

## NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

### AREA 8 COMMITTEE

**MINUTES of the meeting held on 11 SEPTEMBER 2013 at Loxley House, Station Street, from 7.00pm to 8.42pm**

- ✓ Councillor Michael Edwards
- ✓ Councillor Nicola Heaton
- ✓ Councillor Chris Gibson
- Councillor Lee Jeffery
- Councillor Ian Malcolm
- Councillor Jeannie Packer
- Councillor Tim Spencer
- ✓ Councillor Roger Steel
  
- ✓ indicates present at meeting

### **Citizens, colleagues and others in Attendance**

Jane Jeffrey	-	Arkwright Meadows Community Gardens
Roy Nettleship	-	Carter's Educational Foundation
Tony Marshall	-	Castle Marina resident
Malcolm Varley	)	Clifton resident
M Wheat	)	
Jonathan Hughes	-	Friends of Victoria Embankment
Clare Gutteridge	-	Good companions
Basheer Latif	-	Meadows Muslim Centre
Jackie Dobson	-	Meadows Partnership Trust
Pat Nicholson	-	New Beginnings
Emily Aron	)	
Felicity Atkin	)	
Prairie Bryant	)	Nottingham City Council
Abdul Ghaffar	)	
Dorothy Holmes	)	
Noel McMenamin	)	
Parbinder Singh	)	
Wade Adams	-	Nottingham City Homes
Richard Gutteridge	-	26 <sup>th</sup> Nottingham Scout Group
Chief Inspector Antill	)	Nottinghamshire Police
Inspector Waldram	)	
Margaret Spencer	-	Old Meadows Tenants and Residents Association
William Stewart	-	Queens Walk Community Centre
Andrew Rule	-	Wilford Community Group

### **13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor Ian Malcolm (other Council business)

Councillor Jeannie Packer

Councillor Tim Spencer

Margaret Ballam	-	New Meadows Tenants and Residents Association
Di Clausen	-	East Meadows Tenants and Residents Association
Colin Mackie	-	Silverdale Community Association
Carol Moseley	-	The Monday Club

Robert Moseley	-	Clifton Community Association
Mr J Potter	-	Resident
Dee Whitworth	-	Arkwright Meadows Community Gardens

#### **14 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Councillors Edwards and Heaton declared an interest in agenda item 9 (note 2 below), 'Streamlining Investment to the Voluntary and Community Sector: Financial Allocations in Area 8', as council-appointed members of Meadows Partnership Trust Board, and withdrew from the meeting prior to discussion of the item.

Councillor Gibson declared an interest in agenda item 9 (note 2 below), 'Streamlining Investment to the Voluntary and Community Sector: Financial Allocations in Area 8', as a council-appointed member of High Bank Community Centre, which did not preclude him from speaking or voting on the item.

#### **15 MINUTES**

The Committee confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 23 May 2013 as a correct record, subject to adding 'Nichola Judd – resident' to the attendance list, and they were signed by the Chair.

#### **16 LOCAL NATURE RESERVE DESIGNATIONS**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Sport, Culture and Parks, asking the Committee's support for proposals to designate Breck's Plantation and Glapton Woods as Local Nature Reserves (LNRs).

Emily Aron and Felicity Atkin, Biodiversity and Greenspace Policy Officers, introduced the report, making the following points:

- (a) LNRs are statutorily protected open spaces for both wildlife to thrive and people to enjoy;
- (b) Nottingham's population currently has access to half the Natural England recommendation of 1 hectare of LNR land per 1,000 population. The LNR designation of the mixed urban woodland at Breck's Plantation and mixed deciduous woodland at Glapton Woods would provide protection to 7.9 hectares of land;
- (c) Nottingham City Council owns the land, while both sites are currently managed by the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust. The sites meet Natural England's LNR criteria, and there are no covenants on the land preventing or conflicting with the LNR designation;
- (d) a formal consultation involving local residents, the City Council and partner organisations has taken place, with 3 expressions of support and 1 letter of objection received. The consultation outcomes and the outcome of this meeting will inform an Executive Delegated Decision by the City Council's Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture.

During discussion, a number of points were raised:

- (e) Ms Aron and Ms Atkin explained that the LNR designation would not change the day-to-day access to and management of the sites. However, it would help protect the sites' biodiversity and access against possible future development. They also stressed

the dual wildlife conservation and community access role of the LNR designation;

- (f) Ms Aron and Ms Atkin confirmed that the consultation undertaken went further than Natural England requirements. Local residents were not leafleted, partly because of cost, but also because the consultation was publicised at the sites. They also said that the low consultation response rates were because this was an uncontroversial 'good news' story that did no more than put existing arrangements on a more formal footing;
- (g) in response to a councillor's question, it was explained that the management plans for the sites were constantly-changing operational documents, and were not on the agenda for discussion at this meeting. However, councillors and community representatives could raise issues of concern with the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust or directly with Ms Aron or Ms Atkin;

At this point, two citizens not given permission to speak by the Chair attempted to make several points about the management of sites by the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, and following a call for order by the Chair, the citizens left and the meeting resumed.

- (h) several councillors spoke, supporting the proposals and agreeing that LNR designation and day-to-day site wildlife and access management were separate issues.

**RESOLVED to support the proposals to designate Breck's Plantation and Glapton Woods as Local Nature Reserves, and to note the process involved.**

## **17 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 were as follows:

### **(1) Bridge – Abdul Ghaffar (NDO)**

- (a) crime is down 19.2% against the 12 month 2010/11 baseline figure, although there is a slight increase in reported domestic-related crime on the previous year;;
- (b) anti-social behaviour is down 25.4% on the previous year to date, although June 2013 down rates are up by 9.8% from June 2012;
- (c) the Cleanliness Index score of 83 is down on the previous year, and also down against the neighbourhood target of 86;
- (d) reports of graffiti and fly tipping for March 2013 were 63 and 79, increases of 28 and 57 on March 2012 respectively;
- (e) unemployment is at 6.4%, down 0.3% on August, but down 13% over the last year, putting the ward 10<sup>th</sup> in the City;
- (f) there were 3 deliberate fires in the ward in the year to date;

### **(2) Clifton North – Parbinder Singh (NDO)**

- (a) crime is down 9.9% against the 12 month 2010/11 baseline figure;

- (b) anti-social behaviour for June 2013 is up 31.2% (42 calls) on the June 2012 figure, but year-to-date figures are down 10%;
- (c) the Cleanliness Index score of 90 is down on the previous year, but up against the neighbourhood target of 86;
- (d) reports of graffiti and fly tipping for March 2013 were 6 and , a decrease of 26 and 3 on 2012 figures respectively;
- (e) unemployment is at 4.7%, down 0.3%% on the previous month, but down 1.2% over the last year, putting the ward 16<sup>th</sup> in the City;
- (f) there was 1 deliberate fire in the ward in May, and the year to date figure is 2 (up 100%);

(3) Clifton South – Prairie Bryant (NDO)

- (a) crime is down 10.8% on the previous year, with an 18.4% decrease in June 2013 when compared to June 2012;
- (b) anti-social behaviour is down 19% on the previous year, with June 2013 down 39.44% on June 2012;
- (c) the Cleanliness Index score of 71 is down on the previous year, and down against the neighbourhood target of 86;
- (d) reports of graffiti and fly tipping for March 2013 were 5 and 15, a decrease of 17 and increase of 6 on June 2012 respectively;
- (e) unemployment is at 5.7%, down 3.3% on the previous month and down 5.3% over the last year, putting the ward 12<sup>th</sup> in the City;
- (f) there were 4 deliberate fires in the ward in May, with 5 in the year to date.

(4) Discussion

- (a) in response to a query about recurring graffiti at Clifton Bridge and the Flood Wall, Dorothy Holmes, Locality Manager South, reported that working relations between Neighbourhood Services and colleagues and partners such as the Highways Agency were much improved in terms of addressing issues such as graffiti. Graffiti is a community protection issue but it is difficult to catch perpetrators if recognised tagging isn't used;
- (b) Dorothy Holmes advised that it is difficult to measure accurately education attainment at ward level because children do not always attend school in the same are where they live, but she would discuss with colleagues how information might be compiled. She also advised that information on qualifications should be provided in each ward summary report;
- (c) while the information on health issues at ward level was dealt with via Family Community Teams rather than Neighbourhood services, health issues by ward could be a potential item to take to a future meeting;
- (d) Inspector Waldren advised that spikes in specific crimes such as drug dealing are sometimes a result of targeted activity by the Police, which in turn has a positive impact on other crimes;

- (e) Wade Adams, Tenancy and Estate Manager, advised that Nottingham City Homes' decommissioning team conducted regular patrols of empty properties to check on damage and litter/tipping issues.

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

## **18 ENVIRONMENTAL SUBMISSIONS FROM NOTTINGHAM CITY HOMES (NCH)**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Executive, Nottingham City Homes, proposing for approval a number of improvement schemes for funding under the Housing Revenue Fund. The costings for several schemes were not yet finalised.

**RESOLVED to**

- (1) approve the following schemes listed at appendices 1-3 of the report:**

<b><u>Ward</u></b>	<b><u>Site</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Cost (£)</u></b>
Bridge	Opposite 17 Oxbow Close	Supply and fit knee high railing	1,507.56
Bridge	1 Branksome Walk	Supply and fit knee high railing	1,257.66
Bridge	46 Lammas Gardens	Supply and fit knee high railing	1,055.70
Bridge	Opposite 73 Lammas Gardens	Supply and fit 1metre high fencing	1,274.49
Clifton North	34-36 Leafield Green	Green metal fencing with lockable gate 6 feet high	657.34
Clifton North	19 and 20 Hervey Green	Green metal bow topped lockable gate	785.18
Clifton North	17 Homewell Walk	Green metal fencing to be put across grass and sides of the building	467.16
Clifton North	5-9 and 13-19 Glapton Lane	Metal fencing and gates to be installed to flats	1,612.53
Clifton North	Eddlestone Drive	Improve the look of the area outside new properties	5,569.87
Clifton North	Glapton Lane	Improve parking	5,000.00
Clifton North	Lerwick Close	Supply and fit 2 wooden gates and 4 staggered barriers	2,000.77
Clifton North	The Drift Garage site	Supply and install gates to the entrance of the garages	1,842.75

<b>Clifton South</b>	<b>Lanthwaite Close</b>	<b>Install railing to rear of 81-84 and 93-96 Lanthwaite Close, install bollards opposite 6-21 Lanthwaite Close</b>	<b>17,337.96</b>
<b>Clifton South</b>	<b>Raleigh Close and Wilkins Gardens</b>	<b>Clear and paint balcony, supply and fit deterrent nets</b>	<b>5,251.68</b>
	<b>104-120 Glapton Lane</b>	<b>Metal fencing and gates installed to flats</b>	<b>9,953.16</b>
	<b>Manor Farm Lane</b>	<b>Improve parking for local residents</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>

- (2) **delegate authority to the Chair to approve additional schemes once scheme costs had been finalised.**

## **19 DELEGATED AUTHORITY PROJECTS**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services, presented by Parbinder Singh, Neighbourhood Development Officer, detailing decisions taken by ward Councillors under delegated authority.

**RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.**

## **20 AREA CAPITAL FUND 2013-15**

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.

**RESOLVED to**

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

<b>Location</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Estimate (£)</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Glapton Lane (Clifton North)</b>	<b>Parking</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>Carry out phase 3 of Glapton Lane parking improvements – joint funded with Clifton South and Nottingham City Homes</b>
<b>Glapton Lane (Clifton North)</b>	<b>Lining</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>Advisory lining Glapton Lane parking bays</b>

<b>Wichnor Close/Locksley Lane (Clifton North)</b>	<b>Footpath</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>Extension to previously agreed footpath work</b>
<b>Wilford (Clifton North)</b>	<b>Pigeon netting</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>Install pigeon netting on railway bridges in Wilford</b>
<b>Glapton Lane</b>	<b>Parking</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>Carry out phase 3 of Glapton Lane parking improvements – joint funded with Clifton North and Nottingham City Homes</b>

**At this point, Councillors Edwards and Heaton left the meeting, and the Committee became inquorate. A record of the informal discussion on the final item on the agenda ‘Streamlining Investment to the Voluntary Sector – Financial allocations in Area 8’ is attached at Appendix 1 to these minutes.**

**NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

**AREA 8 COMMITTEE**

**NOTES of an informal meeting held on 11 SEPTEMBER 2013 at Loxley House, Station Street, from 8.43pm to 8.52pm**

- Councillor Michael Edwards
- Councillor Nicola Heaton
- ✓ Councillor Chris Gibson
- Councillor Lee Jeffery
- Councillor Ian Malcolm
- Councillor Jeannie Packer
- Councillor Tim Spencer
- ✓ Councillor Roger Steel
  
- ✓ indicates present at meeting

**1 CHAIR**

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, the chair was taken by Councillor Chris Gibson.

**2 STREAMLINING INVESTMENT TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR – FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS IN AREA 8**

Further to minute 50 dated 5 March 2013, the Committee considered a report of the Joint Interim Director, Quality and Commissioning/Head of Early Intervention and Market Development, asking the Committee to note the financial allocations to delivery organisations for Area Based Grant in Area 8.

Louise Graham, Programme Manager introduced the report, explaining that the Committee will receive performance reports on project delivery at future meetings. A majority of allocated funding is for diversionary and targeted youth delivery projects, which was previously the case through the former Voluntary Sector Investment Programme.

In the brief discussion which followed, Dorothy Holmes, Locality Manager South, confirmed that these funding allocations were separate to support provided to smaller community groups in Area 8.

**RESOLVED to note the report.**