

**At a meeting of the NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held remotely on THURSDAY, 17<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020 at 5.30 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor D. Wilson in the Chair

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

**Also in Attendance:-**

Inspector Louise McClennan	-	Northumbria Police
Mr. Colin McCartney	-	Gentoo Housing
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
Mr. Graham Scanlon	-	Assistant Director of Housing Services, Sunderland City Council
Ms. Joanne Stewart	-	Principal Governance Services Officer, Sunderland City Council
Mr. Andy Wilson	-	Environmental Services Manager, Sunderland City Council

**Chairman's Welcome**

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

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Jackson and on behalf of Mr. R. Duggan and Mr. P. McIntyre

**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 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2020 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

## **Area Committee Annual Update; North Area Neighbourhood Investment Plan Delivery Plan 2020-2023 and Neighbourhood and Community Board Governance Arrangements for 2020 / 2021**

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 there being no questions or comments, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the progress and performance update with regard to the North Sunderland Area Neighbourhoods and Community Board Delivery Plan 2020-2023 and the proposals for future deliver be agreed.

## **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.

In relation to the Ready, Steady Redhill project, Councillor Butler commented that social isolation would have been at its worst through the spike in the pandemic and supported this project wholeheartedly; encouraging other wards to look at similar projects for their areas. Councillor Stewart asked if Officers could work closely with SNCBC to receive feedback on how they were delivering in line with priorities.

Councillor Davison referred to the remaining Community Chest funds and asked if it was possible to request that it was carried over to the next financial year as a lot of groups may not have had the opportunity to apply in the current circumstances. Councillor Stewart advised that he would look into this issue and provide feedback to Members.

Members having had any questions answered, it was:-

3. 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 £34,000 from the Neighbourhood Fund towards the Ready, Steady, Redhill Project by Community Opportunities / SNCBC;
- (iii) approval be given to the allocation of £24,975 towards the Beach Access Roker Beach Project by Beach Access North East;
- (iv) approval be given to the allocation of £10,000 from the Neighbourhood Investment Capital fund toward the Southwick Illumination project; and
- (v) the four approvals for Community Chest supported from the 2020/21 budget totalling £4,380 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)

Ms. Metcalfe advised that in the absence of a presenting officer, the report of the North Sunderland Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network was submitted for information only. Should Members have any questions, Ms. Metcalfe advised that they could be emailed to herself and she would ensure that a response was provided.

Councillor Samuels asked that the Committee's thanks be recorded for all of the work and support to residents the VCS network and the North Area hub had provided during the pandemic as it had been so appreciated by all, and it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Partner Agency Reports - Northumbria Police Update**

Inspector Louise McLennan 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 advised of successful and forthcoming operations in relation to the North Sunderland area of the city.

In response to a query around problems in the area with motorbike and quad riding, Inspector McClennan advised that it was an age-old issue which was become increasingly difficult to deal with. She informed the Committee that other areas of the city had paid to have a long lens camera installed which allowed them to have access to good quality photographs of the vehicles and Officers were in discussions to allow them to borrow the device or look into getting their own for the area. Officers were also taking examples of good practice around other sectors to try and implement similar in the North Sunderland area.

Inspector McClennan explained that they were also looking at footage in surrounding areas to look to prosecute any persons who were delivering the off road vehicles to

those areas and they were seeing some good results although they did tend to rely on information from residents; which she reminded Councillors could be submitted anonymously. Hopefully they would continue to see more improvements as services and partners continued to pull together to work towards addressing the issue.

Councillor Butler commented that it was almost a rite of passage for some young people in the area and asked if the issue could be looked at in a different way giving residents assurances that the matter was being dealt with, whilst finding a safe solution for young people to carry on using the vehicles in a better way for all.

The Chairman commented that the issue could be raised and discussed in more detail at the LMAPs and the meeting of the Neighbourhoods and Community Board.

Councillor Foster asked if an updated contacts list for local beat officers could be circulated to Members and Inspector McClennan agreed to forward it.

In relation to the issues in Thompson Park and the significant damage that had been caused, Councillor Samuels commented that it was appalling to see but a big positive had been how quickly the issue had been dealt with. Andy Wilson advised that the damage was in the region of £3,600 to the playpark and changing rooms but they had moved a camera to the site which they hoped would deter any future vandalism.

Members thanked the Officer for her verbal update and thanked her for her attendance, and it was:-

5. 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 an update to the Committee on the current position Services gave an 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.

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

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

### **Partner Agency Reports – Unauthorised Encampments Update Report**

The Area Committee received a report which provided an update on unauthorised encampment policy and site activity in 2020 and the associated financial and service impact.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Metcalfe advised that in the was submitted for information only and that should Members have any questions after the meeting they could be emailed to herself and

she would ensure that a response was provided.

7. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

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

(Signed) D. WILSON,  
Chairman.