

NORTH WEST AREA COMMITTEE

MINUTES

THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2019
ST THOMAS APOSTLE CHURCH, BRAMFORD LANE,
IPSWICH IP1 5EP
7.00 PM

Present: Castle Hill Ward Councillors: I Fisher, R Vickery and E Xhaferaj
Whitehouse Ward Councillors: G Chisholm and C Wright
Whitton Ward Councillors: D Heaps, S Meudec and C Shaw

There were 18 members of the public in attendance.

27. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Trenchard and County Councillor Bole.

28. Unconfirmed Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 July 2019

Resolved:

that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2019 be signed as a true record.

29. To Confirm or Vary the Order of Business

Resolved:

that the Order of Business be as printed on the agenda.

30. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

31. Policing Priorities in North West Ipswich

31.1. Sgt Turner reported that Operation Parkland, which had been launched in the Summer to focus on targeting antisocial behaviour in open spaces, had

concluded however, both covert and non-covert patrols would continue to be carried out within the parks where possible.

- 31.2. With regards to antisocial behaviour around Garrick Way/Moore Road/Burke Road, a multiagency approach would be taken to tackle this and attempted diversion activities with youths continued to be considered. Work also continued to be carried out by Officers to tackle issues within Ulster Avenue.
- 31.3. Sgt Turner confirmed that the most appropriate way to report concerns/issues was online via the Suffolk Constabulary website as this would create a log of the event which could then be further investigated. However, should residents prefer and the issue relate to Whitehouse, Whitton or Castle Hill, an email could be sent direct to Sgt Turner, of which details were provided.
- 31.4. It was confirmed that patrols had been undertaken around Whitehouse Park where a number of drug paraphernalia had been found. All needle find data was reported by the Council to the Police and this was used to undertake targeted patrols in the areas identified as a concern and increase stop searches.
- 31.5. A resident reported concerns regarding drug dealing in the Dales Open Space and Sgt Turner confirmed that this issue would be considered further. He advised that any times/dates/descriptions of people and vehicles should be reported online as this would increase the amount of intelligence available to Officers.

32. Chair's Update on Actions from Previous Meeting

- 32.1. The Chair confirmed that Westbourne Academy had completed the work to trim trees in Broadway Lane which included ensuring that all overhanging branches had been cut. This had been a request from the North West Area Committee to the Academy who had agreed to undertake the works and fully fund it. The Chair advised that it was not anticipated that any further funding would be spent on this particular issue.
- 32.2. Councillor Vickery confirmed that the brambles growing in Bridle Way had been referred to the Council's Parks and Open Spaces team.

33. Ward Councillors Feedback

Whitton Ward

Councillor Meudec reported that the Councils' Parks & Open Spaces team had worked hard to successfully clear Castle Hill Recreation ground to ensure that the site had been back to normal by 9am, following the eviction of travellers who had been situated there.

Councillor Shaw confirmed that positive youth work had been undertaken throughout the Summer Holidays including a 'Grub Club' which encouraged young people to learn safe cooking skills. It was requested that praise be recorded to all the volunteers

involved in the running of these events and that their hard work to ensure their success be recognised.

A 'Garden Gathering' event would be held on Saturday 14 September 2019 between 11am and 2.00pm at the Lottie Shed, Whitton Hall Allotments for Parkinson's UK with a BBQ and tombola.

Whitehouse Ward

Councillor Chisholm reported that a successful community event had been held in Whitehouse where a number of different local businesses had joined up to bring residents together of which had been well attended.

Castle Hill Ward

Councillor Vickery reported that some complaints had been made regarding business vehicles parked in Shrubland Avenue and advised that this would be followed up with the Whitehouse & Whitton Division Suffolk County Councillor. With regards to the antisocial behaviour in Garrick Way, discussions had been held with both the residents and Police and it was hoped that some future work could be undertaken between the young people there and the Whitton Youth Partnership.

Two meetings would be taking place regarding the reopening of Broomhill Lido on Tuesday 1st October and Thursday 3rd October at Sherrington Road Library at 6.30pm.

Councillor Vickery advised residents that should they wish to take part in the online consultation regarding the Ipswich Northern Route, details could be sought from him after the meeting.

34. Responses to Public Questions and Feedback on Local Issues

34.1. A resident asked for information regarding the costs to the tax payers of Ipswich every time a court order/clear up had to be undertaken following the eviction of a traveller encampment. It was confirmed that this information would be fed back at the next Area Committee meeting.

Action: That information regarding the financial cost to taxpayers for the eviction of travellers from sites in Ipswich be brought to the next North West Area Committee meeting.

34.2. It was confirmed that with regards to the above, legal routes had to be undertaken when a site was occupied which required a court hearing, safety assessments etc. and therefore immediate evictions were not possible however, Council Officers worked as quickly as possible to resolve these issues.

34.3. Discussion took place around whether there were precautions which could be put in place to deter vehicles from entering parks in the evening. Officers continued to consider possible resolutions to ensure sites were secure whilst still maintaining access for blue light services.

- 34.4. A resident asked if the Police could check vehicles for MOT/insurance once individuals had been requested to leave the site and should it be appropriate, seize the vehicle. It was advised that police could check this information when escorting people out of a site however, it was possible that this could antagonise a situation and mindfulness of this would be important. When a vehicle was seized, this would be disposed off and the money would go into a national fund.
- 34.5. Discussion took place around a previous proposal for a 20mph speed limit zone around Whitton. A consultation had been held but there had been a low response to this from residents and when the proposal had previously been discussed by the North West Area Committee, there had been disagreement amongst committee members as to whether this should be imposed. It was agreed that the proposal for a 20mph zone be considered again to look into the areas which had been identified for concern (such as Defoe Road).
Action: That discussion take place regarding the possibility of opening a consultation on a 20mph speed limit zone within certain parts of Whitton.

35. NWAC/19/06 Funding Request: Emmaus Suffolk Volunteer Support

- 35.1. Emma Francis, Support Worker for Emmaus Suffolk, presented a funding request to the Committee which sought £2,419.35 funding towards Emmaus Suffolk to enable them to subsidise costs for travel, lunch and food parcels to volunteers who travelled to the 'Emmaus @ the Dales' community hub in the North West of Ipswich.
- 35.2. The hub had been open since 2016 and as an independent local charity offered meaningful activity to vulnerable people in the area which included volunteering opportunities. A community café, community access wildlife garden and shower/laundrette facilities were available for volunteers and clients who had been referred from partnership organisations to access, of which the main aim was to increase self esteem, self respect and self confidence.

It was RESOLVED:

That £2,419.35 funding be allocated toward Emmaus Suffolk for the cost of travel, lunch and food parcels for volunteers who travel to the Emmaus site in the Dales area of Ipswich.

Reason:

- To reduce barriers to inclusion and employment for people affected by long-term unemployment.
- To support vulnerable adults with facilities that boost at increase in confidence, skills and self-worth.

36. NWAC/19/07 Funding Request: Let's Talk Reading Literacy Programme

- 36.1. John Helleur, Let's Talk Reading, presented a funding request to the Committee which sought £7,063.87 funding towards Let's Talk Reading to enable the further development of its literacy programme in the North West Ipswich.
- 36.2. Mr Helleur provided a presentation to the Committee and confirmed that work continued to be undertaken within 6 pre-schools and nurseries within the North West area and 20-30 volunteer coaches had been recruited. Following the funding provided at the meeting in November 2017, 225 book bags had been provided to two year olds, 'Read Easy' had been set up in the North West, and story times were delivered within early years settings.
- 36.3. Councillor Fisher asked how people in need of their support were identified. It was confirmed that agencies, such as housing officers and the DWP, worked with them and would provide details of the group to those who they felt required help. Staff in schools had also been asked to refer any parents who could benefit.
- 36.4. Discussion took place around how engagement with adults would be undertaken and the high numbers of volunteers but low numbers of uptake and the difficulty of evidencing the impact which the previous funding had made.
- 36.5. It was confirmed that two funding requests had been submitted to the Ipswich Opportunity Group, one of which was to extend the Read Easy Ipswich project and one regarding parental engagement in early years, and although they had advised that they were supportive of this, confirmation of agreed funding had not yet been received.
- 36.6. It was unanimously agreed by the North West Area Committee that the funding request be deferred until a decision had been made by the Ipswich Opportunity Group.

It was RESOLVED:

That the funding request be deferred to a future North West Area Committee meeting once confirmation regarding the decision made on the two applications submitted to the Ipswich Opportunity Area had been received.

37. NWAC/19/08 Funding Request: Football & Wellbeing Programme

- 37.1. Clem Turner, representative from the Caribbean and African Community Health Support Forum, presented a funding request to the Committee which sought £672.66 to the CACHSF to enable the delivery of a Football and Wellbeing Programme which provided young people from all communities in Ipswich the opportunity to access structured physical activity and education in health and wellbeing.
- 37.2. The club was currently used by 71 boys and the proposed programme aimed to engage with young males and would provide them with 32 weeks of football training and 10 weeks of Health & Wellbeing sessions. This would include

information sessions on smoking, testicular cancer etc. and had to be completed alongside the football sessions.

37.3. It was confirmed that the boys attending the club lived all over Ipswich and the funding split had been based on attendance/post code.

It was RESOLVED:

That £672.66 funding be allocated to the Caribbean and African Community Health Support Forum (CACHSF) to enable the delivery of a Football and Wellbeing Programme.

Reason:

To contribute towards delivery of the football and wellbeing programme for young people in Ipswich.

38. NWAC/19/09 Area Committee Budget Update

38.1. The Operations Manager for Finance presented the Area Committee Budget Update and confirmed that following the allocation of funding made to Emmaus Suffolk and CACHSF, the total unallocated budget available to spend on the priorities of the Area Action Plan for North West Ipswich was £22,104.22.

It was RESOLVED:

that the financial position of the North West Area Committee 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.

39. Dates of Future Meetings 2019/20 all starting at 7.00pm

Dates of future meetings for 2019/20 all to be held at 7.00pm

Thursday 7 November 2019 – St Raphael Club, St Raphael Court, Highfield Road, Ipswich IP1 6DA

Thursday 9 January 2020 – Castle Hill Community Centre, Highfield Road, Ipswich IP1 6DG

**(Venue to be Confirmed)
Thursday 5 March 2020**

The meeting closed at 9.14 pm

Chair