

At a meeting of the EAST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE, SUNDERLAND on MONDAY, 16th MARCH, 2020 at 5.30p.m.

Present:-

Councillor E. Gibson in the Chair

Councillors Bewick, M. Dixon, Essl, Fagan, Hunt, Marshall, McClennan, Mordey and A. Wood

Also Present:-

Matthew Jackson	-	Governance Services Officer, Sunderland City Council
Julie Maven	-	East Area VCS Network Representative
Nicol McConnell	-	Area Community Development Lead, Sunderland City Council
Allison Patterson	-	Area Co-ordinator, Sunderland City Council
K. Ramanathan	-	East Area VCS Network Representative
Sarah Reed	-	Director of People, Communications and Partnerships, Sunderland City Council

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received on behalf of Councillors Hodson, Oliver, Potts, Scanlan and P. Wood together with Joanne Cooper, Trish Cornish, Shaun Makin and Jamie Southwell.

Declarations of Interest

Item 6 – Area Budgets: Neighbourhood Fund and Community Chest

Councillor Marshall declared that she was chair of the management committee of the Box Youth Club and of Doxford CA.

Councillor Hunt declared that she worked for Ryhope CA.

Councillor McClennan declared that she had attended meetings in respect of the East End and Hendon Festival.

Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 10th December, 2019

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th December, 2019 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

VCS Area Network Progress Report

Julie Maven provided the Committee with an update on the work of the VCS Area Network since the last meeting of the Committee. There had been two network meetings since the last Area Committee, both had been well attended and a number of presentations had been received including from the Global Café, Media Savvy, Dying Matters and the Phoenix Project.

There would be quarterly meetings held between the VCS Network representatives and Ms McConnell.

The quarterly meetings were welcomed by Members however concerns were raised that it might not be frequent enough to ensure that any groups which were in crisis situations were able to be supported. Ms McConnell advised that the most suitable approach had been considered and there would be a workshop held for all VCS organisations to inform them of the proposals. Any groups which required urgent advice or assistance could be worked with outside of the meeting schedule.

Concerns were raised that some groups might not be able to survive being closed for an extended period of time as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak. There were concerns that there would be an impact on funding if organisations were not able to deliver activities they had received funding for. Ms McConnell advised that she had contacted all of the VCS groups in the area to find out what action they were taking. It was felt that organisations should cancel activities if they considered this to be the right thing to do and this would not affect any funding they had been provided by the Council.

2. RESOLVED that the update from the East Area VCS Network be noted.

Northumbria Police Update

There was no representative of Northumbria Police present at the meeting as due to the Covid-19 outbreak the Neighbourhood Inspector had been instructed not to attend any external meetings.

Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service Update

There was no representative of Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service present at the meeting as due to the Covid-19 outbreak the Station Manager had been instructed not to attend any external meetings.

Neighbourhood Investment Plans

The Executive Director of Neighbourhoods submitted a report (copy circulated) which advised Members of the next steps, subject to Cabinet approval of the Article 10 plan, of the neighbourhood investment plans.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Ms McConnell introduced the report and provided Members with the background to the proposals as well as providing an update on the outcomes of the resident engagement that had commenced in September 2019. A detailed breakdown of the consultation outcomes had been used to directly inform the development of the Neighbourhood Investment Plan and the themes identified were set out in section 4 of the report. The detail of the delivery plan and activity tracker was set out in section 5 of the report; the full delivery plan was anticipated to be presented to the June 2020 meeting of the Area Committee.

3. RESOLVED that:-

- a. The Neighbourhood Investment Plans, subject to Cabinet approval, be noted.
- b. The delivery of the priorities within the East Sunderland Neighbourhood Investment Delivery Plan which would be presented to the People and Place Area Boards prior to the June 2020 Area Committee be agreed.

Place Board Interim Update Report

The Chair of the East Sunderland Area Place Board submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Area Committee with an update on the Place Neighbourhood Plan.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms McConnell presented the report and advised Members of the work that had been done by the board which included the influencing of the Highways Maintenance Programme 2020/21.

4. RESOLVED that the Highways Maintenance Programme 2020/21 as set out in Annex 2 be agreed.

People Board Interim Update Report

The Chair of the East Sunderland Area People Board submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Area Committee with an update on the People Neighbourhood Plan.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

The Chair of the People Board, Councillor Marshall, presented the report and advised Members of the work that had been done by the board which included the Street Pastors Safe Haven Project update; the work done around More Males and Positive Parenting; and the CLLD programme.

5. RESOLVED that the updates against the Health and Wellbeing Area Priority be noted.

Area Budgets: Neighbourhood Fund and Community Chest

The Assistant Director of Community Resilience submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with a financial statement as an update on the position on progress in relation to allocating Neighbourhood Fund and Community Chest.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Ms McConnell presented the report and advised Members of the applications for Neighbourhood Funding totalling £141,310 for consideration by Members at this meeting which were set out in paragraph 2.6 and in annex 1. The available budget was £140,404 which left a gap in funding of £906 however it was proposed to use an underspend element of the budget from the East Rangers (Phase One Scheme) to increase the allocation budget which would enable the Area Committee to approve all of the project proposals.

There had been Community Chest awards made which were set out in annex 2 to the report and paragraph 3.1. since the publication of the agenda there had been further allocations and the remaining Community Chest balances stood at:

Doxford Ward - £0

Hendon Ward - £0

Millfield Ward - £1345

Ryhope Ward - £0

St Michael's Ward – £0

Members gave consideration to the report and it was:-

6. RESOLVED that:-
 - a. The recommendations set out at paragraph 2.6 and annex 1 be endorsed.
 - b. The financial statements set out in tables 1 and 2 be noted.

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

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Chairman.