

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

BULWELL AND BULWELL FOREST AREA COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of meeting held on **23 MAY 2012** at

Bulwell Riverside, Main Street Bulwell, Nottingham, from 5.30 pm to 7.35 pm

✓ indicates present at meeting

- ✓ Councillor Campbell
- ✓ Councillor Clark
- ✓ Councillor Hartshorne
- ✓ Councillor Klein
- ✓ Councillor McDonald (minutes 6-14 inclusive)
- ✓ Councillor Morris (minutes 6-14 inclusive)

Community Representatives and Citizens in attendance

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Mr D Norman | - | Bulwell Forest Local Area Group |
| Ms D Carruthers | - | Forest Park Neighbourhood Watch |
| Ms S Fletcher | - | One Vision Partnership |
| Ms G Slack | - | Ravensworth Road Methodist Church |
| Mr P Bakajsa | - | Rise Park Action Group |
| Mrs E Stacey | - | Southglade Park Tenants' and Residents' Association |
| Reverend E A Morris | - | St Philip's Church |

Guests Partners and Others

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Inspector A Goodall | - | Nottinghamshire Police |
| Mr T Hatton | - | Notts County Football Club |

Nottingham City Council Colleagues

- | | | | | |
|------------------|---|---------------------|---|------------------------|
| Mrs H May |) | Neighbourhood |) | Neighbourhood Services |
| Ms C Knight |) | Management |) | |
| Mrs E Eckhardt |) | |) | |
| Mr J O'Malley | - | Communications | - | Chief Executives |
| Mr J Lee | - | Traffic Management | - | Development |
| Ms C Ziane-Pryor | - | Democratic Services | - | Resources |

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

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED that Councillor Campbell be appointed Chair for the municipal year 2012-2013.

2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRS

RESOLVED that Councillors Clark and Klein be appointed joint Vice Chairs.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Millington, Rise Park Community Association, Ms R Yousouf, Rufford Tenants' and Residents' Association, and Mr R Goodwin.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

5 MINUTES

RESOLVED that, subject to the venue being listed as Bulwell Riverside and not Loxley House, the minutes of the Area 1 (Bulwell and Bulwell Forest) Area Committee meeting held on 21 March 2012, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

6 NOTTS COUNTY FOOTBALL CLUB - FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY

Mr Tim Hatton, Notts County Football Club, Football in the Community Business Development Manger, delivered a presentation on the work of the registered charity previously and currently undertaken in the community, a copy of which was submitted to the online agenda following the meeting.

The Charity operated across the County and worked with a range of community groups, including people of all ages and abilities on a range of sport and health focused activities. Some activities were already operating in the Bulwell and Bulwell Forest area, on projects such as 'Motivate' which was an initiative across the City and aimed to help 1,000 obese men lose 5% of their body weight. In addition, the charity was involved with every City Council Primary School in the area and the out of school programme, 'Goals for Life,' was run from Southglade Park.

Funding for the initiatives came from a variety of sources, including Children in Need, Comic Relief, Sport England and the National Lottery.

Comments and questions at the meeting were responded to as follows:

- Notts County Football Club worked with Nottingham Forest Football Club on some joint projects but the Notts County Football in the Community Team was much larger and so able to provide more activities;
- with the continuously restricting City Council funding for youth services and activities, it may be possible for Football in the Community to help maintain some provision, including at Bulwell Riverside, if there was staff capacity and the cost could be secured from national funding pots;

- with regard to preventing duplication of provision in neighbourhoods where other providers were also operating, to secure funding for any project, evidence of gaps in provision was required. Working in partnership with other organisations was a welcome proposal and would be considered;
- details of the health and sporting services available from Notts County Football in the Community were available by calling Tim Hatton on 0115 95572151 or by referring to the website at www.nottscountyfitc.org.uk

RESOLVED

- (1) that the Committee's appreciation of the sport and health focused work undertaken in the area by Notts County Football Club, Football In the Community, be recorded along with the thanks of the Committee to Mr Hatton for his attendance and presentation;**
- (2) that Mr Hatton be invited to attend a future meeting to further inform the Committee of the 'Goals for Life' project.**

7 POLICING UPDATE

Inspector Andrew Goodall updated the Committee on the area priorities which were identified following consideration of reported crime and issues raised through the on-line consultation. The revised priorities were to be the focus of neighbourhood policing from 1 May 2012 for a three month period, after which priorities were to be reviewed.

Policing priorities were identified as follows:

Bulwell Ward - criminal damage. This had been an on-going issue across the ward but especially around the town centre, Riverside and Deptford Crescent.

Bulwell Forest Ward - anti-social behaviour based on drug criminality.

Some Councillors believed that both issues were relevant across both wards.

As a general issue, seasonal burglaries of sheds and gardens had risen sharply. The Committee were asked to remind residents to keep sheds, garages and outhouses secure, and to be mindful of leaving windows open during the hot weather.

It was noted that Councillors and Community Support Officers had recently had a stall outside the Co-operative to easily enable citizens to speak with them about their local concerns and share information. During the session a total of 35 citizens had visited the stall, some completing anonymous feedback forms and some providing valuable verbal information on issues in the area.

It was reported to the meeting that the same three people were riding motorbikes dangerously on the road and in the park in the Ravensworth Road area, with a complete disregard for pedestrians and other road users. It was noted that the Police were not able to take chase as this could present a risk to the motor bike riders, the Police and the public, However, if citizens were able to record the vehicle number plates, the Police could follow up the incident.

The beat teams and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) had access to a total of seven push bikes but it was unlikely that all of them would be in use at the same time.

Concern was raised about the route which rapid response Police vehicles, now based at Oxclose Police Station in Bestwood, took to incidents in Bulwell. Councillors suggested alternative routes.

RESOLVED that the Police update be noted and the thanks of the Committee to Inspector Goodall be recorded.

8 REQUEST FOR AUTHORISATION TO STOP UP (CLOSE PERMANENTLY) A FOOTPATH AT KNIGHTS CLOSE, TOP VALLEY
(Corporate Director of Development)

Mr John Lee, Senior Rights of Way Officer, presented the report which outlined the request that a public footpath severing the former Knights Close Health Clinic site and the former Knights Close Community Centre site be permanently closed by use of a public extinguishment order.

The Committee welcomed the proposal.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the Corporate Director of Development be authorised to make a public an extinguishment order to stop up the footpath shown on the plan at Appendix 1 of the report between points (A) and (B), between the sites of the former Knights Close Health Clinic and former Community Centre;**
- (2) that if the order is unopposed during the consultation period, the Corporate Director of Development be authorised to confirm it;**
- (3) that if the order is opposed during the consultation period, the Corporate Director of Development be authorised to refer it to the Secretary of State for confirmation.**

9 COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH
(Director of Neighbourhood Services)

The report was accompanied by a verbal update by volunteers of the project which was the first of its kind in the City.

Jointly funded by the Local Area Groups allocation from Bulwell Forest Ward Councillors and local Neighbourhood Watch schemes, the Police had trained volunteers in how to operate the equipment, and ensured that all speed watch sites had been risk assessed and were suitably safe for volunteers.

Volunteers operated the scheme as an educational project to raise awareness of people's driving and excessive speed. The 'speed guns' were operated in 20, 30 and 40 mph zones with signs warning drivers that the scheme was in operation, and all volunteers wearing fluorescent jackets. At least three people were needed for each session, one to hold the gun, one to record the speed, and one to record the car details. On the occasions when

drivers were registered travelling above the speed limit, number plate details and vehicle model information was recorded and a letter sent to the offending driver. If a driver was caught speeding again, another letter was sent, and if caught yet again, the vehicle and speed details were passed to the Speed Enforcement Team of the Police.

A Community Speedwatch had recently taken place on Bestwood Road and proved effective in that most drivers travelling in both directions had seen the 'Community Speedwatch in operation' signs and reduced their speed. However, five drivers had been caught speeding between 33 and 38 mph and would receive letters.

As more volunteers came forward, it was hoped that at least one session per week would be operated at different sites, days and times. More publicity was required to ensure that drivers were aware that Community Speedwatch was operating in the area and so were more aware of their speed, and also to attract volunteers.

It was suggested at the meeting, that the speedwatch group consider involving other community groups in the roadside sessions, such as school children. This had worked well when previously done by the Police at Bestwood Park Drive as part of an education package for the school.

It was acknowledged that Community Speedwatch may not be as effective on some of the routes to the motorway which were used by non residents.

Jamie O'Malley of Communications and Marketing commented that as the initial pilot had proved successful, it was a good opportunity to produce a media release which would raise speed awareness and provide the opportunity to recruit more volunteers. It was noted that volunteers could remain anonymous in any publicity focusing on the scheme.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the report and success of the scheme to date be noted;**
- (2) that the appreciation and congratulations of the Committee to volunteers, Celia Knight and especially PC Paul McMillan be recorded for their hard work and dedication to establish the Speedwatch scheme.**

10 MY BULWELL FACEBOOK (Director of Neighbourhood Services)

Jamie O'Malley was in attendance to update the Committee on the 'My Bulwell' Facebook pages. While there had been 'My Nottingham' Facebook for the past three years, technical issues had delayed the full introduction of 'My Bulwell' pages, which meant that initial take up had been relatively low. However, new systems were planned to manage Facebook pages across the City Council so once up and running, the refreshed Facebook pages would be widely advertised.

The Committee were asked for their ideas and what they would want from a local Facebook page. The following comments were made:

- everything posted on the pages should be locally relevant and care should be taken not to allow City-wide postings to appear as this would dilute the purpose of local pages;
- it was essential to remove all out of date information from the site;
- it should be made very clear what information could and could not be included on the site. Personal information and issues definitely should not be included;
- consideration should be given as to how the site was managed in relation to Criminal Records Bureau checks and safeguarding responsibilities;
- this was an excellent way to get messages out to a lot of people very quickly;
- social media generally could be a useful tool. The 'Community Alert' was a system where citizens could apply for an e-mail message when a community alert matter was issued. This had worked well with regard to the missing person from Sherwood and the tragic murder on Hucknall Road. The Police were able to issue clear statements to thousands of citizens before hear-say and mis-information spread;
- community groups would need to take responsibility for posting and withdrawing their own information;
- there were still people who were not interested in Facebook and did not want to join but as this was a popular medium which a lot people did engage, it should not be ignored, especially with regard to making and keeping in contact with younger citizens;
- a range of profiles would be needed to ensure that people could easily find what information was relevant for them;
- it could be possible to enable community organisations to have log-in access to the local site only, without having to be a member of Facebook. Internet training was available.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the report and the Committee's comments be noted;**
- (2) that Jamie O'Malley, as a Communications and Marketing Officer, be invited to update the Committee at a future meeting on the progress of 'My Bulwell' Facebook.**

11 AREA CAPITAL PROGRAMME BULWELL AND BULWELL FOREST (Director of Neighbourhood Services)

The report was presented by the Neighbourhood Management Team and updated the Committee on the current position of the Area Capital fund and proposed two additional schemes.

The following comments were made:

- the Knights Close area needed regeneration so the proposal to resurface the forecourt in front of the shops was welcomed;
- it was a shame that there appeared to be little movement regarding the derelict site on Picadilly, although there was progress at the Highbury Road site;
- consideration should be given to altering the lay-bys on Highbury Road as in some cases, they were too close to junctions so when vehicles parked in the lay-bys they obscured the view of oncoming traffic for vehicles emerging from junctions;
- the yellow parking restriction lines on the road outside the Co-operative shop on Highbury Road needed to be re-painted and the restriction enforced as people were ignoring them to visit the cash point.

RESOLVED

(1) that the Area Capital Programme be noted;

(2) that the following schemes be approved;

(a) subject to confirmation of the City Councils ownership of the Knights Close pavement, the resurfacing of the forecourt at Knights Close in front of the shops and flats be approved at a cost of £35,000, to include a design which alleviated the monotony of a large expanse of tarmac;

(b) that a traffic regulation order introducing a 'waiting and parking 'scheme on Coventry Road be approved, to include additional lining on Station Road and Brook Close, up to a cost of £6,000.

12 DRAGONS DEN

(Director of Neighbourhood Services)

The report was presented by the Neighbourhood Management Team informed the Committee of the outcome of the Dragons Den event which had been held on 7 March 2012 where community organisations presented their project proposals in an effort to secure receive funding of up to £500.

The following groups were awarded funds:

Bulwell Ward

Bulwell Education Action Zone Student Forum	£500
Rebels Baseball Club	£500
Crabtree Community Centre	£500
Outlaws BMX Club	£200
Bulwell Hall Tenants and Residents Association	£200

Bulwell Forest Ward

Bulwell Forest Garden	£500
Bulwell Forest Archery Club	£500
NISE Skateboarding	£500
Rise Park Action Group	£150

Top Valley Community Association	£150
United Reformed Church Youth Group	£200
United Reformed Church Toddler Group	£200
<u>Bulwell and Bulwell Forest Wards</u>	
Bulwell and Bulwell Forest Community Choir	£300

The following comments were made:

- it was good for community groups to see which other groups were operating in the area and what they offered;
- presenting the case for funding was traumatic but worthwhile;
- there were several information stalls at the event and it had been a good opportunity for some groups to raise awareness and for all groups to share ideas and make contacts.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

13 COMMUNITY SMALL GRANT PROGRAMME

This item was withdrawn from the agenda.

14 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

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

12 September 2012, 21 November, and 20 February 2013.