

NORTH EAST AREA COMMITTEE

MINUTES

**THURSDAY 14 JUNE 2018
RANSOMES SPORTS PAVILION,
SIDEGATE AVENUE IP4 4JJ
7.30 PM**

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

Suffolk County Councillor: P West

There were 28 members of the public in attendance.

1. Election of Chair

Resolved:

that Councillor S Darwin be elected as Chair of the North East Area Committee for the 2018/19 municipal year.

- 1.1 The Chair congratulated Councillors Gage, Phillips and Elavalakan who had been re-elected to Rushmere, Bixley and St John's wards respectively. Councillor S Darwin requested that she be addressed as Chair or Councillor Darwin at the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor K E Elavalakan.

3. Unconfirmed Minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2018

- 3.1 Councillor Phillips requested that the following amendment be made to the last sentence of Item 72.3 'Councillor Phillips was already talking to Suffolk County Councillor West ...'

Resolved:

that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2018, with the above amendment, be signed as a true copy.

4. To Confirm or Vary the Order of Business

Resolved:

that the Order of Business, be as confirmed on the Agenda.

5. Declarations of Interest

5.1 Councillor S Darwin declared an interest in Item 10 – Responses to Public Questions and Open Discussion on Local Issues, as the Branch Equality Officer of the Suffolk Unite Community.

6. Police Priorities in North East Ipswich

6.1 Inspector Andy Pursehouse presented this item and made reference to the widely reported incident of murder and unrelated stabbing incidents which had occurred in Ipswich in recent times. For each of the targeted incidents, people had been held in custody within a day, charges had been made and trials would take place in due course. A Police Pod, (a mobile Police Station) and increased patrols had been put in place following the events and a plan had been set up to look at the issues and concerns. An appeal for any further information had been issued and Officers were working hard to support the community.

6.2 A future public meeting would be held on 21 June 2018 at 7.00pm at a venue in the South East Ipswich area (location unknown as yet).

6.3 The Inspector said that whilst anti-social behaviour had increased, incidents of crime had reduced and he stressed the usual crime prevention advice; to shut windows and doors when leaving their properties and to remove power tools from vehicles overnight.

6.4 Patrols would be increased during the summer months with Operation Parkland being put in place and key locations of anti-social behaviour incidents were being identified.

6.5 Councillor Ross, on behalf of all the residents of the North East thanked the Police for all the extra hours and work they were putting in at this time.

6.6 A resident asked the Inspector whether there would be extra Police 'on the beat' and the Inspector replied that Police recruitment continued with a number of student police being trained however, during the recent incidents additional resources had been used from other Police forces.

6.7 A resident reported a recent incident in St Peters Street and asked why the media had not reported the recent incidents as being drug related? The Inspector agreed to take details of the incident in the Town Centre and said that he could not comment on individual incidents or places and details about the involvement of gangs could put people at risk. Details of other incidents of

property being stolen were reported and the Inspector agreed to take the details about these from another resident.

6.8 The Chair thanked the Inspector for his attendance.

7. **Chair's Update on Actions from the Previous Meeting**

7.1 The Chair reported that the following roadwork update had been received from the Highways Department in relation to the roadwork schemes:

Foxhall Road/Bixley Road roundabout – Works complete except for a small amount of road markings and an additional sign.

Felixstowe Road/St Augustine's – Felixstowe Road street lighting upgraded. One week of night working to get site ready, then works to footway, new crossings and new island to commence in the daytime. Work from Sainsbury's roundabout towards St Augustine's, finishing on Bixley Road in November.

Sainsbury's – Traffic Orders to prohibit the right turn into Sainsbury's loading bay will be sealed from 13 June, along with the revocation of part of the on-carriageway cycle lane. The Notice of Intent for the new Toucan crossing close to Sainsbury's had been made.

Felixstowe Road – Gully cleansing on Felixstowe Road, making use of the overnight closures and the cutting back of vegetation week commencing 11 June. Work with IBC arboriculture team to have trees cut back that overhang the footway on Bixley Road, as well as getting planters on the islands and roundabouts refurbished.

Warren Heath Road/Warren Heath Lane – Working with residents as there were questions about making the right turn into Warren Heath Road from Felixstowe Road and the issue of rat running. This work was on-going.

7.2 Further information could be found on the www.suffolk.gov.uk website by selecting; Roads and Transport/Roadworks/Junction Improvements on Felixstowe Road and St Augustine's, Ipswich. A presentation would be given prior to the next meeting by the Highways Department at Suffolk County Council.

7.3 The Chair updated about the letter she had written to the Highways Department on behalf of resident's concerns over the time taken to repair and the quality of repairs, to potholes. A detailed response had been received of which copies were available on request and Suffolk County Councillor West explained that there had subsequently been a drop-in event with over 200 people attending.

8. **Ward Councillors Feedback from their Communities**

8.1 St John's ward

Councillor MacDonald reported that work was due to start in August at 79 Cauldwell Hall Road, to build a residential development of 17 Council houses, consisting of both 2 and 3 bedrooms and for 1 bungalow.

Councillor Darwin reported that St John's ward Councillors would be holding an Area Committee stall at the ABC / Britannia Primary School Summer Fete on 30 June 2018.

Rushmere ward

Councillor Ross thanked Suffolk County Council for the resurfacing which had occurred to some roads in Rushmere ward, in particular Sidegate Lane.

Councillor Gage said that two new bus shelters had been installed at Renfrew Road and Rushmere ward Councillors would be holding an Area Committee stall at the Sidegate Primary School Country Fayre on 30 June 2018.

Councillor Ion said that the Speed Indication Device (SID) had been deployed at Humber Doucy Lane and feedback on the amount of speeding drivers was awaited. Incidents of scrap metal merchants in the area had been reported to Police and residents were requested to note the van registration and report any incidents to the Police.

Bixley ward

Councillor Pope had received resident's concerns about parking on verges and the responsibility for tree trimming. At a previous meeting he had reported about the closure of the Post Office facility at a shop in Heath Road. As no one had come forward to express an interest in re-opening a Post Office counter at this location, it would remain closed.

Councillor Carnall reported about the poor condition of green verges and issues with street cleansing particularly around 'The Lawns' area. No weed killing had taken place, the gutters needed cleaning and the pavements needed sweeping. The Waste and Cleansing Department at IBC had said that it would be cleaned within the next 2 weeks so it was hoped that significant improvement would be seen. Residents had expressed their concerns to him about the redevelopment work being undertaken at the Cornhill in Ipswich Town Centre.

Councillor Phillips had dealt with parking issues, verge cutting issues and the setting up of a 'no cold calling zone' scheme and a maintenance problem with the gardens at Penshurst Road had been resolved.

9. Suffolk County Councillors Feedback from their Divisions

- 9.1 Suffolk County Councillor S Gage had been concerned that adequate notice had not been given to residents during the rolling closure of Sidegate Lane during the recent resurfacing works, to provide access to properties. Concerns had also been reported relating to primary school parking issues and yellow line waiting restrictions.

10. Responses to Public Questions Received and Open Discussion on Local Issues

- 10.1 The Chair reminded residents that should a question be received prior to the meeting it would receive a full response from an appropriate Officer of the Council.

The following question had been received from a resident:

Q. Please could the North East Area Committee be made aware of detailed information about the savings, made by Suffolk County Council, with regard to expenditure on mental health in terms of reduced funding for particular services?

The following response had been received from the Suffolk County Council, Director of Public Health & Protection:

A. Suffolk County Council alongside the CCGs, NSFT, Suffolk Parent Carer Network and also young people are all working together in a more joined up integrated way than ever before.

There had been no cuts to the funding or services provided by Suffolk County Council for Adult Mental Health. The funding had remained unchanged for the last five successive years with small inflationary increases year on year.

There had been investment in children's mental health services and no cuts. Demand in children's services had grown due to a number of reasons and SCC and our partners were making strenuous efforts to provide efficient and effective services under challenging conditions.

- *We invested £540k into the Emotional & Wellbeing Hub which has employed 10 new posts (a Manager, 3 admin support, a peer support coordinator, 4 Emotional Wellbeing Practitioners and a school nurse) and 2 gifted posts from NSFT.*
- *Other areas of additional investment covered by emotional and wellbeing services were - 16/17 £1.6m, 17/18 £1.8m, 18/19 £2.1m and 19/20 £2.3m covered the following new areas/services:*
 - *Young Person's Health Ambassador;*
 - *Under 18's Eating Disorders Service;*
 - *Perinatal Service;*
 - *Emotional Wellbeing Hub;*
 - *Under 18's Crisis Pilot (due to be operational Summer 2018);*
 - *Under 18's ADHD service;*
 - *Additional investment into the Connect service for Looked After Children;*
 - *Suffolk Community Foundation – 2 tranches of 1 year grant projects;*
 - *5 grant projects have been commissioned (Noise Solutions, Fresh Start New Beginnings, 2 Home Start projects and Anglia Care Trust);*
 - *Workforce development (mental health first aid, Suffolk needs met, courses for families);*
 - *Co-production work with Suffolk Parent Carer Network (SPCN) and Parent and Carers Together (PACT)*

- *Digital work on the new Gateway, Source website.*
- 10.2 A resident asked how facilities were advertised in the area and Councillor Ross said that details were provided on the Ipswich Borough Council website about the diversion of sport (especially the 'This Girl Can' project) particularly during the school holidays. Suffolk County Councillor West said that leaflets went to schools to advertise the schedule of activities, as well as voluntary groups providing activities too. It was agreed that a more co-ordinated approach to advertising was required.

11. NEAC/18/01 Area Committee Budget Update

- 11.1 The Head of Development reported that, at the start of this financial year, the North East Area Committee had a further £18,200 allocated for 2018/19, bringing the total budget available to spend on the priorities of its Area Action Plan to £19,355.00. The Area Committee had the option to devolve up to 10% of its annual budget to establish a 'Making A Difference' (MAD) budget for small scale community initiatives; a 10% allocation would equate to £600 per ward for 2018/19.
- 11.2 The MAD budget spends for 2017/18 were set out in Appendix 1, resulting in an under spend of £520.00. It was requested that this be returned to the North East Area Committee budget.

Resolved:

- 1. that the financial statement, as detailed in Appendix 1 to report Ref No: NEAC/18/01, be noted.**
- 2. that 10% of the annual budget, be allocated towards the Making A Difference (MAD) budget for 2018/19, be agreed.**
- 3. that £520 of unspent Making A Difference (MAD) funding for 2017/18 be returned to the main unallocated North East Area Committee budget, be agreed.**

Reasons:

- (a) To provide clear and transparent details of the amount of funds available to the North East Area Committee to deliver the priorities in its action plan;
- (b) To allow the North East Area Committee to devolve up to 10% of its annual budget to support small scale community initiatives;
- (c) To release any North East Area committee budget funding where there was no further expenditure anticipated.

12. NEAC/18/02 Venue Hire / Publicity Allocation 2018/19

- 12.1 The Community Engagement Officer presented this funding request for £500 from the North East Area Committee budget for costs associated with advertising and venue hire for the North East Area Committee for 2018/19.

Resolved:

that £500 be allocated from the North East Area Committee budget for costs associated with advertising and venue hire for the North East Area Committee for 2018/19, as detailed in Appendix 1 to report Ref No: NEAC/18/02.

13. NEAC/18/03 Area Committee Funding Guidelines

- 13.1 The Community Engagement Officer presented the Area Committee Funding Guidelines which set out the role of the Area Committees in providing financial support for groups and organisations in the Borough of Ipswich and the process for awarding funding via the Area Committees. The Making A Difference Budget Funding Guidelines had also been updated to clarify how this funding should be utilised and that any unspent funding would be return at the end of the municipal year. These guidelines were attached at Appendices 1 & 2 of report NEAC/18/03.

- 13.2 Discussion took place about the three levels of grants and the associated eligibility criteria should a funding request be submitted to more than one Area Committee and it was confirmed that the overall amount requested would define the level of criteria.

- 13.3 Clarification about the exclusion of further education colleges to receive funding was requested and it was confirmed that any statutory service which should be provided by Suffolk County Council or an Academy would not be funded. Concern was expressed that students aged 19-24 years of age were being discriminated against however, historically it had been recognised that many pupils at further education colleges were not actually residents of the area in which the colleges were located and therefore, funding might not be of benefit to the local North East area community. However, as each funding request would be checked and reviewed on its own merit against the eligibility criteria by Legal and Finance Officers, the Area Chair and the Portfolio Holder; further education colleges would be removed from the list of organisations which were not funded.

Resolved:

that the Area Committee Funding Guidelines, with the amendment above and the Making A Difference Budget Funding Guidelines, attached at Appendices 1 & 2 of report Ref No: NEAC/18/03, be agreed and adopted.

Reason: To clearly set out the approach to providing support via Area Committee funding and to provide guidance for the allocation of funding.

14. NEAC/18/04 Road Closures & Bus Route Information for Running Events

14.1 Councillor Gage made reference to the Road Closure Information which had been submitted at the request of a Task & Finish Group of the Strategic Overview & Scrutiny Committee to inform residents of the road closures during the Great East Run on 16 September 2018. It had been recognised that at previous events, the lack of information had caused problems for residents travelling in and around Ipswich and to businesses on event days.

14.2 All road closures for the event were designed to be for the minimal time required to make the event safe for both participants and the public, all roads would be reopened as soon as safe to do so, once the race had passed through.

Resolved:

that the road closure information detailed in Appendices 1 & 2 of report Ref No: NEAC/18/04, be noted.

Reason: To offer residents and businesses advance warning of road closures during the running event.

15. NEAC/18/05 Funding request - Holiday Sports Programme

15.1 The Community Engagement Officer presented this report in place of the IBC Sports and Leisure Manager, Andrew Wilesmith who was currently on paternity leave. The report requested £2,249 from the North East Area Committee budget to deliver engaging and inclusive sports activities at a local level in Ipswich and Councillors offered their congratulations to the Officer.

Resolved:

that £2,249 be allocated from the North East Area Committee budget towards the cost of the summer holiday programme of activities in the North East area, as detailed in report Ref No: NEAC/18/05, be agreed.

Reason: To meet the priorities of the North East Area Committee Action Plan and the Council's Corporate Plan and to increase young people's participation in physical activity over the school holidays.

16. NEAC/18/06 Funding request - Bangladeshi Support Centre

16.1 Mr Khan from the Bangladeshi Support Centre presented this item which requested £801.39 from the North East Area Committee budget towards existing projects which would enable the organisation to continue to support vulnerable clients in Ipswich.

- 16.2 The Centre had been established for over 20 years and offered projects such as; a Supplementary School, a sports club at Northgate Sports Centre and a homework club at Northgate High School. Feedback from schools had confirmed that students from the Support Centre performed well and engaged in positive and constructive activities and the services available were accessed by people of all nationalities (over 40 different at present).
- 16.3 It was confirmed that the 10 hours of support services would often be at anti-social times due to the nature of the support but projects were always oversubscribed and the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) tutor was fully qualified and led a pool of volunteers who offered bilingual services.
- 16.4 The long term core service of ongoing projects had received an IBC cash grant, without which the service would be unsustainable and the vast majority of clients were Ipswich based with only 10% being from outside of the Borough. Details about the organisation could be accessed by submitting the title of the charity or the registered charity number in the report on the Charity Commissions website.

Resolved:

that £801.39 be allocated from the North East Area Committee budget towards the overall cost of existing projects run by the Bangladeshi Support Centre, as detailed in report Ref No: NEAC/18/06, be agreed.

Reason: To enable the organisation to continue to support vulnerable clients in Ipswich.

17. NEAC/18/07 Funding Request - Ipswich Women's Festival Group - Women's Voices, Women's Votes 100 Years On

- 17.1 Pat Dobson and Joy Bounds presented this item which requested £878.91 from the North East Area Committee budget towards the cost of a project to celebrate 100 years of the women's vote.
- 17.2 Working with many volunteer partners, the aim was to raise the awareness of the sacrifices made by women, inspire women today to use their vote, encourage women to participate in democratic and public life, build on the collaboration made across groups and cultures and develop and strengthen networks between women's and girl's organisations.
- 17.3 An event would be held on 6 October 2018 at the University of Suffolk, aiming at attracting 300 participants with keynote inspirational speakers, workshops, craft activities and film and photo events. 'The Women's Quilt' made in Nottingham would be brought to Ipswich, which commemorated women killed by their partners between the years 2009 – 2015.
- 17.4 The Ipswich Women's Festival Group aimed to deliver a number of unique and impactful activities to celebrate the great achievement and create a strong

legacy of raising awareness of women's issues and inspire women to become more active within their communities and local civic life.

- 17.5 Discussion took place about the festival being about awareness and not politics, being an excellent way to encourage women to vote and the Equaliteas events being held by established groups across Ipswich. It was stated that the keynote speakers were yet to be confirmed.

Resolved:

that £878.91 be allocated from the North East Area Committee budget towards the cost of the Ipswich Women's Festival Group to celebrate 100 years of the women's vote, be agreed.

Reason: To provide funding towards the cost of the project to celebrate 100 years of the women's vote.

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

- **Thursday 26 July 2018 – Ransomes Sports Pavilion, Sidegate Avenue IP4 4JJ**
- **Thursday 20 September 2018**
- **Thursday 15 November 2018**
- **Thursday 24 January 2019**
- **Thursday 21 March 2019**

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Chair