

# NORTH EAST AREA COMMITTEE

## MINUTES

THURSDAY

15 MARCH 2018

ST JOHN'S CHURCH HALL, CAULDWELL HALL  
ROAD, IPSWICH IP4 4QE

7.30 PM

**Present:** Bixley Ward Councillors: E Phillips and R Pope  
Rushmere Ward Councillors: S Gage, A Ross and S Ion  
St John's Ward Councillors: E Elavalakan, N MacDonald and S Darwin

There were 28 members of the public in attendance.

**66. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor John Carnall. Suffolk County Councillor West (Co-optee) was also unable to attend the meeting.

**67. Unconfirmed Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 January 2018**

67.1 Minute No 58.3 – To read 'A 'No cold calling zone (NCC) would be set up in Inverness Road ...'

**Resolved:**

that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2018, with the amendment above, be signed as a true record.

**68. To Confirm or Vary the Order of Business**

68.1 Item 11 - NEAC/17/23 Funding request – Easter Holiday Activities Programme would be discussed after Item 5 on the agenda.

**Resolved:**

that the Order of Business, with the amendment detailed above, be as confirmed on the Agenda.

**69. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**70. Police Priorities in North East Ipswich**

70.1 PC Johnathan Gooch based at Heath Road, presented this item and reported that work continued with other services and agencies on the Urban Street Gang initiative, linked with 'County Lines'. The Ipswich East Safer Neighbourhood Team had discovered cannabis production and Class A drugs at properties in Parliament Road and Braeburn Close, with the possible street value of £1½m, which had prompted a press release and a local news item. If any suspicious activity was witnessed, residents were encouraged to report it.

70.2 Hi-vis patrols had resulted in a reduction in the recently reported anti-social behaviour in Rushmere and Kesgrave and since residents had been leafleted about damage to cars in Goring Road there had been a reduction in reported incidents. Extra patrols had also taken place at Holywells Park since damage had been caused by vandals to the Tree of Remembrance in the memorial garden.

70.3 It was updated that the Speed Indication Device (SID), previously funded by the North East Area Committee, had been deployed on Humber Doucy Lane and data would be available to feedback to the Committee. It was primarily a data collection and monitoring device but if serious speeding was recorded the area would be considered for speed enforcement ticketing.

70.4 A resident asked about a recent series of allotment shed break-ins and it was confirmed that petrol had been taken from the allotment site and the 52 sheds tampered with would be recorded as 52 crimes committed. All the sheds had been unattended and not alarmed.

70.5 Discussion took place about incidents of anti-social behaviour at libraries in Ipswich and the Officer said that work continued with other agencies to ensure that the amount of incidents were kept to a minimum.

**71. NEAC/17/23 Funding request - Easter Holiday Activities Programme**

71.1 The IBC Sports and Leisure Manager, Andrew Wilesmith presented this item to the Committee which requested £884.00 from the North East Area Committee budget to deliver the Jumpers for Goalposts Easter holiday activities in North East Ipswich. An amendment was made to the front cover of the report that the activities would be delivered in the North East area of Ipswich.

71.2 The Officer reported that the Jumpers for Goalposts brand had previously delivered successful Ipswich park based activities with 248 participants visiting 702 times during 2017. Girls 'Wildcat' football had been piloted last year for

girls between 5-11 years old at Ransomes Sports Ground as part of the 'This Girl Can' campaign and this would continue during 2018 extending the age group to 5-14 years of age. It was proposed that this year a 'Tennis for Free' programme would be introduced in partnership with Ipswich Sports Club and St John's Tennis Club and basketball, a mass participation sport, had also proved popular last year.

71.3 Councillor Pope asked what would be done to match the high number of attendees who participated in 2016 and the Officer said that engagement with schools would ensure that literature was produced, based on the needs of the school, to promote the sessions. An arrangement had been struck with the schools games organisers to ensure that promotion through social media coverage would also encourage attendees.

71.4 It was confirmed that the Ipswich Women's Basketball Team and the Ipswich under 16 Girls had both won the National Basketball Cup Finals. The locations for the Easter holiday activities in the North East of Ipswich were confirmed as Newbury Road and Dumbarton Road Recreation Grounds.

**Resolved:**

**that £884.00 be allocated from the North East Area Committee budget for the cost of the Easter holiday activities in the North East Ipswich Area, as detailed in the report Ref No: NEAC/17/23, be agreed.**

Reason The Jumpers for Goalposts programme had increased participation numbers over the last 4 years and this would allow young people across the town to participate in physical activity over the summer.

**72. Highways Presentation**

72.1 Unfortunately the Highways Department were unable to attend however, the following update was available:-

Foxhall Road scheme – Suffolk County Council (SCC) were making good progress on the Foxhall Road, Bixley Road and Heath Road roundabout. Despite the recent bad weather, the scheme was progressing well with resurfacing to take place early April.

Felixstowe Road scheme - The scheme was set to start in the middle of May. SCC would start to make changes to the street lighting, fitting new LED lamps and columns, then leave site for the Suffolk Show period and return to carry out the footway reconstruction, new crossings and crossing works early June. They would be on site for 20 weeks and a public engagement event would be held at St Augustine's Church Hall during April. The engagement event would allow SCC the opportunity to explain the background to the scheme, how they would manage the traffic and deliver the works and to answer any questions. They were in the process of sorting a date for this event and would communicate this when known.

- 72.2 The Chair had asked how the public engagement event at St Augustine's Church Hall would be communicated to residents and it had been confirmed that information would be available on social media and businesses and residents in the area would receive a postcard type letter drop.
- 72.3 Discussion took place about the diversion signs, the inactivity and queues on the current roadworks at Woodbridge Road and Councillor Gage said that a resident on Woodbridge Road had received confirmation that the road would be resurfaced and then dug up again for further work by a different contractor. Residents expressed concern about cars and bikes weaving along Ashdown Way to avoid the damaged road surface and Councillor Phillips agreed to pass on these comments to Suffolk County Councillor West who had been unable to attend.
- 72.4 The Chair agreed to write to Suffolk County Council about these concerns and to ask for information about the public engagement event which would be held in April.

### **73. Chair's Update on Actions from Previous Meetings**

- 73.1 An update on the changes to the bus timetables in the North East was available and were as follows:-
- The bus Service 6A would now be Service 6 which would terminate at Heath Road hospital. Service 6A had previously provided a direct link to South East Ipswich but now it would be necessary for passengers to change buses at the hospital.
  - The evening service for the Renfrew Road and Sidegate Lane areas would now be by Service 5E.
  - There had been timetable changes to all services.
  - Changes to fares included the maximum single fare increase to £2, an increase to the Day Rover ticket to £4 and the family ticket to £5 although the latter was now available all day. Some fares had also been frozen.
  - Further details were available on the Ipswich Buses website or the Suffolk On Board website. Ipswich Buses also had new timetable leaflets, available from the Enquiry Office at Tower Ramparts Bus Station, which included details about routes and fares.
- 73.2 At the last meeting, Councillor Pope had asked for more information on the ISCRE Workshop attendance and this had been supplied.

### **74. Ward Councillors feedback from their Communities**

#### **74.1 St John's ward**

Councillor Darwin reported that Making A Difference (MAD) funding had been agreed and allocated to fund a new age Bowls Kit for the Foxhall Centre, Lavender Trust. Following further feedback about parking issues at the 'Hair Ministry Group' at the junction of Foxhall Road and Orwell Road, further

consultation would be required by the residents and staff at the salon about staff and customer parking.

#### Rushmere ward

Councillor Ross said that the Neighbourhood Watch had reported several cars which had no MOT, Road Tax or insurance and following enquiries about the possibility that business deals had been taking place, Ipswich Borough Council had put enforcement notices on the cars to explain that they would be dealt with.

Councillor Gage said that she had referred a problem to the Police about cars causing obstructions to driveways at Roundwood Road following a request from a resident and she had been working with tenants who had requested that home adaptations for accessibility be made to their properties. A complaint had been received about dog fouling at Beverley Road and Whitby Road and she reported that the Deputy Mayor had opened the new Library Service now available at Ransomes Pavilion from 1.30pm - 4.30pm every Wednesday.

#### Bixley ward

Councillor Phillips said that funds of £21m had been borrowed by Suffolk County Council for road repairs in Suffolk and overgrown holly bushes at Chiltern Road which had been cut back, had been on NHS property. He had received complaints about the bus Service 4 being rerouted via Wareham Road rather than Foxhall Road and explained that he had no influence over this as it was the Bus Company's decision.

Councillor Pope said that he had received complaints about inconsiderate parking, blocking pavements.

### **75. Suffolk County Councillors Feedback from their Divisions**

- 75.1 Suffolk County Councillor S Adams reported that the main concern residents had expressed to her were about potholes and she mentioned a consultation on Temporary Road Regulations where it was possible for 'H' lines to be placed.

Suffolk County Councillor S Gage expressed concern about two accidents which had occurred at Rushmere Hall Primary School in Lanark Road which had seen a 50% increase in pupil intake. A section of Woodbridge Road, near Sidegate Lane would be resurfaced in May and she expressed concern about potholes which continued to be a danger to cyclists. She had requested that Renfrew Road be resurfaced and any road surface problems could be reported via the on-line reporting tool:- <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads-pavements-and-verges/potholes/report-a-pothole/>

### **76. Responses to Public Questions Received and Open Discussion on Local Issues**

- 76.1 No questions had been received prior to the meeting however, if residents submitted a question to the Committee by post or e-mail then they would receive a full response from an appropriate Officer of the Council.
- 76.2 Discussion continued about the depth of potholes and a resident repeated his request, that a sign be replaced at the junction of Renfrew Road and Selkirk Road. The Chair reiterated that it had been confirmed at the last meeting, that the replacement of this sign would be reviewed in the new municipal year.

**77. NEAC/17/24 Funding request - ActivLives ActivHubs Programme 2018-19**

- 77.1 Julie Stokes, Chief Executive and Lindsay Bennett, Development Officer from ActivLives presented this report which requested £4,230.50 from the North East Area Committee budget towards the cost of providing a programme of activities under the ActivHubs banner. ActivLives, a local independent charity for adults over 45 years of age across Ipswich provided advice and support in the community and improved health and wellbeing to support independent living and prevent falls and fractures.
- 77.2 Over 50 volunteers helped run the sessions which included lunch and singing clubs and the community gardens at Chantry Park and Maidenhall allotments to help build confidence, provide meaningful activities and reduce loneliness and social isolation. A Friday Friends Café helped support carers and those living with dementia and the 'Keep on Rockin' singing project performed at hospitals, shopping centres and other events.
- 77.3 The development of successful ActivHubs in the North East of Ipswich could include health walks, exercise groups and sports sessions to improve strength, balance and co-ordination and improve mental health.
- 77.4 In the North East area most sessions were full to capacity, with waiting lists, so the proposal was to set up more sessions in the area. It was confirmed that GP's were referring people to the services offered and fundraising ideas were always being considered to promote sustainability.
- 77.5 Councillor Pope asked why Suffolk County Council (SCC) were not offering any funding and Ms Bennett said that SCC did fund a pilot scheme for 18 months and all the targets had been achieved however, as the number of clients increased, proving the requirement for the project, the SCC funding had reduced. It was confirmed that all staff working with the project were Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checked.
- 77.6 Councillor Ross asked why the Government funding through IBC had now stopped and Ms Stokes said that the current project would run until July 2018 and that was why further funding was now being sought. It was confirmed that SCC, Public Health and the Clinical Commissioning Groups had all been approached but no funding was available.

77.7 Councillor Phillips asked for information about the shared office space reported and it was confirmed that ActivLives was located at Brightspace at 160 Hadleigh Road, Ipswich.

**Resolved:**

**that £4,230 be allocated from the North East Area Committee budget towards funding the costs of the ActivHubs programme in the North East of Ipswich, be agreed.**

Reasons:-

- To improve the opportunity for social support and exercise and to reduce the incidents of falls for older people in North East Ipswich.

**78. NEAC/17/25 S106 Agreement Allocations in the North East Area**

78.1 The Head of Development presented this report which set out details of outstanding Section 106 legal agreement contributions available to spend within the North East area. The Overview & Scrutiny Committee held in November 2017 had requested that this information be disseminated through the Area Committees, when the effectiveness of developer contributions and their use had been discussed.

78.2 In the North East Ipswich area £3,960.25 originated from the former Jesus & Mary School on Woodbridge Road, to form a new nature habitat outside of the site or to improve any existing habitat in the locality. The Officer asked the Committee for any suggestions or ideas of how the money could be allocated so these could be considered prior to allocation.

**Resolved:**

**that the Section 106 information detailed at Appendix A to report Ref No: NEAC/17/25, be noted.**

**79. NEAC/17/26 Area Action Plan Update**

79.1 The Community Engagement Officer presented the Area Action Plan and gave feedback on the following projects:-

- St Margaret's Cricket Club – new nets and surfaces had improved safety.
- The 'It's Tuesday' conversational English group had recruited a new teacher and an unpaid volunteer. There were now 14 attendees at the informal sessions at St John's United Reformed Church.
- The Ipswich Ravens Volleyball Club had upgraded their apparatus and relined the floor. Attendance had increased by 50%.
- The Kerala Community Supplementary School funding had enabled a Xmas celebration evening to be held.

**Resolved:**

**that the Area Action Plan for the North East area, attached at Appendix 1 to report Ref No: NEAC/17/26, be noted.**

Reason: Priorities provided the basis of an action plan that would enable the Area Committee to clearly communicate its vision and priorities and help demonstrate how its budget would be allocated to deliver the priorities set for the area.

**80. NEAC/17/27 Area Committee Budget Update**

- 80.1 The Head of Development reported that since the last meeting £878.80 had been agreed to be allocated from the Making A Difference (MAD) funding, £358.80 to Foxhall Centre Lavender Trust (St John's ward) and £300 and £220 to New Wolsey Theatre. (Rushmere ward and St John's ward respectively).
- 80.2 At the beginning of the meeting the North East Area Committee had an unallocated budget of £6,669.35 available to spend on the priorities of the Area Action Plan for North East Ipswich.
- 80.3 The Chair reminded residents that it had been 100 years since women had been granted the right to vote and reminded everyone to register to vote for the forthcoming local elections on 3 May 2018.

**Resolved:**

- 1. that the financial statement in Appendix 1 of the report, be noted.**
- 2. that the £878.80 Making A Difference (MAD) funding allocated to Rushmere and St John's wards, be noted.**

Reason: To provide clear and transparent details of the amount of funds available to the Area Committee to deliver the priorities in its action plan.

**81. Dates of Future Meetings for 2018/19 at 7.30pm - a presentation will be held prior to each meeting at 7.00pm.**

- Thursday 14 June 2018 – Ransomes Sports Pavilion, 23 Sidegate Avenue IP4 4JJ**
- All to be held at St John's Church Hall, Cauldwell Hall Road IP4 4QE**
- Thursday 26 July 2018**
  - Thursday 20 September 2018**
  - Thursday 15 November 2018**
  - Thursday 24 January 2019**
  - Thursday 21 March 2019**

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

**Chair**