

NORTH WEST AREA COMMITTEE

MINUTES

THURSDAY 18 JULY 2019

THE ASCENSION HALL, LARCHCROFT ROAD IP1 6AJ
7.00 PM

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

Suffolk County Councillors: I Lockington and D Goldsmith

There were 14 members of the public in attendance.

15. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Chisholm and County Councillors Bole and West.

16. Unconfirmed Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 June 2019

Resolved:

that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2019 be signed as a true record.

17. To Confirm or Vary the Order of Business

Resolved:

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

18. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

19. Policing Priorities in North West Ipswich

19.1. PC Mitchell provided an update on the antisocial behaviour issues within Castle Court/Garrick Way and confirmed that patrols, including plain clothed, would be

increased in the area. Other initiatives to tackle ASB had been planned including organised football sessions on Friday evenings with a Link Officer, to try and encourage youths to engage in appropriate activities.

- 19.2. A meeting had been held with the Whitehouse Wanderers regarding antisocial behaviour within the area and it was anticipated that patrols would be undertaken in areas where ASB had been observed and other issues such as street lighting had been reported back to the Council for their consideration.
- 19.3. During the Summer Holidays it was likely that there could be heightened ASB in the evenings and a number of operations including extra patrols had been planned across Ipswich with a dedicated team of Officers responsible for patrols within parks.
- 19.4. Residents were encouraged to report any issues or incidents to the police via the 101 service, the Suffolk Constabulary website or the relevant area SNT email. It was requested that when information had been received, either direct from a resident or through a Councillor, that an acknowledgment be provided.
- 19.5. Councillor Vickery confirmed that he had spoken to some of the residents affected by the antisocial behaviour at Castle Court and observed CCTV of the youths involved. Further discussion took place around the incidents which had occurred and the Police reminded residents to continue to report these to ensure as much intelligence as possible could be collated.
- 19.6. It was confirmed that the majority of increased patrols would be on foot and that stop search figures had increased. In response to a resident, it was confirmed that a multiagency approach was taken with regards to tackling ASB and this included both the Police and the Council.
- 19.7. PC Mitchell agreed to speak with Councillor Meudec after the meeting with regards to the arson at Whitton Church Lane hut.

20. Chair's Update on Actions from Previous Meeting including Agreed Area Action Plan

- 20.1. The Chair confirmed that following the previous meeting, the Area Action Plan for the year had been agreed, and this would help the Committee to clearly communicate its vision and the priorities set within the North West area. The Committee had agreed to continue to work to alleviate deprivation in the domain of Education, Skills and Training and to prioritise action in line with the following Council aims and activities: A Healthy Community, An Enjoyable Place to Work and Study, and Safe Communities.
- 20.1. The Chair confirmed that there were no further updates at this time with regards to the trimming of the trees in Broadway Lane by Westbourne Academy.

21. Ward Councillors Feedback

Castle Hill Ward

Councillor Xhaferaj reported that the BLT would be holding a Fun Dog Show and car boot sale on 8 September 2019 at Castle Hill Park.

The Friends of the Dales would be holding their Annual General Meeting on 13 August at 7.30pm at the Suffolk Deaf Association, Wharfedale Road, IP1 4JP.

Whitehouse Ward

Councillor Trenchard confirmed that a peace garden event would be held at St Thomas Church, Bramford Lane on 23 July 2019, an Open Day would be held at Bramford Lane Allotment on 3rd August between 2.00pm and 4.00pm and following works on the 29 July, the skate park would be reopened the first weekend of August.

Whitton Ward

Councillor Shaw confirmed that she had received several complaints regarding pavements which had been reported to Suffolk County Council. Although some pavements had been weeded, there appeared to be a number of pavements with tall weeds which could be dangerous for elderly/less mobile people, and therefore residents were encouraged to report issues such as these either via the SCC website or to their Ward Councillor.

A number of events had been held within the Ward including an Open Day at Castle Hill Allotments. Families also continued to be encouraged to take up the offer of the free I-Cards available for young people.

An Open Day would be held on 11 August 2019 from 11.00am to 3.00pm at the Whitton Church Lane Allotments for all to attend.

22. Responses to Public Questions and Feedback on Local Issues

22.1. No questions had been received prior to the meeting.

22.2. A resident reported concerns regarding unseen radiation due to SMART meters and LED lighting and asked if the Committee were aware of the amounts of radiation which were being inflicted on residents. The Committee noted that there would always be background radiation and noted the residents concerns.

23. Ipswich Northern Route Consultation (Presentation)

23.1. Suzanne Buck, Consultation Officer at Suffolk County Council, provided a presentation on the Ipswich Northern Route Consultation. The project had begun following a number of long standing challenges regarding the reliability and quality of the A14 and to accommodate the effect of economic and housing growth.

- 23.2. In 2016 the Public Sector Leaders Group provided £200k funding for an initial study into the road network, in May 2017 the Group provided a further £550k for the development of a strategic outline business case and then in November 2018 the scope of the work was updated to include the future expected growth of 10-15,000 new homes. In February 2019 the Leader of Suffolk County Council confirmed that a consultation regarding the Ipswich Northern Route would be held over the Summer and following this, a decision would be made as to whether the project should proceed.
- 23.3. There were four objectives which included road, infrastructure and supporting growth. The routes had been designed to consider the capacity of the A14, and Ipswich overall, and to provide a link to the north of the town to free up traffic and accommodate future growth. This also included economic growth and ensuring Ipswich would be an attractive place to businesses.
- 23.4. Three routes (inner, middle and outer) had been identified for consultation and all three had been based on a desktop study with input from Environmental Officers and Highways. It was possible that the alignments could change in the future and full details of each of the routes could be accessed via the Suffolk County Council website. All routes had been modelled on the basis that the road would be opened, at the earliest, in 2027. Consultations would be held at every stage and a robust process would be in place throughout the development of the scheme.
- 23.5. The consultation would remain open until 13 September 2019 and a number of information events had been programmed around Suffolk, East Suffolk and Ipswich, of which residents were all welcomed to attend.
- 23.6. In response to a Councillor, the Officer confirmed that proposals had been put forward as a separate body of work to consider improvements between Seven Hills Crematorium and Wood Lane.
- 23.7. The Officer confirmed that projected traffic flows had been considered on a County Wide model which detailed how people could change their routes as a result of new options being available to them, and advised that traffic flows would be considered in more detail at the next stage.
- 23.8. With regards to Henley Road, it was envisaged that the minor rural road and the major road would have a roundabout connection. However, this would be developed in more detail as the project progressed and therefore would be open to possible changes.
- 23.9. It was confirmed that there would be an adjacent cycle lane on the routes to provide more connectivity to surrounding villages. In response to a question about air quality, the Officer advised that mitigating circumstances such as this had been considered, however they were outside of the scope of the project. It was possible that an alternative development to consider these kinds of issues could be proposed in the future.

24. NWAC/19/04 Funding Request: Black History Month

32.1. Mr Cedric McSheen, Chair of Ipswich African & Caribbean Cultural Development, presented a funding request to the Committee which sought £169.70 funding towards a cultural celebration event on Saturday 19th October 2019 at the Manor Ballroom as part of Black History Month.

32.2. Mr McSheen confirmed that attendance had improved since the first event in 2017 and the event continued to grow successfully. Local businesses would be involved, and there would be arts and crafts stalls and musical performances.

It was RESOLVED:

that £169.70 funding be allocated toward a cultural celebration event on Saturday 19 October 2019 for Black History Month.

Reason: to determine the merit of providing funds to the Ipswich African & Caribbean Cultural Development Association for the costs of a celebration day as part of Black History Month.

25. NWAC/19/05 Area Committee Budget Update

25.1. The Operations Manager Finance presented the Area Committee Budget Update and confirmed that following the £500 funding allocated at the previous meeting for Venue Hire and Publicity 2019/20, the North West Area Committee had an unallocated budget of £25,365.93 available to spend on the priorities of the Area Action Plan.

25.2. Following the funding request approved for the Black History Month Celebrations, the total unallocated budget now available was £25,196.23.

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 of its action plan.

26. Dates of Future Meetings for 2019/20

Dates of Future Meetings for 2019/20 all to be held at 7.00pm

Thursday 5 September 2019 – St Thomas Apostle Church, Bramford Lane, Ipswich IP1 5EP

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

(Venues to be Confirmed)

Thursday 9 January 2020
Thursday 5 March 2020

The meeting closed at 8.01 pm

Chair