

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

BASFORD AND BESTWOOD AREA COMMITTEE

**MINUTES of the meeting held at LB41 - Loxley House, Station Street,
Nottingham, NG2 3NG on 24 June 2015 from 16.30 - 17.54**

Membership

Present

Councillor Brian Grocock (Vice Chair)
Councillor Alex Norris
Councillor David Smith
Councillor Michael Wildgust (Chair)
Councillor Linda Woodings

Absent

Councillor Cat Arnold

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Inspector Woolley	-	Nottinghamshire Police
Steven Barker	-	Leen Valley
Michael Savage	-	Old Highbury Vale Tenants & Residents Association
Phil England	-	Whitemoor Neighbourhood Watch Association
Patrick Jordan	-	Bestwood Ward/Advice Centre
Lynn Standen	-	Nottingham City Homes
Noel McMenamin	-	Governance Officer
Gursharan Singh	-	Neighbourhood Development Officer

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Mick Wildgust as Chair of the Committee for the 2015/16 municipal year.

2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Brian Grocock as Vice Chair to the Committee for the 2015/16 municipal year.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Cat Arnold (other Council business)
Dale Griffin – Neighbourhood Management
Heidi May – Locality Manager
Tarquin Weaver, CBF Gymnasium

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

5 MINUTES

The Committee confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 25 February 2015 as a correct record and they were signed by the Chair.

6 HENRY MELLISH SPORT CENTRE - MANAGEMENT UPDATE

RESOLVED to consider this item at the Committee's September 2015 meeting.

7 WARD COUNCILLOR DELEGATED AUTHORITY SPEND

Gursharan Nijran, Neighbourhood Development Officer, presented a report of the Strategic Director for Commercial and Neighbourhood Services, detailing completed and ongoing projects and schemes in the Basford and Bestwood areas funded from Councillors' individual delegated ward allocations, and highlighting allocations for 2015/16.

RESOLVED

- (1) to note the projects and schemes funded from ward Councillor delegated budgets since the last meeting, and the latest funding position, as follows:

Basford Ward (£)

Area 2 Christmas Events	-	500
Basford Schools Book Vouchers	-	5,283
Knit and Knatter	-	200
Brooklyn Park Development	-	5,000
Highbury Vale Summer Fun Day	-	650
Balance brought forward 2013/14	-	16,435
Allocation 2014/15	-	15,000
Total available 2014/15	-	31,435
Total allocated (at 31/03/15)	-	30,855
Total available (at 31/03/15)	-	580

Bestwood Ward

African Women Empowerment Forum (AWEF)	-	1,475
Crime Prevention Equipment	-	6,000
Christmas Maintenance Budget	-	5,000
Bestwood Estate Community Centre Equipment	-	590
Money Box Pilot	-	1,000
Bestwood Estate Knit and Knatter	-	200
Bestwood Park Community Centre Equipment	-	1,000
Ridge Adventure Playground 5 year Celebration	-	200
Leen Valley Community Centre events	-	1,100
Balance Brought forward 2013/14	-	24,627
Allocation 2014/15	-	15,000
Deprivation award (IMD) 2014/15	-	14,154
Total Available 2014/15	-	53,781

Total de-committed	-	14,000
Total allocated (at 31/03/15)	-	49,315
Total available (at 31/03/15)	-	18,466

(2) To note that the allocation for each ward councillor in 2015/16 is £5,000.

8 AREA CAPITAL FUND 2015-16

Gursharan Nijran, Neighbourhood Development Officer, presented a revised report of the Strategic Director for Commercial and Neighbourhood Services, copies of which were placed around the table, which provided an update on the latest spend proposals under the Area Capital Fund 2013-15, including highways and footways.

Mr Singh highlighted an additional scheme not in the report and requiring approval, asterisked below.

RESOLVED to approve the following Area Capital fund schemes, and to note the remaining available funds for Basford (£101,264) and Bestwood (£27,285):

<u>Location</u>	<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Cost</u> <u>(£)</u>
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Basford

Basford Ward Trees	- Tree work (felling, replanting)	- 5,000
*Park Lane	- Improvements outside Southwark Primary School	- 3,000

Bestwood

Bestwood street name plates	- signage	- 1,364
Bestwood Park Drive 1	- footpaths	- 45,818
Pedmore Valley	- footpaths	- 15,565
Bestwood Ward Trees	- Tree Felling, replanting	- 5,000
Leybourne Drive	- Area Improvement	- 50,000
Eden Glade	- Area Improvement	- 12,000

9 ENVIRONMENTAL SCHEMES - NOTTINGHAM CITY HOMES

Lynn Standen, Tenancy and Estate Manager, introduced the report of the Chief Executive, Nottingham City Homes, requesting approval for 3 environmental schemes.

A councillor highlighted the point that old, established posts and railings in Bestwood Park had never been painted despite assurances that this would take place.

Mr Singh confirmed that LTP funds had been approved for 30 metres of fencing at Bradwell Drive, and that the brief for commencement will be issued.

RESOLVED to approve the following Nottingham City Homes Environmental Schemes:

Basford

Toton Close 'Grander Design' Transformational Work - £65,000

Bestwood

Raymede Drive Phase 2 'Grander Design' Fencing Programme - £25,825.19

Leybourne Drive 'Grander Design' Fencing Programme - £50,000

10 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE POLICE - UPDATE

Inspector Woolley gave an update on crime and anti-social behaviour in Basford and Bestwood wards up to 31 March 2015. The key issues highlighted are:

Basford

- (a) Most crime categories have seen reductions, except for theft-related crimes. Anti-social behaviour levels are also down on the previous quarter;
- (b) The Neighbourhood Police Team has undertaken extensive work on domestic burglary and burglary other (sheds/garages). The new Community Priority is Brooklyn Road and Heathfield Road areas for nuisance vehicles and anti-social behaviour;
- (c) A prolific and persistent offender (burglar) has been given a 3-year sentence.

Bestwood

- (d) There have been reductions in most crime and anti-social behaviour categories except theft-related offences, vehicle crime, violence and sexual offences;
- (e) Neighbourhood Police Team activity has focussed on criminal damage and violence-related offences. Perpetrators of criminal damage have been identified and dealt with;
- (f) The new Community Priority is Kyle View and surrounding area for anti-social behaviour and drug-related misuse issues.

Councillors noted and welcomed the increased reporting of domestic violence. Inspector Woolley also highlighted the difficulty in dealing with cybercrime – identifying victims, identifying where crimes take place (location of perpetrator or victim) and making judgement call whether to prosecute for low-level crime.

RESOLVED to note the update.

11 NOTTINGHAM CITY HOMES AREA PERFORMANCE

Lynn Standen, Tenancy and Estate Manager, introduced the report of the Chief Executive, Nottingham City Homes, providing updates on key issues and themes linking back to local priorities and the strategic themes for Nottingham City Homes.

The following issues were raised during discussion and in response to councillor questions:

- (a) The Decent Homes team manage the process of replacing doors, windows and other fittings, and keep a database of the age and condition of fittings. However, there can be complications when tenants refuse upgrades, or do not respond to team requests for information;
- (b) There has been a Day of Action in Leen Valley, focussing on flytipping, repairs and deep cleansing;
- (c) There is a recharge for the replacement of fittings deemed to be as a result of malicious damage, and these are reported to the Patch Manager. However, a balance needs striking when dealing with vulnerable tenants;
- (d) There can be issues where external contractors delivering work do not follow the correct process, and concerns can be raised via the Decent Homes hotline;
- (e) NCH colleagues remind tenants with untidy gardens of their responsibility to maintain them, and if an informal approach is not effective then action can be escalated through a formal letter, loss of £100 good tenancy incentive and final warning/Court action. If due process is not followed, prosecutions/evictions will not be successful;
- (f) Ms Standen suggested carrying out a walk/inspection of green areas of concern to councillors in Top Valley, where inconsiderate parking was causing damage.

RESOLVED to note the report and discussion.

12 RIGHT TRACK: ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15

RESOLVED to consider this item at the Committee's September 2015 meeting.

13 WARD PERFORMANCE: JANUARY - MARCH 2015

Gursharan Nijran, Neighbourhood Development Officer, presented a report of the Strategic Director of Commercial and Neighbourhood Services, which provided an update on key issues and themes in the wards, linked to local priorities and strategic themes in the Nottingham Plan 2020. The report provides summary updates on the following key themes:

- Ward priorities;
- Community engagement;
- Finance;
- Safer Nottingham - crime and anti-social behaviour;
- Neighbourhood Nottingham – cleansing and Environmental issues;
- Working Nottingham - unemployment rates;

- Healthy Nottingham – local health priorities;
- Housing;
- Community Protection;
- Fire.

Councillors noted the update and welcomed the high score for cleanliness in both wards.

A councillor highlighted the problem of flytipping on vacant land, and it was pointed out that there is an issue with dumping by those from outside the City boundary. Mr Singh confirmed that there is a need to find a more permanent solution to the issue, including working with landowners and communications with citizens.

Problem parking around David Lane was highlighted as an issue that may require multi-agency work to resolve.

RESOLVED to note the latest position in regard to ward performance against local priorities and strategic themes of the Nottingham Plan 2020.

14 FUTURE MEETING DATES

RESOLVED to meet at 4.30pm on the following Wednesdays:

2015

**30 September
25 November**

2016

24 February