

**At a Meeting of the COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE held at THE HETTON CENTRE, WELFARE ROAD, HETTON – LE - HOLE, DH5 9NE on WEDNESDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY, 2013 at 6.00 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor D. Richardson in the Chair

Councillors Anderson, Blackburn, Ellis, Heron, Lawson, Scott, D. Smith, Speding, Tate and Wakefield

**Also in Attendance:-**

Ron Barrass	Member of the Public	
John Chapman	Head of Neighbourhoods	Gentoo
Les Clark	Head of Street Scene	Sunderland City Council
Wendy Cook	Youth and Community Co-ordinator	Sunderland North Community Business Centre
Karen Graham	Associate Lead for Health	Sunderland City Council
Councillor Julianna Heron	Hetton Town Council	
Pauline Hopper	Area Officer, Coalfield	Sunderland City Council
Pam Lee	Public Health Consultant	Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust
Lisa Musgrove	Neighbourhood Inspector	Northumbria Police
Malcolm Page	Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services & Area Lead Executive	Sunderland City Council
Rachel Putz	Coalfields Locality Manager, Children's Services	Sunderland City Council
Bob Scott	Hetton Green Watch	
Gemma Taylor	Member of the Public	
Christine Tilley	Governance Services Team Leader	Sunderland City Council
Glen Wilson	Speciality Registrar Public Health	NHS SoTW

## **Chairman's Welcome and Announcements**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and they introduced themselves.

The Chairman paid tribute to former Councillor Kath Rolph, a Member of the Committee who had recently passed away. Members and Officers stood for a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

The Chairman advised that Mr Glen Wilson would be the Public Health representative supporting the Committee in future in place of Ms Pam Lee and he thanked Ms Lee for her contributions to the work of the Committee.

Councillor Tate welcomed the Chairman back after a period of illness on behalf of the Committee.

## **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Lee Wardle, Volunteer Coordinator, VCS Network.

## **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Tate made an open declaration in respect of item 4 on the agenda in relation to Easington Lane Community Access Point as he is a Local Authority appointed Member of the Board.

Councillor Wakefield made an open declaration in respect of item 4 on the agenda in relation to Houghton Fitness and Youth boxing club as a Trustee of the club and withdrew from the meeting before the Committee gave consideration to the application for Community Chest funding.

## **Minutes of the Last Meetings**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last Ordinary meeting of the Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> September together with those of the Extraordinary meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2012 be confirmed and signed as correct records.

## **Variation of Agenda**

The Committee agreed a proposal from the Chairman that the item on 'Sunderland Health and Wellbeing Strategy' be considered next on the agenda in order to allow those Health colleagues in attendance to leave following consideration of their report.

## **Sunderland Health and Wellbeing Strategy**

The Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services and the Head of Strategy, Policy and Performance submitted a joint report updating the Area

Committee on the development of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy being produced in conjunction with the local Clinical Commissioning Group which required formal Cabinet approval before the end of March 2013.

(For copy presentation – see original minutes).

Ms Karen Graham, Associate Lead for Health briefed the Committee on the report and provided the meeting with a comprehensive power point presentation detailing the following 3 Key Elements of the Strategy:-

- i) Design Principles – the ways of working underpinning all commissioning decisions;
- ii) Assets – the core assets which could be built upon in Sunderland to impact on the health and wellbeing of residents;
- iii) Strategic Objectives – the ultimate goals of the strategy which would focus the development of high level actions and commissioning plans, as follows:-

- Promoting understanding between communities and organisations;
- Ensuring that children and young people have the best start in life;
- Supporting and motivating everyone to take responsibility for their health and that of others;
- Supporting everyone to contribute;
- Supporting people with long-term conditions and their carers;
- Supporting individuals and their families to recover from ill-health and crisis.

Ms Graham commented that of the six strategic objectives only two were specifically related to health services and that the others covered the broader determinants of health.

Ms Graham drew attention to the Project brief that was being submitted to the Committee for consideration on another part of the agenda in respect of 'Support for Older People, Vulnerable Adults and Carers'. She advised that interested local voluntary and community groups would be invited to submit proposals to deliver projects in the Coalfield Area to support local people. The 'people' priorities specific to the area would be discussed at the People Board meetings and a recommendation made to the Committee as to what to support to focus on local need.

Members welcomed the Strategy and recognised that faced with reducing public resources and increasing demand that there was a need to review and improve the way agencies work together with residents and communities in the future to enable and support communities to become more independent and have less reliance on the public sector in the longer term.

The Chairman having thanked Ms. Graham for her attendance it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the report and presentation be received and noted.

## **Place Board Progress Report**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with an update on progress against the Area's current year's Place Board Work Plan in relation to the following priorities:-

- i) Responsive Local Services (RLS) Streetscene;
- ii) Area Priority: Improvement of Allotments;
- iii) Area Priority: Neglected Land;
- iv) Area Priority: Support for Local Shopping Centres; and
- v) Heritage.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman of the Place Board, Councillor John Scott introduced the report. Mr Les Clark, Head of Streetscene and Mr Dave Ellison, Area Response Manager, briefed the Committee on the priorities in relation to streetscene and neglected land. Mr Ellison advised that Officers were continuing to monitor private sites and encouraging improvements by using enforcement planning measures. Schemes were being developed for three larger Council owned sites, namely The Cosy and Eppleton and Dubmire Primary schools and would be taken forward in consultation with Members. He invited Members to inform him of any other areas of neglected land that they were aware of.

In relation to allotments, Ms Pauline Hopper, Area Officer, Coalfield highlighted that a revised tenancy agreement had been developed and would be issued to all tenants in March. Ms Hopper referred the Committee to the support being provided by the Business Investment Team to assist businesses in the local shopping centres with marketing, advertising etc. to help make them be more competitive.

Councillor Ellis commented that it was a pleasure to be a Member of the Place Board and asked in relation to heritage whether the historic built environment could be retained under the remit of the Place Board.

In response, Councillor Scott stated that the recommendation was to transfer the responsibility of the Community Heritage project to the VCS network and that it would be reported to the People Board but advised that where there were issues that overlapped with the Place Board that the Board would be consulted.

Full consideration having been given to the report it was:-

### **3. RESOLVED that:-**

- (i) the progress and performance update with regard to the Coalfield Area Place Board's Work Plan for 2012/13 be received and noted;
- (ii) Members identify and report further plots of land deemed 'neglected' as and when appropriate to the Lead Agent (Dave Ellison); and

(iii) the responsibility for the Community Heritage project be transferred to the VCS Network and reported to the People Board.

## **People Board Progress Report**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with an update of progress against the People Board's Work Plan for 2012/13 up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012 in relation to the following priorities:-

- i) Early Intervention and Locality Services; and
- ii) Support for Older and Vulnerable People and Carers.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Lawson briefed the Committee on the key areas of influence/achievements of the Board detailed in paragraph 3.

Ms Pauline Hopper, Area Officer, Coalfield highlighted the project brief and application process for VCS organisations to deliver local projects to reduce social isolation and improve wellbeing detailed at annex 2.

### **4. RESOLVED that:-**

- (i) the progress and performance update with regard to the Coalfield Area People Board's Work Plan for 2012/13 be received and noted; and
- (ii) the project brief and related process for VCS organisations to deliver local projects to reduce social isolation and improve wellbeing, attached at Annex 2 to the report, be approved.

## **Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB), Community Chest and Healthy Cities Investment Fund (HCIF) – Financial Statement and Proposals for Further Allocation of Resources**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing a financial statement as an update position on progress in relation to allocating SIB, SIP and Community Chest and presenting proposals for further funding.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Pauline Hopper, Area Officer briefed the Committee on the proposed funding requests detailed in the report.

In relation to the application at paragraph 5.2 from Houghton Fitness and Youth Boxing Club, Ms Hopper advised, in response to Councillor Ellis, who stated that she had previously asked for further information regarding the application, that the funding requested was to be used to purchase protection equipment such as head gear, mouth guards and boxing gloves.

Members proceeded to discuss the above application in detail stating their views on the application.

The Chairman moved that a vote be taken on the application and upon the said vote being taken, the application was approved, with 6 Members voting in favour of the application, 1 Member voting against and 2 Members abstaining.

It was therefore:-

5. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the financial information set out in sections 2,3,4 and 5 and Annex 2 be received and noted;
- (ii) approval be given to the granting of SIB funding for the 4 proposals for support from SIB as detailed in Annex 1 which are:-
  - 1. Community Transport Project - £9,321;
  - 2. Welfare and Benefits advice - £23,166
  - 3. Flatts – Looking Good - £10,000
  - 4. Environmental Improvements - £10,000
- (iii) approval be given to the granting of SIB funding of £30,000 to deliver local projects which meet the priority ‘Support for older people, vulnerable adults and carers’ outlined in paragraph 2.4 of the report;
- (iv) approval be given to the proposed allotments project outlined in paragraph 2.5 of the report (subject to consultation and assessment);
- (v) approval be given to the change of Lead Agent on the Community Heritage project from City Services to ELCAP and Groundwork on behalf of the VCS Network;
- (vi) the 29 Community Chest approvals from the October, November and January Panel meetings set out in Annex 3 be noted; and
- (vii) approval be given to the application for Community Chest funding of £498 from Houghton Fitness and Youth Boxing Club to purchase protection equipment as detailed above and in paragraph 5.2 of the report.

The Chairman thanked Mr Ellison and his team for the work done to clear the roads during the recent inclement weather and in relation to the work done to mitigate flooding in the Coalfield area on behalf of the Committee. He then closed the meeting having also thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions.

(Signed) D. RICHARDSON,  
Chairman.