

## NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

### AREA 8 COMMITTEE

**MINUTES of the meeting held on 13 NOVEMBER 2013 at Loxley House, Station Street, from 7.00pm to 9.06pm**

- ✓ Councillor Michael Edwards (Chair)
- ✓ Councillor Chris Gibson (Vice-Chair)
- ✓ Councillor Nicola Heaton
- Councillor Lee Jeffery
- Councillor Ian Malcolm
- ✓ Councillor Jeannie Packer (minutes 24 to 29 inclusive)
- Councillor Tim Spencer
- ✓ Councillor Roger Steel
  
- ✓ indicates present at meeting

#### **Citizens, colleagues and others in Attendance**

Dee Whitworth	-	Arkwright Meadows Community Gardens
Roy Nettleship	-	Carter's Educational Foundation
Tony Marshall	-	Castle Marina resident
Rev Sarah Clarke	-	Churches Together in Clifton
Robert Moseley	-	Clifton Community Association
Mr J Potter		Clifton resident
Jonathan Hughes	-	Friends of Victoria Embankment
Clare Ashton	-	Good Companions
Mary Daly	-	Meadows Dance and Social Group
Prairie Bryant	)	Nottingham City Council
Abdul Ghaffar	)	
Dorothy Holmes	)	
Noel McMenamin	)	
Parbinder Singh	)	
Wade Adams	)	Nottingham City Homes
Kim de Vergori	)	
Ann Lynch	)	
Richard Gutteridge	-	26 <sup>th</sup> Nottingham Scout Group
Inspector Waldram		Nottinghamshire Police
Margaret Spencer	-	Old Meadows Tenants and Residents Association
William Stewart	-	Queens Walk Community Centre
Di Clausen	-	Resident
George Marshall	)	SSE Lighting
Clare Sutton	)	
Andrew Rule	-	Wilford Community Group

#### **21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor Ian Malcolm (other Council business)

Councillor Tim Spencer

- |                 |   |   |
|-----------------|---|---|
| Basheer Latif   | - | Meadows Muslim Centre                         |
| Carol Moseley   | - | Monday Club                                   |
| Margaret Ballam | - | New Meadows Tenants and Residents Association |

## **22 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

None.

## **23 MINUTES**

The Committee confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2013 as a correct record, and they were signed by the Chair. The Committee also noted the notes of an informal meeting held on 11 September 2013.

## **24 LAND AND PLANNING POLICIES DOCUMENT – PREFERRED OPTION CONSULTATION**

The Committee considered a report of the Corporate Director of Development, informing it about the consultation taking place until 2 December 2013 on the Land and Planning Policies Document (LAPP or Local Plan Part 2).

Dawn Alvey, Local Development Framework Manager, introduced the report, provided a brief presentation, and made the following points:

- (a) the LAPP document is undergoing consultation until 2 December 2013 and, once adopted, will form part of the statutory planning framework alongside the Core Strategy. The Preferred Options stage is the third stage of informal consultation, providing additional information development management policies and site allocations;
- (b) the document contains new policies on Houses in Multiple Occupancy and Student Houses, and includes 4 additional sites located within the Area 8 boundary. These are DS103 Charnwood Centre, DS104 Clifton Lane (the Spinney), DS108 Ruddington Lane and DS109 Clarke Road (Wholesale fruit and flower market).

The Committee discussion focused on the 4 new site allocations, and councillors and colleagues made the following comments:

### **Charnwood Centre**

- (c) the Committee was disappointed that the site was proposed for residential use, as the site currently formed part of an 'outer ribbon' of green space and sports facilities around a large residential area. Councillors understood that the site was covered by the 1951 Corporation Act, and the legal implications for the site being used for residential purposes needed examining further. There was also the question of whether the site was on the flood plain. The general consensus was that the Committee was against the proposed residential use of the site;

### **Clifton Lane (the Spinney)**

- (d) the Committee was not opposed to residential development, but the site currently had a nursing home on it, and several community representatives expressed disappointment that the home might close. It was pointed out that there was only one narrow point of access to the site via Kingfisher Court;

### **Ruddington Lane**

- (e) the Committee was not opposed to residential development, but asked that the capacity of Highways infrastructure and education provision to support additional

housing be taken into consideration;

#### Clarke Road

- (f) no objections to the proposed mixed use for the site. Ms Alvey confirmed that those currently using the site had been directly consulted;

#### Policy areas

- (g) a councillor commented that parts of Area 8 had been historically involved in gypsum mining and that this should be reflected in the minerals policy.

**RESOLVED to note the ongoing consultation and to request the Local Development Framework Manager to include the Committee's comments in the consultation process.**

### **25 AREA 8 PERFORMANCE**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services, presented by the relevant Neighbourhood Development Officer (NDO) for each individual ward, detailing performance against strategic themes in the Nottingham Plan 2020 and against local priorities. The main points, and Committee comments, were as follows:

#### **(1) Bridge – Abdul Ghaffar (NDO)**

- (a) crime is down 39.4% compared to the September 2012 figure and year-to-date (April-September 2013) saw a reduction of almost 19% against 2012 levels. Domestic-related crime was also down on the previous year;
- (b) anti-social behaviour reports are down 8.5% on the previous year to date, and the September 2013 rates are down by 21.6% from September 2012;
- (c) the Cleanliness Index score of 92 is slightly down on the previous year, and but up against the neighbourhood target of 86;
- (d) reports of graffiti and fly tipping for September 2013 were 38 and 67, increases of 38 and 25 on September 2012 respectively;
- (e) unemployment is at 5.8%, down 1.1% on August, but down almost 19% over the last year, putting the ward 10<sup>th</sup> in the City;
- (f) there were 4 deliberate fires in the ward in the year to date;
- (g) key recent successes included the September 2013 Week of Action, the high levels of engagement with community events, the success of the Meadows entry in the East Midlands in Bloom and Britain in Bloom, resulting in Joint 2<sup>nd</sup> in the urban category, a drugs operation in the Bridgway Centre, 66 people had signed up to responsible dog ownership and a successful meeting about lorry issues in Rene Hogg Road;
- (h) main issues identified by citizens are tram works and associated diversion of buses in the Meadows, fly-tipping and graffiti;

(2) Clifton North – Parbinder Singh (NDO)

- (a) year-to-date (April-September 2013) crime is up 6.3% against the same period in 2012. The increases were localised and mainly involved damage to property;
- (b) anti-social behaviour for September 2013 is up 4% (26 calls) on the September 2012 figure, and the year-to-date figure is up 7%;
- (c) the Cleanliness Index score of 86 meets the neighbourhood target, and is up on the previous year's performance;
- (d) reports of graffiti and fly tipping for September 2013 were 12 (an increase of 5) and 4 (a decrease of 7) on 2012 figures respectively;
- (e) unemployment is at 4.4%, down 0.4% on the previous month, but down 1.3% over the last year, putting the ward 15<sup>th</sup> in the City;
- (f) there were no recent deliberate fires in the ward, and the year to date figure remains at 2;
- (g) key successes included the successful launch of the Greener Housing11 initiative and improved partnership working in the ward;
- (h) the key issue for citizens minimising the disruption of tram works and ensuring sustainability of local businesses. There were also issues about parking near schools;

(3) Clifton South – Prairie Bryant (NDO)

- (a) crime is down 9.2% on the previous year, with a 26.4% decrease in the year-to-date (April-September 2013) figures when compared to the same period in 2012;
- (b) anti-social behaviour levels in September 2013 are up 22.5% (9 more calls) on September 2012, and year-to-date rates are up 11.5% on 2012 levels;
- (c) the Cleanliness Index score of 85 is down on the previous year, but up against recent performance;
- (d) reports of graffiti (6 incidents) were unchanged from 2012, while there was an increase in fly tipping for September 2013 (up 5 to 19) on September 2012 levels;
- (e) unemployment is at 5.6%, up 1.4% on the previous month but down 2.6% in the last year, putting the ward 11<sup>th</sup> in the City;
- (f) there were 6 deliberate fires in the ward in August 2013;
- (g) key successes included improved performance in crime and cleanliness and the yearly decrease in unemployment;
- (h) key issues raised by citizens are the ongoing impact of the Tram and A453 works, particularly access to public transport and ensuring sustainability of local businesses;

(4) Nottingham City Homes(NCH) (Wade Adams, Tenancy and Estate Manager)

- (a) repairs rates in all 3 wards were all above target, tenancy satisfaction rates with the repairs service were also strong;
- (b) rent collection rates were currently below target;
- (c) more debt advice was available to NCH tenants, with additional support officers recruited to provide help to tenants;
- (d) average void re-let times were above the target of 25 calendar days in Clifton North and Bridge wards, but below target in Clifton South, primarily because of the property type in the ward;
- (e) over 50 empty properties awaited decommissioning in Bridge ward.

(5) South Locality Board Dorothy Holmes, South Locality Manager

- (a) the South Locality Board was now established, with Helen Jones, Director of Adult Assessment as Chair. The Board will focus on crime reduction, in particular damage, violence (including domestic violence), dwelling burglary and robbery.

(6) Discussion and outcomes:

- (a) Crime: Inspector Waldram advised that overall crime in Bridge ward was down 20% in one year. Several crime hotspots had been targeted through micro-beating and the recent drugs initiative had a positive impact on other crime. Micro-beating techniques were also being used to address the spike in crime in the Rivergreen area of Clifton North ward, and crime levels there had recently reduced;
- (b) Disruption from Tram and A453 works: councillors and community representatives from both Clifton wards acknowledged the significant disruption to citizens, services and businesses arising from the Tram and A453 works. The Committee will want to consider how best to kickstart and rejuvenate the local economy at a future meeting;
- (c) Cleanliness: councillors commended the good performance of street cleansing teams in all 3 wards, in particular the recent significant improvement in levels of cleanliness in Clifton South;
- (d) Housing: a councillor commended the housing decommissioning process in Bridge ward to date. Councillors also requested an update on the Greener HousiNG11 solid wall insulation initiative and the Clifton 'new build' programme at its February 2014 meeting;
- (e) Bus issues: a councillor asked that the temporary bus-stop on Arkwright Street should be made permanent.

**RESOLVED to:**

- (1) note the report and the Committee's comments;**
- (2) to request an update on the Greener HousiNG11 solid wall insulation initiative and the Clifton 'new build' programme at its February 2014 meeting.**

**26 DELEGATED AUTHORITY PROJECTS**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services, presented by Parbinder Singh, Neighbourhood Development Officer, detailing decisions taken by ward Councillors under delegated authority. The committee noted the revised figure of £6,271.50 – up from £6,071.50 – for the amount of Bridge Ward Budget allocated at 21 October 2013.

**RESOLVED to note the report.**

**27 AREA CAPITAL FUND 2013-15**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services, presented by Parbinder Singh, Neighbourhood Development Officer. The report updated the Committee on the latest position in respect of highway and footpath works undertaken using funding from the Area Capital Fund.

The Committee was broadly content with the report recommendations, but deferred approving one Environmentals Programme scheme pending clarification of the costs involved – see resolution 27(4) below.

**RESOLVED to**

- (1) note the monies available to Bridge, Clifton North and Clifton South wards as outlined at Appendix 1 to the report;**
- (2) approve the Area Capital Fund Local Transport Plan and Public Realm schemes for Clifton North and Clifton South as follows:**

<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Type</u></b>	<b><u>Estimate (£)</u></b>	<b><u>Details</u></b>
<b>Clifton North and Clifton South – Additional Parking Restrictions</b>	<b>Parking</b>	<b>5,000 (2,500 from each ward)</b>	<b>Feasibility Study</b>
<b>Sandham Walk / Rivergreen (Clifton North)</b>	<b>Parking</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>Parking area serving local businesses</b>
<b>Farnborough School (Clifton North)</b>	<b>Road Safety</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>Feasibility Study to establish road safety measures for children at Farnborough School</b>
<b>Wilford: (Clifton North)</b>	<b>Litter bins</b>	<b>2,400</b>	<b>Install litter bins at Iremonger Pond and Ruddington Lane Park</b>
<b>Main Road- Wilford (Clifton North)</b>	<b>Road Safety</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>Felling trees and improving retained wall for highway safety</b>

<b>Fieldway subway</b>	<b>Mirrors</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>Installing safety mirrors at entrances to subway</b>
<b>Eddlestone Drive (Clifton North)</b>	<b>Trees</b>	<b>6,400</b>	<b>Felling of trees to protect nearby properties</b>
<b>Farnborough Road (Clifton North)</b>	<b>Bollards</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>Safety bollards at Farnborough School</b>
<b>Brookthorpe Way (Clifton North)</b>	<b>Speed monitoring</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>Speed monitor indicator</b>
<b>Holly Avenue and Village Green (Clifton North)</b>	<b>Kerbs</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>Improve kerbs, prevent damage to greens</b>
<b>Wilford, Silverdale (Clifton North)</b>	<b>Trees</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>Tree planting in the area</b>
<b>Pennard Walk (Clifton South)</b>	<b>Footpath and knee rail</b>	<b>14,004</b>	<b>Footpath construction and knee rail</b>
<b>Clifton Village (Clifton South)</b>	<b>Signs</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>Signs marking emergency access to Almshouses</b>
<b>Glapton Lane (Clifton South)</b>	<b>Feasibility study</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>Glapton School junction protection/footway improvements</b>
<b>Cheddar Close (Clifton South)</b>	<b>Give way marking</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>Road marking junction with Cheddar Road</b>
<b>Larkhill/Arbutus Close (Clifton South)</b>	<b>TRO</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>TRO on waiting restrictions/road markings</b>
<b>Wycombe Close (Clifton South)</b>	<b>Knee rail</b>	<b>4,577</b>	<b>Knee rail to prevent car driving on grass area</b>

- (3) approve the Environmentals Programme schemes for Bridge, Clifton North and Clifton South as follows:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Estimate (£)</u>	<u>Details</u>
Opposite 17 Castleton Close (Bridge)	Remove wall	2,841.51	Open up green area, prevent ASB
Bridgeway Car parks (Bridge)	Re-painting metal fencing	9,000	Improve look of the 3 car parks
Holbrook Court (Clifton South)	Paint external building, remove rust	10,232.96	Protect building
Holbrook Court (Clifton South)	Replace metal windows with double-glazed units	4,517.30	Improve look of building, reduce external noise, make weatherproof
Nobel Road (Clifton South)	Entrance signs and map	1,492	Help negotiate Nobel Road Estate
The Glen (Clifton South)	Replace railings with higher wooden fencing	4,272.50	Extra security for tenants
Angell Green (Clifton South)	Install wall and street plates	10,000	Help navigate the area

- (4) defer approving the following Environmental Programme scheme for Clifton North pending clarification of the costs involved:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Estimate (£)</u>	<u>Details</u>
Colley Moor Leys Lane (Clifton North)	Improve security	29,659.58	Create barrier on top of wall adjacent to 79 Colley Moor Leys Lane, replace low level fencing, resurface courtyard

## **28 AREA COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE - AMENDMENT**

The Committee considered a report of the Corporate Director for Communities, presented by Dorothy Holmes, Locality Manager South, informing the Committee of an amendment to area committees' terms of reference. The amendment incorporates the role and functions of Nottingham City Homes' (NCH) former Area Panels, making provision for NCH tenant representatives to attend each Area Committee.

**RESOLVED** to note the amendment to the Committee's terms of reference.

## **29 URGENT ITEM – CONSULTATION PROCESS: STREET LIGHTING IMPROVEMENTS IN CLIFTON**

The Chair of the meeting was of the opinion that this item, although not included on



**the agenda, should be considered as a matter of urgency in accordance with Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, in view of the special circumstances that it allowed the Area Committee to be consulted on significant street lighting works taking place in Area 8 between November 2013 and February 2014.**

The Committee received for information a presentation by Clare Sutton and George Marshall of SSE Contracting (SSE), the service provider for the citywide Street Lighting Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contract, on forthcoming works in Clifton South. Ms Sutton and Mr Marshall made the following points:

- (a) the scheduled works form part of Phase 2 of the citywide lighting equipment replacement programme, and were due to start at the end of November 2013;
- (b) before construction, there will be a round of letter-drops with key information and contact advice for citizens – Ms Sutton also made information available at the meeting.
- (c) SSE aimed to be in and out of affected areas with as little disruption as possible. Specifically, Ms Sutton explained that as part of the process there will be instances of old and new columns being installed side by side – this was a temporary measure allowing power supplies to be transferred with minimum disruption;
- (d) the works will improve the quality of lighting, be more energy efficient and improve citizen safety.

The Chair thanked the SSE representatives for the presentation, and welcomed the opportunity for dialogue to inform the schedule of works for Clifton South. The following points were made in the discussion which followed:

- (e) several councillors and community representatives spoke positively about the street lighting changes carried out elsewhere in Area 8 under Phase 1 of the programme;
- (f) there was a brief discussion about heritage lighting columns, the SSE representatives explaining that the design for the new columns had been approved by the City Council, and that old columns were not suitable and often in poor condition;
- (g) the programme provided employment opportunities for local people in a variety of roles, and SSE welcomed the knowledge local people brought to their operations. SSE representatives confirmed that they offered youth apprenticeships, but none were linked to these specific works;

**RESOLVED to note the presentation and the Committee's comments, and to provide any additional subsequent comments directly to SSE.**