

## NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

### AREA 8 COMMITTEE

**MINUTES of the meeting held at Ground Floor Committee Room - Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham, NG2 3NG on Wednesday, 12 February 2014 from 7.05 pm - 9.30 pm**

- ✓ Councillor Michael Edwards  
(Chair)
- ✓ Councillor Chris Gibson
- ✓ Councillor Ian Malcolm
- ✓ Councillor Jeannie Packer
- ✓ Councillor Nicola Heaton
- ✓ Councillor Timothy Spencer
- ✓ Councillor Roger Steel

✓

✓ indicates present at meeting

#### **Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:**

Noel McMenamin	- Constitutional Services Officer
Susan Thorpe	- Senior Officer, Traffic Management
Wade Adams	- Nottingham City Homes
Clare Ashton	- Good Companions
Prairie Bryant	- Neighbourhood Development Officer
Mary Daly	- Meadows Dance and Social Group
Jacky Dobson	- Meadows Partnership Trust
Abdul Ghaffar	- Neighbourhood Development Officer
Dorothy Holmes	- Locality Manager
Jonathan Hughes	- Friends of Victoria Embankment
Basheer Latif	- Meadows Muslim Centre
Roy Nettleship	- Carter's Educational Foundation
Mr J Potter	- Resident
Andrew Rule	- Wilford Community Group
Parbinder Singh	- Neighbourhood Development Officer
Margaret Spencer	- OMTRA
Inspector Nick Waldram	- Meadows Police Station

#### **30 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Reverend Sarah Clarke	- Churches Together in Clifton
Colin Mackie	- Silverdale Community Association
Carol Moseley	- Monday Club
Robert Moseley	- Clifton Community Association
Dee Whitworth	- Arkwright Meadows Community Gardens

### **31 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Councillor Malcolm declared an interest in item 7 'Area 8 Area Capital Fund – 2013-15 Programme' (see minute 36 below) as a member of the Clifton Village Hall Trust. He withdrew from the meeting while the item was discussed.

Clare Ashton, Good Companions, declared an interest in item 7 'Area 8 Area Capital Fund – 2013-15 Programme' (see minute 36 below) as a member of the Clifton Village Hall Trust, but, as a non-voting member of this Committee, remained in the meeting while the item was discussed.

Note – when the item on Area Based Grants was discussed (see minute 37 below) councillors made the following declarations:

Councillor Gibson declared a personal interest as a member of Highbank Community Association, and remained in the meeting while this item was discussed.

Councillors Edwards and Heaton declared a personal interest as former directors of the Meadows Partnership Trust, and remained in the meeting while this item was discussed.

Councillor Heaton declared a personal interest as a member of Queen's Walk Community Association, and remained in the meeting while this item was discussed.

### **32 MINUTES**

The Committee confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2013 as a correct record and they were signed by the Chair.

### **33 AREA 8 FAMILY COMMUNITY TEAM**

The Committee received a presentation on the work of the Area 8 Family Community Team. Bronwen Barradell, Community Family Support Manager and Ben Thurley, Targeted Family Support Manager provided the presentation, making the following points:

- (a) the Family Community Team has 2 distinct parts – community and targeted services. The 'community' element offers universal support and activities for children aged 0-19 and their families, Children's Centre provision from antenatal services to 5 years, play and youth activities for ages 5-19 and family support services;
- (b) services delivered at the Meadows Children's Centre and Clifton Children's Centre included antenatal courses and postnatal support, breast feeding, healthy bonding early learning and development, nutrition;
- (c) specific sessions run in Children's Centres include 'Baby PEEP', emphasising the importance of talking, listening, playing and engaging with under 1s, 'Moving Tots', supporting children with activities like walking, jumping, using a

pencil and getting dressed, and 'Musical Moments', using music and movement to help children with delayed speech and language skills;

- (d) the Service has responded to parents' concerns in Clifton about access to the Children's Centre by running sessions at Green Lane Youth Club, with increased attendance and satisfaction;
- (e) the Play and Youth Team offers a range of activities for children and young people aged 5-19 years, but resource pressures mean having to work smarter to achieve measurable outcomes with reduced staffing and budgets;
- (f) Targeted Services provision covers Child Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS), Family Support, the Education Welfare Service and portage (home visiting educational service for pre-school children with additional support needs);
- (g) the presentation provided several case study examples of the issues addressed by the Targeted Services Team, and the positive outcomes achieving through intervention, including improved communications skills, behaviour, school attendance and social inclusion.

The Committee welcomed the work carried out by the Family Community and Team and raised the following issues:

- (h) a community representative explained that councillors and community representatives are involved with the Advisory Boards steering and reviewing the work of Children's Centres. There was a difficulty in getting parental feedback on services provided at the centres. Ms Barradell advised that the Family Community Team asked for parental feedback at each session and this could be shared with the Advisory Board;
- (i) the Committee noted that childhood obesity was a significant issue in Nottingham, and that breast-feeding, nutrition and weaning sessions looked to change longer term parental behaviours to help address the issue;
- (j) specific activities in the Meadows and Clifton included a sleep routine pilot to help address Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder, and work was ongoing to develop drop-in sessions for the portage service to reduce social isolation for children and parents.

**RESOLVED to note the presentation, and to thank Ms Barradell and Mr Thurley for their attendance.**

### **34 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 up slightly (3%) compared to the December 2012 figure but year-to-date (April-December 2013) saw a reduction of 17% against 2012 levels;
- (b) anti-social behaviour reports are down 30% on the previous year to date, and the December 2013 rates are down by 6% from December 2012;
- (c) the Cleanliness Index score of 90 is slightly down on the previous year, and but up against the neighbourhood target of 86;
- (d) reports of graffiti and fly tipping for December 2013 were 44 (a decrease of 6) and 52 (an increase of 20) on December 2012;
- (e) unemployment is at 4.9%, 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 December 2013 Your Choice Your Voice event including the popular Dragon's Den initiative to support local projects, allocation of individual bins on the Terraces, increased community protection activity, delivering a programme of Christmas events, enforcement action against problem Homes in Multiple Occupancy, successful prosecutions following a drugs operation in the Bridgway Centre, and a swift response to fallen trees following stormy weather;
- (h) main issues identified by citizens remained tram works and associated diversion of buses in the Meadows and graffiti, primarily hate/homophobic graffiti;

(2) Clifton North – Parbinder Singh (NDO)

- (a) year-to-date (April-December 2013) crime is up 6% against the same period in 2012, though the December 2013 figure was down slightly on the December 2012 figure;
- (b) anti-social behaviour for December 2013 is up 53% (10 more calls) on the December 2012 figure, and the year-to-date figure is up 6%;
- (c) the Cleanliness Index score of 93 is well above the neighbourhood target of 86, though is down slightly on the previous year's performance;
- (d) reports of graffiti and fly tipping for December 2013 were 5 (a decrease of 3) and 10 (an increase of 3) on 2012 figures respectively;
- (e) unemployment is at 3.8%, down 0.5% on the previous month;
- (f) there were no recent deliberate fires in the ward, and the year to date figure remains at 2;
- (g) key successes included the re-opening of Wilford Lane just before Christmas 2013, the big Christmas Light Switch-on in conjunction with Clifton South, and the Good Companions Christmas Party and Silverdale Over 50s Get-Together;

- (h) the key issue for citizens minimising the disruption of tram works and ensuring sustainability of local businesses.

(3) Clifton South – Prairie Bryant (NDO)

- (a) crime is down 18% on the previous year, with a 23% decrease in the year-to-date (April-December 2013) figures when compared to the same period in 2012;
- (b) anti-social behaviour levels in December 2013 are down to 28 from 41 in December 2012, and year-to-date rates are down marginally on 2012 levels;
- (c) the Cleanliness Index score of 92 is down on the previous year, but up against recent performance;
- (d) reports of graffiti (11 incidents) in December 2013 is up from 3 in December 2012, while levels of fly tipping for December 2013 decreased slightly (down 1 to 7) on December 2012 levels;
- (e) unemployment is at 5.2%, down 0.9% on the previous month, putting the ward 11<sup>th</sup> in the City;
- (f) there was 1 deliberate fire in the ward in December 2013, but year-to-date fire fires were up by 8 on 2012 levels;
- (g) key successes included improved performance in crime and cleanliness and the yearly decrease in unemployment, as well as the successful seasonal events co-hosted with Clifton North ward at (2)(g) above;
- (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, but tenancy satisfaction rates with the repairs service were currently below target;
- (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) decommissioning of 50 properties in Bridge ward was ongoing.

(5) Inspector Waldram, Nottinghamshire Police

- (a) overall crime has come down by over 20% across all beats except Rivergreen where localised issues were being addressed. Although overall crime has fallen significantly, there has been an increase in specific crimes, including thefts from work vans and burglary of dwellings;
  - (b) Police capacity has been stretched by several recent resource-intensive crimes, including a murder in the Meadows, for which 2 people have been charged, historic child sex offences investigations and a missing person case involving a vulnerable individual.
- (6) Discussion and outcomes:
- (a) Crime: In response to several comments about individual crimes, Inspector Waldram made the point that the Police needed information on suspected crimes reporting as soon as possible. He also acknowledged an increase in localised incidents in and around the Meadows, and would investigate further anecdotal links to bail hostels in the area. Further action was also planned in Rivergreen and around the Bridgeway Centre;
  - (b) Disruption from Tram and A453 works: councillors and community representatives from both Clifton wards were frustrated that the re-opening of Southchurch Drive had been delayed, and restated the intention to discuss how best to kickstart and rejuvenate the local economy at a future meeting. It was also confirmed that the current 'finish' to the pavements on Southchurch Drive was temporary and will be completed to a high standard;
  - (c) Cleanliness: councillors commended the consistently good performance of street cleansing teams in all 3 wards;
  - (d) Housing: a councillor commended the joined-up approach to dealing with problem homes of multiple occupation (HMOs) in the Meadows. Decommissioning in the Meadows continued, and the Committee asked that decommissioned sites be demolished and cleared as soon as possible;
  - (e) Parks: a councillor and community representative asked for an update on current and planned improvements to parks and open spaces in Area 8, in particular improvements to Tintagel Park and the cricket pavilion on the Embankment.

**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 May 2014 meeting.**

**35 AREA 8 DELEGATED AUTHORITY PROJECTS**

**RESOLVED to note without discussion the report on actions agreed by the Director of Neighbourhood Services in respect of projects and schemes within Area 8.**

**36 AREA 8 AREA CAPITAL FUND - 2013-2015 PROGRAMME**

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.

Mr Singh pointed out that, in addition to the schemes in the report, there were 2 additional schemes (Uppingham Gardens/Robin Hood Way and Bathley Street/Wilford Grove Safety Audit and Bridgeway Centre Tree Guards), and a revised estimated value for Bridgeway Centre artwork painting, detailed below, before the Committee for approval.

**RESOLVED to**

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

<b>Location</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Estimate (£)</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Meadows Way East</b>	<b>Crossing</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>Contribution to crossing project</b>
<b>Lamcote Grove</b>	<b>Lining</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>Consultation to extend double-yellow lines</b>
<b>Kelso Gardens</b>	<b>Footpath</b>	<b>10,973</b>	<b>Full resurfacing</b>
<b>Castleton Close</b>	<b>Carriageway</b>	<b>8,758</b>	<b>Full resurfacing</b>
<b>Royston Close</b>	<b>Carriageway</b>	<b>8,386</b>	<b>Full resurfacing</b>
<b>Meredith Close</b>	<b>Carriageway</b>	<b>8,618</b>	<b>Full resurfacing</b>
<b>Kirkby Gardens</b>	<b>Carriageway</b>	<b>35,072</b>	<b>Full resurfacing</b>
<b>Thrumpton Drive</b>	<b>Footpath</b>	<b>28,268</b>	<b>Full resurfacing</b>
<b>Old Meadows Footpaths</b>	<b>Footpath</b>		<b>Cut metal grilles to kerb line</b>
<b>Queen's Walk Community Centre</b>	<b>Lighting</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>External light for walkway leading to car park</b>
<b>Queen's Walk</b>	<b>Story Pole feature</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>Preparation, treatment and installation</b>
<b>Old Meadows Street name plates</b>	<b>Name plates</b>	<b>2,800</b>	<b>Re-painting 50 street name plates</b>
<b>Uppingham Gardens</b>	<b>Footpath</b>	<b>1,653</b>	<b>Remove concrete bollards, install knee-high rail and reflective bollards</b>
<b>Robin Hood Way/Meadow Bank</b>	<b>Footpath</b>	<b>806</b>	<b>Knee-high rail to prevent damage to verge</b>
<b>Bathley</b>	<b>Notice</b>	<b>1,221</b>	<b>Community Notice</b>

Street/Wilford Grove			Board
Bridgeway Centre artwork	painting	3,850	Paint metal artwork and fencing
Bridgeway Centre Christmas Tree	Power supply	3,500	Install power supply/foundation
Bridgeway Centre shop fronts	lighting	10,000	Lighting/soffit improvements
Uppingham Gardens, Robin Hood Way and Bathley Street/Wilford Grove	Safety Audit	250	Safety audit for 3 schemes
Bridgeway Centre	Tree Guards	3,902	Removal of 14 metal tree guards

(3) to note a reserved footpath project at Beardsley Gardens for £20,305.

### 37 AREA BASED GRANTS

Councillor Gibson declared a personal interest as a member of Highbank Community Association, and remained in the meeting while this item was discussed.

Councillors Edwards and Heaton declared a personal interest as former directors of the Meadows Partnership Trust , and remained in the meeting while this item was discussed.

Councillor Heaton declared a personal interest as a member of Queen's Walk Community Association, and remained in the meeting while this item was discussed.

The Committee considered a report and received a presentation from the Meadows Partnership Trust on the allocation of Area Based Grant funding in Area 8 in 2013/14. Jacky Dobson of the Meadows Partnership Trust introduced the report and presentation, making the following points:

- (a) the total funding allocation for Area 8 is £98,755.55, to spend on targeted and diversionary youth projects, community centres and employment and skills initiatives;
- (b) youth activities accounted for more than half of the funding allocation, and representatives of the Enthusiasm Trust, one of the partner organisations, spoke about their engagement activity, including skateboard sessions, citizenship and leadership development sessions, and community events;
- (c) employment and skills activity included work clubs, work experience , volunteer/training projects and help with travel and associated costs for local people seeking employment;



- (d) the Area has 5 community centres – 1 in the Meadows and 4 in Clifton. Targets for usage, opening hours engaging under represented groups are on track or being exceeded. A significant number of community events delivered within the Area used the community centres as a venue or focus;
- (e) Groundwork expects to report on its work to deliver work around identifying gaps in youth provision in Clifton by the end of March 2014.
- (f) as the new Third Sector funding allocation regime became more established, the Trust will identify and fill gaps in service provision, look to tap into external funding streams and continue to build strong partnership working arrangements.

The Committee made the following comments in the discussion which followed:

- (g) in response to a community representative's question, Dorothy Holmes, Local Manager South, explained that the organisations receiving funding had previously delivered projects under the old funding regime, and so had a track record of delivering community based projects. Ms Holmes also explained that colleagues from the City Council's Children and Families Department had helped map youth provision to minimise duplication;
- (h) Ms Holmes explained that Switch Up CIC was a boxing organisation, engaging nearly 50 young people across the Area, and was a successful model for diversionary youth provision;
- (i) a councillor commented that the report showed that there was significant youth provision in Area 8, despite public perceptions expressed at Have Your Say events that this wasn't the case;

**RESOLVED to note the report and presentation.**

### **38 SCHOOL ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMME 2014-15**

The Committee received a verbal update from Sue Thorpe, Senior Officer, Traffic Management, on a new rolling school enforcement programme being introduced across Nottingham. Ms Thorpe made the following points:

- (a) a working group was set up with Police colleagues in 2013 to look at the traffic and safety issues around Nottingham's schools and a pilot 'week of school enforcement action' took place in September 2013;
- (b) it is now planned to have a rolling programme of school enforcement action by Area across Nottingham. Areas will be have a week of co-ordinated enforcement on a rota basis covering the whole committee Area over the course of one week;
- (c) schools and councillors will be informed one week before action is taken in their Area, and leaflet drops may take place in particular hotspots;

- (d) proposed enforcement action includes morning or afternoon visits from the Civil Enforcement Response Team, Police Community Support Officers, Community Protection Officers, a camera surveillance car and Traffic Officers. Compliance checks for the Workplace Parking Charge may also take place.

The Committee raised several issues in the discussion which followed:

- (e) Ms Thorpe explained that this action will provide a consistent approach to enforcement across Nottingham, and will work alongside existing school traffic management plans. The City Council has a statutory responsibility to reduce congestion;
- (f) there was no single 'silver bullet' solution to school road traffic congestion, but co-ordinated action, including walk-to-school campaigns as well as enforcement, helped address the problem;
- (g) Ms Thorpe acknowledged issues to do with tram construction and its effects on schools needed handling sensitively.

**RESOLVED to note the presentation and the Committee's comments.**