

At a meeting of the NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held remotely on THURSDAY, 25th MARCH, 2021 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor D. Wilson in the Chair

Councillors Butler, Chequer, Davison, Doyle, Foster, Francis, Howe, Jackson, Jenkins, Leadbitter, MacKnight, D. McKeith, Samuels and Stewart

Also in Attendance:-

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| Mr. Peter Curtis | - | Area Network Representative |
| Mr. Colin McCartney | - | Gentoo Housing |
| Mr. Peter McIntyre | - | Executive Director of City Development, Sunderland City Council |
| Mr. Shaun Makin | - | Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service |
| Ms. Vivienne Metcalfe | - | Area Community Development Lead, Sunderland City Council |
| Ms. Allison Patterson | - | Area Co-ordinator, Sunderland City Council |
| Ms. Helen Peverley | - | Area Co-ordinator, Sunderland City Council |
| Inspector Stephen Prested | - | Northumbria Police |
| Ms. Joanne Stewart | - | Principal Governance Services Officer, Sunderland City Council |
| Mr. Andy Wilson | - | Environmental Services Manager, Sunderland City Council |
| Mrs. Ruth Walker | - | Area Network Representative |

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

Prior to the start of the formal business the Chair paid tribute to the North Sunderland Area Network for its efforts in supporting the community throughout the CoVid19 pandemic and especially in relation during the pain and sorrow it had caused over the last twelve months. The key workers, the Council and its partners, local traders, schools, the voluntary and community sector groups.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Mr. R. Duggan.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 10th December, 2020 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Change in the Order of Business

At this juncture the Chairman advised that Item 2 – North Sunderland Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023 would be moved to the end of the agenda to allow Members who needed to leave the meeting for another commitment to take part in discussions for remaining agenda items.

North Sunderland Area Committee Budget Report

The Assistant Director of Community Resilience submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided a financial statement as an update position on progress in relation to allocating Area Committee Neighbourhood Funds, Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme and Community Chest and presented proposals for further funding requests.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Metcalfe, Area Community Development Lead, presented the report drawing attention to the recommendations detailed within the report.

Members having had any questions answered, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the financial statements as set out in paragraphs 2.1 and 3.1 of the report be received and noted;
- (ii) approval be given to the allocation of £18,250 4,970 from the Neighbourhood Fund towards the Fulwell Community Library – Raising the Roof project;
- (iii) approval be given to the allocation of £11,384 from the Neighbourhood Fund towards the Fans Museum – Wagon Shed Development Plans project;
- (iv) approval be given to the allocation of £5,030 from the Neighbourhood Fund towards the SNCBC / Community Opportunities Community Hub – Redhill Phase 2 project (previously aligned);
- (v) approval be given to the allocation of £61,366 from the Neighbourhood Fund towards the Sunderland City Council CCTV project;
- (vi) approval be given to the alignment of £38,634 from the Neighbourhood Fund towards the Sunderland City Council CCTV Project;
- (vii) approval be given to the alignment of £40,000 from the Neighbourhood Fund towards the School Holidays Activities 2021-2022 projects;

- (vii) approval be given to the allocation of £80,000 previously aligned from the Neighbourhood Capital Investment Fund towards the SNCBC / Community Opportunities Community Hub – Redhill Phase 2 project;
- (viii) approval be given to the allocation of £100,000 from the previously aligned Neighbourhood Investment Capital Fund towards the Sunderland City Council CCTV Project;
- (ix) the approvals for Community Chest supported from the 2020/21 budget be noted.

Partner Agency Reports - Report of the North Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network

The Voluntary and Community Sector Network submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided an update with regard to the network.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Mrs. Walker, Area Network Representative took Members through the report advising that the network had met twice via Microsoft Teams since the last meeting of the Area Committee and shared the agenda items that had been covered. The report set out the support that had been provided in the North Sunderland Area and Ms. Walker invited questions from Members.

The Chairman praised the magnificent work the voluntary and community sector groups had provided throughout the CoVid pandemic, and it was:-

3. SOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Northumbria Police Update

Inspector Prested of Northumbria Police gave an update to the Committee on the current position with regards to crime and anti-social behaviour data and of any on-going issues in the North Sunderland area.

Members were provided with a verbal summary of crime figures within the area and were advised of successful and forthcoming operations in relation to the North Sunderland area of the city.

Discussions were held regarding the use of quad and off-road vehicles at Fulwell Quarry and Councillor Butler asked if there was any scope to negotiate with responsible owners of vehicles to find a suitable site for them where it would be less of an issue. Inspector Prested advised that there had been a lot of work undertaken in relation to this issue and explained that there was a secure site in Scotland where users could pay a low fee to access and use the facilities. They were currently looking to identify a similar site in the North East but he advised that this was very much in the early stages but he agreed that a collective conversation between Northumbria Police, the Council and Members would be beneficial.

In response to Councillor Davison's query regarding the numbers of vehicles seized, Inspector Prested advised that he would circulate this via email after the meeting as he did not have the exact figures to hand.

Members thanked the Officer for his verbal update and it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the update from the Northumbria Police be received and noted.

Partner Agency Reports – Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Services

Station Manager, Shaun Makin of TWFRS gave a verbal update to the Committee on the current position with regards to fire related incidents and of any on-going issues in the North Sunderland area.

Mr. Makin advised that overall it was a good news story with a reduction in anti-social behaviour and deliberate fires being set. He informed the Committee that the service were seeing 50% or more reduction in the figures compared to last year but advised that this was without doubt in relation to the CoVid pandemic and lockdowns.

Members thanked Mr. Makin for his verbal update, and it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the update from the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Services be received and noted.

North Sunderland Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023

The Chairman of the North Sunderland Area Committee Neighbourhood and Community Board submitted a report (copy circulated) which presented the Area Committee Delivery Plan for 2020-2023 and provided an update against the area priorities associated with the delivery plan.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Foster took Members through the report and a short video presentation was shown detailing the work undertaken to deliver the various components of the North Sunderland Area Delivery Plan.

There being no questions or comments, it was:-

6. RESOLVED that the progress and performance update with regard to the North Sunderland Area Committee Delivery Plan 2020-2023 be received and noted.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

(Signed) D. WILSON,
Chairman.