

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

BULWELL AND BULWELL FOREST AREA COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held at Bulwell Riverside Joint Service Centre, Main Street, Bulwell, NG6 8QJ on 10 December 2014 from 5.33 pm – 7.00 pm.

Membership

Present

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

Absent

Councillor Nick McDonald

Community Representatives

Reginald Knowles	-	Bradford Street Allotments
Fr Andy Nicolls	-	Bulwell Churches Together
Sheila Loades	-	Bulwell Hall Tenants' and Residents' Association
✓ John Hancock	-	Coventry Road Estate Tenants' and Residents' Association
✓ Doreen Carruthers	-	Forest Park Neighbourhood Watch
Luan Vickers	-	Malt Cross (Street Pastors)
✓ Roz Yousouf	-	Friends of Bulwell Bogs
David Norman	-	My Sight Nottinghamshire
✓ Gillian Slack	-	Ravensworth Road Methodist Church
Paul Bakajsa	-	Rise Park Action Group
✓ John Millington	-	Rise Park Community Association
✓ Paul Jackson	-	Royal British Legion Bulwell Branch
Maria Shakespeare	-	Tenants and Crabtree Resident's Association

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance

Ella Ferris)	Nottingham Credit Union)
Moby Farrands))
Nicky Jarvis	-	Nottingham City Homes)
Sgt Nev McGeehan	-	Nottinghamshire Police)
Celia Knight)	Neighbourhood)
Suki Shergill)	Development Officers)
Richard Antcliff	-	Head of Neighbourhoods & Enforcement) Nottingham
		and Community Protection) City Council
Rob Caswell)	Major Programmes (Manager))
Sarah White)	(Project Manager))
Cath Ziane-Pryor	-	Governance Officer)

24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Nick McDonald (work);
David Norman, My Sight Nottinghamshire;
Fr Andy Nicolls, Bulwell Churches Together;
Reginald Knowles, Bradford Street Allotments;

Sheila Loades, Bulwell Hall Tenants' and Residents' Association;
Paul Bakajsa, Rise Park Action Group;
Heidi May, North Locality Manager.

25 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

26 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 September 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

27 NOTTINGHAM CREDIT UNION

Ella Ferris, General Manager, and Moby Farrands, of the Nottingham Credit Union (NCU) addressed the meeting on the role of the NCU, highlighting the following points;

- a) NCU has been providing financial products to the citizens of Nottingham since 1992. Since then, it has merged with other smaller credit unions, including Mansfield and Ashfield. Only people living or working in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire can join;
- b) the aim of NCU is to provide products that help improve everyday living for all its members by offering a range of financial services, from savings and bank accounts to loans. Unlike most financial services companies, NCU is a not-for-profit organisation and products are priced to covers costs, not to make money as its shareholders are its customers;
- c) the NCU pre-paid card is a pay-as-you-go debit card. Money can be 'loaded' onto the card and it can be used to buy goods and services, get cash back and shop on the internet;
- d) deposits with NCU are protected up to a total of £85,000 by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme, the UK's deposit protection scheme;
- e) NCU was operating in Bulwell for several years, but it was decided to close the Bulwell office as the number of citizens using the Bulwell office was reducing month on month. An armed robbery at the Nottingham office, forced NCU to look at the security of all its branches and the cost of updating the Bulwell branch would have been too high. There hasn't been a problem with missed loan repayments since the Bulwell office closed;
- f) NCU members from Bulwell are still able to use the Nottingham office. There were plans to work with Nottingham City Homes (NCH) to enable members to use their cash offices in Bulwell Riverside but NCH withdrew their cash desks across the City;
- g) in the Bulwell area doorstep lenders are embedded into local culture and are known for charging excessive interest rates. Credit Unions offer a far cheaper alternative, even to legal lenders;

h)

£300 over 1 year*	NCU	Provident	Wonga*
APR	42.6%	272.2%	5853%
Weekly	£6.89	£10.50	
Interest added	£58.26	£246	£127.70

* Wonga loan max term 40 days – illustration for 40 days only

Although there is currently no obviously viable solution, Councillors felt that with the embedded local culture of using doorstep lenders, it is vital for NCU to have a physical presence in Bulwell, especially as many people cannot access services on-line credit union services.

RESOLVED to record the thanks of the Committee to the Nottingham Credit Union for their attendance .

28 EXPANSION OF HEATHFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Rob Caswell, Manager of Major Programmes, and Sarah White, Project Manager, presented an update on the planned expansion of Heathfield Primary School;

- a) the location of the new school will be on the former Henry Mellish Secondary School playing field site. The school itself was demolished as part of the Building Schools for the Future programme;
- b) the new building will be between Kersall Drive and the Mellish Sports Centre and will have vehicular access from Kemmel Drive off Piccadilly. There will be two pedestrian entrances off Kersall Drive, one with controlled access for visitors and the other managed by the school to ease pupil access at peak times;
- c) an additional 420 places will be created plus 52 full time equivalent nursery places;
- d) the school will have a flexible design system that allows for adaptations in the future. Classes will be clustered around breakout areas based on age. There will be provision for children with special needs and the new school will also have a purpose built hall and full catering kitchen, a reception area and staff provision. Playground areas will be split according to age and space will be set aside for future development to allow the school to grow into the site;
- e) a Community Use Agreement with Mellish Sports Centre will encourage shared use of both sites to maximize opportunities for the local community;

During discussion of the project, concerns were raised that parent and teacher parking outside and around the new school will impact significantly on local citizen's parking availability, access and the flow of through traffic. Historically since the implication of the Work Place Parking Levy, teachers and school staff at several schools avoid paying the 50p per day charge by parking off site. The Chair acknowledged the importance of ensuring that school employees parked within the school site.

RESOLVED for the Major Programmes Manager to ensure that Ward Councillors receive regular updates on the progress of works.

29 UPDATE ON NEW ANTI-SOCIAL POWERS

Richard Antcliff, Head of Neighbourhoods & Enforcement and Community Protection, updated the Committee on the new anti-social behaviour powers contained in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

The Act sets out the following 6 tools:

- (a) Injunctions - a purely civil injunction available in the county court for adults and the youth court for 10 to 17 year olds. Designed to tackle nuisance and anti-social behaviour, they will replace ASBIs and stand-alone ASBOs;
- (b) Criminal Behaviour Orders - only available where a person had been convicted of an offence. This could be any offence, not just one involving anti-social behaviour. Issued by the courts after conviction, the order will ban an individual from certain activities or places and require them to address their behaviour;
- (c) Dispersal Powers - this new power will enable police officers and PCSOs (where the Chief Constable has delegated these powers) to direct a person aged 10 and above who has committed, or is likely to commit, anti social behaviour to leave a specified area and not return for a specified period of up to 48 hours.
- (d) Community Protection Notices and Orders (CPN), - may be used by a relevant officer to order a person to do something (or stop doing something). In order to cease 'environmental' ASB, or behaviour having a detrimental effect on quality of life. It replaces litter clearing notices, defacement removal notices and street litter control notices. one order for local authorities to stop persistent environmental ASB like graffiti, neighbour noise or dog fouling; and for police, social landlords and local authorities to deal with more serious disorder and criminality in a specific place such as closing a property used for drug dealing;
- (e) Public Spaces Protection Orders - will replace the Designated Public Place Order, the Gating Order and the Dog Control Order. The new order is intended to deal with a particular nuisance in a particular area which negatively affects the community's quality of life;
- (f) Closure Powers – this power is a fast, flexible power that can be used to protect victims and communities by quickly closing premises that are causing nuisance or disorder. Both the Local Authority and the Police can use this power to close residential or business premises. The notice is for a 48hr period, and the closure is for a period up to 6 months.

Richard Antcliff responded to the Committee's questions as follows:

- (g) Community Protection covers many sections within the Council and is partnered with the Police;

- (h) the experiences of Nottingham City in tackling ASB has been shared with other Local Authorities and used to shape the new legislation;
- (i) injunctions can be used for anyone now, not just Council tenants;
- (j) use of the balance of probability instead of proof can be a valuable tool in preventing further issues arising;
- (k) if after the first warning there are further problems, these should be dealt with fairly quickly;
- (l) new software is in place to enable agencies to work in partnership and share information. This will allow issues to be tackled quicker than previously.

RESOLVED to thank Richard Antcliff for his update and note that the Committee welcomed the new anti-social behaviour powers contained in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

30 NOTTINGHAM CITY HOMES - ENVIRONMENTAL SCHEMES AND GENERAL UPDATE

Nicky Jarvis, Tenancy & Estate Manager NCH presented the report of the Chief Executive of Nottingham City Homes (NCH) outlining key performance updates on programme and environmental issues.

It is noted that some tree removal and pruning has been requested by the Head of Parks and Open Spaces as part of a City-wide tree management scheme. The trees referred to in the recommendations are either self set or growing too big for the site.

RESOLVED

- (1) to approve the following schemes;
 - (i) Bulwell Ward

Location	Scheme	Estimated costs
Totley Close	To remove all overgrown bushes/weeds and resurface the area. To install a gate into the area.	£9,882.39
Bromley Close	There is a standalone wall between the caretakers office and the car park on Bromley Close. The wall has recently been vandalised and offensive graffiti is often sprayed on it.	£1,902.90
102 Courtleet Way	Put in knee high fencing to prevent joy riders gaining access	£3,356.56
Snapenook Court	Fitting of solar lights to 2 - 23	£2,230.27

(ii) Bulwell Forest Ward

Location	Scheme	Estimated costs
rear of Thornberry Way.	Traffic Management had submitted a cost of £2500 for a feasibility study to create parking on a disused concrete area at the rear of Thornberry Way.	£2,500.00
Bulwell Forest Ward	The Parks and Open Spaces Team to remove large nuisance trees on estates and replace them with two new younger trees. Funding would be required from the area capital and NCH environmental budgets to enable them to do this. It was agreed that £10,000 would be allocated from 2014/15 Public Realm budget and an additional £10,000 from the NCH environmental budget providing that work can be carried out in this financial year.	£10,000.00

- (2) for Ward Councillors to further consider the proposal to remove the vacant tree grids and protective barriers, against the possibility of replacing the 3 trees at the Bromley Close Car park;**
- (3) for the general NCH performance information to be noted.**

31 AREA POLICING UPDATE

In the absence of Acting Inspector Christine Busuttil, Sergeant Nev McGeehan delivered a brief update on crime statistics in the area compared to the same 3 month period last year, including the following:

- a) vehicle crime and robbery are down, assault and domestic burglaries are up;
- b) anti-social behaviour (ASB) has risen but this will be a reflection of noise issues now being reported to the Police rather than the Council;
- c) there have been issues of criminal damage and ASB with stones thrown at vehicles, buses and premises in the Bestwood Park Drive, Ridgeway and Top Valley Areas. The offenders have been identified, spoken to and the problem has stopped;
- d) there has been ASB and criminal damage to vacant properties in Phoenix Park so patrols have ensured a highly visible presence;
- e) burglary awareness will be promoted as Christmas nears, encouraging citizens to take preventative measures such as ensuring a light is left on in a property;
- f) there had been a 483% increase in deliberate fires during the summer months. Partnership working between the Police Council and Fire Service, with schools and leisure centres has aimed to address this, resulting in several referrals to the 'Fire Setters' course provided by the Fire and Rescue Service.

It is noted that that nationally all Police Crime Recording Policies have been examined and that Nottinghamshire’s practices have been commended.

Resolved to note the police update and thank Sergeant Nev Mc Geehan for his attendance.

32 WARD PERFORMANCE

Suki Shergil, Neighbourhood Development Officer, introduced the Director for Neighbourhood Services’ report providing summary updates on key themes within the Nottingham Plan.

RESOLVED to note the ward performance.

33 AREA CAPITAL FUND

Celia Knight presented the report which identified prioritised Area Capital and Public Realm schemes.

RESOLVED

(1) to approve the following schemes:

(i) Bulwell

<u>Location</u>	<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Estimate</u>
Armstrong Road	No Through Road signage to discourage motorists from attempting to cut through Armstrong Road	£800
Cinderhill Road area	Study into issues around parking considerations in this area	£3,000

(ii) Bulwell Public Realm schemes

<u>Location</u>	<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Estimate</u>
Hoewood Road WREN	Third party contribution to WREN bid for Hoewood Road Grow Wild project	£11,000

(iii) Bulwell Forest Public Realm schemes

<u>Location</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Estimate</u>
Bulwell Forest Estates	Joint NCH scheme to remove large nuisance trees at identified sites across the ward and replace each with two new trees.	£10,000

(2) to note the following:

(i) **Bulwell**

Total De-committed***	£3,259
2013-2015 LTP allocation	£170,000
LTP carried forward from 2011-2013	£0
2013 - 2014 Public Realm allocation	£51,000
Public Realm carried forward	£6,050
2014 - 2015 Public Realm allocation	£51,000
Total Available 2013 - 2015 ACF	£278,050
*Less LTP schemes	£126,913
**Less Public Realm schemes	£20,429
***De-committed funds	£3,259
Remaining available balance	£133,967
LTP element remaining	£46,346
Public Realm element remaining	£87,621

(ii) **Bulwell Forest**

Total Withdrawn***	£200
2013-2015 LTP allocation	£100,000
LTP carried forward from 2011-2013	-£2,930
2013 - 2014 Public Realm allocation	£30,000
Public Realm carried forward	£6,794
2014 - 2015 Public Realm allocation	£30,000
Total Available 2013 - 2015 ACF	£163,864
*Less LTP schemes	- £97,270
**Less Public Realm schemes	£50,866
***De-committed funds	£200
Remaining available balance	£15,928
LTP element remaining	£0
Public Realm element remaining	£25,928

34 DELEGATED AUTHORITY AND FINANCIAL UPDATE

Celia Knight, Neighbourhood Development Officer, presented the report which updated the Committee on the actions agreed by the Director of Neighbourhood Services in respect of projects and schemes with in Bulwell and Bulwell Forest, and the remaining funding available.

It is noted that several schemes which received Councillor support in principal are yet to complete the formal process required.

RESOLVED to note

(i) the following actions agreed by the Director of Neighbourhood Services:

Schemes: Bulwell Ward	Councillor(s)	Amount (total)
Memorial Plaque	Klein, Morris & Hartshorne	£1,000
CCTV upgrade Snapewood Community Centre	Klein, Morris & Hartshorne	£3,220
Bulb planting	Klein, Morris & Hartshorne	£300
Volunteer Awards	Klein, Morris & Hartshorne	£150

Schemes: Bulwell Forest Ward	Councillor(s)	Amount (total)
Bulwell and Rise Park Xmas Lights	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£3,600
Rise Park Football Club	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£445
Mental Health Awareness Session	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£60
Army Cadets – equipment for Duke of Edinburgh	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£300
Street Litter Bin	McDonald	£320
World War One Memory Plaque	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£600
Bulwell Forest Bowls Clubhouse Equipment	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£605
Footpath Extinguishment Order	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£4500
Ridgeway MUGA Wren contribution	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£1650
Stanstead Rd Parking Survey	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£660
Westglade School Polytunnel	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£600
Bulwell Forest Week of Action 2015	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£1500
Bulwell Forest Dragons Den 2015	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£2500
Latimer Park Play Equipment	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£5721
Nottingham Volunteer Awards	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£150
Rise Park Noticeboard Repairs	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£462
Southglade ParkLive 2015	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£1500
Top Valley Community Association Equipment	Campbell, Clark, McDonald	£217

(ii) the updated financial position:

Bulwell Ward

Balance Brought Forward 13/14	£44,706
Councillor Funding 14/15	£15,000
Deprivation Funds	£15,993
Total Funds	£75,699
Allocated 14/15	£41,848
De-committed Schemes	£5346
Uncommitted Funds after Allocated Schemes	£39,197

Bulwell Forest Ward

Balance Brought Forward 13/14	41,361
Councillor Funding 14/15	15,000
Deprivation Funds	0
Total Funds	56,361
Allocated 14/15	29,587
De-committed Schemes	0
Uncommitted Funds after Allocated Schemes	26,774