

At a meeting of the WEST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held at PENNYWELL COMMUNITY CENTRE, PORTSMOUTH ROAD, SUNDERLAND on WEDNESDAY 9TH MARCH, 2016 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor P. Gibson in the Chair

Councillors, Allan, Atkinson, Dixon, Essl, G. Galbraith, I. Galbraith, Gofton, Waters, P. Watson. S. Watson and A. Wilson.

Also Present:-

Bill Blackett	West Area Response Manager	Sunderland City Council
Graham Carr	Asset & Network Manager	Sunderland City Council
Simone Common	Acting Head of Community and Family Wellbeing	Sunderland City Council
Ash Hopper	Sergeant	Northumbria Police
Joanne Laverick	VCS Network Representative	Youth Almighty
Lisa Laverick	Inspector	Northumbria Police
Bill Leach	Partnership Co-ordinator	Pennywell Com. Centre
Chris Marshall	Head of Operations	Gentoo
David Noon	Principal Governance Services Officer	Sunderland City Council
Helen Peverley	Area Co-ordinator	Sunderland City Council
Edna Rochester	Treasurer, Secretary	Tansy Centre and Pennywell Com. Centre
Gilly Stanley	Acting Area Community Officer	Sunderland City Council
Sonia Tognarelli	Area Lead Executive	Sunderland City Council
Karen Wood	Community Development Worker	Pallion Action Group

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting especially those attending their first meeting of the West Sunderland Area Committee and invited those present to introduce themselves.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Porthouse, P. Smith, Waller and T. Wright and also on behalf of Courtney Tuckerman (Community Helper) and Steve Burdis (Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service).

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Committee held on 2nd December, 2015 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Place Board Progress Report

The Chairman of the West Sunderland Area Place Board submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided an update on progress against the current year's Place Board Work Plan.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Essl presented the report drawing Members' attention to the initiation of action towards achieving key priorities as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report together with a summary of key areas of influence and achievements of the Place Board in relation to Responsive Local Services and Street Scene, Local Bus Advisory Group, Highway Maintenance, Housing, Maximising Greenspace and Improving Derelict Land and Shopping Centres as at 29th February, 2016.

There being no questions or comments on the report, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the report be received and noted;
- ii) approval be given to the recommendation of the Place Board in respect of the West Highway Capital Maintenance Programme for 2016/2017 as detailed in annex 2 of the report;
- iii) consideration be given to the financial issues arising from the Place Board report later in the meeting at item 5 on the agenda.

People Board Progress Report

The Chairman of the West Sunderland Area People Board submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided an update on progress against the current year's People Board Work Plan.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Atkinson presented the report drawing Members' attention to the initiation of action towards achieving the key priorities as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, together with a summary of key areas of influence and achievements of the People Board in relation to joint working with the Clinical Commissioning Group; job prospects,

skills and reducing social isolation; young people; heritage and health and wellbeing as at 29th February, 2016.

There being no comments or questions on the report, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the report be received and be noted; and
- ii) consideration be given to the financial issues arising from the People Board report later in the meeting at item 5 on the agenda.

Report of the West Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network (AVCSN)

The AVCS Network submitted a progress report (copy circulated) which briefed the Committee on issues pertinent to the Voluntary and Community Sector.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Consideration was given to the report which highlighted the following feedback and input arising from the two VCS meetings held since the Area Committee last met in December:-

- i) the receipt of presentations from Jan Milner of the Live Life Well Service and Gillian Patterson the Council's Children's Services West Locality Manager,
- ii) a presentation from the Leader of the Council on the Combined Authority and the proposals in respect of regional devolution.
- iii) the establishment of a coding workshop to commence in April 2016 at Silksworth Youth and Community Centre made possible through partnership working involving the Library Service, the voluntary community sector and the Software Centre.

In addition Members were informed that the West VCSN would continue to deliver activities and services which supported the Area Committee's priorities.

There being no comments or questions on the report, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

At this juncture, the Chairman on behalf of the Committee, presented Edna Rochester, one of the West Area's three VCS Network representatives, with a bouquet of flowers to mark her 60 years of service in the local community.

Report of the Northumbria Police – Sunderland West

Inspector Laverick of Northumbria Police presented a report (copy circulated) together with an addendum report (copy tabled) which provided the Committee with an update on the Force's most recent performance indicators for the period 1st April 2015 to end of February, 2016.

Particular reference was paid to crime levels in relation to violent crime, vehicle crime, burglary from dwelling, burglary other than dwelling, criminal damage, shoplifting, youth ASB, Non Youth ASB and drug crime.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

In addition Inspector Laverick briefed members on:-

- i) the development of the Lighter Nights Campaign to run jointly with the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service, the Council and Gentoo
- ii) the transfer of the resource at Farrington Police Station to shared accommodation next door with the Fire and Rescue Service which took place on 3rd December, 2015
- iii) the use of social media as an effective tool to drive through crime prevention messages.
- iv) the use of new powers to tackle antisocial behaviour in the Eden Vale area.

The Chairman having thanked Inspector Laverick for her report and for hosting the Area Committee's tour of the Force's new accommodation at Farrington Community Fire and Police Station, it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Report of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service

The report of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service (TWFRS) (copy circulated) was submitted which provided the Committee with an update on the Service's performance indicators for the period 1st November, 2015 to 1st February, 2016 with particular reference to:-

- i) the number of deaths from all fires (none),
- ii) deliberate property fires (2),
- iii) deliberate vehicle fires (6), and
- iv) secondary fires not involving property or road vehicles (27).

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Helen Peverley, Area Coordinator, presented the report having advised that Station Manager Steve Burdis had submitted his apologies having agreed to cover the meeting

of the Coalfield Area Committee. Ms Peverley advised that if members had any questions she would forward these to Mr Burdis.

There being no questions or comments, it was:-

6. RESOLVED the report be received and noted.

Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) and Community Chest – Financial Statement and Proposals for Further Allocation of Resources

The Head of Scrutiny and Area Arrangements submitted a report (copy circulated) in respect of the above matter.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Helen Peverley, Area Coordinator, presented the report highlighting the Committee's financial statement, details of 8 projects approved under delegated powers for support from the 2015/16 Community Chest budget, details of proposals for the allocation of SIB funding and details of the allocation of funding under the small grants process in relation to maximising greenspace/derelict land activity.

Consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

7. RESOLVED that:-
- (i) the Area Committee's funding statement be received and noted;
 - (ii) approval be given to the allocation of £17,000 SIB funding in respect of the West Enterprise Scheme as detailed in Annex 1 of the report;
 - (iii) approval be given to the allocation of £2,900 SIB funding to support the promotion of the Landlords Accreditation Scheme throughout the West Area as detailed in Annex 2 of the report;
 - (iv) the two proposals agreed through the small grants process in respect of Maximising Greenspace / Derelict Land activity as detailed in Annex 3 of the report be noted;
 - (v) the approval of the 8 Community Chest applications as detailed in Annex 4 of the report be noted.

West Area Committee Annual Report 2015

The Chair of the Committee submitted a report (copy circulated) which sought approval of the West Sunderland Area Committee's Annual Report for inclusion as part of the combined Area Committee Annual Report to be presented to full Council.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Gofton having commended the new one page format of the annual report and Members having been advised that the content of page would continue develop prior to the submission of the report to Council, it was:-

8. RESOLVED that approval be given to the West Sunderland Area Annual report for inclusion in the combined Area Committee Annual Report for 2015-16.

Current Planning Applications (West Area)

A schedule (copy circulated) of current planning applications lodged during the period 1st January and 16th February 2016 was submitted for members' information only.

(For copy schedule – see original minutes)

9. RESOLVED the schedule be received and noted.

At this juncture the Chairman paid tribute to Sonia Tognarelli the Committee's Area Lead Executive and the Council's Interim Head of Paid Service who was attending her last meeting of the Committee prior to retiring at the end of the financial year. On behalf of the Committee and as a token of its appreciation for her support, the Chairman presented Ms Tognarelli with a bouquet of flowers. Ms Tognarelli replied that it had been an absolute pleasure working with the members of the Area Committee throughout her career in Sunderland as a treasurer and latterly as the Committee's Area Lead Executive. She thanked members for their support and wished everyone well for the future.

The Chairman then closed the meeting having thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions and especially to all at Pennywell Community Centre for their kindness and assistance in hosting the meeting and the associated community event.

(Signed) P. GIBSON,
Chairman.