - Voluntary Sector Grants)
- Ms P McKenna - Nottingham City Homes
- Mr J Herring - Strelley Tenants and Resident's Association
- Ms P Bradbury - SSE Contracting (Lighting Services)
- Mr A Parkinson) TravelRight
- Mr G Smerdon-White)

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

29 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor McCulloch, John Day (St Martin's Church), Clive and Alison Thorpe (Nottingham City Homes Area 3 Panel), Christine Willetts (Nottingham Tartanaires Marching Band) and Sioban Campbell and Heidi May (Neighbourhood Management).

30 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interests were made.

31 COUNCILLOR CRESSWELL

The Chair stated that Councillor Derek Cresswell, Bilborough Ward Councillor, had recently passed away and the Committee observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

32 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 5 December 2012, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

33 53RD SCOUT GROUP

The Committee received a joint presentation by Heather James and members of the Scout Group, outlining how the Group helped young people feel part of a 'family' and showing recent events and trips the Group had been part of.

RESOLVED that the members of the Group and Heather James be thanked for their informative presentation, the contents of which were noted.

34 BILBOROUGH STREET LIGHTING INSTALLATION

The Committee received a presentation by Pennie Bradbury, outlining the work undertaken on behalf of the Council by SSE Contracting (Lighting Services) in regard to replacement street lighting throughout the City, and specifically detailing work in the Bilborough ward, which would complete the replacement programme for the area.

During discussion, the following points were raised by Councillors and local representatives, and responses given by Ms Bradbury:

- following replacement of the existing 'orange' light with the new 'white' light standards, there were now 'dark spots' in some places, causing safety worries, especially for elderly residents.

In response, it was stated that it was not the Authorities responsibility to light resident's driveways and gardens, merely the pavements and highways. it was also stated that officers monitoring the City's CCTV were of the opinion that the white light standards allowed for higher resolution from CCTV cameras, borne out by a recent court case where the CCTV images greatly assisted in a successful prosecution;

- the list of remaining streets in the Bilborough area, as handed around the table, included a large proportion of elderly residents and, as such, serious consideration would need to be given to ensuring that there was no diminishing of the light levels in the areas;
- while it was applauded that the old standards were recycled, why were they being replaced completely, rather than just having the light replaced?

In response, it was stated that the old standards were installed in the 1950s and 60s and, although they might seem usable, as they were made of steel, underground the majority were rotten and, therefore, unsafe;

- why were the posts being moved, rather than just replaced where they were?

In response, it was stated that due to improved luminosity of the lights over the last few years, fewer were needed to light an equivalent area/street (so where 15 were previously needed, only 12/13 would be needed now), so a slight change in positioning was necessary.

RESOLVED that Ms Bradbury be thanked for her informative presentation, the contents of which were noted.

35 TRAVELRIGHT

The Committee received a joint presentation by Gary Smerdon-White and Andy Parkinson, the main points of which were as follows:

- TravelRight was a community-based project (for 2013/14 – 2014/15, funded through the Council's Local Sustainable Transport Fund, that aimed to deliver locally focused sustainable travel advice and services in the North locality by engaging with local communities;
- it consisted of a volunteer network of community champions, who raised awareness of, and promoted, a wide range of transport choices available, including walking, cycling and public transport;
- expected outcomes were reduced transport costs and CO2 levels and healthy, active lifestyles in local residents;
- services currently included a mobile travel centre, personalised travel planning for young people and job seekers, community cycling, cycle activities at community cycle hubs, cycle maintenance and rides, community walks, redesigned literature to promote existing walks, support for existing groups and establishment of new groups.

RESOLVED that Mr Parkinson and Mr Smerdon-White be thanked for their informative presentation, the contents of which were noted.

36 WARD PERFORMANCE

(Director of Neighbourhood Services)

Further to minute 27 dated 5 December 2012, the Committee considered a summary report, which covered all 3 wards, and a more detailed report, presented by the Juliann Christou, for each individual ward. The main points were as follows:

(a) **Aspley**

- the Bells Lane Estate had been awarded a 3-star rating (the highest possible) by the Nottingham City Homes' tenant inspectors, rising from the previous 2-star rating, and work was now underway to increase the Broxtowe Estate rating from the current 2 to 3-star;
- the Aspley Light Switch-on, held on 25 November 2012, in conjunction with the Aspley and Bells Lane Partnership, had been very successful, with over 500 local people and families in attendance;
- Councillor Chapman recently gave a talk to residents on the City Council's Budget and they had completed 80+ budget consultation questionnaires;
- during January to March 2013, the Neighbourhood Action Team (NAT) would focus on the 'Safer Nottingham' and 'Neighbourhood Nottingham' Council Plan themes and 'Priority Families', including all plans and programmes within those themes;
- the following data for the ward, received from the NAT, was a comparison between November 2011 and November 2012:
 - **All Crime:** down by 16.84% (32 fewer calls);
 - **All ASB:** down by 51.43% (54 fewer calls);
 - **Cleanliness Index:** score was at 83% (City Centre target was 86%);
 - **Graffiti Reports:** 3 incidents (a decrease of 2);
 - **Fly Tipping:** 10 incidents (an increase of 3);
 - **Unemployment Rate:** a reduction of 2.9% during the last month;
 - **Community Protection:** November 2012 = 2 court outcomes;
 - **Fire:** Aspley was ranked 2nd highest of the 20 wards for intentional fires.

(b) **Bilborough**

- the Bilborough Youth Network was a partnership working with young people across the ward and it had created the Bilborough Gem Awards, where more than 100 people celebrated the success of young peoples' contribution to Bilborough, at a recent Ceremony;
- the Christmas Light Switch-on at Bracebridge Drive was enjoyed by more than 500 people;
- the volunteers in the four Community Centres in the Ward continued to offer a wide number of services to a wide range of people, and the Birchover Community Centre had recently opened a café;
- the Christmas Community Event at Nottingham University Samworth Academy (NUSA) attracted many community groups, and a 'Clean Up' day with Nottingham City Services and NUSA was very successful;
- the Community Centres held popular and successful events, including a firework display, Christmas fairs and a budget consultation and follow up;
- for the spring, there was a planned Day of Action Clean Up on Cranwell Estate with partners;

- the Neighbourhood Action Team was working on reviewing ward priorities, ASB, work with young people and raising awareness of health and the following data for the ward, received from the NAT, was a comparison between November 2011 and November 2012:
 - **Crime:** down by 19.33% (23 fewer crimes);
 - **ASB:** down by 43.68% (38 fewer calls);
 - **Cleanliness Index:** score was at 83% (City Centre target was 86%);
 - **Graffiti Reports:** 4 incidents (a decrease of 7);
 - **Fly Tipping:** 8 incidents (an increase of 5);
 - **Unemployment Rate:** a reduction of 4.7% during the last month;
 - **Community Protection:** November 2012 = 2 outcomes;
 - **Fire:** Bilborough was ranked 6th highest of 20 wards for intentional fires.

(c) Leen Valley

- there had been an increase in 'sign up' to the Alert Scheme following a concerted effort to increase numbers;
- there had been a range of measures to improve traffic issues, including lining and waiting restrictions to support enforcement, improved targeted and planned action with Civil Enforcement and Crime Prevention Officer's and consultation with Traffic Management and local citizens;
- development of the Robert Shaw Field was planned, and would include play, football and cricket facilities;
- upcoming issues included Workplace Parking issues in Beechdale Beat, traffic congestion on Chadwick Road, the launch of the Robert Shaw Field and the need for targeted youth engagement work in the Ward;
- a Family Fun day on Kennington Road was planned to improve engagement and service delivery in the area;
- work currently being undertaken by the NAT included scoping the use of health services in the ward, a referral protocol and toolkit for frontline staff, increasing sign-up to the Nottinghamshire Alert Scheme, supporting the Kennington Road Family Fun Day and the launch of the Robert Shaw Field. The following data for the ward, received from the NAT, was a comparison between November 2011 and November 2012:
 - **All Crime:** down by 6.45% (4 fewer crimes);
 - **All ASB:** down by 52.08% (25 fewer calls);
 - **Cleanliness Index:** score was at 89% (City Centre target was 86%);
 - **Graffiti Reports:** 6 incidents (no change);
 - **Fly Tipping:** 3 incidents (a decrease of 1);
 - **Unemployment Rate:** a reduction of 1.1% during the last month;
 - **Community Protection:** November 2012 = 2 court outcomes;
 - **Fire:** Leen Valley was ranked 9th highest of the 20 wards for intentional fires.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the summary report and the 3 ward-specific reports be noted;**

- (2) that a representative for each of the Street Cleansing Team and Crime Prevention Officers be requested to attend the next meeting to discuss cleanliness and dog fouling in the wards.

37 AREA CAPITAL FUND 2011-13
(Director of Neighbourhood Services)

Further to minute 25 dated 5 December 2012, the Committee considered a report which updated Councillors and local representatives on 'in progress', completed and proposed capital schemes in West Area wards.

RESOLVED that

- (1) the latest position in regard to capital schemes, as detailed in appendix 1, be noted;
- (2) decommitting of the following schemes be approved and the previously allocated funds be returned to the appropriate ward budget:

<u>Ward / Scheme</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
<u>Aspley</u>		
Lime Tree Avenue	10,971	Underspend on footpath reconstruction
<u>Bilborough</u>		
Glaisdale Park Drive	16,000	Joint funded – underspend on ACF
Huxley Close	55,000	Unable to progress due to legal concerns
<u>Leen Valley</u>		
Trentham Drive	14,000	Scheme funded through WPL

38 DELEGATED AUTHORITY PROJECTS
(Director of Neighbourhood Services)

Further to minute 26 dated 5 December 2012, the Committee considered a report informing Councillors and local representatives of the action taken by the Director of Neighbourhood Services in respect of completed and ongoing projects and schemes in Aspley, Bilborough and Leen Valley funded from Councillors' individual ward allocations.

RESOLVED that the report, and the list of schemes detailed in Appendix A, be noted,

39 ENVIRONMENTAL SCHEMES
(Chief Executive, Nottingham City Homes)

RESOLVED that further to minute 28 dated 5 December 2012:

- (1) the report, detailing schemes to provide security, safety and wellbeing for residents of Bilborough and Leen Valley wards, be noted;
- (2) the schemes as detailed in the report be approved;
- (3) the scheme for Ainsley Drive, Aspley, omitted from the report but detailed at the meeting, be approved;

- (4) that the Chief Executive, Nottingham City Homes, in consultation with BEST and other local agencies, be requested to inform contractors that, where possible, ward-specific labour be used on environmental schemes.

40 STREAMLINING INVESTMENT TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR: UPDATE ON APPLICATIONS FOR AREA GRANTS

(Director of Quality and Commissioning)

The Committee considered a report summarising progress on Phase 1 of the Streamlining Investment to the Voluntary and Community Sector.

Further to the report, it was stated that the Committee was requested to comment on the recommendation from the West Area Grant Panel, a meeting of which was held on 18 February 2013, regarding the successful application from Groundworks Greater Nottingham and those comments would then be submitted to a meeting of Executive Board Commissioning Sub-Committee, to be held on 27 March 2013, for final successful application approval.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the application by Groundworks Greater Nottingham to be the lead Area Grant funding co-ordinator, as recommended by the West Area Grant Panel, be submitted to the Executive Board Commissioning Sub-Committee meeting, to be held on 27 March 2013, for final approval;
- (2) that once the new funding scheme commenced, the Director of Quality and Commissioning be requested to:
- (i) inform the relevant Ward Councillor on a monthly basis of the detail of any application for funding received within their ward;
 - (ii) submit a half yearly update report to the Committee summarising all applications within West Area, including who applied, for how much, for what use and what outcomes there were.