

## **NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

### **ARBORETUM, DUNKIRK AND LENTON, RADFORD AND PARK AREA COMMITTEE**

#### **MINUTES**

of meeting held on **27 FEBRUARY 2013** at

Loxley House from 5.33 pm to 7.56 pm

- ✓ Councillor S Piper (Chair)
  - ✓ Councillor L Ali (Vice-Chair) (minutes 33 to 40 inclusive)
  - ✓ Councillor M Aslam
  - ✓ Councillor M Bryan
  - Councillor A Choudhry
  - ✓ Councillor D Trimble
  - ✓ Councillor S Williams
- ✓ indicates present at meeting

#### **Community Representatives, citizens and others present**

- |                    |   |  |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Mr D Brennan       | - | Castle Cavendish                               |
| Alderman D Poole   | - | City of Nottingham Neighbourhood Watch Council |
| Mr T Preston       | - | Dunkirk and Lenton Partnership Council         |
| Ms L Fyffe         | - | Dunkirk and Old Lenton Community Association   |
| Ms J Perry         | - | Friends of the Forest                          |
| Ms M Fletcher      | ) | Nottingham Action Group on HMOs                |
| Ms J Tanvir        | ) |  |
| Mr P Howard        | - | Nottingham City Homes                          |
| Miss M Felsing     | ) | Nottingham Trent University                    |
| Mr B Jolley        | ) |  |
| Mr J Law           | ) |  |
| Miss J Lee         | ) |  |
| Mr M Long          | ) |  |
| Miss N Manojlovic  | ) |  |
| Inspector R Wilson | - | Nottinghamshire Police                         |
| Ms M Farrands      | - | Partnership Council                            |
| Mr P Beynon        | ) | Residents                                      |
| Mr N Dawson        | ) |  |
| Ms U Dove          | ) |  |
| Mr N Lee           | ) |  |
| Mr D Lucas         | ) |  |

- Mr C Newton - St Paul's Residents Association
- Dr P Milligan - The Lenton Centre
- Mr B Azzopardi )  
Mr D Hargreaves ) University of Nottingham
- Ms S Green )  
Mr A Winter ) University of Nottingham Students Union

**City Council Officers present**

- Ms I Andrews )  
Mrs M Pemberton ) Children and Families
- Mr E Curry )  
Mr D Hobbs )  
Mrs I Iqbal )  
Mr J Marsh )  
Mr R Taylor )  
Mrs L Wright ) Communities
- Ms J Briggs )  
Mr G De Max ) Development
- Miss L Wilson - Resources

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

**ACTION**

**30 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Ruth Greenberg (Partnership Council).

**31 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interests were made.

**32 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 21 November 2012 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.**

**33 GREENHOLME PLAYING FIELD SITE, JOHNSON ROAD/DERBY ROAD**

(Director of Development)

Jo Briggs, Community Planner, introduced the report which outlined the history of the site and the current status of the land, and displayed aerial photographs of the site.

**ACTION**

During discussion the following comments were made by the Committee and others in attendance:

- when the County Council owned the site in the 1990s, it had been available for public use, but since they had closed the school and sold the playing field it had not been available to the public. The City Council had secured money to bid for the site with the hope of using it as a public playing field, but were outbid at the auction;
- the population of the area was now much larger than it had been in the 1990s, due to houses in multiple occupation, halls of residence, etc, so there was a greater need for public open space and the site should not be developed;
- while the Lenton Recreation Ground was available in the area and had been developed, there was still a need for a public playing field in the area;
- the open space at the Hillside Club had been lost to development, and it would not be right for the same to happen at the Greenholme playing field site;
- the site of the Lenton flats would be developed for family housing which would create a greater demand for open public space in the area for the children to play;
- Edna G Olds Primary School did not have a school playing field and used Lenton Recreation Ground, but this site would be more suitable and secure;
- there was a major health problem with weight and it was important to encourage people to participate in sport, and this space was needed to help with doing that. The site had a football pitch and it was important to keep the land as a sports facility.

Jo informed the Committee that Sport England had stated that their preferred option would be to see the retention of the playing field for sports use and, as Sport England was a statutory consultee on planning applications, it would be unlikely that a Planning Inspector would overturn the Council's decision not to grant planning permission for the site.

**RESOLVED that the commitment of the Committee to retain the site as a public sports facility be placed on record.**

**34 STREAMLINING INVESTMENT TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR: UPDATE ON APPLICATIONS FOR AREA GRANTS**

(Interim Corporate Director for Children and Families)

The Committee had received a report detailing the consortium for delivering outcomes in the area that was to be recommended to Executive Board Commissioning Sub Committee for approval.

**ACTION**

Irene Andrews, Market Development Programme Manager, informed the Committee that at the Grants Panel on 14 February 2013 there had been a number of queries raised and the Panel needed to be reconvened. It was proposed that the decision be delegated to the Chair of the Committee so that the deadline for Executive Board Commissioning Sub Committee making a final decision on grant applications on 27 March 2013 was not missed.

**RESOLVED that, after the Grant Panel had reconvened, the Chair of the Committee be authorised to make the final decision on which consortium to recommend to Executive Board Commissioning Sub Committee to deliver outcomes in the area.**

**35 DUNKIRK NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH UPDATE**

Honorary Alderman David Poole, City of Nottingham Neighbourhood Watch Council, informed the Committee that the majority of the City was not covered by Neighbourhood Watch Schemes and more people should be encouraged to set them up and become co-ordinators. An application form to establish a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme had been circulated with the agenda.

**RESOLVED that the information be noted.**

**36 LOCAL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT PROCESS UPDATE: PROGRESS REPORT 2011, UPDATING AND SCREENING ASSESSMENT 2012, FURTHER ASSESSMENT 2012**  
(Director of Community Protection)

Richard Taylor, Operations Manager, Pollution Control Team, introduced the report and presented the Committee with the following information:

- Nottingham had been highlighted on a TV programme, Inside Out, as one of the cities with the worst air quality, but was not much worse than other large cities;
- for those in good health, moderate air pollution levels were unlikely to have any short term effects. However, elevated levels and/or long term exposure to air pollution could lead to more serious symptoms and conditions, mainly affecting the respiratory and inflammatory systems, and could also lead to more serious conditions such as heart disease and cancer. The effects of the most common pollutants at elevated levels were:

<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>Health effects at very high levels</u>
Nitrogen Dioxide, Sulphur Dioxide, Ozone	Irritation of the airways of the lungs and increased symptoms of those suffering from lung diseases
Particles	Fine particles could be carried deep into the lungs where they could cause inflammation and worsening of

**ACTION**

	heart and lung diseases
Carbon Monoxide	This prevented the uptake of oxygen by the blood, which could lead to a significant reduction in the supply of oxygen to the heart, particularly in people suffering from heart disease

- there were many air quality objectives in place to protect health, all of which had been met;
- air quality/pollutant concentrations were affected by source (emission rate and height), meteorology, and topography. Nottingham’s distance from the sea meant it did not experience daily on-shore/off-shore breezes and experienced the wind directions associated with large air masses. In the UK this was the prevailing south-westerly wind (the direction from which it came);
- monitoring and modelling air pollution were balanced to make the most of resources (time/cost), accuracy, and spatial and temporal distribution. Modelling was the most practicable and systematic way of predicting future concentrations over a large geographical area. Monitoring was required to show actual air pollution levels (for comparison with air quality objectives);
- there were 4 monitoring stations in the City, using various equipment to monitor air quality and pollutants through real time monitoring and passive exposure. Statistics showed that the level of Nitrogen Dioxide had reduced in Nottingham over the last ten years, but had recently begun to increase again;
- where monitoring showed, and verified modelling predicted, levels of any of the pollutants of concern exceeded, or were likely to exceed, air quality objectives at the ‘façade of a sensitive receptor’ the Council had to declare air quality management areas and prepare, and implement, air quality action plans. Nottingham currently had two air quality management areas, both for Nitrogen Dioxide;
- air quality objectives were/would be met through major works to the City Centre and Ring Road, NET Lines 2 and 3, travel plans, park and ride sites, quality bus partnerships, and promoting walking and cycling. The development of some of these projects, such as NET Lines 2 and 3, could account for the recent increase in Nitrogen Dioxide levels because of the traffic congestion created whilst road works were being undertaken;
- the City Council had dedicated web pages for air quality, which contained useful advice and information. The Council was also investigating cost effective ways of communicating air quality information via text alerts.

In response to questions and comments, Richard provided the following additional information:

**ACTION**

- the Environment Agency had responsibility for the local power station at Radcliffe on Trent, but the emissions met the set standards and were carried over the City before they could create problems with air quality;
- there was legislation regarding stationary vehicles keeping their engines running because of the emissions this created, but it wasn't always possible for drivers to do this. Vehicles such as buses and Hackney Carriages had to keep their engines running for operation purposes, but the emission levels as a result of this weren't high;
- particulates emitted from vehicles were damaging to health. Two types of particulate were measured PM10 and PM2.5. PM10 was large and easily removed from the body due to its size. PM2.5 was smaller so could pass through the nasal passage, etc, more easily and could cause health issues. The City did not have an issue with PM10 as air currents moved them around easily. The monitoring stations didn't indicate that there was a problem with PM2.5, but there was no air quality measure/standard for it;
- in the future it was planned to map the mortality rates for people living on main roads to correlate with the air quality data;
- a major issue for Nitrogen Dioxide levels was traffic congestion. The Highways Agency had been approached by the Council with regard to widening some roads, such at the A52, to improve traffic flow;
- the Council promoted car sharing to try and reduce traffic congestion, but it was for individuals to decide whether to drive, and whether to car share;
- meteorology had a huge impact on air quality and high pressure, mainly experienced in the summer months, stopped pollutants moving from the air stream. Because of this, it was known that there would be peaks of discomfort along busy main roads and the Council was working on setting up a text alert system to alert people when levels were high and offer advice and what actions could be taken to lessen the impact;
- park and ride sites were traditionally located on the outskirts of the City, with the Forest being the closest to the City. It had a historical use as a park and ride site so there were no plans to change its use or move the park and ride site to another location.

The Committee commented on the need to encourage people to use the nationally recognised public transport system the City had to offer, and the cycle routes available throughout the City, to help reduce harmful emissions. In order to encourage more people to do this, it would be helpful to increase the provision/security of cycle lockers at park and ride sites, improve some of the poorer cycle routes and promote schemes, such as Ride Wise, to give people the confidence to cycle on the roads.

**ACTION**

**RESOLVED that the summarised findings of the air quality reports, air quality monitoring data, measures being taken and proposed to maintain and improve air quality, and reduce exposure to air pollution in the area, be noted.**

**37 MAJOR PARKS PROJECTS IN AREA 4: FOREST RECREATION GROUND SPORTS ZONE AND ARBORETUM CAFÉ**

(Director of Sports, Culture and Parks)

Eddie Curry, Head of Parks and Open Spaces, introduced the report which summarised the proposals for the Sports Zone and café, and circulated A3 plans showing where they would be located on the sites.

During discussion the following comments were made by the Committee and others in attendance:

- the Forest had a status as a common, so it should be open at all times and free of charge. It was important for it to remain a green space, not a sports pitch with flood lights;
- it had been allowed to get into a state of disrepair and fences had been vandalised by people wanting to access the site;
- consultation had been biased as it was only aimed at sports groups, but the current pitches were not utilised full time;
- the site was good for young children as it was a safe distance away from main roads;
- while some groups chose to play football on the grassed area so that they did not have to pay for the hire of the official pitches, other clubs had complained that they couldn't access the pitches because they were always booked, so it did appear that there was demand for the Sports Zone;
- the social needs of the area needed to be considered in the development as some nearby family housing did not have gardens.

In response to questions and comments, Eddie provided the following additional information:

- it was not possible to restore the bowling greens, but they had not been used since early 2000 as the teams had relocated to various sites, and the consultation showed that there was no demand for them;
- the Parks Team had done a lot of work to secure the funding for the work to the site, and it would still have a large open space once the development had been completed.

**RESOLVED**

**ACTION**

- (1) that the content of the report and the improvements proposed to the Forest Recreation Ground Sports Zone, be noted**
- (2) that the following allocation of Section 106 funding to the two projects be approved:**

<u>S106 Funding</u>	<u>Proposal</u>
<b>£80,000 - Arboretum Ward</b>	<b>£80,000 - Forest Sports Zone</b>
<b>£69,000 - from the development at 116-120 Talbot Street (which falls within the Arboretum Ward and City Centre)</b>	<b>£40,000 - Forest Sports Zone £29,000 – Arboretum Café</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£149,000</b>

- (3) that the allocation of £20,000 of Area Capital funding to the projects be approved.**

**38 ENVIRONMENTAL SUBMISSIONS FROM NOTTINGHAM CITY HOMES**

(Chief Executive, Nottingham City Homes)

Paul Howard, Tenancy and Estate Manager, Nottingham City Homes, circulated a revised version of the report, which detailed proposed schemes to improve the security, safety and wellbeing of residents in the area.

Councillor Bryan informed the Committee that work to tarmac over uneven paving slabs outside 1 Randal Gardens in the Arboretum Ward would not be approved as, during a site visit, the uneven paving could not be identified.

**RESOLVED that, subject to the exclusion of 1 Randal Gardens, the schemes listed in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.**

**39 WARD PERFORMANCE REPORTS QUARTER 3**

(Director of Neighbourhood Services)

The Committee had received a report detailing updates on key issues and themes for each ward linked to the local priorities and strategic themes within the Nottingham Plan 2020.

It was noted that the £300,000 secured to improve Dunkirk roundabout was from Sustrans, and that a report detailing the works expected to be carried out would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

**RESOLVED that the Ward Performance reports for quarter 3 2012/13 be noted.**



**ACTION**

**40 CONSULTATION ON A PROPOSED SCHEME FOR THE ADDITIONAL LICENSING OF HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION (HMOs)**

(Corporate Director for Development)

Graham De Max, Partnership and Policy Manager, Housing Strategy, introduced the report which detailed the proposed area to be included in the additional licensing, approved by Executive Board, and currently out for public consultation, and displayed a map of the area to be included in the additional licensing.

During discussion the following comments were made by the Committee and others in attendance:

- the additional licensing would benefit all concerned, as tenants would know that the property would be maintained to a basic standard, other residents would know there was a management agreement and landlords would be registered;
- the support of the universities was important as they were the main beneficiaries of the scheme;
- the scheme was strongly supported.

**RESOLVED that the Area Committee strongly support the proposals and encourages local citizens and businesses to participate in the consultation.**