

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

AREA 8 COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of meeting held on **21 NOVEMBER 2012**

at Loxley House, Station Street from 7.03pm to 8.54pm

Present

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|---|
| | Councillor Malcolm | (Chair) |
| | Councillor Heaton | (Vice-Chair) |
| ✓ | Councillor Edwards | |
| ✓ | Councillor Gibson | (minute 21 to 29 inclusive) |
| ✓ | Councillor Jeffery | |
| ✓ | Councillor Packer | (minute 21 to 28 inclusive and minute 30 to 32 inclusive) |
| ✓ | Councillor Spencer | |
| ✓ | Councillor Steel | |

- ✓ indicates present at meeting

Community Representatives and Citizens

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|
| Mrs M Daly | - | Meadows Dance and Social Group |
| Mrs J Dobson | - | Meadows Partnership Trust (MPT) |
| Mr J Hughes | - | Friends of Victoria Embankment (FOVE) |
| Ms N Judd | - | Resident |
| Mr B Latif | - | Meadows Muslim Centre |
| Mr T Marshall | - | Resident |
| Mr R Nettleship | - | Carters Education Foundation |
| Mr J Potter | - | Resident |
| Mr A Rule | - | Wilford Community Group |
| Mr D Shaw | - | New Meadows Tenants & Residents Ass (NEMTRA) |
| Mrs M Spencer | - | Old Meadows Tenants & Residents Association (OMTRA) |
| Mr W Stewart | - | Queen's Walk Community Association |

City Council Colleagues and Others in Attendance

- | | | |
|--------------|---|---|
| Mr W Adams | - | Tenancy and Estates Manager |
| Mr D Bulmer | - | South Neighbourhood Development Officer |
| Mr J Dymond | - | Parks Development Manager |
| Mr A Ghaffar | - | Neighbourhood Development Officer |
| Mrs F Hogg | - | Parks Development Officer |
| Ms D Holmes | - | South Locality Manager |
| Mr R Kalsi | - | Constitutional Services Officer |
| Mr N Lee | - | Service Manager for Schools Organisation Team |
| Mr P Singh | - | Neighbourhood Development Officer |
| Mr N Waldram | - | Nottinghamshire Police |
| Mr N Walker | - | Neighbourhood Development Officer |

21 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED that, following the receipt of apologies from both the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee, Councillor Edwards be appointed Chair for the duration of the meeting.

22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Malcolm, Councillor Heaton, Reverend Sarah Clarke, Robert Moseley (Clifton Community Association) and Carol Moseley (Monday Club).

23 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

24 WARD PERFORMANCE REPORT – BRIDGE (Report of Director of Neighbourhood Services)

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services which provided an update on a variety of key issues and themes which linked back to the local priorities in Bridge and the strategic themes in the Nottingham Plan 2020.

The following points were made in relation to the report:

- it was reported that although anti-social behaviour and fly tipping were down, concerns regarding graffiti in the area persisted. It was noted that Mr Ghaffar, Neighbourhood Development Officer, would enquire into the issue and report back to Councillors;
- it was reported that ward Councillors, together with colleagues in Nottingham City Homes (NCH) and Neighbourhood Development Officers, that progress would be sought on the appropriate boundaries for an NCH Area Panel which correlated with the Committee boundary;
- a statement was sought on the scope and timescales of the Decent Homes Programme from colleagues in NCH and Neighbourhood Management with a particular reference to the quality of the sub-contractors used. Both colleagues in Neighbourhood Management and NCH would seek progress on this and report back to Councillors.

RESOLVED that the Ward Performance report for quarter 2 be noted.

25 WARD PERFORMANCE REPORT – CLIFTON NORTH (Report of Director of Neighbourhood Services)

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services which provided an update on a variety of key issues and themes which linked back to the local priorities in Clifton North and the strategic themes in the Nottingham Plan 2020.

The high unemployment rate in Clifton North in comparison to other parts of the City was noted. In response to a decrease in figures pertaining to fly tipping in the area, it was noted that there had been an improvement in citizen's awareness and knowledge of reporting incidents through informative events such as Week of Action.

RESOLVED that the Ward Performance report for quarter 2 be noted.

26 WARD PERFORMANCE REPORT – CLIFTON SOUTH
(Report of Director of Neighbourhood Services)

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services which provided an update on a variety of key issues and themes which linked back to the local priorities in Clifton South and the strategic themes in the Nottingham Plan 2020.

The following points were made in relation to the report:

- the Committee felt that a page dedicated to education should be sought for future reports;
- although the report outlined a reduction in crime, there had been reports over the summer of a spate of burglaries in the area. The Committee sought an explanation as to how the figures in the report correlated to recent incidents;
- police representatives reported that although the report was not reflective of single or detailed crimes, it reported overall figures for crime in the area which had witnessed an overall reduction;
- representatives from the Police and Nottingham City Homes (NCH) confirmed that they would be happy to produce a more detailed page on ward pertinent issues if the Committee felt it appropriate.

RESOLVED that the Ward Performance report for quarter 2 be noted.

27 PARKS AND OPEN SPACES IN AREA 8
(Director of Sport, Culture and Parks)

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Sport, Culture and Parks summarising the major investments made to the areas' parks, open spaces and playgrounds so far. Consideration was also given to where future investments were to be made.

The following points were made in relation to the report:

- improvements to the drainage on the football pitches on Victoria Embankment would be considered as part of the Masterplan for the site and would be monitored in the meantime if drainage became an ongoing issue;
- the installation of an outdoor gym on Victoria Embankment and Memorial Gardens was welcomed. Clarification was sought as to the level of supervision required, however the equipment relied upon the user's body weight and was not dependent upon supervision;

- in response to comments that Barker Gate Rest Gardens had been omitted from the report, colleagues from Parks and Open Spaces reported that this was covered by the Leisure budget and was not considered a 'target site'. It was confirmed that the site would be monitored if it was felt appropriate to do so.

Mr Dymond reported that an additional report would be submitted to the Committee in February in conjunction with the Wildlife Trust's plans for improvements to Clifton woods including tree works on the site.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the contents of the report and the improvements made to parks and open spaces in the area be noted;**
- (2) that the sites for future investment in the area be approved.**

28 PICNIC IN THE PARK – HELD ON 14 AUGUST 2012 (Director of Sport, Culture and Parks)

Ms Hogg, Parks Development Officer provided a presentation on the outcome of the Picnic in the Park event held on 14 August 2012.

The following key information was provided:

- the event relies solely on funding by ward councillors and this year included 40 stalls with 3,000 attendees;
- the Green Flag which had been awarded to Clifton Playing Fields was raised at the event;
- the event next year on 13 August 2013 will coincide with Clifton Playing Fields' 50th anniversary;
- the Committee welcomed the opportunity to interact with the wider community at events such as this and were encouraged by the chance to meet and consult with agencies on a number of ward priorities.

RESOLVED that the content of the presentation be noted.

29 SCHOOL PLACE PLANNING IN AREA 8 (Director of Schools and Learning)

Mr Lee, Access to Learning Service Manager for the Schools Organisation Team, provided a presentation on the overview of the current school places in the Meadows and Clifton. Projections and the future plans for the area were outlined which included comments on the Riverside School expansion.

The following key information was provided:

- there had been significant growth in the area which had caused some anxiety amongst parents when applying for school places particularly for first year entrants;

- as a popular City, Nottingham attracts many people to the area which had left school places at a critical state;
- there were few places available in Meadows, however it was noted that the Council was in the process of expanding Welbeck School with the erection of a new unit which would increase the capacity of the school year on year to 315;
- a meeting of Clifton area heads was planned for 15 Jan 2013 to discuss school place planning issues, confirmation was given that this meeting would also include academy heads;
- a school places review of the area had been pending the outcome of the Clifton Pastures housing discussion however, there was now a requirement to conduct an adhoc review of the area to maintain the current capacity and potentially increase capacity where it was considered necessary;
- there are significant pressures on primary places in the Meadows and consultation commenced on plans to extend Riverside Primary School from a 210 place school to a 420 place school on 5 November 2012. Consultation on this proposal would close on 16 December 2012;
- an increase to the extension at Welbeck was considered, however this was not deemed sufficient to meet the increase.

During discussion the following comments were made:

- it was queried whether the Trent Bridge School had been discussed as a possible expansion site;
- in terms of expansion in Wilford there were proposals in West Bridgford which needed to be considered in relation to the Council's short to medium term plan;
- in response to comments, Mr Lee reported that all options had been explored thoroughly following revisions made to school funding streams, including proposals to develop Kings School and the Mundella Centre. Mr Lee reported that Kings School had applied to be a free school but were ultimately unsuccessful. The Council had originally been denied access onto Kings School site to make an appraisal by the Trustees of the school, due to an "exclusivity" agreement they had made with developers;
- following discussions, access was granted by the developers to carry out an appraisal of the site, but the size was not considered suitable for primary school use and was considered the least viable option in terms of reconfiguring the building;
- the estimated cost of renovation for the two buildings was £2.5m, which included the purchase price of the Kings School, however this would still be insufficient due to the lack of outdoor space offered by the site;
- the City Council would continue to coordinate with neighbouring authorities and regularly meets at forums to discuss issues pertaining to school places;

- there was a feeling that Riverside Primary School deserved the level of investment offered by the proposals especially in light of a proportion of the investment coming from the School itself.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the Corporate Director of Children and Families include this Committee's comments above as its response to the consultation process for Riverside Primary School;**
- (2) that the support of the Bridge Ward Councillors for the proposals be noted.**

30 ENVIRONMENTAL SUBMISSIONS FROM NOTTINGHAM CITY HOMES (NCH) (Report of Chief Executive, Nottingham City Homes)

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive of Nottingham City Homes, informing the Committee of funding from the Housing Revenue Fund which had been requested by NCH and private tenants living within NCH area.

The following points were made in relation to the report:

- no scheme would be put forward without the approval of the appropriate ward councillor;
- delivery of schemes was anticipated by 31 March 2012 however, schemes not proposed would be carried forward for 2013/14 for consideration;
- the inclusion of Farnborough Road parking bays into the proposed schemes was discussed however, it was reported that an appropriate proportion of the scheme would then be funded by private tenants in addition to NCH tenants;
- there was a need to arrange special meetings between Neighbourhood Development Officers, Housing representatives and Community Representatives to discuss proposals and ensure that the funding was used effectively;
- an additional report was requested by the Committee from colleagues in Highways and Housing for the next available meeting to outline a scheme for the protection of the 3 car parks associated with the Bridgeway Centre based on the use of automatic number plate reading technology which would enable the car parking limit to be properly enforced. It was hoped that this would include a response from consultation with shopkeepers, shoppers and tenants and would be financed from the Bridge NCH Environmental Submissions budget.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the funding schemes listed in appendices 1-3 be approved and that the contents of the report be noted;**
- (2) that the Chief Executive of NCH submit to the next Committee, a proposal for the protection of the Bridgeway Centre's associated car parks using automatic number plate reading technology, to be financed from the Bridge NCH Environmental Submissions budget.**

31 DELEGATED AUTHORITY REPORTS

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised the Committee of the use of delegated authority by the Director of Communities.

RESOLVED that the actions agreed by the Director of Neighbourhood Services in respect of projects and schemes within Area 8, detailed in Appendix 1 to the report be noted.

32 AREA CAPITAL FUND – 2011/13 PROGRAMME (Director of Neighbourhood Services)

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services that provided the Committee with the latest spend proposals under the Area Capital Fund including highways and footways.

The Committee agreed that the approval of all three Clifton North ward Councillors would be sought prior to the commencement of scheduled remedial work on Winchor Close. This would allow for the cost and actions to be reviewed by appropriate councillors and officers.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the monies available to Bridge, Clifton North and Clifton South wards as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report be noted;**
- (2) that the Area Capital Fund Local Transport Plan schemes for the Bridge, Clifton North and Clifton South wards as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report be approved, with the exception of proposed works at Winchor Close, where remedial works would not begin until such time as the approval of all three Clifton North ward Councillors had been obtained on the scheme content and funding arrangements;**
- (3) that work agreed by Clifton South Ward Councillors to be undertaken on identified footpaths to an amount not exceeding the remaining LTP balance.**