

SOUTH WEST AREA COMMITTEE

MINUTES

THURSDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2019

**SHEPHERD DRIVE BAPTIST CHURCH, LABERNUM
CLOSE, IPSWICH IP8 3SL**

6.30 PM

Present: Bridge Ward Councillors: C Allen, B Rudkin and P Smart
Gipping Ward Councillors: D Ellesmere and P Gardiner
Sprites Ward Councillors: H Armitage and C Smart
Stoke Park Ward Councillors: T Grant
Suffolk County Councillor: J Abbott

There were 16 members of the public in attendance.

35. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Cenci, Councillor Hall, Councillor Hughes and Councillor Smith.

36. Unconfirmed Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 11 July 2019

Resolved:

that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 July 2019 be signed as a true record.

37. To Confirm or Vary the Order of Business

Resolved:

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

38. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

39. Police Priorities

- 39.1. Sgt Craig Stock reported that recruitment for PCSO's and School Liaison Officers had taken place over the Summer and training for new staff had commenced.
- 39.2. It was confirmed that all calls made to the police would be dealt with on a priority basis and graded as to their severity. Therefore, some issues would be dealt with by response officers and some by the Safer Neighbourhood Teams. A simple form could also be completed online for a variety of concerns (such as speeding/antisocial behaviour) via the Suffolk Constabulary website which would then be distributed, graded and considered by the appropriate Officers.
- 39.3. A resident raised speeding concerns around Lavender Hill and asked if a speeding restriction had been considered. It was advised that officers could look into the matter further and 'Days of Action' had been held where vehicles would be stopped and checked to ensure they were safe and legal. It was suggested that the online reporting form be used for concerns such as this and where possible, registration numbers and the time of day be included as part of the report.

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

- 40.1. There were no updates to report on from the previous meeting.

41. Ward Councillor's Feedback from their Communities

Gipping Ward

Councillor Ellesmere reported that the Ed Sheeran concerts held over the August Bank Holiday weekend had been successful and debriefings would be undertaken to consider what improvements could be made for future events. The temporary works implemented in London Road would be kept permanently, as this would be necessary for future events, and the gate post at Chantry Park would be rebuilt further across to widen the entrance to the park.

It was confirmed that the wilderness pond in Chantry Park required dredging which would be undertaken in the Autumn/Winter months to ensure wildlife would not be disrupted. With regards to the Anglian Water 'hum' which had been reported by a number of residents in previous months, a representative from Anglian Water had confirmed that the noise was no longer an issue however, should residents have any issues, these should be reported.

Stoke Park Ward

Councillor Grant referred to reports of a man wearing a pig mask in Downside Close and advised that anything suspicious should be reported via 999.

Bridge Ward

Councillor Allen reported that some complaints had been made with regards to parking around Halifax and Hillside Primary School and advised that should residents

have problems, such as blocked driveways, Officers could respond to these types of disturbances. Should any residents be effected, a phone number could be provided by Councillor Allen after the meeting.

Councillor Rudkin confirmed that there had been reports of increased fly tipping in the area and this continued to be considered so that a solution could be sought.

Councillor P Smart reported that there had been a number of complaints made with regards to weed growth in pavements and Suffolk County Council had been requested to increase the budget for next years' weed treatment programme, which had been reduced to only once per year.

Sprites Ward

Councillor C Smart confirmed that surveys had been undertaken on Bridgwater Road and Robin Drive regarding the noise/vibrations due to the road surface which continued to cause issues for residents. It was hoped that a case could be built and taken to Suffolk County Council so that consideration of both those complaints and the possibility of speed reduction measures could be explored.

Councillor Armitage reported that improvements to Stone Lodge Park continued and a litter pick had been organised on Friday 11th October as part of a fundraising event by the library, of which residents were invited to attend.

42. Suffolk County Councillors Update

- 42.1. Councillor Armitage, in her capacity as a Suffolk County Councillor, reported that the Northern Route consultation would close online at midnight on Friday 13 September and hard copies would be accepted from Endeavour House up until Tuesday 17 September.
- 42.2. A request for road improvements on Hawthorn Drive had been made to Suffolk Highways and it was hoped that these would be made in the near future. Other road improvements due to be made included Holcombe Crescent, Pollard Court and Speedwell Road where handrails would be added to the steps.
- 42.3. It was confirmed that grit bins should be replenished at the beginning of Winter however, should any residents be responsible for a grit bin which was empty, a request could be made to the Customer Service Centre on 0345 606 6171 or via the online 'report it' tool.
- 42.4. County Councillor Abbott reported that a consultation had been held for residents parking in Phillip Road and Rectory Road, of which a positive response had been received. It was confirmed that a formal consultation would need to be carried out by Suffolk County Council following this, after which it was hoped that the scheme could be moved forward.
- 42.5. County Councillor Abbott confirmed that concerns regarding special educational needs within Suffolk continued to be a priority and although some changes had been made by the County Council, it was felt that more was

required. A number of children's centres had been planned for full closure, or reduced to part time hours only, and a consultation was expected to launch in October and held for 8 weeks, of which any responses would be critical.

- 42.6. Councillor Gardiner, in his capacity as a Suffolk County Councillor, reported that there had been large demonstrations held by the Fire Brigades Union over concerns due to the new rules around '3 person crewing'. Although the Fire Service had considered this safe, there had been disputes around this.
- 42.7. Plans had been put in place under 'Blue Light Integration' for Princes St Fire Station to include the current services plus both Police and Ambulance. It was anticipated that this would be built mid 2020 and would include a permanent space for one ambulance.

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

- 43.1. A resident asked if the Museum Street station would be closed following the plans for Princes St. Fire Station. Councillor Gardiner advised that discussions around this continued and although the operational base would be moved, it may remain open as office space.

44. Broomhill Lido Presentation

- 44.1. Mr Tim Mills, Fusion Lifestyle, provided a presentation on the Broomhill Lido. He advised that Fusion were an independent registered charity whose objectives were to encourage and promote healthy lifestyles while increasing community participation.
- 44.2. Broomhill Lido had originally opened in 1938 however, due to increased costs and a decrease in visitors, the pool had closed over sixty years later in 2002. Following the closure, the Broomhill Pool Trust formed and in 2011 Ipswich Borough Council reaffirmed a capital commitment of £1m towards the site and in 2017, the Heritage Lottery Fund agreed to provide £3.5m funding. As part of the funding allocated, Fusion had also committed £1m funding towards the project.
- 44.3. It was proposed that a new Health and Wellbeing Centre would be built beside the pool to generate an all year round income and other proposals included restoration of the pool, the clock tower and diving stage. The site would also be altered to ensure it would be accessible to disabled users and would include ramps/lifts and full access to the pool.
- 44.4. KLH Architects had been appointed and multiple public consultations, site surveys and investigations had been and continued to be undertaken. Listed building consent and planning permission had been agreed subject to confirmation of Section 106 agreement and a 50 year lease with Ipswich Borough Council had also been completed.
- 44.5. The next steps for the project included the procurement of contractors and continued fund raising efforts. Although there had been a lot of positivity around

the reopening of the site, neighbourhood meetings would be held with those most affected to discuss transport arrangements and other concerns. It was anticipated that the site would be opened at the earliest in Spring 2021.

- 44.6. It was confirmed that the site would be open as part of Heritage Open Day Weekend and visitors could access the site on Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th September between 10am and 4pm.
- 44.7. Councillor Allen asked if there would be any elements to the design which would provide shade around the children's pool. It was confirmed that although there would be no permanent fixtures, temporary solutions (such as portable gazebos/parasols) could be included on very sunny days.

45. SWAC/19/11 Funding Request: Let's Talk Reading Literacy Programme

- 45.1. John Helleur, Let's Talk Reading, presented a funding request to the Committee which sought £5,000 funding towards Let's Talk Reading to enable the further development of its literacy programme in South West Ipswich. Let's Talk Reading worked in partnership with other organisations to raise levels of reading ability for Ipswich residents of all ages.
- 45.2. Work had been undertaken within four schools in the South West Ipswich and all nurseries visited had provided positive feedback around the impact made through their visits and story time sessions, which had helped to engage parents with reading.
- 45.3. Following the grant provided in November 2017, the team had continued to build a sustainable organisation and established links with a number of partners. The 'Read Easy Ipswich' project had been set up which coached adult non-readers, of which 34 additional volunteers had been developed. It was intended to provide a termly story time visit within nine settings in the South West, Suffolk Babies would continue to be encouraged to provide classes in disadvantaged areas and it was hoped that the 'Read Easy Ipswich' project and book bags would continue to be provided.

It was RESOLVED:

That £5,000 funding be allocated from the South West Area Committee Budget toward Let's Talk Reading to enable the further development of its literacy programme in the South West Ipswich.

Reason:

- To improve the life chances of residents of South West Ipswich.
- To improve the education & skills levels in South West Ipswich.
- To support the economy in South West Ipswich.

46. SWAC/19/12 Funding Request: Football & Wellbeing Programme

- 46.1. Clem Turner, Representative of the Caribbean and African Community Health Support Forum, presented a funding request to the Committee which sought £1,210.79 funding towards the CACHSF to enable the delivery of a Football and Wellbeing Programme.
- 46.2. Mr Turner confirmed that currently over 60 young men aged between 16 and 25 had registered and the proposed programme aimed to engage young people in regular football and sporting activity, paired with educational sessions on mental and physical health. 32 weeks of football and 10 weeks of health and wellbeing information sessions had been planned, of which the information sessions would be mandatory.
- 46.3. Following a discussion around the cost of transport and the potential barrier this could have on those involved, it was agreed that the funding toward the project be increased to £1,500, of which the additional money would be allocated towards travel costs.

It was RESOLVED:

that £1,500 funding be allocated from the South West Area Committee budget towards the Caribbean and African Community Health Support Forum 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.

47. SWAC/19/13 Funding Request: Emmaus Suffolk Volunteer Support

- 47.1. Claire Staddon, Executive Lead Emmaus Suffolk, presented a funding request to the Committee which sought £2,983.87 funding towards Emmaus Suffolk to enable them to subsidise costs for travel, lunch and food parcels for volunteers who travelled to the Emmaus Site in the Dales area of Ipswich.
- 47.2. Two shops had been opened within Ipswich, both at the Dales and in Sailmakers Shopping Centre, and as an independent charity they offered meaningful activity, such as volunteering opportunities, to vulnerable people in the area. 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, and the main aim of Emmaus was to increase self esteem, self respect and self confidence.
- 47.3. In response to a question, Ms Staddon confirmed that there had been a number of positive success stories where volunteers had left to continue in permanent employment elsewhere.

It was RESOLVED:

that £2,983.87 funding be allocated from the South West Area Committee budget to Emmaus Suffolk to enable them to subsidise costs for travel, lunch and food parcels for volunteers who travelled 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 boosted an increase in confidence, skills and self-worth.

48. SWAC/19/14 Area Committee Budget Update

48.1. Shirley Jarlett, Head of Governance, confirmed that at the start of the meeting, the South West Area Committee had an unallocated budget of £24,869.30 available to spend on the priorities of the Area Action Plan for the South West Ipswich.

48.2. It was reported that at the meeting held on 30 May 2019, an allocation of up to £3,400 funding had been made to the South West Ipswich Team Ministry for the installation of AED devices at each of their three churches, with the additional request that other funding options be considered. The Ministry had since confirmed that following the agreement of match funding from the Rotary Club, only £1,500 would be now be allocated from the South West budget.

48.3. Following the funding requests granted for Let's Talk Reading, CACHSF Football & Wellbeing Programme and Emmaus Suffolk, the total remaining budget available was £15,385.43

It was RESOLVED:

that the financial statement in appendix 1 of the report 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.

49. Dates of Future Meetings 2019/20

Thursday 14 November 2019 – Stoke Green Baptist Church, Halifax Road, Ipswich IP2 8RE

Thursday 16 January 2020 – Gipping Room, Grafton House, Ipswich Borough Council, Russel Road IP1 2DE

Thursday 12 March 2020 – Chantry Methodist Church, Kingfisher Avenue, Ipswich IP2 0QL

The meeting closed at 8.24 pm

Chair