

At a meeting of the NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held in BUNNY HILL CENTRE, HYLTON LANE, SUNDERLAND on MONDAY, 29th FEBRUARY, 2016 at 5.30p.m.

Present:-

Councillor D. Wilson in the Chair

Councillors Beck, Bell, Copeland, Curran, Davison, Elliott, Foster, Jackson, MacKnight, Stewart and N. Wright

Also in Attendance:-

Ms. Wendy Cook	-	Youth and Community Lead, SNCBC
Mr. Steve Graham	-	Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service
Mr. Paul Gowans	-	Wearmouth Learning Trust, VCS Network
Ms. Vivienne Metcalfe	-	Area Community Officer, Sunderland City Council
Mr. Andy Old	-	North Area Response Manager, Sunderland City Council
Ms. Allison Patterson	-	Area Coordinator, Sunderland City Council
Mr. Alan Scott	-	North Locality Operations Manager, Sunderland City Council
Ms. Susan Stanhope	-	Area Lead Executive, Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development
Ms. Joanne Stewart	-	Principal Governance Services Officer, Sunderland City Council

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting, inviting introductions from those in attendance and advising of the process for recording meetings.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Francis, Howe, Leadbitter and MacKnight and on behalf of Ms. Ruth Oxley and Mr. Graham Wharton.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

Minutes of the last meeting held on 7th December, 2015

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 7th December, 2015 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

North Sunderland Area Committee Annual Report 2015-16

The Chairman of the North Sunderland Area Committee submitted a report (copy circulated) in respect of the above matter.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Allison Patterson, North Area Co-ordinator presented the report which sought Members approval of the North Sunderland Area Committee's Annual Report as part of the combined Area Committee Annual Report 2015-16 which would be presented to a future meeting of the Council.

Ms. Patterson took Members through the report advising that 2015-16 had been incredibly busy and challenging and that the Annual Report showcased some of the key achievements delivered through the dedicated work of the Area Committees and their supporting People and Place Boards. The report also highlighted how the principles of a community leadership Council translated in practice and the central role played by local Councillors in helping to strengthen communities.

The report having been fully considered, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the Annual Report be received and approved for inclusion in the combined Area Committee Annual Report for 2015-16.

Place Board Progress Report

The Chairman of the North Sunderland Area Place Board submitted a report (copy circulated) in respect of the above matter.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Foster presented the report which provided a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the North Sunderland Place Board up to 18th February, 2016.

Councillor Bell referred to alternative venues being used for future meetings of the Place Board and asked that they be fit for purpose. Councillor Foster agreed that they would learn from venues used in the past and ensure they were suitable for future meetings.

Councillor Davison referred to the development of the Zeppelin Arts Project and queried why only the schools in the St Peters and Southwick wards were being invited to be involved. Ms. Patterson advised that the issue had been

discussed and agreed at a meeting of the Place Board and that to involve further schools in the North Sunderland Area would incur additional costs. Ms. Metcalfe advised that there would be further projects rolled out in the future which they could look to involve more schools in.

With regards to a query from Councillor Curran as to whether the Wheatsheaf Clock would be ready for the centenary, Ms. Metcalfe advised that the Council's Design Services Team had assured her that the bench would be installed the following week.

In response to a comment from Councillor Wright requesting a parking update around Marine Walk, the Chairman advised that he had been informed that parking charges would be introduced from June, 2016 and that was beginning on site to improve the car parking provision and narrow the carriageway to prevent parking on the road. Mr. Dan Hattle, Planning Implementation Manager, would be attending a future meeting of the Place Board to discuss further developments in the area.

Members having considered the progress report, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the progress and performance update with regards to the North Sunderland Area Place Board Work Plan for 2015/16 be received and noted.

People Board Progress Report

The Chairman of the North Sunderland Area People Board submitted a report (copy circulated) in respect of the above matter.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Copeland presented the report which outlined a summary of the key areas of influence / achievements of the North Sunderland Area People Board up to 18th February, 2016.

The Committee were advised that works had begun at the Downhill Wheeled Sports Park and Councillor Copeland asked if she could be kept updated with progress on the development. The Chairman also requested that Councillors be invited to undertake a visit to the Park once works were completed.

Councillor Wright referred to a mystery shopper who had undertaken a visit to the Bike Hire Scheme where they had been disappointed not to be welcomed or greeted outside and found that it was not encouraging for customers passing. She asked that the findings be communicated to those running the hub to help address this in future.

The Committee were informed that Mr. Phil Spooner, Head of Community Leadership Programmes, was working with a number of organisations around the seafront and looking at how to achieve some destination management

through working together in a coordinated approach and that this issue could be picked up as part of this work.

Councillor Wright commented that she was aware that the tenants of the Beach Hut were moving out, which would see further new premises being opened and asked that further information be provided to Members around changes in ownership and businesses at the site. Ms. Stanhope stated that she would be happy to go back to the football club and get information from them regarding the change in tenants.

Members having no further comments or questions, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the progress and performance update with regards to the North Sunderland Area People Board Work Plan for 2015/16 be received and noted.

Partner Agency Reports – North Sunderland 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)

Mr. Gowans, Area Network Representative, took the Committee through the report providing an update on the work being undertaken by the North Sunderland Area VCS Network.

The Chairman referred to Youth Zones and advised that this would be discussed as an agenda item at a future meeting of the People Board.

With regards to providers approaching VCS organisations in the locality for access to venues but indicating that there was no funding, Ms. Metcalfe advised that there was provision within contracts for room hire and she would pick this up with the providers directly.

Councillor Foster queried the whereabouts of the equipment which had been used by the XL Youth Villages and was advised by Mr. Scott that the delivery model for the XL Villages was different now, offering a much more fluid approach. The equipment previously used was still in the compound but he was aware that there were no full youth villages running in the North Sunderland Area at the moment. He agreed to speak with Mr. Jim Kennedy, Area Youth Lead, and feedback further information to Members.

Members having fully considered the report, it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the content of the report and the opportunities and issues raised by the North Sunderland Area Voluntary and Community Sector Network be received and noted.

Partner Agency Reports – Northumbria Police

There being no representative available from Northumbria Police, it was:-

6. RESOLVED that the update from the Northumbria Police be deferred.

Partner Agency Reports – Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Services

Mr. Steven Graham, Station Manager, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Services provided a verbal update to the Committee, on performance in relation to the local indicators for the North Sunderland Area Committee area.

Members were advised of the current figures in relation to the North Sunderland Area, with particular reference to:-

- i) the number of deaths from accidental / all dwelling fires – none;
- ii) the number of injuries from accidental / all dwelling fires – none;
- iii) accidental fires in domestic properties – 5;
- iv) deliberate primary fires – 3; and
- v) deliberate vehicle fires – 3.

He advised the Committee that the main focus of the service's attention was secondary deliberate fires which had increased with fifty eight incidents in the North Sunderland area. He explained that a lot were caused with loose refuse, tree scrub, etc and therefore the Service were looking to target why they happen in the areas that they do and to run a campaign to raise awareness.

Mr. Graham informed the Committee that Sunderland Central were having an open day on 13th August, 2016 and all Committee Members were invited to attend.

The Chairman having thanked Mr. Graham for his report, it was:-

7. RESOLVED that the update from the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service be received and noted.

Financial Statement and Proposals for Further Allocation of Resources

The Head of Scrutiny and Area Arrangements submitted a report (copy circulated) which requested Members to give consideration to a financial statement as an up to date position in relation to the allocation of Strategic Initiatives Budget and Community Chest and presented proposals for further funding requests.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

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

Having fully discussed the application and those in attendance having answered Members questions; it was:-

7. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the financial statements as set out in paragraphs 2.1 and 3.1 of the report be noted;
- (ii) approval be given to the allocation of £10,000 from the SIB budget for 2015/16 to support the Fulwell Community Association Refurbishment Project;
- (iv) approval be given to the allocation of £7,500 from the SIB budget for 2015/16 to support the Sunderland City Council – Airships, Acoustics and Airfields Project;
- (v) approval be given to the allocation of £8,000 from the SIB budget for 2015/16 to support the Sunderland City Council – Marley Park Play Area Swing Installation;
- (vi) approval be given to the allocation of £3,480 from the SIB budget for 2015/16 to support the Sunderland City Council – North Locality Youth Work Development Project;
- (vii) approval be given to the alignment of £20,000 from the SIB budget for 2015/16 to Sunderland City Council to develop a project which delivers lighting at Marley Park Play Area;
- (viii) approval be given to the following projects to deliver the School Holiday Activities in Easter and Summer 2016 Projects:-
 - SNCBC _ Activities for Young People – Easter and Summer Holiday - £22,799;
 - NE Sports – Life’s a Beach - £14,410; and
 - Roker URC – Holiday Activities Scheme - £2,791.
- (ix) approval be given to the extension to the Thompson Park House Project until September, 2017; and
- (x) the thirteen approvals for Community Chest supported from the 2015/16 budget as set out in Annex 3 to the report be noted.

The Chairman took the opportunity to thank Councillor Copeland for all of her hard work and commitment during her time as a Southwick Ward Councillor and wished her well for the future.

He then thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting

(Signed) D. WILSON,
Chairman.