

## NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

### WOLLATON AND LENTON ABBEY AREA COMMITTEE (AREA 7)

#### MINUTES

of meeting held on **5 NOVEMBER 2009** at St Leonard's Community

Centre, Bramcote Lane, from 6.17 pm to 8.19 pm

- ✓ Councillor Culley (Chair)
- Councillor Benson (Vice-Chair)
- ✓ Councillor Morley
- ✓ Councillor Oldham
- ✓ Councillor Sutton

#### Community Representatives

- Mr D Allen - North Wollaton Residents' Association
- Mrs P Peck - Wollaton Park Community Association
- Mr T Kerry - Friends of Wollaton Local Nature Reserve
- Mrs T Marshall - Wollaton Park Residents' Association
- ✓ Mr A Oliver - Wollaton Care Group
- Mr T Preston - Wollaton Village and Park Conservation Society
- Mrs S Roper - Lenton Abbey 15<sup>th</sup> Nottingham Scout Group
- Mrs E Ryley - Wollaton and Lenton Abbey Neighbourhood Watch Association
- Mr B Smith - Lenton Abbey Residents' Association
- Dr A J Swannell - Wollaton Vale Residents' Association
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- indicates present at meeting

#### Officers In Attendance

- Mr T Coulson - Area Manager )
- Ms J Walker - Nottingham in Bloom ) Community and Culture
- Partnership Manager )
- Mr J Fitzpatrick - Team Leader, Street Lighting )
- Mr G Jones - Senior Engineer, Street ) Environment and Regeneration
- Lighting )
- Mr A High - Policy and Planning Officer )
- Mr J Posaner - Flexible Working Project )
- Manager, LIFT JSC Team ) Resources
- Mr M J Parker - Committee Administrator )

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

**ACTION**

**23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Benson and Mrs Marshall.

**24 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interest were made.

**25 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the minutes of the meeting of the Area Committee held on 9 July 2009, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair;**
- (2) that the observations of the Area Manager that an update report on ownership and maintenance responsibilities for Charles Avenue, off Derby Road (minute 17) was awaited from the Highways Maintenance division, that a report detailing the outcomes of consultation on pathfinder playground improvements to sites at Seaford Avenue, Radford Bridge Road, Sutton Passeys Crescent and other sites in the area (minute 18(3)) would be reported to the Sub-Committee in December and that the next report on consultation on the City's Core Strategy (minute 20) was due in early 2010, be noted;**
- (3) that the minutes of the Sub-Committee meeting held on 30 July 2009, copies of which had been circulated, be noted;**
- (4) that the intention to implement the Neighbourhood Alert System in the Wollaton West Area, the pilot installation of gates to alleyways and that alternative sources of funding would be secured for the Anti-Social Behaviour Trailer (minute 14), be noted;**
- (5) that the update of the Area Manager that revised proposals for the installation of free or low cost alarms and smoke detectors in residential properties (minute 15) had been circulated to interested parties and that comments on their validity were awaited from the Director of Legal and Democratic Services , be noted;**

**ACTION**

- (6) that the intention of Mr Oliver to continue lobbying on the provision of disabled parking at Wollaton Hall be noted and, in respect of the impact of new homes on the area identified as part of the Core Strategy (minute 17), initial approaches by a developer regarding the future of the Lambourne Drive site (near St Martin's Pond) for housing had, thus far, failed to translate into more definite proposals be noted and the issues be kept under review by the Area Manager and reported on as necessary.

**Mr Oliver,  
Mr Allen and  
Tim Coulson**

**26 ITEMS IDENTIFIED BY AREA COMMITTEE  
COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES**

**(a) Renaming of Hathern Green Bus Stop**

Mr Coulson agreed to investigate concerns that a proposal to rename Hathern Green bus stop as 'Woodside Blossom' had been discounted due to the complexity and costs involved.

**Tim Coulson**

**(b) Neighbourhood Management Team**

The thanks of Mrs Ryley to the Neighbourhood Management Team for its support at a recent Neighbourhood Watch Association event were noted.

**27 BRITAIN IN BLOOM NEIGHBOURHOOD AWARDS  
(Director of Sport, Leisure and Parks)**

The Committee noted the achievements of The Friends of Wollaton Hall Local Nature Reserves and Wollaton Village Centre in obtaining Merit Awards after evaluation and, in particular, Wollaton Park Community Centre Garden in achieving an Outstanding Achievement Award only 18 months after beginning work.

The Committee was particularly appreciative of the improved sense of local pride and community involvement in the area which Ms Walker and her efforts had engendered amongst local residents. It was hoped that the momentum gained over the summer could be maintained informally over the winter period and the continued availability of funding for local community groups for Nottingham In Bloom style projects was welcomed. The area would continue to benefit, particularly if the benefits of co-operative working between community groups could be capitalised upon and translated into participation in a future urban competition.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the Area Manager be requested to write letters of commendation, recording the thanks and congratulations of the Area Committee to those groups which participated in the competition;

**Tim Coulson**

**ACTION**

- (2) that the thanks of the Area Committee to Ms Walker for her involvement in encouraging and sustaining local groups participation in the event, be recorded;
- (3) that a further report be submitted to the January 2010 meeting of the Area Committee, outlining proposals for a similar programme of support in 2010.

Eddie Curry

**28 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN**  
**REVISION 2009/10**

(Corporate Director of Children's Services)

Mr High and Mr Posaner explained the background to the current consultation exercise to inform the production of a revised Children and Young People's Plan during 2010 by Nottingham Children's Partnership which would be used to align and deliver all services for children and young people up to 2014. A slightly revised version of the questionnaire accompanying the report was circulated.

Whilst welcoming the opportunity to comment on the seventeen priorities in the current Plan, the Area Committee recalled that this was the third occasion on which the Committee's views had been sought on important issues since its meeting in July but where, in the view of the Committee, the information provided on which it could form a view had been less than comprehensive. With regard to the current matter :-

- the Committee shared officers' views that the number of existing priorities was probably too great and that Nottingham Children's Partnership may seek to refine and reduce these following the consultation exercise. The Committee noted that a wide range of views was already emerging from the consultation exercise;
- the content of the questionnaire reflected (unintentional) assumptions by authors of the consultees level of understanding of the topics under consideration, with a focus towards the use of 'profession' based terminology;
- on the basis of the current drafting, it would be easy to regard all priorities as being 'critically important' – category 'A'. The Committee felt that it would have been of greater use had the report set out current priorities and progress against targets, which would have afforded consultees an opportunity to comment on areas of poorer performance and make suggestions for improvements. As a minimum, more information to give greater context was required if meaningful comments were desired;

**ACTION**

- in common with the consultations on use of the Sustainable Communities Act and the Core Strategy (minutes 19 and 20 dated 9 July 2009), the end of November deadline for receipt of consultation responses was, in the opinion of the Committee too short. If the City Council wished to undertake meaningful consultation, it should have greater regard for the ways in which community-based groups conducted their business.

The Committee suggested that consultation reports should be considered by Area Committees **not less than six weeks** prior to the deadline for receipt of comments.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that Councillor and Community Representatives forward their comments in response to the consultation to the Corporate Director of Children's Services by 30 November 2009;
- (2) that the Children and Young Nottingham Select Committee be advised of the Area Committees concerns and views that future consultation material should include more contextual information and timescales extended to allow for community group meeting arrangements.

ALL

Andrew High

**29 STREET LIGHTING PRIVATE FINANCE INITIATIVE**  
(Corporate Director of Environment and Regeneration)

Mr Fitzpatrick and Mr Jones apologised for not having met the Area Committee's guidelines for the submission of reports and provided an overall context for the replacement of appropriate City Council lighting stock under a 25 year Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contract. Using maps displayed at the meeting:-

- the implications for the Committees area were identified, including those roads which, due to their unadopted status, would not currently receive replacement equipment and those areas where, due to the pre-existence of newer stock, only lanterns would be replaced to provide white light. Where residents could demonstrate light intrusion, their properties could be assessed for the provision of a louvre-blind system to mitigate the effects;
- clarification was provided on the differences between residential and main road lighting, the types and costs of lighting columns to be used and their locations and rationale behind the design of the lighting system for individual locations, based on traffic flows. Where possible, replacement works would be co-ordinated with other activities, such as footways works, but neither this nor replacing lighting columns in the same locations could be guaranteed;

**ACTION**

- details were provided regarding preparatory survey work across the City by the two potential contract bidders, the background to the allocation of the contract, anticipated efficiency savings on energy costs of 30% per year arising from newer stock and the intention to introduce a mechanism by which all City Council wards, irrespective of ranking would experience some improvement works based on need identified in the conditions survey, within thirty months of the PFI contract being awarded;

**RESOLVED**

- (1) **that the position be noted and, a list be provided of those roads in the Committee's area which had already been upgraded to the revised standard;**
- (2) **that the Chair of the Area Committee be requested to write to Councillor Urquhart, the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Area Working, to urge strongly that the PFI programme incorporate bringing any currently unadopted roads within the Committee's area up to standard and adopted to ensure the benefit of new lighting, and that such a measure should be applied City-wide.**

**Glyn Jones/  
Tim Coulson**

**Councillor  
Culley**

**30 REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
- UNITY CRICKET CLUB  
(Acting Director of Local Communities).**

An amount of up to £10,000 was sought towards the cost of materials to improve Club facilities and security. Approximately half of the current 150 membership was drawn from students of Fernwood School, the Club's adopted school.

**RESOLVED that, mindful of the continuing links with the local community, an award of up to £5,000 be made to the Unity Cricket Club from the Committee's central allocations fund, towards the cost of materials for the improvement of Club facilities.**

**Tim Coulson**

**31 FUTURE MEETING ARRANGEMENTS**

The Committee reflected on the suitability of the Community Centre as a meeting venue and whether the practice of meeting at venues in the community should be continued. Overall, Councillors and Community Representatives felt that the current venue and meeting had been successful and that the trial of meeting in local venues should be continued.

**RESOLVED** that the Area Manager, after consulting the Chair of the Area Sub-committee, be authorised to determine the venue and starting time of the Area Sub-Committee meeting scheduled for 10 December 2009, it being noted that the preferred venue was Kingswood Church Community Centre, Lambourne Drive, Wollaton

**Tim Coulson**

**DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

<b><u>Meeting(s)</u> <u>(6.15 pm unless otherwise notified)</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Venue</u></b>
<b>Area Sub-Committee</b>	<b>10 December 2009</b>	<b>Kingswood Church Community Centre, Lambourne Drive, Wollaton</b>
<b>Area Committee</b>	<b>7 January 2010:</b>	<b>Tea Room, Council House</b>