

At a Meeting of the COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE held in HOUGHTON HOUSING OFFICE, THE SKYLINE CENTRE, 88 NEWBOTTLE STREET, HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING, DH4 4AJ, on WEDNESDAY, 8TH MARCH, 2017 at 6.00 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Lawson in the Chair

Councillors Allen, Blackburn, Cummings, Johnston, Scullion, Speding, Turner, M. Turton, W. Turton and G. Walker.

Also in Attendance:-

Debbie Ainscow	VCS Representative, Carer Locality Lead	Sunderland Carers Centre
Steve Burdis	Station Manager	Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service
Wendy Cook	VCS Representative, Youth and Community Co-ordinator	Sunderland North Community Business Centre
Michelle Daurat	Project Director, Tall Ships	Sunderland City Council
Kathy Dobson		Member of the Public
Victoria French	Head of Events	Sunderland City Council
Pauline Hopper	Area Community Officer	Sunderland City Council
Sam Humble	Head of Operations	Gentoo
Amelia Laverick		Member of the Public
Gillian Robinson	Area Co-Ordinator	Sunderland City Council
Christine Tilley	Community Governance Services Team Leader	Sunderland City Council
Vicky Quinn	Inspector for Washington	Northumbria Police

Chairman's Welcome and Introductions

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited them to introduce themselves.

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Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Heron and Mr Paul Finch, VCS Representative, Hetton New Dawn.

Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were submitted to the meeting as follows:-

Item 5 – Area Budgets Report

Councillor Allen made an open declaration as a Council appointed representative on the Board of Management of Houghton Racecourse C.A. in respect of the organisation's application for SIB funding towards centre improvements. Councillor Allen left the room when the application was being considered by the Committee, taking no part in the discussion or decision on the matter.

Councillor Blackburn made open declarations as a Board Member of ELCAP in respect of the organisation's application for SIB funding towards the Community Transport project and as a Board Member of the Friends of Hetton Lyons Country Park in respect of the organisation's application for SIB funding towards the Tool Bank and Wildflower Planting project. Councillor Blackburn left the room when the applications were being considered by the Committee, taking no part in the discussions or decisions on the matters.

Councillor Lawson made open declarations as Chair of the Houghton Feast Steering Committee in respect of the organisation's application for SIB funding towards the Community Programme and as a Board Member of Sunderland YMCA in respect of Fence Houses YMCA's application for SIB funding towards the Coalfield Clean Up project. Councillor Lawson vacated the Chair and left the room when the applications were being considered by the Committee, taking no part in the discussions or decisions on the matter. Councillor W. Turton took the Chair for these applications.

Councillor Scullion made an open declaration as a representative on the Board of Management of Fence Houses YMCA in respect of the organisation's application for SIB funding towards the Coalfield Clean Up project. Councillor Scullion left the room when the application was being considered by the Committee, taking no part in the discussion or decision on the matter.

Councillor Turner made open declarations as a Council appointed representative on the Houghton Feast Steering Committee in respect of the organisation's application for SIB funding towards the Community Programme, as a Board Member of the Friends of Hetton Lyons Country Park in respect of the organisation's application for SIB funding towards the Tool Bank and Wildflower Planting project and as a member of the Hetton Local History Society in respect of the organisation's application for SIB funding towards the Pollution From Me to Sea project. Councillor Turner left the room when the applications were being

considered by the Committee, taking no part in the discussions or decisions on the matters.

Councillor M. Turton made an open declaration as a Council appointed representative on the Houghton Feast Steering Committee in respect of the organisation's application for SIB funding towards the Community Programme. Councillor Turton left the room when the application was being considered by the Committee, taking no part in the discussion or decision on the matter.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 15th December, 2016 (copy circulated), be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Place Board Progress Report

The Chair of the Place Board submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided an update of progress against the current year's (2016/17) Place Board Work Plan and providing an update on performance.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chair of the Place Board, Councillor Cummings briefed the Committee on the work the Place Board had been focussing on since the last report which included a report on the highways capital maintenance budget and the process for Members to influence and prioritise the areas to be included in the programme of works; the list of streets to be included in the programme was set out at Annex 2. The Chair also highlighted the Area Priority around environmental improvement and education and the Call for Projects to take this forward, which was detailed at item 5 of the agenda, to encourage local residents to participate in maintaining the local natural environment and continue to deliver 'Love Where You Live' activities. Councillor Cummings pointed out that Place Management colleagues were supporting the Groups undertaking litter picks and clean-ups by coordinating activities to make sure locations were not already being covered by other groups or the Council and by collecting the waste.

Councillor Cummings highlighted the Area Priority to Celebrate Local Events and Heritage and the discussion to develop a community art project to celebrate heritage of the area focussing on industry and railways. He advised that further information and a request for SIB funding was detailed at item 5 of the agenda.

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

2. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the progress and performance update with regard to the Coalfield Area Place Board's Work Plan for 2016/17 be received and noted and that the proposals for future delivery be approved; and
- ii) the recommendation of the Place Board regarding the Coalfield Highway Capital Maintenance programme for 2017/2018, attached at Annex 2 to the report, be approved.

People Board Progress Report

The Chair of the People Board submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided an update of progress against the current year's (2016/17) People Board Work Plan.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chair of the People Board, Councillor W. Turton briefed the Committee on the report drawing Members' attention to the update the Board had received on the projects being provided to reduce social isolation and improve social participation amongst older and vulnerable adults. He also highlighted the award made from the CAN DO fund to the Hetton Air Cadets – 37 Squadron, pointing out that 21 projects/activities for young people aged 11-19 had been awarded funding to date.

Councillor Turton also drew attention to the support for VCS organisations to deliver community based activity; further information on which, together with requests for SIB funding, was included in item 5 of the agenda. He pointed out that there was also a recommendation to the Area Committee to allocate funding to provide a programme of holiday activities for children and young people during the school Summer break and October half term.

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

3. RESOLVED that the progress and performance update with regard to the Coalfield Area People Board's Work Plan for 2016/17 be received and noted and that the proposals for future delivery be approved.

Partner Agency Reports – Coalfield Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network Progress Update

Ms Wendy Cook, Ms Debbie Ainscow and Mr Paul Finch, Area Network Representatives submitted a joint report (copy circulated), providing an update with regard to the Coalfield Area Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Network.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Wendy Cook, Area Network Representative briefed the Committee on the report highlighting that Mr Dave McCreedy, Fencehouses YMCA had moved onto pastures new and resigned from his post as VCS Network Representative. The Network members had subsequently agreed that Ms Debbie Ainscow, Coalfield

Locality Lead, Sunderland Carers Centre, would be their new Representative to the Area Committee.

Ms Cook advised that Members of the Network were keen to be involved in the community art project. She mentioned that meetings of the VCS were still very well attended in the Coalfield Area.

The Chair, Councillor Lawson paid tribute to the work Dave McCreedy had undertaken, welcomed Debbie Ainscow as the new VCS representative and thanked the VCS for their support in delivering the Coalfield priorities and their attendance that evening to brief the Committee on the community work they were carrying out.

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

4. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the contents of the report be received and noted;
- (ii) the Area Committee continue to support the Sector when developing and implementing actions against local priorities; and
- (iii) a letter be sent to Dave McCreedy formally thanking him for the work done in the community and with the Area Committee.

Partner Agency Reports – Northumbria Police

Inspector Vicky Quinn, Northumbria Police submitted a report (copy circulated), providing data in respect of Crime and Disorder for the Coalfield covering the period 1st December to 27th February 2017, together with data for the same period the previous year.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Inspector Vicky Quinn, Northumbria Police briefed the Committee on the report highlighting that a recent HMIC report had confirmed that the Force had risen from a National Crime Recording Standard compliance rate of 72% 2 years ago up to around 93%.

Inspector Quinn highlighted that there had been a large increase with regards to Arson to Motor Vehicles in comparison to the same period last year. Total crime was up 22% and was up 33% across the whole of the Force's area.

The main concerns for the Coalfield Area continued to be youth disorder in Hetton centred around Tesco and Officers were working with staff to address the issues and liaising with the local secondary school.

Inspector Quinn encouraged Members to ring in with any incidents and information which Officers would follow up.

The Chair thanked Inspector Quinn for her report and attendance and full consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the update be received and noted.

Partner Agency Reports – Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service

Station Manager Steve Burdis, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service submitted a report (copy circulated) providing Performance Monitoring details in relation to the Local Indicators for the Coalfield Area Committee area from 1st October to 22nd November, 2016 compared with the same period in 2015.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Station Manager Steve Burdis, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service advised the Committee that the report actually provided performance information up to 31 January and not for the period stated.

Station Manager Burdis drew the Committee's attention to the intervention work undertaken in the Hetton Ward which had resulted in a decrease in the number of incidents. He reminded the Committee that previously crews had been coming under verbal and physical abuse and damage had been caused to the appliance.

Station Manager Burdis also referred to the fact that the Shiney Row ward had recently become a Hotspot for Anti-Social fires especially within the rear of Hunter street and advised that they were looking to put in surveillance to reduce the problem.

Station Manager Burdis advised that the service was progressing with its planning for the Lighter Nights campaign with partners and that ASB Hot Spot areas would be targeted.

Station Manager Burdis reported that this would be his last meeting of the Area Committee as the service was re-structuring and he would be moving to Washington. He thanked the Committee for the support they had provided to him.

The Chairman thanked Station Manager Burdis for his input and the reports he had provided to the Committee.

The Committee having considered the information and issues raised during the discussion, it was:-

6. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be received and noted.

Partner Agency Reports – Gentoo

Ms Sam Humble, Head of Operations, Gentoo provided an update for the Coalfield Area from January to March 2017.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Humble highlighted that Gentoo was currently in the process of working towards consolidating Gentoo Group Limited and Gentoo Sunderland Limited into one registered body and stressed the point that there would be no change to the service that the customer would receive.

In respect of Investment and Renewal, Ms Humble referred to the partnership between Gentoo, North Star and Bernica which was set to receive £3.9 million in grant funding to build homes for shared ownership and rent to buy in the North East from the Homes and Communities Agency. The development area remained to be decided but the proposal would see 115 new homes built before 2021 with Gentoo's share of the funding, which equated to £525,000 being used to part fund a shared ownership pilot project consisting of 15 new properties. Further information would be provided to the Area Committee when available.

Members enquired as to the number of bungalows on the Meadow View and Broomhill sites, the number of affordable properties for rent/sale and whether they would be 'pepper potted' on the developments.

Ms Humble advised that she would ascertain the above information and let Members know as soon as possible.

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

7. RESOLVED that the information be received and noted.

Area Budgets Report

The Head of Member Support and Community Partnerships submitted a report (copy circulated), providing a financial statement as an update position on progress in relation to allocating Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) and Community Chest funding and presenting proposals for further funding requests.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Pauline Hopper, Area Community Officer presented the report drawing the Committee's attention to the financial position as set out in paragraph 2.1, which showed a SIB balance of £123,297.

Ms Hopper highlighted the Calls for Projects detailed in paragraphs 2.2 and 2.3 in relation to the large and small Environmental Education and Improvement Projects and the recommendations for additional SIB funding detailed at paragraph 2.4 and Annex 2 of the report. She advised that should all the projects be approved the remaining balance would be £25,081.

Ms Hopper referred the Committee to the Community Chest approvals supported between December 2016 and February 2017 detailed at paragraph 3 of the report.

Consideration having been given to the report it was:-

8. RESOLVED that:-

- a) the financial statements set out in sections 2.1 and 3.1 of the report be noted;
- b) approval be given to the My Place, Our Space project as detailed as follows from the £50,000 SIB previously approved to be allocated to the large scale Environmental Improvement and Education project:-
- My Place, Our Space – Groundwork North East £49,500;
- c) approval be given to the 8 projects as detailed as follows from the £35,000 previously approved SIB budget for small projects and that the remaining £1,913 be used to co-ordinate and promote all projects:-
- A new Look, Groundwork North East £4,500
 - Pollution - From Me To Sea, Hetton Local History Society £4,170
 - Tool Bank and Planting, Friends of HLCP £1,297
 - Wetlands Rediscovered, Durham Wildlife Trust £5,000
 - Coalfield Clean Up, YMCA Fencehouses £3,630
 - ELPS Forest School, Easington Lane Primary School £5,000
 - Creating Eco-friendly Schools, NEEN £5,000
 - Make the Change – Make the Difference, SNCBC £4,990
- d) approval be given to 8 projects as follows totalling £98,216:-
- Community Programme, Houghton Feast £10,000
 - The Stephenson Project £5,000
 - Centre Improvements, Houghton RCA £6,500
 - Community Transport, ELCAP £17,116
 - Community Development, Space 4 £10,600
 - Holiday Activities for Children and Young People £10,000
 - Targeted Activity for Young People £20,000
 - Barnwell Parking Scheme £19,000
- and
- e) the 7 Community Chest approvals supported from the 2016/17 Community Chest budget as set out in Annex 3, be noted.

The Tall Ships Races 2018

The Head of Events submitted a report (copy circulated) presenting options to the Committee to consider in relation to community engagement as part of the Tall Ships Races event 2018 and providing information on how residents in the Coalfield Area can participate in, contribute to and benefit from the event.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Victoria French, Head of Events introduced the report and Ms Michelle Daurat, Project Director for the Tall Ships who briefed the Committee on the background to

the event and the Sail Trainee Programme and Entertainment and Cultural Programme.

Ms Daurat advised that the cost per Sail Trainee was £1,500 to take part which was made up of £1,000 for the berth on the ship and £500 travel costs back to Sunderland. Places were open to both able bodied and disabled young people aged from 15 years old up to 25 years old as at July 2018.

Ms French added that it was hoped that young people from across the city would take part in the trainee programme.

Ms Daurat highlighted the 'Set the Sails' project involving groups of young people working with local artists and craftspeople to learn artisan skills and make a small flotilla of working scale-model ships.

Members of the Committee expressed support for the Coalfield Area to be involved in the entertainment and cultural programme and highlighted the amenities of Hetton Lyons Country Park and Herrington Country Park where events could be staged.

In response to Councillor Speding, Ms French confirmed that Sunderland was looking to provide opportunities for 100 sail trainees and to date there were 70 opportunities remaining. She added that information on the Tall Ships Programme would be included on the 'See it Do It' website at the end of the month. There would be a Tall Ships Website and a launch of the opportunities available through the event.

Full consideration having been given to the report, the Chairman thanked Ms French and Ms Daurat for their attendances and it was:-

9. RESOLVED that the matter be referred to the Coalfield Area People Board for further discussions as to how and if Members would wish to support the Tall Ships Event 2018 through:-

- Sail Trainees;
- Community Events;
- Set the Sails project.

Current Planning Applications (Coalfields Area)

A schedule (copy circulated) of current planning applications lodged during the period 1st January and 6th February 2017 was submitted for Members' information only.

(For copy schedule – see original minutes).

Councillor G. Walker requested that the ward be added to the schedule for future reports; and it was:-

10. RESOLVED that the schedule be received and noted.

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

(Signed) A. LAWSON,
Chairman.