

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

BULWELL AND BULWELL FOREST AREA COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held at Bulwell Riverside, Main Street Bulwell, Nottingham NG6 8QJ on 27 June 2018 from 5.32pm - 6.50pm

Membership

Present

Councillor Eunice Campbell-Clark (Chair)
Councillor Jackie Morris (Vice Chair)
Councillor Cheryl Barnard (Vice Chair)
Councillor John Hartshorne
Councillor Ginny Klein

Absent

Councillor Nick McDonald

Community Representatives (✓ indicates present)

- | | | |
|---|-------------------|--|
| ✓ | Reginald Knowles | Bradford Street Allotments |
| ✓ | Colin Bones | Bulwell Churches Together |
| | Joseph Zulu | Covenant Ministries |
| | John Hancock | Coventry Road Estate Tenant and Residents Association (CRESTA) |
| | Doreen Carruthers | Forest Park Neighbourhood Watch |
| | Ros Yousouf |)Hoewood Area Residents and Tenants (HART) |
| ✓ | Judith Traynor |) (substitute for Ros Yousouf) |
| | Gillian Slack | Ravensworth Methodist Church |
| ✓ | Paul Bakajsa | Rise Park Action Group |
| ✓ | Paul Jackson | Royal British Legion - Bulwell |
| ✓ | Rev. David Gray | St John's Church |
| | Maria Shakespeare | The People's Choice |
| ✓ | Robin Goodwin | Top Valley Community Association |

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| Barbara Bates | - | Bulwell Forest Community Garden |
| Joanne Smith | - | Nottingham City Homes Area Housing Manager |
| Sergeant Nev McGeehan | - | Nottinghamshire Police |
| Nick Parr | - | Right Track Social Enterprise |
| Suki Shergill |) | Neighbourhood Development Officer (Bulwell) |
| Celia Knight |) | Neighbourhood Development Officer (Bulwell Forest) |
| Catherine Ziane-Pryor | - | Governance Officer |
| John Hancock (Senior) | - | observer |

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED for Councillor Eunice Campbell-Clark to be appointed Chair for the 2018/19 municipal year.

2 APPOINTMENT OF TWO JOINT VICE-CHAIRS

RESOLVED for Councillor Jackie Morris and Councillor Cheryl Barnard to be appointed joint Vice-Chairs for the 2018/19 municipal year.

3 MBE AWARDED TO CELIA KNIGHT

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 the Internationally recognised award was specifically relevant to an officer working with the community in the Area covered by this Committee.

It was with great pleasure that the Chair informed the Committee that Neighbourhood Development Officer Celia Knight has been awarded an MBE (Member of the British Empire) in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for championing local communities for more than 40 years. The Committee congratulated Celia on the well-deserved award.

4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Nick McDonald – personal
Doreen Carruthers
Gillian Slack
Ros Yousouf (Judith Traynor substituting)

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

6 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 February 2018 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

7 AREA COMMITTEE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Celia Knight, Neighbourhood Development Officer, presented the report which set out the role and requirements of community representatives and listed group nominations which have already been approved by Councillors.

The Chair welcomed community representatives and emphasised that it was not appropriate for casework to be raised as an issue in the public meeting, but that individual issues can be raised separately with ward councillors and Nottingham City Homes officers, who will be pleased to assist.

RESOLVED to note the following appointment of Community representatives for the 2018/19 municipal year:

Bulwell Ward

**Bradford Street Allotments Association
Coventry Road Estate Tenant and Residents Association
(CRESTA)
Hoewood Area Residents and Tenants (HART)
The People's Choice Tenants and Residents Association
Ravensworth Road Church
St Johns Church**

**Reginald Knowles
John Hancock

Ros Yousouf
Maria Shakespeare
Gillian Slack
Rev David Grey**

Bulwell Forest Ward

**Bulwell Churches Together
Covenant Ministries
Forest Park Neighbourhood Watch
Rise Park Action Group
Royal British Legion
Top Valley Community Association**

**Colin Bones
Joseph Zulu
Doreen Carruthers
Paul Bakajsa
Paul Jackson
Robin Goodwin**

8 LOCAL POLICING UPDATE

Sargent Nev McGeehan provided a verbal update on crime statistics across the Area compared to the same period (1 April to 26 June) last year.

The following points were highlighted and it noted that some rises in crime figures were as a result of changes in the way crime is recorded:

- (a) the number of total crimes reported was up by 27.6% from 835 to 1,066;
- (b) victim based crime has increased by 24.46% from 744 incidents to 926 incidents, but now includes threats and harassment;
- (c) robberies increased from 12 to 13;
- (d) burglaries have reduced significantly from 83 to 46, which is a drop of 44.55%;
- (e) vehicle offenses were down by 10 from 53 to 43;
- (f) shop lifting has risen significantly from 99 to 155. However, this may partly be due to 5 days of proactive action in Bulwell town centre to target repeat offenders, when shops were more likely to report incidents to Police knowing that officers were nearby. Efforts are being made to try and prevent known repeat offenders from legally entering the Town Centre area by issuing them with restriction orders;
- (g) arson has increased by 7 offences to 12 and with the current hot and dry weather, it is anticipated that this trend will continue. However, a prolific offender has been caught and charged with several offences across the City;
- (h) cycle thefts have increased from 9 to 17;
- (i) hate crime has increased from 17 to 24 but is mostly connected to neighbour disputes and between patients and staff at Highbury Hospital, so there is no significant cause for concern.

Questions from the Committee were responded to as follows:

- (j) with regard to the request for a Police or Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) presence in Bulwell Market Place during Market days to reassure citizens and pick up incidents, the numbers of Officers available has been significantly reduced by more than half during the past few years. As such the capacity does not exist to regularly support this request, even with Community Protection Officers (CPOs). The recent Police recruitment drive will increase overall numbers but by the nature of the job, PCSOs often apply to the Police, which leaves vacancies in their roles;

- (k) the significant rise in crimes against people rather than objects and reduction in Policing numbers has been considered at a national level by the Crime Recoding Team and no direct correlation found. However, the changes in the way that crimes are recorded has had an impact on the figures which cannot easily be considered like-for-like when verbal abuse and threats are counted as assault or public order offences;
- (l) several alternative funding sources for the Police have been investigated but so far found to be inappropriate or unworkable. In some other Forces, sponsorship of vehicles and resources has been considered but there is a concern that where sponsorship is received, there may be a perception that the Police are beholden to sponsors and no longer wholly independent. In addition, many local businesses are struggling and could not afford to support services to which they already contribute by paying taxes. However, the question could be presented to senior officers and a response provided to the next meeting;
- (m) rules for the flying of drones can be found on the Police Website at <https://www.nottinghamshire.police.uk/advice/drone-law-uk>

Members of the Committee commented that with regard to shop lifting, some of the national chains with stores in Bulwell did not accept the advice to move high value items out of easy reach from doors, saying that there was a nationally set shop display format which had to be followed.

It is noted that the Bulwell Trader's Association is no longer active.

The Chair reminded citizens that if they have any broader reaching Policing concerns or issues, such as the reduction in Policing levels across the City, they can raise these with the Police and Crime Commissioner, Paddy Tipping, as it is important that he is aware of the views and concerns of citizens.

RESOLVED to thank Sergeant Nev McGeehan for his attendance and update.

9 BULWELL FOREST COMMUNITY GARDEN

Barbara Bates from the Bulwell Forest Community Garden provided a verbal report on the garden which was accompanied by a slide show of photographs of the volunteers, achievements, activities undertaken and produce.

The following points were highlighted and questions from the Committee responded to:

- (a) the Community Garden is sited on Austin Street in Bulwell Forest and came about as a result of a few residents on Broomhill Road discussing the lack of safe open green spaces for children and local people to engage with nature, socialise and get to know each other;
- (b) with the idea of establishing a community garden, residents asked the City Council for an area of land and after a year, were allocated a two and a half acre plot of land behind Cantrell School to the rear of St Alban's Road;
- (c) local residents were consulted to ensure that the garden could meet their needs and expectations. Initially some citizens supported the garden but were concerned that it

would become a target for theft, vandalism and general anti-social behaviour, but apart from one brief spate, this has not been the case;

- (d) initially there were 3 or 4 volunteers working very hard to provide a family area where it was appropriate to hold children's activities during the school holidays, but volunteer numbers have now swelled and approximately 25 regular volunteers and approximately 200 people attend the garden activities and events on a regular basis;
- (e) although starting from nothing, the garden now has 22 raised beds, a pond is being constructed and a medicinal garden and a seasonal recipe book is being developed;
- (f) the garden is open to the community between 10am and 4pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and between 1pm and 4pm on a Saturday, promoting physical activity, education, healthy eating and good mental health and wellbeing;
- (g) the Lunch Club is very popular and meets every Friday at 10.30am to harvest, prepare and then cook a meal including produce grown in the garden. The club regularly attracts between 25 and 30 people per session. Other activities include Yoga at 10am on a Wednesday, the 'Green Fingers Club' and the 'Forest After School Club';
- (h) Initially the founding members visited school fairs and events to raise local awareness of the Garden, but due to reducing volunteer numbers, this hasn't been possible this year;
- (i) some of the volunteers and participants have additional needs which does raise concerns as the garden group do not have specialist knowledge but are keen to be inclusive;
- (j) it is a concern that, as there is no charge for citizens to attend activities and events such as the lunch club and school holiday activities, larger numbers of citizens from across the City, not just the local area, are attending sessions which are now starting to exceed capacity. Whilst there would be reluctance to turn people away, further consideration is needed as to how this can be managed to ensure that quality standards are met and not diluted due to the volume of participants;
- (k) as with most voluntary organisations, more committee members are required from Bulwell and Bulwell Forest Wards and new members, particularly gardening volunteers are always welcome;
- (l) members of the Committee and local Community groups are welcome to visit the garden and see what is being achieved;
- (m) with regard to capacity and attracting participants from outside the area, a community garden group has formed in Bestwood and held an initial meeting and two potential sites have been identified. Bulwell Forest Community Garden group members are happy to share their experiences and knowledge with Bestwood group and have already met with them;
- (n) the garden attracts a lot of people from Bulwell Hall and the Snapewood area, but not many from the Crabtree Estate area. It may be that they think it's too far away and difficult to get to, but there's a convenient pedestrian cut-through which leads directly to the garden. A walk is proposed from the Crabtree Estate to the garden (with tea and cake on arrival) to promote how easy it is to get to the garden from that estate;

- (o) funding from the National Lottery has been secured for 5 years, of which 3 remain.

Members of the Committee applauded Barbara and the group for their consistently hard and enthusiastic work which has produced such impressive achievements.

Members of the Committee and the local community groups are requested to promote the garden and encourage anyone interested in gardening and possibly contributing some time and/or skill to the garden, to contact Barbara on 07890 557854, and maybe attend the Annual General Meeting on 19 July 2018 where scones and fresh strawberries from the garden will be served.

Although there had been efforts to launch a community garden in Bulwell, there hadn't been enough local interest, possibly as a lot of people are renting and don't necessarily have a longer term view of investment in the area. However, if interest is expressed in the future, another attempt may be made.

The Bradford Street Allotments is well established and very popular and run by volunteers with a significant waiting list. However, the City Council will be raising the allotment rents by a significant amount soon so this may deter citizens from renting an allotment, to keep active and grow their own produce.

There had been a community garden in Grindon Crescent but were not able to recruit new volunteers. Sharing the knowledge of gaining National Lottery funding for the Bulwell Forest Community Garden may be beneficial to other groups as this is a significant achievement.

RESOLVED to thank Barbara Bates for her attendance, offer the Committee's congratulations to the Bulwell Forest Community Garden for its outstanding success and request that an update is provided to a future meeting.

10 RIGHT TRACK SOCIAL ENTERPRISE (LEAD ORGANISATION) UPDATE

Nick Parr, Head of Community and Learning at Right Track Social Enterprise, presented an update which follows on from the report provided to the last meeting.

The report provides an overall summary of community focused activity in the area during the past year by the Area 1 Consortium which includes the Toy Library, Think for the Future, Bulwell Healthy Living Centre, Crabtree Community Centre, Snapewood Community Centre, Top Valley Community Centre, Right Track Social Enterprise. The consortium has worked really hard to improve the offer to the community in the area and support citizens. It has engaged with the Department of Work and Pensions and local businesses to hold job clubs and the Toy Library now holds sessions in the community and local parks.

An overview of sessions, activities, support and services, such as youth work, employability and play activity, provided from local community centres is listed in the report with the aim to improve education, upskill and build confidence of citizens, whilst also improving health outcomes and increase investment into the area.

A total of 499 children under the age of 4 were engaged with a total of 10,292 interactions recorded.

Steve Parkinson from the Toy Library and Hannah Rees from Think for the Future had hoped to attend the meeting but were unable, so the schedule of summer activities will be circulated with the initial publication of the minutes.

In response to a question from the Committee regarding encouraging and or supporting young people to become self-employed, such as running a market stall, it really depends on the capability of the individual. Generally it's more beneficial to the individual to initially work as an employee but further enquiries can be made.

RESOLVED to thank Nick Parr for his attendance and update.

11 NOTTINGHAM CITY HOMES UPDATE AND APPROVALS

Joanne Smith, Area Housing Manager, presented the report of the Chief Executive of Nottingham City Homes (NCH), which updates the Committee with a list of community activity in the area including NCH involvement with community groups, an overall performance report and requests approval for environmental schemes.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) it is noted that the Chatham Court Grand Design Team are due to finish on site at the end of the month;
- (b) addressing anti-social behaviour exceeded the customer satisfaction target of 85% by 2%. As a result the target will be raised;
- (c) Nottingham City Homes has won 3 awards at the National Housing Awards including Landlord of the Year, Outstanding approach to Tenant Involvement, and Innovation of the Year.

Members of the Committee congratulated Nottingham City Homes Officers and Teams on winning such prestigious awards and excelling against the customer satisfaction target. Ward Councillors had noticed reduction in casework regarding tenant anti-social behaviour issues.

In addition, the work being undertaken in Norwich Gardens and Courtleet Way has significantly improved the area and is money well spent.

RESOLVED

- (1) to note the performance and engagement information in Appendices 1 and 2;**
- (2) to note the following financial position:**

Ward	Allocated Budget	Schemes Approved	Schemes Committed	Schemes De-Committed	Remaining Budget
Bulwell	£149,727.89	£0	£0	£0	£149,727.89
Bulwell Forest	£87,548.38	£0	£0	£0	£87,548.38

- (3) to approve the following environmental schemes:**

Address	Request	Cost
Norwich Gardens – Bulwell	To complete Phase 6 of this successful scheme to improve access to the outside space, the appearance of the boundaries and prevent anti -social behaviour, to properties 64-86 in line with the previous 5 phases.	£57,821.04
Courtleet Way/ Willow Hill – Bulwell	Completion of Phase 4 of the successful and well received boundary improvement project by replacing the current dilapidated timber fencing with high quality metal railings to improve appearance and security.	£50,877.73

12 **BULWELL AND BULWELL FOREST WARD REPORTS**

Neighbourhood Development Officers, Suki Shergill and Celia Knight, presented the report which outlines current ward priorities and issues within the wards and identifies the lead organisation or City Council Department for addressing those issues.

RESOLVED to note:

(1) the current ward priorities for Bulwell Ward are summarised as follows;

- (a) **Safer Nottingham**
Reduce anti-social behaviour, fly tipping and criminal damage
Reduce shop thefts in Bulwell Town Centre
Tackle drug offences
- (b) **Neighbourhood Nottingham**
Engagement work in Crabtree to combat fly tipping
Regenerate Bulwell Town Centre
Reduce parking overspill from Bulwell Riverside
Dog fouling reduction
- (c) **Families Nottingham**
Small Steps Big Changes
Encouraging positive parenting
- (d) **Health Nottingham**
Promote healthy lifestyles
Lung check/ MOTs
Bulwell Health and Wellbeing Programme booklet
- (e) **Working Nottingham**
Deliver employment and training
Support residents into work

(2) the current ward priorities for Bulwell Forest Ward as follows;

- (a) **Safer Nottingham**
St Alban's Rd/ Carey Road barrier failures at crossing

Deliberate fires
Parking around Stanstead School
Nuisance Bikes

- (b) **Neighbourhood Nottingham**
Increased engagement particularly the Deptford crescent area
Management of vacant sites
Dog fouling
Spillage on road from lorries on Bestwood Rd/Hucknall Rd
Littering around the entrance to Highbury Hospital
- (c) **Health Nottingham**
Promotion of energy advice
Provision of support to carers
- (d) **Working Nottingham**
Increase access to and awareness of training and employment opportunities.

(3) the current ward issues as follows:

- (a) **Bulwell Ward**
Reduction of shop thefts
Positive parenting
Reduce fly tipping in targeted areas
Reduce dog fouling in targeted areas
- (b) **Bulwell Forest Ward**
Deliberate fires
Nuisance Bikes
Fly tipping and litter
Dog fouling

(4) the forthcoming community and partner events and engagement listed in Appendix 3 to the report.

13 BULWELL AND BULWELL FOREST AREA CAPITAL FUND

Neighbourhood Development Officers Suki Shergill and Celia Knight, introduced the Area Capital Report which proposes Area Capital and Public Realm (Local Transport Plan –LTP) funded schemes within each Ward.

RESOLVED

(1) with regard to Bulwell Ward:

(a) to approve the following Local Transport Plan schemes:

Location	Estimate	Details
Sellers Wood Drive	£76,040	resurface of footpath on Sellers Wood Drive from Crabtree Road to Crabtree Road

B682 road safety	£5,000	Road safety assessment of B682 across four wards
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Total LTP schemes £81,040

- (b) to approve the following Public Realm Scheme:

Location	Estimate	Details
Bulwell Bogs	£13,250	improvements to Bulwell Bogs children's play area and teenage facilities

- (c) to note that there are no funding withdrawals proposed at this time;

- (d) to note the following financial position:

2018 - 2019 LTP allocation	£85,600
LTP carried forward from 2017 - 2018	£0
2018 - 2019 Public Realm allocation	£32,832
Public Realm carried forward from 2017 - 2018	£18,432
Total Available 2018 - 2019 ACF	£136,864
Less LTP schemes	- £81,040
Less Public Realm schemes	- £13,250
De-committed funds	+ £0
Remaining available balance	£42,574
LTP element remaining	£4,560
Public Realm element remaining	£38,014

- (2) with regard to Bulwell Forest Ward:

- (a) to approve the following Local Transport Plan schemes:

Location	Estimate	Details
Cantrell Road	£1,200	Installation of pedestrian safety barriers at school gates to improve safety of footpath users
Ridgeway / Old Farm Road	£4,000	Installation of pedestrian tactile crossings to improve mobility access (joint with Bestwood Ward)
Highbury Road/ Henrietta Street area	£44,866	Improvements to road layout and lining in the Henrietta Street area of Highbury Road to improve safety
Northcote Way	£490	Formal parking bays to be introduced on Northcote Way to improve access

Total Schemes £50,556

- (b) subject to receiving the approval of Councillor Nick McDonald, to approve the following Public Realm Scheme:

Location	Estimate	Details
St Mary's Church	£250	White lining to the edge of 14 steps adjacent to St Mary's Church

- (c) to approve the following de-commitment of funding:

Location	Amount	Details
Highbury Road	£9,081	Surface treatment of footpath on Highbury Road from Broomhill Lane to Piccadilly

- (d) to note the following financial position:

2018 - 2019 LTP allocation		£48,300
LTP carried forward from 2017 - 2018		£0
2018 - 2019 Public Realm allocation		£18,560
Public Realm carried forward from 2017 - 2018		£0
Total Available 2018 - 2019 ACF		£66,860
Less LTP schemes	-	£50,556
Less Public Realm schemes	-	£250
De-committed funds	+	£9,081
Remaining available balance		£25,135
LTP element remaining		£6,825
Public Realm element remaining		£18,310

14 **BULWELL AND BULWELL FOREST WARD MEMBER BUDGETS**

Neighbourhood Development Officers Suki Shergill and Celia Knight presented the report which informs the Committee of the financial position of Ward Member Budgets and the actions agreed by the Director of Community Safety as a result of Ward Member funding requests.

It is noted that further schemes and events may have received Councillor support in principal but that the formal approval process is yet to be completed.

RESOLVED to

- (1) note the Bulwell Ward allocations and budget for March-May 2018:

- (a) allocations:

Schemes:	Councillor(s)	£
Councillor Award event	Hartshorne ,Klein & Morris	1,200
Crabtree gardening tools	Hartshorne, Klein	300
Guides camping Trip	Hartshorne ,Klein & Morris	137

- (b) current budget available:

Balance Brought Forward 17/18 to 18/19	£2,009
Councillor funding 18/19	£15,000
Total funds 18/19	£17,009
De-committed schemes 18/19	0
Allocated 18/19	£437
Uncommitted Funds after allocated schemes	£16,572

(2) Note the Bulwell Forest Ward allocations and budget for March-May 2018:

(a) allocations:

Schemes	Councillor(s)	£
Mellish Sports Centre Easter event)))Councillors)Campbell-Clark,)McDonald, and)Barnard)contributed jointly)to all schemes))	400
Hoodwinked project		100
Rise Park 50th Anniversary celebrations		1000
Deptford Estate Fun Day		1000
Bulwell Forest Garden Seasonal Planner		270
Bulwell Arts Festival events on Bulwell Forest Community Garden		750
Highbury Rd bollards outside McColl's		356
87th Nottingham brownies Hi Vis vests		160
Guides camping trip		27

(b) current budget available:

Balance Brought Forward 18/19	£297
Councillor funding 17/18	£15,000
Total funds 18/19	£15,297
De-committed schemes 18/19	0
Allocated 18/19	£187
Uncommitted Funds after allocated schemes	£15,110

15 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Community Representatives are invited to propose future agenda items for the Committee consideration. Any suggestions should be provided to either Celia Knight (Bulwell Forest Ward) celia.knight@nottinghamcity.gov.uk 0115 8833729 or Suki Shergill (Bulwell Ward) 0115 8833728 at least a month in advance of the Committee meeting.

16 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Bulwell Arts Festival – 7-14 July 2018
 Family Fun Day at Bulwell Academy–14 July 2018
 Southglade Parklive Fun day – 1 August 2018, 12 noon to 4pm
 Mellish Sports Centre fun day – 11 August 2018 (initially proposed 4 August)
 Fun Day on Bulwell Bogs – 4 August 2018

17 DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED to approve that the Committee meet at Bulwell Riverside at 5.30pm on the following Wednesdays:

5 September 2018;
12 December 2018;
20 March 2019.