

NORTH WEST AREA COMMITTEE

MINUTES

THURSDAY 19 JULY 2018
WESTBOURNE ACADEMY, MARLOW ROAD IP1 5JN
7.00 PM

Present: Castle Hill Ward Councillors: D Goldsmith
Whitehouse Ward Councillors: C Wright
Whitton Ward Councillors: S Meudec, C Shaw and E Xhaferaj

There were 23 members of the public in attendance.

18. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors R Vickery, G Chisholm, M Goonan, I Fisher and Suffolk County Councillor K Bole.

19. Unconfirmed Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 June 2018

Resolved:

that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2018, be signed as a true record.

20. To Confirm or Vary the Order of Business

Resolved:

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

21. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

22. Police Priorities in the North West

22.1 Inspector Kevin Horton and Sgt Stuart Curtis provided an update on policing across Ipswich and the specific issues in the North West of Ipswich. Due to the summer holidays, a spike in anti-social behaviour was expected but community

engagement had identified hot spot areas and plans had been put in place to increase patrols at these locations.

22.2 Response times were still being maintained at 92%, this was due to the 101 phone service which had been updated and with use of the on-line reporting tool.

22.3 A review of local Policing was currently under consultation and it was proposed that there would be a reduction in PCSO's posts (who had been put at risk of redundancy), 2 teams would merge with some Officers being moved into different departments. It was expected that the release of 48 PCSO's would fund 40 additional Police Officers. The Chief Constable Gareth Wilson and the Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner would be talking about the service provided to the public at Giles Circus, Princes Street from 11.30am – 1.30pm on Wednesday 15 August 2018. The review was expected to be completed by the end of October 2018.

22.4 Sgt Stuart Curtis said that the three priorities for the Western area of Ipswich were:-

- Operation Parkland – to target anti-social behaviour hot spots in key locations
- Drug activity in Glebe Close in the South West of Ipswich
- Drug activity in Cromer Road and work would continue with the Drugs Team to identify those involved.

22.5 A resident reported drug activity near the allotments at Bramford Lane and this location was acknowledged as a hotspot.

22.6 A resident asked for confirmation about whether the North West would be losing or gaining Police Officers? The Inspector said that although PCSO posts would be lost, the number of Police Officers would increase although this would be for across the whole of the South Western Safer Neighbourhood Team area, which included the South West of Ipswich and the 49 Parishes in the Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council's areas. The number of Officers for the South Western SNT area would remain at 1 at Inspector level, an increase in Sgt level from 3 to 4 and an increase in Police Officers from 10 to 29, all on a 3 shift pattern. The PCSO's for the Western area would reduce from 12 down to 3.

22.7 Some partnership match funding would be available for Community Engagement posts in each area which was a reflection of the current type of crimes being committed and it was confirmed that the Policing boundaries were not changing.

23. Big Local Trust Update

23.1 The North West Ipswich Big Local Trust were not available to give an update.

24. BSECV Presentation Update

24.1 A representative from the Bury St Edmunds Centre for Volunteers was not available to give an update.

25. Chairs Update on Actions from the Previous Meeting

25.1 The Community Engagement Officer updated that the 'Jump Off' area at the Skate Park at Whitehouse Park, which had eroded due to heavy use, had been awarded funding from the Area Committee to be repaired however, to ensure a permanent repair which would not further erode, the brief for the design had changed from wooden sleepers to concrete steps. Following consultation with the Parks Department, the Big Local Trust and the North West Open Spaces Group, a new quotation was being prepared to ensure that the repairs would be fit for purpose.

25.2 The Community Engagement Officer updated that a Health and Safety Officer had assessed the damage to the brickwork at the Whitehouse Park toilets. The damage had currently been made safe and the repair would soon be underway.

26. Ward Councillors Feedback

26.1 Whitton ward

Councillor Meudec said that IBC were offering free iCards for all young people who live in Ipswich or attend a state school in Ipswich for use across all sports centre facilities and this could be applied for by using the following link:-
<http://www.ipswichfit.com.uk/summerholidayicard>

Brochures were available with information about the activities and locations, which could also be accessed by using the following link:-
<http://www.ipswichfit.co.uk/summer-holiday-programme>

Councillor Shaw had attended the successful Big Local Trust Dog Show on 9 June 2018 at Castle Hill Recreation Ground and residents had said that more events like this would be welcomed. It was confirmed that, due to the success of the show it was planned that this event would take place again during 2019.

Councillor Meudec updated that work on the former Tooks Bakery development site was due to start in October 2018 and that within a year it was hoped that new residents would be moving in.

Castle Hill ward

Councillor David Goldsmith thanked those who had organised the Dog Show, it had proved to be very successful. He also confirmed that Councillor Fisher had been working with IBC about the parking situation at the Dales Road shops.

27. Responses to Public Questions and Feedback on Local Issues

- 27.1 No questions had been received prior to the meeting however, if residents submitted a question by letter or e-mail prior to the meeting it would receive a full response from an appropriate Officer of the Council.
- 27.2 Discussion took place about an issue which had been raised at the last meeting about overhanging vegetation in gardens in the Broadway Lane/Shrublands Avenue area. The trees were within the boundary of the Westbourne Academy, which was no longer under the jurisdiction of Suffolk County Council. It was suggested that this issue could be listed as a problem on the FixMyStreet website:
<https://www.fixmystreet.com/reports/lpswich>
- 27.3 Councillor Meudec suggested that Suffolk County Councillor West and a representative from the Academy be invited to attend the next Area Committee to discuss this matter.
- 27.4 Discussion then took place about the traffic at the Blakenham Estate and the area around Europa Way. A traffic scheme had been designed to ease the traffic and work continued with IBC about this.
- 27.5 A resident asked whether the pedestrian crossings on Meredith Road could have a hatched area painted on them to stop cars parking on them. This would allow easier pedestrian access across them as the shopping area was very busy and the road was quite narrow.
- 27.6 Concern about cars parking around the Whitehouse Road/Lovetofts Drive area was expressed, especially at the bus turning-circle. It was acknowledged that if all these roads were to have double yellow lines then the cars parking during the working day would park within the housing estate, causing more problems for residents. Several ideas such as a layby or mesh on the grass to allow parking had been considered but there was no funding available. It was confirmed that there was no requirement for industry around this area to offer allocated parking to its staff. Councillor Goldsmith said that plans had been submitted for consultation to place additional yellow lines at this area and they were available to view on the Suffolk County Council website.
- 27.7 A resident asked about the availability of the 'Ring' doorbells with cameras, which had been donated. It was confirmed that these were only offered to vulnerable households via the Police however, they were available to buy at www.ring.com

28. NWAC/18/07 Funding request - Suffolk Mind 'EARLY Minds'

- 28.1 Due to the unavailability of a representative to present this item, it was deferred to the next meeting.

29. NWAC/18/08 Funding request - Whitton Girls Sport & Youth Football

- 29.1 Andrew Wilesmith, the Assistant Operations Manager for Sport presented this funding request to the Committee for activities which would include a sports

project for girls and a football project for boys and girls. The sessions would be free for participants, be held at Whitton Sports Centre, be fun and divert young people who were at risk of offending.

- 29.2 It was confirmed that, in previous years 90% of participants of the football project (from 10 to 17 years) had been from an IP1 postcode as had 86% of participants for the girl's project.

Resolved:

that £3,000 be allocated from the North West Area Committee budget for the continuation of free sports activities for young people in North West Ipswich with partner organisation Suffolk Positive Futures, be agreed.

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

30. NWAC/18/09 Area Action Plan & Priorities 2018/19

- 30.1 The Community Engagement Officer presented the Area Action Plan for the North West area against which the funding requests would be considered, to ensure that the North West Area Committee funding would be allocated to benefit residents in the area.

- 30.2 The priorities for the North West area were; to alleviate deprivation, through Education, Skills and Training and the aims of the Council were to make Ipswich an enjoyable place to live, a healthy community and a safe place to live.

Resolved:

that the North West Area Committee, Area Action Plan and the priorities for the 2018/19 municipal year be adopted.

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

31. NWAC/18/10 Area Committee Budget Update

- 31.1 The Performance and Project Manager presented this item and reported that at the last meeting £1,532.23 had been allocated to the funding requests so that at the beginning of this meeting, the North West Area Committee had £15,663.10 to spend on the priorities of the Area Action Plan for North West Ipswich.

Resolved:

that the financial statement, attached at Appendix 1 to report Ref No: NWAC/18/10, 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.

32. Dates of Future Meetings for 2018/19, all at 7.00pm

- **Thursday 13 September 2018 – Castle Hill Community Centre, Highfield Road IP1 6DG
(Venues to be arranged)**
- **Thursday 8 November 2018**
- **Thursday 17 January 2019**
- **Thursday 14 March 2019**

The meeting closed at 7.50 pm

Chair