

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

BULWELL AND BULWELL FOREST AREA COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held at Bulwell Riverside, Main Street Bulwell, Nottingham NG6 8QJ on 17 February 2016 from 17.30 - 19.31

Membership

Present

Councillor Eunice Campbell (Chair)
Councillor Alan Clark (Joint Vice Chair)
Councillor Ginny Klein (Joint Vice Chair)
Councillor John Hartshorne
Councillor Jackie Morris

Absent

Councillor Nick McDonald

Community Representatives (✓ indicates present)

✓	Bradford St Allotment Association	Reginald Knowles
	Bulwell Churches Together	Colin Bones
	Bulwell Hall Tenants and Residents Association	Sheila Loades
	Covenant Ministries	Joseph Zulu
✓	Coventry Rd Estate Tenants and Residents Association	John Hancock
✓	Forest Park Neighbourhood Watch	Doreen Carruthers
✓	Friends of Bulwell Bogs	Roz Yousouf
✓	My Sight Nottinghamshire	David Norman
✓	Ravensworth Rd Methodist Church	Gillian Slack
✓	Rise Park Action Group	Paul Bakajsa
✓	Royal British Legion Bulwell Branch	Paul Carl Jackson
	St Johns Church	Rev David Gray
	Tenants and Crabtree Residents Association	Maria Shakespeare
✓	Top Valley Community Centre Ltd	Robin Goodwin

Colleagues, Partners and others in attendance:

Councillor Dave Trimble	Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture
Sgt Nev McGeehan	Nottinghamshire Police
Stacey Shillingford	Community Employment and Skills
Eddie Curry	Head of Parks and Open Spaces
Alex Brown	Community Sport and Physical Activity Officer
Celia Knight	Neighbourhood Development Officer (Bulwell Forest Ward)
Toni Smithurst	Nottingham City Homes Tenancy & Estates Manager
Tim Bowyer	Nottingham City Council Public Transport
Paul Tansey	Policy & Research Team
Heidi May	Senior Service Manager for Locality and Woolsthorpe
Lynita Conradie	Methodist Minister for Bulwell
Catherine Ziane-Pryor	Governance Officer

46 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Colin Bones, Joseph Zulu, Suki Shergill.

47 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

48 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2015 were confirmed as a true record and was signed by the Chair.

49 PARKLIVES HEALTHY LIFESTYLE ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

Councillor Dave Trimble, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture Eddy Curry, Head of Parks and Open Spaces, and Alex Brown, Community Sport and Physical Activity Officer were in attendance to present the report and deliver a presentation and a brief film.

ParkLives is a project funded by Coca-Cola which aims to get 1 million people active by 2020. The aim of the project fits well with the City Council's strategies for parks and open spaces, sport and activity, and health and well-being.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) the purpose of the report is to:
 - (i) help co-ordinators find out how they can best engage and encourage community involvement in ParkLives activities either by taking part in scheduled activities or creating their own independently or with the support of the City Council;
 - (ii) to gather information on formal and informal groups of citizens already using the park for some sort of exercise. That the information can potentially contribute to funding bids for further park improvements or to help facilitate activities;
- (b) currently there are 40 active ParkLives Friends Groups across the City which take part in some sort of activity or enjoyment of the City's parks and open spaces, doing anything from walking, dog walking, running, or in some way helping maintain the space;
- (c) in recent years £20 million has been invested in the City's parks and open spaces, as can be seen at Bulwell Bogs. However the investment only proves worthwhile when citizens use these spaces;
- (d) the ParkLives Team needs to be able to register existing user groups and encourage new activities and user groups, with guidance and support and even activity leaders available to help activities establish and guide citizens to managing the activities independently by offering training to local champions within the community who can then encourage further activity;

- (e) a brief film of about Sue from Bulwell was shown. From not doing any exercise whatsoever, she joined a City Council hosted activity group and after 8 weekly sessions she was able to run 5 kilometres. The message of the film is that 'no matter what age or size you can be involved and can achieve what you didn't believe you could.' Sue urged families and friends to get together and spend time enjoying the parks and open spaces;
- (f) all ParkLives events are free, fun and open to everyone. The list of the City Council scheduled activities throughout the forthcoming year is attached to the report.

Councillors commented on this was an ideal program to involve as many people as possible to improve fitness and help challenge social isolation.

Community representatives welcomed the initiative but were concerned that irresponsible and disruptive quad and motor bike riding on Southglade Park was deterring current users of the Park as the bikers presence and reckless riding is threatening and even dangerous. On one occasion bike riders rode through a weekend football match. Eddie Curry responded that with more people using the parks, this would act as a deterrent for this sort of behaviour and urged citizens to report instances like these to the Police as they are more likely to respond where hotspots of activity are reported.

Disappointment was expressed by community representatives who last year had planted a total of 22 trees in their local park, 12 of which have since been mindlessly vandalised.

Questions were responded to as follows:

- (g) encouraging more people to use the parks and open spaces will deter antisocial behaviour;
- (h) ParkLives had successfully engaged/registered approximately 15,000 people throughout the City last year and is hoping to build on that success;
- (i) the value of community champions was demonstrated by an officer who lived locally and was known to the community, working to successfully engage young people in activities at South Lake Park. Once community buy-in can be demonstrated it is easier to attract funding to provide further facilities;
- (j) although City residents may regularly use local parks which are outside the boundaries of Nottingham City Council's responsibility, ParkLives activities cannot be provided on land which is not owned by the City Council, although it is hoped that the scheme could be expanded in the future to include groups operating on the fringe of the City boundaries.

For further information or to inform the ParkLives Team of existing 'friends groups' please contact Alex Brown on 0115 8761422, or 07958296151 or email parklives@nottinghamcity.gov.uk. The website is <http://www.parklives.com/about>

RESOLVED

- (1) to note the draft ParkLives programme for 2016;**

- (2) to help identify and provide nominations the Local ParkLives Ambassadors;**
- (3) to help identify and provide nominations the Local ParkLives Activators.**

50 EASYLINK BUS SERVICES - UPDATE

Tim Bowyer, of Nottingham City Council Public Transport, informed the Committee that the EasyLink accessible bus service for Nottingham City has replaced the Dial-A-Ride Service and highlighted the following points:

- (a) this new door-to-door mobility service is available to citizens within the City who are either permanently or temporarily unable to access public transport . This may be because they have a disability or injury which does not allow them to travel to the bus/tram stop, or that due to their condition, they are unable to travel on public transport;
- (b) unlike a dial-a-ride service, there is no requirement that users possess a disability pass;
- (c) the Service is available between 8am and 7pm Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays;
- (d) the new lower fare pricing structure is based on distance as the crow flies, with fares starting from as little as £1.50 for concession card holders;
- (e) although membership registration is required, there is no membership fee;
- (f) whilst the Service is liaising with Nottingham City Homes, Age UK, and other relevant organisations, it is keen to ensure that anyone needing the Service is aware of it and can feel confident to use it, especially some of the more isolated and hard to reach citizens;
- (g) the replacement of Dial-A-Ride with EasyLink was gently introduced with existing members and is being widely advertised across the City, with officers keen to attend community group meetings to further promote the service;
- (h) EasyLink has six brand-new vehicles but retains the former Dial-A-Ride vehicles to ensure that if demand accelerates it can be met. Vehicles are fully accessible and assistance from trained drivers is available;
- (i) new booking systems enable journeys to be booked up to 6 weeks in advance with block bookings, or even three months in advance for medical appointments;
- (j) new computer software ensures that journeys, are planned as efficiently as possible.

Enquiries for further information on registering for the Service or using it, telephone 0115 969 1801 between noon and 4.30pm Monday to Friday, or text 0788 966 950.

51 LOCAL PLAN PART 2: LAND AND PLANNING POLICIES DOCUMENT - PUBLICATION VERSION

Paul Tansey, Senior Planner, presented the report which informs the Committee that the Local Plan Part 2: Land And Planning Policies Document had been published. This document is very similar to the document reported to the Committee in 2013 with some revised policies. A total of seven local plan site allocations and development principles for potential development sites within the area are identified within the appendix to report. It is noted that the document would be available for a period of six weeks to enable individual or group representations to be made by completing a form, either on paper or online, which must be submitted by 5 pm on Friday 11 March 2016.

The full document can be viewed online at [The Local Plan and Planning Policy - Nottingham City Council](#), where representation forms can be found. For paper forms, please call 0115 876 4594.

With regard to concerns raised about the water table in Bulwell and ensuring that where front gardens are converted to parking space, the surface is permeable to rain water. Paul Tansey responded that surface water is taken into consideration within development principles but it is not believed that these apply to existing individual properties. However, as a valid point it will be raised.

RESOLVED to note that the Local Plan Part 2: Land and Planning Policy Document (Publication Version) and accompanying policies map has been published for representations and the period for making representations ends on 11 March 2016.

52 AREA 1 JOBS PLAN - RESPONSE TO AREA CLUSTERS JOBS AND TRAINING REVIEW

Stacey Shillingford, Community Employment and Skills Officer for the North Locality, presented the report which presents the Area Jobs Plan Proposals for 2016/17 and responded to questions raised at Area Chair's Panel and Cluster Meetings regarding employment.

The Chair commented that is important for organisations funded to promote and support local people finding and starting work or training, to be able to demonstrate their achievements, without any risk of duplication or double counting.

Concerns are raised that while there are several employment or training options available for young people aged 18 to 29, it is far more difficult for older people, especially aged 50 years and over, to re-enter employment.

The success of the new local venture 'Fast Hands' was welcomed by members.

It is noted that the demographics within the area are changing with increasing BME representation, and this needs to be reflected within statistics being used for local population.

To enable focused attention on job and training provision within the area and its success, it is suggested that a working group is established.

RESOLVED that an Employment and Skills Partnership is established, jointly with Area 2, with terms of reference, membership, officers, reporting, and frequency of meetings to be decided at a future cluster meeting.

53 AREA 1 COMMITTEE PRIORITIES

Celia Knight, Neighbourhood Development Officer, presented the report which updates the Committee on the activity to date focused on the Area Committee Priorities of Employment and Employability, Health and Well-Being, Crime and Antisocial Behaviour.

Within the supporting document, under each priority heading, actions were identified and officers nominated to undertake those actions and timescales by which the actions were to be completed.

The following update regarding employment issues was presented at the meeting:

- (a) Top Valley Academy provided a three week programme for Year 10 students during the summer term. The first week involved detailed assessments, the second week was a work experience placement, and the third week involved a mock interview and support with writing CVs;
- (b) New College Nottingham provided childcare for some courses. Anyone interested in going on a local course can ask if childcare is available;
- (c) 96 people had accessed employability related courses through the Nottingham City Homes Tenant Academy. Of these people, 16% had gone into work and 20% had moved onto further education between February and November 2015;
- (d) 'Adult Numeracy' and 'Introduction to English' classes are currently running every 8 weeks at Bulwell Riverside. Community groups have been asked to pass this information onto anyone who would benefit from support with English or maths;
- (e) following a request from a local group, it had been proposed to hold an event on April 23 at Top Valley Academy for voluntary organisations to be able to recruit volunteers. However, there had been a lower than expected response from community groups to this event and it is likely to be cancelled;
- (f) the Mellish Sports Centre has stated that they have helped 25 people into work this year and that they also help people with CVs, college and university applications;
- (g) 989 people attended the Jobs Fair held at Riverside last year with 145 of those people moving into work.

Community representatives expressed concern at the lack of manual jobs available for people who do not excel academically and are unlikely to achieve the generally accepted basic standard requirement of five A-C GCSE grades.

In addition it is considered vital that every young person is able to speak with a careers adviser to ensure that they receive guidance to be able to meet their vocational potential.

Members recalled that initially Bulwell Academy had proposed to promote vocational training, so it would be interesting if they could update the Committee on how this approach was progressing, including outcome work placements.

With such a strong national emphasis on apprenticeships, the committee requested information on how successful they were in and helping young people into work.

RESOLVED

- (1) to note the Area Committee Priorities and actions to date;**
- (2) for further information to be provided regarding the extent, if any, of careers advice available to young people, specifically aimed at pupils who are unlikely to achieve 5 grade A-C GCSEs;**
- (3) for further information to be brought to the Committee on the activity and performance of 'Small Steps Big Changes';**
- (4) to request an update from Bulwell Academy on the promotion and provision of vocational training, including the outcomes of work placements;**
- (5) for further information to be provided regarding the outcomes of apprenticeships.**

54 POLICING UPDATE

Nottinghamshire Police Sergeant Nev McGeehan verbally updated the Committee on the latest crime information for the area, as follows:

- (a) overall crime has decreased and criminal damage theft and burglary are down on the same period last year;**
- (b) overall violence has increased with domestic violence up by 12% (although this may be partly due to the successful drive to encourage reporting of domestic violence), night time economy violence is down by 14%, but other violent crime, including assaults has increased by 21% (this may be partly be a result of Highbury Hospital merging some wards);**
- (c) antisocial behaviour (ASB) has increased by 2%;**

With regard to the motor cycle and quad bike problems in parks, the more people who report this as an issue, the more can be done. The ASB Team are able to seize bikes and prosecute riders. Unfortunately the milder weather this winter has resulted in more activity than usual. It is really important that if the culprits can be identified, this information is reported to the Police.

Community representatives also raised the following issues:

- (d) there seems to be an increasing number of cyclists on the road at night without lights, and even cycling into oncoming traffic;
- (e) cycling on pavements continues to be an issue and can be very intimidating, if not dangerous to pedestrians;
- (f) it takes an extraordinary amount of time, maybe 10 to 15 minutes, to report any issues to the 101 telephone number, as callers are asked an extraordinary amount of information. This is a deterrent for people considering reporting issues.

Sergeant McGeehan responded that cyclists have responsibilities and can be charged with cycling without due care and attention. The enforcement against cycling on pavements has passed to Community Protection Officers who are able to issue fines. With regard to the length of time amount of information required citizen calling the 101 phone line, it is important to identify who the caller is and where they are so that if the circumstances turn into an emergency they can be found, however, the comments made will be forwarded.

RESOLVED to thank Sergeant McGeehan for as update and attendance.

55 NOTTINGHAM CITY HOMES PERFORMANCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCHEMES UPDATE

Toni Smithurst, Nottingham City Homes (NCH) Tenancy and Estate Manager, presented the report the Chief Executive Nottingham City Homes, which updated the Committee with a list of NCH activity in the area, including involvement with community groups, and an overall performance report.

The Committee was also updated regarding the ongoing issues around persistently changing Patch Managers due to a seconded post. As a result of the concerns raised by councillors and community representatives, a patch manager realignment has taken place and the post from which a permanent patch manager had taken secondment for an uncertain period of time, has been moved to a different area, meaning that a permanent patch manager, Michael Mosley is now in place.

RESOLVED to note:

- (i) the update and performance information;**
- (ii) in the remaining funds of £82,564 for Bulwell Ward, and £18,949 for Bulwell Forest Ward.**

56 FINANCE AND DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Celia Knight, Neighbourhood Development Officer, presented the report which informs the committee of the financial position of Ward member budgets and the actions agreed by the Director of Neighbourhood Services as a result of Ward Member funding.

It is noted that further schemes and events have received Councillor support in principal, but are yet to be formally approved and so are not included in the lists below.

RESOLVED

- (1) to note the following formally approved allocations by Bulwell Ward Councillors:

Schemes: Bulwell Ward	Councillor(s)	Amount (total in £)
Football equipment	Hartshorne, Morris & Klein	125
Light Switch on 2016	Hartshorne, Morris & Klein	4,000
Older Persons event 2016	Hartshorne, Morris & Klein	250
Extended toilet opening 2016	Hartshorne, Morris & Klein	2,000
Peoples' Choice	Hartshorne, Morris & Klein	59
Planting barriers	Hartshorne, Morris & Klein	250

- (2) to note the current financial position for Bulwell Ward:

Balance Brought Forward 14/15	6,200
Councillor Funding 15/16	15,000
Total Funds	21,200
Allocated 15/16	8,730
De-committed Schemes	355
Uncommitted Funds after Allocated Schemes	12,825

- (3) to note the following formally approved allocations by Bulwell Forest Ward Councillors:

Schemes: Bulwell Forest Ward	Councillor(s)	Amount (total in £)
Bulwell Forest Week of Action 2016	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	1,500
Volunteer Recruitment Event	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	600
Rise Park and Bulwell Xmas Lights	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	3,900
Scorpion Football Club	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	125
SKN Heritage	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	250

- (4) to note the current financial position for Bulwell Forest Ward:

Balance Brought Forward 14/15	78
Councillor Funding 15/16	15,000
Total Funds	15,078
Allocated 15/16	12,176
De-committed Schemes	0
Uncommitted Funds after Allocated Schemes	2,902

57 AREA CAPITAL

Celia Knight, Neighbourhood Development Officer, presented the report which proposes Area Capital and Public Realm (local Transport Plan –LTP) funded schemes.

RESOLVED

- (1) to note the following financial position of the Bulwell Ward budget:

2015-2016 LTP allocation		£82,000
LTP carried forward from 2013-2015		£0
2015 - 2016 Public Realm allocation		£49,050
Public Realm carried forward from 2013-2015		£82,467
Total Available 2015 - 2016 ACF		£213,517
Less LTP schemes	-	£82,000
Less Public Realm schemes	-	£60,564
De-committed funds	+	£0
Remaining available balance		£70,953
LTP element remaining		£0
Public Realm element remaining		£70,953

- (2) to approve the following Bulwell Ward LTP schemes:

Location	Type	Estimate	Details
Hucknall Lane	Footpaths	£30,256	Resurfacing of Hucknall Lane footpaths from Moor Bridge to Swinger car wash on railway side (LTP contribution) - lead service: Highway Maintenance

- (3) to approve the following Bulwell Public Realm schemes:

Location	Type	Estimate	Details
Bulwell Schools	road safety	£1,850	Assess existing street furniture and lining and replace / modify as required outside identified schools in the ward - lead service: Traffic & Safety
Sellers Wood Drive area	road safety	£8,500	Junction protection works to improve safety and visibility - lead service: Traffic & Safety
Hucknall Lane/ Naomi Crescent	road safety	£6,600	Junction protection works to improve safety and visibility - lead service: Traffic & Safety
Hucknall Lane	Footpaths	£26,765	Resurfacing of Hucknall Lane footpaths from Moor Bridge to Swinger car wash on railway side (PR contribution) - lead service: Highway Maintenance

(4) to note the following financial position of the Bulwell Forest Ward budget:

2015-2016 LTP allocation		£49,000
LTP carried forward from 2013-2015		£0
2015 - 2016 Public Realm allocation		£29,250
Public Realm carried forward from 2013-2015		£526
Total Available 2015 - 2016 ACF		£78,776
Less LTP schemes	-	£49,000
Less Public Realm schemes	-	£22,253
Decommitted funds	+	£0
Remaining available balance		£7,523
LTP element remaining		£0
Public Realm element remaining		£7,523

(5) to approve the following Bulwell Forest Public Realm schemes:

Location	Type	Estimate	Details
Rise Park Road	Survey	£1,925	Survey of speeding issues on Rise Park Road to include development of potential solutions and address displaced parking - lead service: Traffic & Safety
Rise Park Place sign	Signage	£2,000	Contribution to the cost of a decorative sign at Rise Park - lead service: Neighbourhood Management
Old Farm Road	bus stop cage	£700	Contribution to introduce measures to Improve safety for public transport users by preventing parking at bus stops - lead service: Traffic & Safety

58 WARD PERFORMANCE

Celia Knight, Neighbourhood Development Officer, introduced the report which provides detailed performance statistics along with commentary of progress made against area targets and informed the committee that the information had been considered during the Neighbourhood Action Team meeting (NAT).

It is noted that if any members of the Committee have any issues or questions to raise regarding contents of performance reports, they can inform their ward Neighbourhood Development Officer a few days before the meeting to enable the answers or information to be provided at the meeting.

RESOLVED to note the report.

59 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There is an opportunity for Community Representatives to suggest future agenda items to be considered by the Committee. Any suggestions needed to be presented at least six weeks before the meeting date to either Celia Knight, Neighbourhood Development Officer for Bulwell Forest Ward, or Suki Shergill, Neighbourhood Development Officer for Bulwell Ward.

60 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Councillor Jackie Morris informed the Committee that a play focusing on domestic violence will be open to citizens on Wednesday, 9 March at 12.30pm at the Council House in Market Square. There is no charge for the event.

Nominations for Community Volunteer Awards are being sought. Nomination forms are available from Kevin Banfield (kevin.banfield@nottinghamcity.gov.uk) or by contacting Neighbourhood Development Officers (Celia 0115 8833729 or Suki 0115 8833728). Nominations for the 'Good Neighbour Awards' are also welcomed.

A dog micro-chipping session will take place at Southgate Park on Wednesday, 9 March from 11 am to 3 pm. As of April 2016 all dogs over the age of 8 weeks old must be micro-chipped. There is no set fee for this service but a donation is requested.

61 NEXT PROVISIONAL MEETING DATE

RESOLVED to note that the next provisionally scheduled meeting of the Committee is 18 May 2016.