

At a meeting of the WEST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held at The LAMBTON STREET YOUTH CENTRE, FALKLAND ROAD, SUNDERLAND on WEDNESDAY 8TH MARCH, 2017 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor P. Gibson in the Chair

Councillors, Allan, Atkinson, D. Dixon, Essl, I. Galbraith, O'Brien, Porthouse, Smith, Tye, Waters, P. Watson, S. Watson and A. Wilson.

Also Present:-

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|-----------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Graham Carr | Asset and Network Manager | Sunderland City Council |
| Tony Carty | Neighbourhood Inspector | Northumbria Police |
| Alan Duffy | Head of Operations | Gentoo |
| Michelle Daurat | Project Director, Tall Ships | Sunderland City Council |
| Victoria French | Head of Events | Sunderland City Council |
| Ash Hopper | Sergeant | Northumbria Police |
| Andrea Lanaghan | VCS Network Representative | Sunderland Carers |
| Joanne Laverick | VCS Network Representative | Youth Almighty |
| Bill Leach | VCS Network Representative | Pennywell Com. Centre |
| David Noon | Principal Governance Services Officer | Sunderland City Council |
| Helen Peverley | Area Co-ordinator | Sunderland City Council |
| Ian Richardson | Assistant Head of Street Scene | Sunderland City Council |
| Gilly Stanley | Area Community Development Lead | Sunderland City Council |

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting especially those attending their first meeting of the West Sunderland Area Committee and introductions were made.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors G. Galbraith, Gofton, Waller and T. Wright.

Declarations of Interest

Item 3 Place Board Progress Report Para 4.1 Highway Maintenance Programme 2017/18

The Chairman made an open declaration in the item in respect of Vicarage Close, Silksworth.

Item 6 Financial Statement and Proposals for further Allocations of Resources – Para 2.8 West Energy Projects.

The following Councillors declared interests in the report as members of the organisations indicated and left the meeting during the consideration of the item, taking no part in any discussion or decision thereon:-

Councillor Tye – Silksworth Youth and Community Centre, Farringdon Youth and Community Centre and Plains Farm Centre

Councillor P.Watson – Parker Trust

Councillor S.Watson – Pennywell Community Centre

Councillor Waters – Parker Trust

Councillor A.Wilson – Parker Trust, Lambton Street Youth Centre

Item 6 Financial Statement and Proposals for further Allocations of Resources – Para 2.4 Leaving Care Project.

The following Councillors declared interests in the report as members of the Parker Trust and left the meeting during the consideration of the item, taking no part in any discussion or decision thereon:-

Councillor K. Waters

Councillor P. Watson

Councillor A. Wilson

Minutes of the Last Meeting

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

Tall Ships Races 2018

The Head of Events submitted a report (copy circulated) which informed members of the various options available in respect of community engagement as part of the Tall Ships Races Event 2018 including involvement in the Sail Trainee programme, together with details of the entertainment / cultural programme on offer.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

In response to an enquiry from the Chair, Michelle Daurat, Project Director confirmed that the cost to sponsor a Sail Trainee was £1500. The Chairman suggested that the Committee may wish to consider sponsoring 6 Sail Trainees one per each of the West Area Wards.

The Chairman having thanked Ms Daurat and Ms French for their attendance it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the report be referred to the Place Board for further consideration on how the West Area Committee could support the Tall Ships event including the potential sponsorship of Sail Trainees.

Place Board Progress Report

The Chairman of the West Sunderland Area Place Board submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided an update of progress against the 2016/17 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 the Highway Maintenance Programme, Place Management, Business Support, Tall Ships 2018, Maximising Greenspace and Improving Derelict Land and the West Community Energy Programme as at 28th February, 2017.

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

3. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the report be received and noted and;
- ii) the progress and performance update with regard to the West Area Place Board Work Plan for 2017/18 as detailed in Annex 1 to the report be noted;
- iii) approval be given to the recommendations of the Board in respect of the 2017/18 Highway Maintenance Capital Programme as detailed in Annex 2 to the report;
- iv) consideration be given to the financial issues arising from the Place Board report later in the meeting at item 6 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 2016/17 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 Annex 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 Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group, Reducing mental health issues in young people, Wires 2, Community Led Local Delivery EU Funding, Holiday hunger, Activities for Young People and Young People Leaving Care as at 28th February 2017.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Porthouse, Helen Peverley, Area Coordinator advised that she would circulate a breakdown of the allocation of Holiday Hunger support on a postcode / ward basis.

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

4. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the report be received and be noted; and
- ii) the progress and performance update with regard to the West Area People Board Work Plan for 2017/18 as detailed in Annex 1 to the report be noted; and
- iii) consideration be given to the financial issues arising from the People Board report later in the meeting at item 6 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 members on issues pertinent to the Committee and the Voluntary and Community Sector.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Consideration was given to the report presented by Bill Leach which highlighted the following feedback and input arising from the two Voluntary and Community Sector Network meetings held since the Area Committee last met in December:-

- i) the West Enterprise project and how to refer individuals into the project. The network also had the opportunity to understand the services offered by Access to Counselling, which was based in the West.
- ii) the West Area Event and opportunities to participate within the theme of Science, Engineering and the Environment.
- iii) the projects recently approved for Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing. Details had been provided to groups to ensure the whole network could signpost where required. The network were also reminded of the opportunity and support available to further identify Mental Health training requirements, to support staff and volunteers within their organisations.
- iv) the continued maximisation of GRANTfinder opportunities with over £70k secured in the West to date.

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

5. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Report of the Northumbria Police – Sunderland West

Inspector Carty of Northumbria Police presented a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with an update on the Force's most recent performance indicators for the period 1st December 2016 to 28th February 2017.

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 Carty briefed members on:-

- i) the end of the annual crime recording period which would see an overall increase of 30% across Northumbria Police as a whole. Sunderland South at +28% and Sunderland West at +26% were therefore below the Force average.
- ii) Burglary dwelling – which showed an overall rise in the South but the number of offences was low (average of 1 burglary a week over the course of the year). In the West the news was even better with a 19% reduction likely to be recorded. This included a recent period of 22 days when not one burglary dwelling was reported in any of the wards.
- iii) an armed robbery at Ford Post office on 17 January 2017 had been particularly worrying as a shotgun was discharged. One of the males responsible was charged and remanded the next day. Evidentially the second offender had been more challenging however he was remanded in custody on 22nd February.
- iv) a suspicious death in Bishopwearmouth Cemetery which was sadly, proved to be a suicide.
- v) Anti-Social Behaviour remained a priority with Officers currently concentrating their efforts around Belsay House/Castle mews. St Chad's ward Councillors have been proactive in this area, in partnership with Farringdon Community Academy and had recently funded the reduction of shrubs to allow more daylight into the walkway, removing potential hiding places and litter traps and therefore reducing anti-social behaviour.

In conclusion Inspector Carty informed members that Sgt Hopper would shortly be leaving the team to transfer to the CID. On behalf of the Committee the Chairman thanked Sgt Hopper for his work in the West Area and wished him well for the future.

There being no questions or comments on the report the Chairman thanked Inspector Carty for his report and it was:-

6. 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 December, 2016 to 1st February 2017, with particular reference to:-

- i) the number of deaths from all fires (none),

- ii) deliberate property fires (none),
- iii) deliberate vehicle fires (9), and
- iv) secondary fires not involving property or road vehicles (28).

(For copy report – see original minutes)

In the absence of Station Manager Steve Burdis who was attending another meeting, Helen Peverley presented the report informing members that if they had any questions that she was unable to answer, she would refer them to Mr Burdis for a response.

There being no questions or comments it was:-

6. RESOLVED the report be received and noted.

Report of Gentoo

Alan Duffy, Head of Operations, Gentoo Group presented a report (copy circulated) which briefed the Committee on Gentoo developments, projects and priorities undertaken during the period December 2016 to March 2017, including the fundamental review of the repairs and maintenance service, the development of the new tenant's handbook and the continuation of the stock condition survey.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Tye reported that he had heard earlier that day that the Newport Estate Roof Replacement scheme was going to stop and queried if this was the case. Mr Duffy advised that he was not aware of it but would seek clarification and report back to Councillor Tye.

The Chairman having thanked Mr Duffy for his attendance it was:-

7. 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 Member Support and Community Partnership 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, the approval under the small grants process of projects in relation to the Maximisation of Green Space, details of 19 projects approved under delegated powers for support from the 2016/17 Community Chest budget and details of proposals for the allocation of SIB funding.

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

8. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the Area Committee's funding statement be received and noted;
- (ii) approval be given to the alignment of £60,000 SIB funding in respect of the West CLLD Support Programme as detailed in annex 1 of the report;
- (iii) approval be given to the allocation of £45,000 SIB funding in respect of the West Leaving Care Project as detailed in annex 2 of the report;
- (iv) approval be given to the alignment of £40,000 SIB funding in respect of the People Board's recommendation to support a call for projects to deliver additional youth activities within the West Area as detailed in item 4 on the agenda;
- (v) approval be given to the allocation of £12,925 SIB funding in respect of the provision of lighting at King George Playing Fields as detailed in annex 3 of the report;
- (vi) approval be given to the allocation of SIB funding in respect of the various West Energy projects as detailed in annex 4 of the report
- (vii) the approval of projects to date through the small grants process for Maximising Green Space as detailed in annex 5 of the report, be noted and;
- (viii) the position in respect of the West Young People Mental Health projects as detailed in annex 6 of the report be noted;
- (ix) the approval of the 14 Community Chest applications from the 2016/17 budget as detailed in Annex 7 of the report be noted;

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

(Signed) P. GIBSON,
Chairman.