

SOUTH WEST AREA COMMITTEE

MINUTES

THURSDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2018

**CHANTRY METHODIST CHURCH, KINGFISHER AVENUE
IPSWICH IP2 0QN**

6.30 PM

Present: Bridge Ward Councillors: B Rudkin and P Smart
Gipping Ward Councillors: D Ellesmere, P Gardiner and E Hughes
Sprites Ward Councillors: H Armitage, R Fern and C Smart
Stoke Park Ward Councillors: N Cenci and T Grant
County Councillor: J Abbott

There were 15 members of the public in attendance.

51. Apologies for absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Allen, Councillor Cenci and Councillor Hall.

52. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolved:

that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 September 2018 be signed as a true record.

53. To Confirm or Vary the Order of Business

It was confirmed that Item 9 Responses to Public Questions Received and Open Discussion on Local Issues be considered following Item 6 Police Priorities – South West Ipswich.

Resolved:

that the Order of Business be amended as per the above.

54. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

55. Chair's Update and Actions from the Previous Meeting

55.1. There were no actions from the previous meeting.

56. Police Priorities - South West Ipswich

56.1. Inspector Horton provided an overview of the Policing Priorities for Ipswich and confirmed that the changes to the policing model had been introduced on Monday 29 October 2018. This included the reduction in PCSO's and the recruitment of additional Police Officers. The Ipswich West Neighbourhood Team had increased from 10 to 26 Officers and benefits of this included an increased police presence in the evenings which had been heavily requested by the public for a number of years.

56.2. The priorities for policing across Ipswich included theft from persons, robbery offences and County Lines. At the beginning of October a national week of action had taken place which considered enforcement across the UK and included drug and weapon sweeps. With regards to County Lines, there had been a change in the way local drug businesses operated and Officers continued to monitor this. The response times were on target at 93% and all domestic abuse/violent crimes continued to be monitored closely and support provided to victims.

56.3. Grebe Close continued to a priority for the South West and a second public meeting had been held with residents and Councillors to address issues which had been raised. Barnard Square, Portman Road and Barrack Square Corner all continued to be under consideration and joint working with the Ipswich Central SNT would take place.

56.4. It was confirmed that Craig Gibbs would remain the contact for the South West Neighbourhood Watch.

56.5. In response to a resident, it was confirmed that the antisocial behaviour around Chantry Library had diminished and the library had reopened on Sundays.

57. Response to Public Questions Received and Open Discussion on Local Issues

57.1. Three public questions had been received prior to the meeting.

57.2. **"Please update me on the plans to fix the water leak on the bottom of Birkfield Drive as the icy weather is fast approaching"**

57.3. County Councillor Paul West reported that Mark Stevens, Suffolk County Council Highways, had been requested to clarify whether the problem was a Highways or Anglian Waters matter and this information would be confirmed

- once known. Councillor Gardiner advised that due to the dangerous nature of the area, this road would require special attention prior to the icy weather.
- 57.4. **“Please inform me when Hawthorn Drive and Greenfinch Avenue is going to be resurfaced particularly at the junction at Bridgewater Road as the potholes are bad.”**
- 57.5. County Councillor West reported that Officers had advised that the road was high on the priority list and a site visit would be conducted following which a timescale will then be assigned for the work to be carried out. If individual potholes were reported, these would be assessed separately. Once the site visit had been confirmed the date for this would be circulated to Councillors. Councillor Fern requested that a site visit be made specifically to the junction going up Bridgewater Road between Bridgewater Road and Hawthorn Drive.
- 57.6. Councillor C Smart confirmed that he had chaired several meetings regarding road surfaces in Ipswich and advised that proposals had been put forward to Suffolk County Council about the possibility of re-evaluating Ipswich’s roads and requested a separate plan for the types of roads which had not met their criteria for planned maintenance.
- 57.7. **“As you know Belmont Road was resurfaced between Yew Tree Rise and the Sprites Lane Roundabout, I understand that Belmont Road is to be closed between Shortlands and Ellenbrook Road as the joints are to be replaced”.**
- 57.8. County Councillor West confirmed that a Customer Service enquiry had also been received regarding the joints in the concrete carriageway on the end of Belmont Road and it had been agreed that joint repairs would be an effective solution however, no date had currently been planned. Officers had been requested to provide information as to whether a return to site would be likely and this would be circulated once known.

58. Ward Councillor's Feedback from their Communities

Bridge Ward

- 58.1. Councillor Rudkin provided a statement from the Environmental Health Team with regards to recent noise complaints at the docks.
- “We have been and are still investigating the droning noise that is coming from the port direction (our reference WK201708907). In regards to the comments on social media I can confirm that I do not believe the noise is coming from a vessel or the southern cement ship, I have personally made several visits to the port when the noise has been ongoing and there have been no vessels docked at the port. I have been working with the Wherstead Road Residents Association and the ABP to try and locate the source of the noise. Investigations are continuing however it appears that the noise may be coming from beyond the port. I have made several visits to the Port, assessed different sites with operations that are ongoing and walked around the boundary fence

of the port and there was nothing to suggest the noise was coming from there. Just beyond the port is the Anglian Water sewage treatment plant and I am in the process of contacting them to discuss the droning noise to see if they undertake any operations which could cause this noise.”

It was confirmed that this was an open case and any information could be reported via email at environmental.health@ipswich.gov.uk or on 01473 433110.

Discussion took place with residents regarding the type of noise and where it could be originating from. It was agreed that the information would be fed back to Officers and residents were encouraged to log all incidences of noise to assist with the investigation.

- 58.2. Councillor P Smart reported that a consultation had been undertaken regarding the Old Stoke Resident Parking and Councillors had been reminding residents to complete their questionnaires before the consultation ended.

With regards to the Ed Sheeran concerts planned at Chantry Park in 2019, it was agreed that a presentation at the South West Area Committee meeting in July could be provided to inform residents of plans for the event. Councillor P Smart confirmed that Greater Anglia had been notified of the events to ensure that the train line between Ipswich and London would be open and it was anticipated that extra trains could be programmed to help minimise the impact on the roads.

Gipping Ward

- 58.3. Councillor Hughes reported that she had visited Alderman Park following improvements made there and feedback from residents had been positive. The issue of prostitution continued to be of concern in London Road and Portman Road and this had been reported via the Ipswich ASB Hotline. With regards to drug dealing, it was advised that residents could report this to the Borough Council if they felt unconfident contacting the police.

- 58.4. Councillor Gardiner confirmed that a working group had been set up to consider the impact of the four Ed Sheeran concerts planned in Chantry Park in 2019. This would include considering ways of lessening the impact on residents within the area and ensuring that regular information be circulated to those in the immediate area. It was anticipated that following the next meeting in January, information on the parking arrangements would be known and an update could be provided.

Councillor Gardiner confirmed that the addition of a pedestrian refuge at the top of Birkfield Drive and Stone Lodge Lane had begun and it was expected to be complete within 5 days.

- 58.5. Councillor Ellesmere reported that following the reports made of prostitution in London Road/Barrack Corner, the police had identified one of the women involved and would continue to provide them support.

The Triangle Living Water Charity shop had recently celebrated 21 years of operation and the importance and value of both this and the Chantry Association Shop to the area as a community outreach facility had been clear.

Sprites Ward

- 58.6. Councillor Fern reported that roads and potholes continued to be of concern especially with regards to the area of road which was for cyclist use.
- 58.7. Councillor C Smart confirmed that proposals had been put forward to Suffolk County Council regarding roads in Ipswich. SCC had also been requested to attend the Area Committee meetings on an annual basis to present the planned maintenance due to take place in the area for that year. It was hoped that should they agree, this would provide an opportunity for residents to feedback and communicate their concerns in their area.

Stoke Park Ward

- 58.8. Councillor Grant reported that further work was required with regards to the litter at Stoke Park Drive and the row of shops close to the ASDA.

59. Suffolk County Councillors Update

- 59.1. County Councillor Abbott reported that the Old Stoke Resident Parking consultation deadline had been extended to 24 November 2018. The response so far had been positive and a number of suggestions had been provided.
- 59.2. It was confirmed that Maidenhall Approach would be resurfaced at the end of February/March 2019.
- 59.3. Work continued with regards to special needs provision in education for young people and ensuring that those who had special needs had the ability to access the right provisions. The issue of period poverty had been discussed and residents were advised that sanitary products could be donated to food banks as they would be in contact with schools.
- 59.4. Councillor Rudkin confirmed that the South West Team Ministry churches would be doing a reverse advent calendar where people could donate items to the church which would then be given to food banks. Products such as sanitary, soaps, etc. could all be provided.

60. St Francis Church Update

- 60.1. Sue Strutt, Church Warden, provided an update on the repairs undertaken at St Francis Church following the funding received from the South West Area Committee. There had been a number of issues and with the help of the

Committee and the St Lawrence Hall Trust the works had been completed in the Summer and the hall was now in excellent condition. This was a valuable community space and would benefit all who used the church.

61. SWAC/18/17 Chantry Library Youth Grant Variation

- 61.1. Simon Lanning, Community Engagement Officer, introduced the report and confirmed that in 2016 the South West Area Committee had granted £8,365.00 to Chantry Library for the delivery of various activities for children and young people. Due to antisocial behaviour issues in the area, the grant had been put on hold.
- 61.2. Fran Hartley, Volunteer, confirmed that following a review of the library and the introduction of a new manager, there had been huge improvements and the library was ready to commence a new programme of planned activities. This would include the holiday activities for 5 to 10 year olds and other sessions such as a Lego Club and crafts. The Committee were asked to consider the programme of events and agree the variation to the events as detailed in Appendix 1.
- 61.3. Councillor Rudkin suggested that the Ipswich Museums Service be contacted to arrange a possible day trip to the museum as part of the programme of events.

It was RESOLVED:

that the proposed programme detailed in Appendix 1 of the Chantry Library Youth Grant Variation be considered and the variation on the original award be agreed.

62. SWAC/18/18 Funding Request: Oyster Community Press CIC 'Who Cares' Project for Suffolk Family Carers

- 62.2. Simon Lanning, Community Engagement Officer, reported that the Oyster Community Press sought funding from the South West Area Committee of £600 toward the cost of delivering the 'Who Cares' project for clients of Suffolk Family Carers.
- 62.3. The project had been aimed towards young adult carers and there would be 48 places available to attend a series of printmaking workshops which would lead to an exhibition at DanceEast. The project sought to provide respite, build confidence and tackle isolation for younger adult carers who were not served by other schemes.
- 62.4. Discussion took place around ensuring that the course would benefit carers from the South West Ipswich. It was agreed that a condition be made that at least 12 residents from the South West Area be awarded a place on the project.

It was RESOLVED:-

that £600 funding be allocated from the South West Area Committee to Oyster Community Press CIC toward the cost of the 'Who Cares' programme for young adult carers, with the condition that 12 residents from the South West of Ipswich be awarded a place on the course.

Reason: to improve the opportunity for Ipswich young adult carers to access arts respite.

63. SWAC/18/19 Funding Request: Ipswich Jazz Festival 2019

63.1. Neil Bateman, Ipswich Jazz Festival, thanked Mr Lanning for his assistance with submitting the Ipswich Jazz Festival 2019 funding request and confirmed that £775.00 funding was sought from the South West Area Committee toward the cost of a free Family Jazz Show, free Brazilian Jazz Show and provision of concessionary tickets to other shows in the festival.

63.2. The festival would run from 21st to 23rd June 2019 and events would be focussed at St Peters by the Waterfront and would include a range of workshops as well as live music and film screenings. The proposal included a number of concessionary tickets provided at £1 each for people who received means tested benefits or full time students in higher education.

63.3. Mr Bateman advised that the team worked closely with Officers at IBC on marketing and the event would be promoted in the Angle and included in the Ipswich Summertime Festival advertisements. Other opportunities for circulating information would be considered with the Council and it was suggested that pop up shops could also be approached.

63.4. Discussion took place about the ways in which borough wide funding requests across all five Area Committees could be considered in future to ensure that each committee had an element of security in terms of ensuring their funding would benefit those residents within their area. It was suggested that this be considered further by Officers and Chairs.

63.5. It was suggested that a postcode analysis of the event could be undertaken if possible.

It was RESOLVED:

that £775.00 funding be allocated from the South West Area Committee to the Ipswich Jazz Festival toward the cost of 2 free shows and 75 concessionary priced tickets.

Reason: to improve the opportunity for Ipswich residents to access live arts.

64. SWAC/18/20 Area Committee Budget Update

64.1. The Lead Officer reported that at the beginning of the meeting the South West Area Committee had an unallocated budget of £22, 276.53 available to spend on the priorities of the Area Action Plan for South West Ipswich. Following the funding requests approved at the meeting, the total available budget totalled £20, 901.53.

It was Resolved:-

that the financial statement in Appendix 1 of the report be noted

65. Dates of Future Meetings

Thursday 10 January 2019 – Gipping Room, Russell Road IP1 2DE

Thursday 7 March 2019 – Stoke Green Baptist Church, Halifax Road, IP2 8RE

The meeting closed at 8.00pm

Chair