

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

WOLLATON AND LENTON ABBEY AREA COMMITTEE (AREA 7)

MINUTES

of meeting held on **17 DECEMBER 2012** at the Council House
from 5.00 pm to 6.27 pm

- ✓ Councillor Morley (Chair)
- ✓ Councillor Parton (Vice-Chair)
- ✓ Councillor Culley
- ✓ Councillor Fox
- ✓ Councillor Longford

Community Representatives

- ✓ Mr D Allen) North Wollaton Residents' Association
 - Mrs L Dilks)
 - Mrs P Peck - Wollaton Park Community Association
 - Mr T Kerry - Friends of Wollaton Local Nature Reserve
 - ✓ Mrs T Marshall - Wollaton Park Residents' Association
 - ✓ Mrs P Meese - Lenton Abbey Family and Friends Funday/
Lenton Abbey 15th Nottingham Scout Group
 - vacancy - Wollaton Care Group
 - ✓ Hon Alderman A Hamilton - Wollaton Historical and Conservation Society
 - vacancy - Wollaton Village and Park Conservation Society
 - vacancy - Wollaton and Lenton Abbey Neighbourhood Watch
Association
 - ✓ Mr B Smith - Lenton Abbey Residents' Association
 - ✓ Dr A J Swannell - Wollaton Vale Residents' Association
- ✓ - indicates present at meeting

Also Present

- Ms H Rigby - Nottingham Partnership Council
- Inspector R Wilson - Nottinghamshire Police
- Mr P Howard - Nottingham City Homes Ltd

Officers In Attendance

- Mr J Marsh - Locality Manager (Central Area))
- Ms L-A Renwick) Neighbourhood Development)
-) Officers) Communities
- Ms P Dorey)
- Mr J Dymond) Parks Development Manager)
- Mr M J Parker - Constitutional Services Officer - 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

24 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed Ms Rigby and Honorary Alderman Hamilton to the meeting, those present introduced themselves.

25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Dilkes and Mrs Peck.

26 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made at this point in the meeting.

(In relation to the possible re-development of Radford Bridge Allotments, it was clarified subsequently that Councillors Longford and Morley (as Councillors on the City Council's Development Control Committee, which would subsequently consider a planning application associated with the proposed development) had limited their participation in the discussion either to listening to the contributions which were made or, in the case of Councillor Morley, to listening and guiding contributions as Chair of the Area Committee.

Neither Councillor voted on a subsequent proposal to support the Planning Officer's recommendation to refuse the application, and felt that they retained an open mind on the issue such that they could determine the matter when it was considered by the Development Control Committee.)

27 MINUTES

RESOLVED

- (1) that the minutes of the last meeting held on 3 September 2012, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair;**
- (2) that, further to minute 16 dated 3 September 2012, the Area Committee requested that its support for the Planning Officer's recommendation to refuse outline planning permission for the reasons outlined in the report, be brought to the attention of the Development Control Committee when it considered the matter on 19 December 2012.**

M Parker

28 PARKS AND OPEN SPACES IN WOLLATON AND LENTON ABBEY

(Head of Parks and Open Spaces)

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Parks and Open Spaces, copies of which had been circulated. The report summarised play and open space provision within the Committee's area and the level of investment, and identified the possibilities for further investment opportunities in sites using a variety of possible funding streams, including the recently established GreenSpaces Fund in which the City Council was participating as a pilot authority.

ACTION

The following sites were referred to in particular:-

Highfields Park: an initial Lottery Fund application had been refused, due, in part, to increased Fund support for Olympic 2012 related submissions. Comments on the desirability of increasing community involvement in the project would be reflected in a further submission to be made during 2013.

Vehicle parking at the venue was ineligible for Lottery Fund support and the University of Nottingham had increased its financial contribution and was providing student engagement via an 'in kind' contribution of designing elements of a sustainable drainage scheme. The former paddling pool would be retained, but rather as a wet nature site crossed by a board walk, so as not to detract unduly from other major attractions of the site.

Lenton Abbey Park: the reference to installation of a concrete table-tennis table was correct and refurbished tennis courts had been used for coaching.

Wollaton Park Walled Garden: it was hoped to retain and rebuild all existing walls, included those which were heated, although a detailed site survey be required first. A further objective would be to undertake some work on a smaller section of the site, but all activities would be dependent on the outcome of the site survey. Discussions were also being held with local gardening groups to promote the concept of food growing on the site.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the improvements made to parks and open spaces in the area and the provisions of the GreenSpaces Fund to attract funding for their further improvement, be noted;**
- (2) that the sites identified in the report for further possible investment, be approved.**

29 WOLLATON PARK PLAY AREA
(Head of Parks and Open Spaces)

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Parks and Open Spaces, copies of which had been circulated. The report summarised progress on the development of a replacement play area at Wollaton Park which would be commensurate in scale and layout with the venue's status as a major tourist attraction.

Of the two potential sites evaluated, the field to the immediate south-east of the existing play area was preferred over the yard to the rear of the house for its proximity to the main site entrance and car park, whilst being visually separate from the main Hall. Using this site would also enable the provision of toilets and refreshments nearby to be explored.

A tendering process incorporating a fundraising element to identify what measures and/or opportunities a tenderer would use to attract additional funding of up to £300,000 for the proposed scheme would begin shortly, with completed submissions due back by mid/late January 2013. Fundraising proposals would be given appropriate weight during the value for money evaluation process and the final two designs would be submitted for a public consultation exercise, with work due to commence during Summer, 2013.

Observations that the City Council would seek to promote alternative means of accessing the site other than by car and restricting parking only to designated areas, rather than simply increasing provision and the intention to transfer existing football users to Highfields Park, were noted. However, it was felt that such measures would not necessarily reduce on-site parking as an issue and that the opportunity should be taken to re-examine the proposal to restrict parking to designated areas only and to review parking charges for possible discrimination against park users who chose to visit only for the play facilities.

**E. Curry/
J Dymond**

RESOLVED that proposals for the development of a new play area at Wollaton Park and the intention to seek additional funding by way of WREN and Veolia landfill tax applications, be supported.

30 ITEMS IDENTIFIED BY AREA COMMITTEE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Property Matters – Bramcote Lane Shops and Bungalows

Mrs Marshall considered that the practice of boarding over vacant shopfront on Bramcote Lane was unsightly and suggested that tenants/landlords should be encouraged either to re-let units or refurbish shop frontages and remove enclosures. A suggestion that tenants had difficulty in surrendering leases on premises early due to high penalty payments, was noted.

Ms Renwick agreed to contact the purchaser/agents of bungalows which had been acquired for development as a take way regarding progress. It was noted that their Local Plan designation as residential use remained.

L-A Renwick

(b) Local Plan/Development Framework – Update

Mr Dymond reported that the next version of the Local Plan/Development Frameworks was due to be considered by the City Council's Executive Board at its meeting on 19 February 2013 after which there would be further public consultation.

31 ENVIRONMENTAL SUBMISSIONS FROM NOTTINGHAM CITY HOMES

(Chief Executive, Nottingham City Homes)

The report of the Chief Executive, Nottingham City Homes, submitted, for the Area Committee's consideration a number of proposed minor works to be undertaken at sites with the Wollaton and Lenton Abbey Ward. The total estimated expenditure of £18,760.44 would be met from the remaining ward allocation for housing environmental improvements for 2012/13 of £26,382, which included a carry forward from 2011/12 of £7,270. Any unspent monies could be carried forward to 2013/14

During the ensuing discussion, the issue of the need to restrict use of estate alleyways by the use of resident controlled lockable gates as a means of reducing anti-social behaviour was referred to. The challenge of reducing or eliminating fly-tipping could be assisted by a greater promotion of arrangements for the City Council's existing free Bulky Waste Collection service on designated days to local residents, although it was also noted that the situation in the locality may be adversely affected by fly-tipping of waste by residents within Broxtowe Borough Council's area.

RESOLVED

- (1) that schedule of proposed minor housing environmental works in the Wollaton and Lenton Abbey Ward, detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved;**
- (2) that any balances for housing environmental improvements which remained unspent at 31 March 2013, be carried forward to the 2013/14 financial year.**

P Howard

32 AREA CAPITAL FUND – AREA APPROVALS

(Director of Neighbourhood Services)

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services, copies of which had been circulated. The report sought approval to the following schemes to be financed from the Area Capital Fund:-

<u>Ward</u>	<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Estimated Cost (£)</u>
Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey	Experimental traffic control order	5,000
Wollaton West	Experimental traffic control order (Parkside)	3,000
	Signage Reynolds Drive	300
	Wroxham Drive footpath works	47,500

ACTION

Approval of the works would result in the following remaining balances for 2012/13:

	<u>£</u>
Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey	8,038
Wollaton West	7,594

The Committee noted that the scheduling of work may be affected by tram works. Mr Marsh was asked to review the feasibility of relocating lighting of the cycle way to the opposite side of Woodborough Road, although it was noted that insufficient funds may be available to undertake the work. It was suggested that the possible provision of interpretation signage on Old Coach Road should be explored.

J Marsh

RESOLVED that the Area Capital Fund programme of schemes as detailed in the report, be approved.

**33 APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
- WOLLATON SPORTS ASSOCIATION
(Director of Neighbourhood Services)**

The report sought approval to an application from Wollaton Sports Association for financial assistance of up to £24,360 towards the cost of refurbishment of an existing sports pavilion to enable participation in local cricket and football leagues.

RESOLVED that financial assistance of up to £24,360 towards the cost of refurbishment of the Wollaton Sports Association pavilion be approved, the cost to be met from Wollaton West Ward Councillor budgets.

J Marsh

**34 AREA REPORTS
(Director of Neighbourhood Services)**

Consideration was given to reports of the Director of Neighbourhood Services, copies of which had been circulated. The reports, by individual ward, summarised a range of demographic, City Council service and other information on activity areas within each ward for the period July – September 2012.

Inspector Robinson was pleased to report a continuing decline in the numbers and natures of crimes being report over previous periods (Wollaton West -27%, Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey – 33%)

RESOLVED

(1) that the information detailed in the report be noted;

ACTION

- (2) that the appreciation of the Area Committee for the efforts of Nottinghamshire Police for its contribution to the continued decline of crime levels be recorded and consideration be given to publicising these downward trends as a means of counteracting public perceptions around crime and the solving of it.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 18 February 2013 beginning at 5.00 pm