

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

WOLLATON AND LENTON ABBEY AREA COMMITTEE (AREA 7)

5

MINUTES

of meeting held on 18 **FEBRUARY 2013** at the Council House
from 5.05 pm to 6.20 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
 - ✓ Ms N Douglas - 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

- 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 E Curry - Head of Parks and Open Spaces)
- Mr J Dymond - Parks Development Manager)
- Ms I Andrews - Market Development Programme
Manager - Children and Families
- 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

35 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed Ms Douglas to the meeting, those present introduced themselves.

36 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

37 MINUTES

RESOLVED

- (1) that, subject to the following amendments/deletions, the minutes of the last meeting held on 17 December 2012, be confirmed and signed by the Chair:-

Page 1: delete reference to Wollaton Village and Park Conservation Society (duplicate organisation);

Page 6 – Minute 30(a): replace ‘take away’ with ‘supermarket’;

Page 8 - Minute 32: replace reference to Woodborough with Woodside;

Page 8 – Minute 34: replace reference to Inspector Robinson with Inspector Wilson;

- (2) Page 8 – Minute 32, that the intention to consult Wollaton Historical and Conservation Society regarding the content of interpretational signage to be placed on Old Church Road once an estimate of costs for signage had been received, be noted;

- (3) Page 8 – Minute 32, that, due to NET Phase Two tramway construction works, the cycleway would not be moved onto Woodside Road and that the intention that works would not be undertaken until after Phase Two construction had concluded would necessitate a re-examination if the availability of funding for the scheme, be noted;

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

(Acting Corporate Director of Children and Families)

Ms Andrews confirmed that the original purpose of the agenda item had been to provide an opportunity for the Area Committee to comment on/endorse the views of an Area Grants Panel on applications for funding received from local organisations before a final decision on allocations was taken by the Council’s Executive Board Commissioning Sub-committee at its meeting on 27 March

2013.

ACTION

The amount available for allocation was approximately £9,000 and related to funds used to run the Wollaton Park Community Centre. However, under administrative arrangements applications needed to be submitted by community groups in the locality, to whom awards could be made. In the case of this Area Committee, because no community group had come forward thus far to administer the funds, if awarded, no application(s) had been received and an Area Grant Panel meeting had not, therefore, taken place to make recommendations for this Committee to consider. It was important for a decision to be made before the next meeting of the Area Committee on 20 May, in order that the Executive Board Commissioning Sub-committee could make an award in time for a contractual agreement to be in place by 1 July 2013.

The Committee appreciated uncertainties which community groups could have arising from proposed rationalisation to the ways in which the City Council awarded financial support to voluntary/third sector organisations. However, it believed that abilities to administer such awards existed amongst local community groups and that the underlying issue was, one of confidence and capacity building, which could be undertaken by colleagues and partner organisations such as the Nottingham Council for Voluntary Service (NCVS) in advance of any similar awards scheme in 2014. In the meantime, community groups in the locality could usefully be encouraged to regard matters as maintenance of the status quo with background administrative changes, rather than as a significant realignment of service provision.

RESOLVED that the Acting Corporate Director of Children and Families be authorised:

- (1) for relevant applications in 2013/14, to identify, in consultation with Ward Councillors, a solution which would ensure continuity of funding and local provision after 30 June 2013;**
- (2) to explore further with colleagues/partners proposals for sufficient capacity and confidence building for local community organisations to enable participation in the revised voluntary sector awards process, after 2013/14.**

Irene Andrews

**Irene Andrews
/John Marsh**

39 ITEMS IDENTIFIED BY AREA COMMITTEE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Proposed Changes to the Mobile Library Service

Mrs Marshall reported the concerns of Wollaton Park Residents' Association at the proposed withdrawal of mobile library services for the area. The service was considered a valuable local resource and the Association hoped that it could be retained if the Council extended the frequency of visits to every third or fourth week.

It was noted that the proposal arose from a lack of funding to replace an outdated vehicle, that explanatory information regarding the proposed changes would be circulated to local residents and that it was intended to enhance the current Home Library Services provision. In addition, it was proposed to review mobile library usage figures with a view to liaising specifically with its users over the proposed changes.

RESOLVED that the Neighbourhood Development Team submit an update report to the next meeting regarding the provision of mobile library services in the area.

**Lylse-Anne
Renwick**

(b) Play Area Sutton Passeys

The Committee noted that it remained the intention of the Council to refresh play provision at Sutton Passeys but that this was unlikely to take place before the second half of 2013/14. In view of this, it was suggested that local community views on future provision could be sought over the Summer period. It was also noted that changes to health and safety requirements meant that existing equipment from other sites could not be re-used at other venues such as Sutton Passeys.

RESOLVED that the Head of Parks and Open Spaces submit a report with initial proposals for the refurbishment of Sutton Passeys Play Area to the November 2013 meeting of the Committee.

**Eddie Curry/
James
Dymond**

(c) Football Provision – Wollaton Park

It was confirmed that Wollaton FC had been moved Highfields Park. The club had outgrown the facilities which were available to them at their current Wollaton Park site.

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

Further to the last meeting, the Committee considered an outline of two tender proposals for the installation of a new play area at Wollaton Park. The proposals had the highest scores after completion of a technical evaluation of all six proposals and would be used in a public consultation exercise during the remainder of February and March 2013 at Wollaton Hall, local libraries and via the internet.

It was reported that planning permission would be applied for in advance of the outcome of the WREN funding bid being known. If allowed the bid would enable a two-phase programme, with phase 1 beginning whilst funding applications for phase 2 were made. Proposed solutions by Eibe Playground Design (Design A) and Hags SMP (Design B) were outlined and design concept images for the intended area to the south-east of the Hall were made available for comment. There was currently no provision for skateboarding within the solution.

ACTION

Overall, Community Representatives preferred Design A as a solution more in keeping with the site, over the graphic representation for Design B, but refrained from expressing a corporate view in advance of the public consultation phase.

Whilst welcoming the initiative to upgrade play facilities at the venue concerns were, however, reiterated, at the possible negative impact of improvements on residents and the local area if appropriate consideration was not also given to the interlinked issues of increasing visitor numbers and alternative travel solutions without enlarging on-site parking facilities to address the reality of increased car usage or the current regime of parking fees, which already caused displaced parking away from the venue and into the locality. If possible a final solution should include improvements to the condition of the existing toilets at the bottom of the site and car parking charges either reduced or eliminated completely.

Whilst appreciating the views expressed, the Council's ability to review the charging regime or parking provision remained limited under present policies. The proposed site was felt to be the most appropriate in terms of access and the historical park setting. The solution intended to focus on quality rather than size and account would also be taken of possible future development of other park areas such as the Walled Garden.

RESOLVED that the position be noted.

**E. Curry/
J Dymond**

**41 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, two further proposed schemes for minor projects in Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey.

RESOLVED that the following minor projects in Wollaton and Lenton Abbey be approved, the costs being met from this Committee's uncommitted balances in the Housing Environmental Fund, and the estimated remaining balance of £4,195.64, be noted:

P Howard

| <u>Site</u> | <u>Proposal</u> | <u>Estimated Cost (£)</u> |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Wensor Allotments | Supply and fit metal fence, left side of site | 2,902.92 |
| Sheila Roper Centre | Additional signage | 523.00 |
| Budget Available: | | 7,621.56 |
| Total estimated costs: | | 3,425.92 |
| Balance remaining: | | £4,195.64 |

ACTION

42 AREA REPORTS

(Director of Neighbourhood Services)

Consideration was given to reports of the Director of Neighbourhood Services. 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 January to March 2013.

Mr Marsh confirmed that overall, the decline in the numbers and natures of crimes previously reported had continued (-23.92% Wollaton West, -32.18% Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey in corresponding periods). However, the current rise of 70% in crimes in Wollaton West (to 21) should be treated with some caution as the percentage depended on a comparison between figures in December 2012 with December 2011, when the level of crimes had been unusually low. Caution was also required regarding the reported levels of unemployment for Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey, where these would be affected by the numbers of students in the area.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the information detailed in the reports be noted;
- (2) that the Locality Manager arrange for Honorary Alderman Hamilton to receive copies of crime statistics in the future and write separately to Councillors and Community Representatives to outline the reasons for low levels of crime in December 2011.

**J Marsh/
Insp Wilson**

43 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WOLLATON PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION OVER 50's COFFEE MORNING

(Director of Neighbourhood Services)

RESOLVED that THE DECISION BY Councillors Fox and Longford to contribute £200 each from their respective Ward Councillor budgets to support the temporary relocation of the Wollaton Park Residents' Association Over 50's Coffee Morning from the Bluecoat School Annex to the Wollaton Park Community Centre, whilst the former was refurbished, be noted.

44 PROPOSED DATES OF MEETINGS 2013-15

RESOLVED that the following schedule of proposed meeting on Mondays at 5.00 pm, be noted:

| <u>2013</u> | <u>2014</u> | <u>2015</u> |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 20 May * | 17 February | 9 February |
| 2 September | 12 May | |
| 11 November | 1 September | |
| | 19 November | |

ACTION

NOTE – 20 MAY 2013 MEETING

* On 18 February it was reported that the next Area Committee meeting would provisionally be held at 5.00 pm on Monday 20 May 2013. However, the City Council subsequently decided that its Annual Meeting of Council should be moved to 20 May and for this reason, the Committee will now meet at 5.00 pm on either 3 or 17 June 2013 instead (date to be confirmed)