

## NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

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

**MINUTES of the meeting held at Dining Room - at the Council House on 19 June 2017  
from 5.01 pm - 6.28 pm**

#### **Membership**

##### Present

Councillor Steve Battlemuch (Chair)  
Councillor Sally Longford (Vice Chair)  
Councillor Jim Armstrong  
Councillor Sam Webster

##### Absent

Councillor Georgina Culley

#### **Community Representatives (✓ indicates present)**

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| ✓ Friends of Wollaton Park                     | - Rob Kirkwood                     |
| ✓ Lenton Abbey Residents Association           | - Adam McGregor                    |
| North Wollaton Residents Association           | - Dr Chris Bignell                 |
| ✓ Sheila Roper Community Association           | - Bill Smith                       |
| University of Nottingham Student Union         | - Abel Hartman or Ismail Sadurdeen |
| ✓ Wollaton Historical and Conservation Society | - Alan Hall                        |
| ✓ Wollaton Park Community Association          | - Pauline Peck                     |
| ✓ Wollaton Park Residents Association          | - Sue Twyford                      |
| Wollaton Vale Residents Association            | - Anthony Swanell                  |

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

Inspector Gordon Fenwick ) Nottinghamshire Police  
Inspector Robert Wilson )  
Carmen Barnes - Family Support Manager, Early Help Service  
Lylse-Anne Renwick - Neighbourhood Development Officer (Wollaton West)  
Pauline Dorey - Neighbourhood Development Officer (Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey)  
Paul Howard - Tenancy and Estates Manager, Nottingham City Homes  
Catherine Ziane-Pryor - Governance Officer

### **1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

Councillor Steve Battlemuch is appointed Chair for the municipal Year 2017/18.

### **2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR**

Councillor Sally Longford is appointed Vice-Chair.

### **3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor Georgina Culley – other Council business  
Anthony Swannell  
Sylvia Taylor  
Dr Chris Bignell  
Abel Hartman and Ismail Sudurdeen

#### **4 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Although not formally required to do so, Councillor Sam Webster informed the Committee that in relation to Agenda Item 8, Nottingham City Homes Update (Minute 8), he is a City Council appointed Board member of Nottingham City Homes. This did not preclude him for speaking or voting on the item.

#### **5 MINUTES**

##### **a 28 NOVEMBER 2016**

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2016, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

##### **b 27 FEBRUARY 2017**

Subject to clarifying in minute 85, 'Declarations of Interests', that Councillor Georgina Culley declared an interest in agenda item 4, 'Proposals for a Scheme Of Selective Licensing for Privately Rented Housing', the minutes of the meeting held on the 27 February 2017 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

#### **6 LOCAL POLICING UPDATE**

Nottinghamshire Police inspectors Robert Wilson and Gordon Fenwick were in attendance to update the Committee on local Policing issues.

Following the very serious and disturbing terrorist events at a national level, local Police aim to reassure citizens with their increased visible presence. As a result beat timings have altered and contact with community leaders has increased in addition to normal Policing business. It is recognised national events have had an impact on local communities, but citizens should be assured that the Police do prioritise and respond where risks are identified;

It is noted that the way in which crimes are recorded has changed with incidents being classed as a crime when reported and prior to confirmation that a crime has been committed. This recording method will provide what initially appear to be high crime figures when compared against the same period last year, but will eventually provide more comparative data.

Police inspector Robert Wilson provided a verbal update policing issues in Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey ward since the last meeting. The following points were highlighted with statistics for the Area against the same period last year:

- i. violent incidents were down by 1 (-5%);
- ii. burglary overall is down by 8 incidents (-53%);
- iii. four more vehicles were stolen;
- iv. there were five more thefts from vehicles;
- v. bicycle thefts and theft of the items has remained the same;
- vi. four reports of antisocial behaviour were received (-12%)

Police inspector Gordon Fenwick provided a verbal update policing issues in Wollaton West ward since the last meeting. The following points were highlighted:

- i. overall there were additional 37 crimes, which is still below are in the city average;

- ii. there were 3 additional burglaries;
- iii. there were 16 fewer auto crime theft incidents (-61%);
- iv. 9 fewer incidents of criminal damage;
- v. there were 7 hate related incidents, of which, 4 are considered hate crime;
- vi. there were an additional 21 antisocial behaviour reports (+46%), including public disorder offences.

A Policing Week of Action has been held. Concerns have been raised regarding issues on the Grangewood Estate, but no incidents have been reported to the Police. Two Police Officers are to undertake a Police Day of Action and will liaise with other partner organisations to help identify issues on the estate and how they can best be resolved.

Off-road motorbikes in Wollaton Park remain a problem and whilst the Police do have trained motorcycle officers, they do not currently have bikes, but will be borrowing motorcycles from the West Bridgford Police colleagues. In addition CCTV including a mobile CCTV van will be used to assist in identifying offenders.

Following the assault of a woman jogger several weeks ago, overt and covert policing has taken place in the Park. No further incidents have been reported or issues raised.

With regard to the Torvill drive 20 mph speed limit, 242 cars have been speed scanned and 15 vehicles were found to be speeding and either warned or issued penalties. A similar operation was undertaken on the Grangewood Estate with 142 vehicles scanned, 101 (42%) where travelling above the speed limit. The preference is to warn and educate drivers, although penalties can be issued. Where citizens raise concerns about ongoing speeding, where possible, local Police will be happy to respond.

On the Grangewood estate, the shrine to the murdered child remains in place and will be treated sensitively, possibly being replaced with a more permanent memorial mural.

Inspector Gordon Fenwick accepted the invitation to have a citizen engagement stall at the Wollaton arts Festival.

The Committee's questions were responded to as follows:

- (a) motorcycle theft is an ongoing national problem, particularly regarding smaller vehicles which are more vulnerable as they are easier to move and even be picked up and removed. The thieves often put themselves and others at risk, particularly if they are not trained to manage the more powerful vehicles;
- (b) to tackle speeding motor and quad bikes, a proportionate response is required. Two police officers will attend a National Policing Conference in Merseyside which will consider a range of tactics which could be applied.

Members of the Committee commented:

- (c) off-road motorcycles are an ongoing problem in Wollaton Park, with the added issue of deer and historical grounds. Parks management team are keen that this issue was addressed;
- (d) a flashing speed sign would be beneficial to remind drivers of the 20 mph speed limit on Torvill Drive;

- (e) citizen sometimes feel that no action is taken by the police with regard to speeding however this is not the case. Where speed tracking and stops occur, there is a longer lasting benefit to residents;
- (f) citizens are concerned about the angle of speed cameras on Middleton Boulevard. The Police will raise this with Traffic Management for investigation.

**RESOLVED to thank Police Inspectors Wilson and Fenwick for their attendance and update.**

## **7 EARLY YEARS**

Carmen Barnes, Family Support Manager in the Early Help Service, delivered a brief verbal presentation to accompany the documents in the agenda which inform the Committee of the Early Years Services available in the Area, how services are monitored, who accesses the services, what the main challenges are, and how results are assessed. Current session details are listed in the agenda documents which also includes the 'Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services' (CAHMS) newsletter.

The following points were highlighted and responses given to questions:

- (a) Children's Centres across the City are mainly focused on delivering services for children under five years old and from 5 to 19 years old;
- (b) sessions run at Children's Centres include open access, where any parent and child can attend, and targeted sessions for families referred by social workers, where specific needs such as parenting support and child behaviour issues have been identified;
- (c) currently open access and targeted support sessions are provided at Balloon Woods and Wollaton Children's Centre;
- (d) the Early Years' Service is currently recruiting to 3 posts to enable current local need to be met and identify and fill gaps in service provision;
- (e) CAMHS provides one to one work with young people to support them through trauma with therapeutic work and support with emotional, mental and self-harm issues;
- (f) attendance by the 5 to 19 year old group of young people and their parents has been low, but once recruitment is complete further engagement work will take place;
- (g) a City-wide programme of Summer Holiday activities and events for young people of all ages is currently being compiled and will be confirmed shortly.

The Committee's comments included:

- (h) the Harrow Road Early Years targeted sessions are valuable and necessary as child development and family issues have been identified which can then be addressed;
- (i) investment at an early stage of childhood and parenthood at ward level is important to have a positive, long-term impact on local communities and society in general. Where

services are not statutory, finding the funding can be very difficult but the investment is worthwhile and a massive benefit.

**RESOLVED to note the update.**

## **8 NOTTINGHAM CITY HOMES UPDATE**

Paul Howard, Tenancy and Estate Manager for Nottingham City Homes, presented the report which updated the Committee on Nottingham City Homes (NCH) performance, engagement activity and requested consideration of an environmental project.

In reference to the Grenfell Tower fire on 14 June 2017, Paul Howard informed the Committee that NCH has issued a statement on the website regarding fire safety procedures and provision, and informed the Committee that reviews of safety and risks had and were urgently being undertaken. The Committee were assured that Capitol Court flats undergo a monthly fire alarm test and the exterior cladding is different to that used on Grenfell Tower.

Across the City, residents of high rise NCH buildings have received letters regarding work to be done in their blocks to increase fire safety. Investigations continue as to the type of some cladding of buildings and any residents concerned about this can refer to the NCH Statement or contact Nottingham City Homes on 0115 9152222 with any queries. Responses may not be given be given over the phone but callers will be contacted.

With regard to the update report, volunteer Street Champions are being recruited to undertake as much or as little as they want, but they need to care about their community, be observant and able identify where neighbours may need help. For further information please contact NCH on 0115 746 9100 or [involved@nottinghamcityhomes.org.uk](mailto:involved@nottinghamcityhomes.org.uk)

Due to staffing changes and one housing patch manager being moved to a different part of the City, housing areas will be changing. The Committee will provide be provided with more information at a later date.

Is noted that in appendix 2, the tenant survey regarding antisocial behaviour services has reached the highest satisfaction levels so far at 87.5%.

### **RESOLVED**

- (1) to note the update and performance information in Appendices 1 and 2 to the report;**
- (2) to note the allocation of funds:**

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Actual Budget</b>	<b>Schemes Approved</b>	<b>Schemes Committed</b>	<b>Schemes De-Committed</b>	<b>Remaining Budget</b>
<b>Wollaton West</b>	<b>£12,226.17</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£12,226.17</b>
<b>Wollaton East &amp; Lenton Abbey</b>	<b>£45,817.57</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£45,817.57</b>

- (3) to approve the NCH Environmental funding request below which is a contribution to the joint NCC and NCH Area Capital Fund Scheme:**

<b>Address</b>	<b>Request</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>59 Woodside Road</b>	<b>Phase 3 hardstanding project – fit hardstanding and carry out associated works.</b>	<b>Parking issues on Woodside Road and associated damage to verges. Joint project with NCC.</b>	<b>£9558.00</b>

## **9 COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE UPDATES**

Community representatives were invited to update the Committee on any issues relevant to their group.

### Lenton Abbey residents Association (Adam McGregor)

With specific reference to the changes in future funding, it is vital that organisations provide activities which engage citizens in numbers large enough to ensure that sessions, and facilities can be considered a 'going concern'.

Councillor Sally Longford commented that with regard to some activities, although publicity has been substantial, more community involvement and engagement is required to ensure ongoing funding.

The Chair suggested that due to the location of the Sheila Roper Centre, activities and facilities should also be publicised to nearby Beeston residents to ensure the highest possible uptake.

### Wollaton Park Residents Association (Sue Twyford)

Residents are concerned that the NG8 newsletter is not distributed within the Wollaton area. Although this is a private publication, it is understood that the newsletter distributors do not possess a license to distribute in the broader NG8 area.

Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) continue to be an issue in the area with more properties being converted and multiple households living together in one property. One of the major concerns is that many landlords and tenants do not generally look after the properties or gardens, don't have knowledge, care nor respect of and for the local area, community or residents.

Councillor Sam Webster commented that communities need a balanced and Nottingham is a victim of its own success with the number of HMOs falling below saturation levels.

Sue Twyford responded that other cities have set their HMO saturation point at very different levels to Nottingham which opted for 25% of the housing stock. Southampton has saturation point of 10% and 20% (2 areas), Solihull 20%, Glasgow 5%, and Birmingham 10%.

Councillor Sam Webster agreed to discuss this point with Planning Department colleagues.

Councillor Sally Longford explained that when article 4 was introduced, the City Council had to consider where to place the HMO saturation point. If the percentage was too high it would not be accepted and if you saturation point was too low, the accommodation needed for citizens would not be provided. The 25% figure was selected as a result of considering the whole of the super output area statistics. However, now that the figure has been approved by Central Government it would be very difficult to go to appeal and ask for it to be overturned. However the issue will be discussed with Planning Officers, who were also shocked by the HMO saturation levels set by some other cities.

There is some confusion with regard to what is and is not acceptable within the Wollaton Conservation Area, regarding dormer windows. Councillor Sally Longford responded that with regard to the bungalows with high pitched roofs, dormer windows were only acceptable in some circumstances to the rear of the property and not to the front or side. Following a planning application for a dormer window to the side roof of a house on Charnock Avenue, the opinion of

surrounding residents was sought, but with very little response. As a result of Councillor objection the application was taken to Planning Committee where Councillor Longford formally objected to the application on the grounds that it was inappropriate for a conservation area and did not comply to the rules of the conservation area, but had to withdraw prior to the Committee's consideration of the item. Unfortunately Planners were of the opinion that the restriction on dormer windows was most relevant to the high pitched bungalow roofs and that's refusing the application for a side dormer on a house would be overturned at appeal.

Councillor Sam Webster responded that although residents and the Local Authority may prefer more robust planning laws, planning legislation is set by Central Government and must be adhered to, even when it contradicts localism.

#### Friends of Wollaton Park (Rob Kirkwood)

The group would like to work more independently of the Parks and Open Spaces Team, particularly regarding task days and communications. The austerity cuts have impacted on the City Council staffing and operations, so the City Council needs to consider altering some working practices to enable volunteer groups to function and remain sustainable for a mutual benefit. The Chair commended the outstanding work of the Friends of Wollaton Park and agreed that some refinement to City Council procedures is required to ensure valuable volunteer work can be undertaken smoothly, adding that he would be happy to assist in suggesting changes to the Parks and Open Spaces Team.

#### Wollaton Historical Conservation Society (Alan Hall)

The Wollaton Arts Festival is due to be held between 1 and 16 July 2017. The festival brochure is an excellent piece of work and it is hoped that it will attract a lot of publicity. This is the second year of the festival which continues to improve. Community representatives are requested to promote the festival to their groups.

The Chair also reminded the Committee at an exhibition of dinosaur fossils from China, the first to be exhibited outside of China, will be held at Wollaton Hall between 1 July and 29 October 2017. Further details are available on the City Council website.

## **10 AREA WARD REPORTS**

Lylse-Anne Renwick, Neighbourhood Development Officer for Wollaton West Ward, and Pauline Dorey, Neighbourhood Development Officer for Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey Ward, presented the report which informs the Committee of the current priorities and issues within each ward and the actions taken and planned to address those issues. The report also provides details of forthcoming events and activities.

In addition to the events listed, the following free community events were highlighted:

- Saturday 1 July 2017 – Lenton Abbey Fun Day, on Lenton Abbey Park, 1-5pm;
- Friday 28 July 2017 – Farndon Green Fun Day, Farndon Green Wollaton Park Estate, 1-4pm.

**RESOLVED to note the progress:**

- (1) on Ward priorities and other supporting information including the issues being addressed by each Neighbourhood Action Team;**
- (2) made against existing Councillor pledges.**







which informs the Committee of action taken under delegated authority following requests from Councillors for schemes to be funded from Ward Councillor Budgets.

## RESOLVED

- (1) to note the following allocations from Councillors Longford and Webster for Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey and the remaining funds:

Allocated Schemes	Amount (total)
Neighbourhood Transformation WELA ward	£ 3,000.00
Lenton Abbey Families Summer Seaside Trip - contribution	£ 600.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 3,600.00</b>

Balance brought forward 2015/16 (including historical funds)	£4,133
Allocation 2017/18	£10,000
Total available allocation	£14,133
Total de-committed	0
Total allocated at 18/6/2017	£ 3,600
Total unallocated at 18/6/2017	£10,533

- (2) to note the following allocation by Councillor for Wollaton West and the remaining funds:

Allocated Schemes	Councillor(s)	Amount (total)
Heritage Open Days Publicity 2016 Booklet Contribution	Councillor Battlemuch	£100
Wollaton Park Community Centre Garden	Councillor Battlemuch	£200
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£300</b>

Balance brought forward 2015/16 (including historical funds)	£7,647
Allocation 2017/18	£15,000
Total available allocation	£22,647
Total de-committed	0
Total allocated at 18/6/2017	£300
Total unallocated at 18/6/2017	£22,447

## 13 FUTURE MEETING DATES

RESOLVED for the Committee to meet on the following Mondays at 5pm in the Council House:

18 September 2017  
 11 December 2017  
 26 February 2018