

Minutes of a meeting of the Bradford South Area Committee held on Thursday 25 July 2013 at City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 1700
Concluded 1940

PRESENT – Councillors

LABOUR	QUEENSBURY WARD INDEPENDENTS
Berry	L Cromie
Dodds	
Ferriby	
Johnson	
Wainwright	
Warburton	

Apologies: Councillor Jabar

Observer: Councillor Robinson

21. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The following non pecuniary interests were declared in the interest of transparency:

- (i) Councillor Ferriby in relation to a number of the reports that made reference to Appleton Academy as she was a member of the Governing Body.
- (ii) Councillor Johnson in relation to the proposed experimental road closure on St Margarets Avenue (Minute 27), as he was on the Governing Body at Knowleswood Primary.

The following disclosures of interest were received and the Members concerned left the meeting during consideration of those items:

- (iii) Councillor Dodds in relation to the item on Council Wardens (Minute 33) as her son was employed as a Council Warden.
- (iv) Councillor Wainwright in relation to the item on Ward Budget Allocations (Minute 35) as his wife was the treasurer of the Friends of Black Carr Woods, one of the organisations recommended to receive funding.

ACTION: City Solicitor



22. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

There were no appeals submitted by the public to review decisions to restrict documents.

23. MINUTES

Resolved –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 June 2013 be signed as a correct record.

24. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no questions submitted by the public.

25. STREET LIGHTING COLUMN REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME

The Strategic Director Regeneration and Culture submitted a report (**Document “N”**) which sought to advise the Area Committee regarding the replacement of street lighting columns determined as non compliant and the subsequent recommendations as to how the remainder of the West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan Funding allocation could be most effectively utilised.

The Strategic Director gave an overview of the programme and the schemes that had been prioritised.

In relation to a question on how schemes were prioritised, it was stressed that the budget was only designated for the replacement of lighting columns deemed inappropriate following the condition survey, and not street lighting per se.

Resolved -

That the following schemes be implemented as part of the 2013-2014 street lighting column replacement programme:

Ward	Priority	Location	Estimate
Wyke	1	Roydsdale Way	£ 67,426.30
Wibsey	1	Rooley Avenue	£ 51,935.50
Royds	2	Farfield Avenue, Buttershaw	£ 45,314.60

ACTION: Strategic Director Regeneration and Culture

(Environment & Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

26. YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES FUNDING 2013/14

The Strategic Director Children’s Services submitted a report (**Document “O”**) which informed the Area Committee of the applications for Youth Opportunities Fund (YOF) for the area and the recommendations of the Area Youth Opportunities Fund Panel.

Young people who were members of the Area Youth Opportunities Fund Panel were present at the meeting and gave an overview of the applications and the recommendations of the Panel which were detailed in Appendix 2 of the report.

Members expressed their thanks and the diligent manner in which the young people on the Youth Opportunities Fund Panel had assessed the applications, particularly focusing and maximising the benefits each recommended project would have on young people.

Resolved -

- (1) That the recommendations of the Youth Opportunities Fund (YOF) Area Panel set out in Appendix 2 to Document “O” be adopted.**
- (2) That the Bradford South YOF Area Panel be thanked for assessing the applications and making their recommendations.**
- (3) That the Youth Work Team continues to work with the YOF Panel to monitor the development and implementation of the YOF projects.**
- (4) That the Youth Work Manager presents reports to future meetings of this Committee on the implementation of projects who receive YOF.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Children’s Services

(Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

**27. ST MARGARET’S AVENUE, BRADFORD
PROPOSED EXPERIMENTAL ROAD CLOSURE REVIEW**

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The Strategic Director Regeneration and Culture submitted a report (**Document “T”**) which summarised objections and a petition received back from the public after the 6 month consultation period for the experimental road closure on St Margaret’s Avenue, Bradford and made recommendations for further action.

A number of residents who lived in the vicinity of St Margaret’s Avenue were present at the meeting and they made the following points in support of retaining the road closure:

- That it was important to address the issue of speeding traffic on Knowles Lanes, particularly near to Knowleswood Primary as there had been accidents and that drivers were oblivious to the dangers.
- That a pedestrian crossing should be installed near to the school so parents and children could cross Knowles Lane safely and that the head of the primary school was supporting the resident’s petition.
- That although traffic volumes on Broadstones Avenue had increased, St Margaret’s Avenue should remain closed to through traffic.

The Chair acknowledged that more effort should be made to encourage parents to walk their children to school rather than use the car.

A Member of the Committee and Ward Councillor for the area stated that he wholeheartedly supported the petition for a pedestrian crossing on Knowles Lane, as speeding was an issue in the area, and he suggested that the Police should be made aware of the problems so that enforcement can take place.

The Strategic Director stated that he would bring a report back to the September meeting of the Committee, setting out options and costings around appropriate traffic calming measures and the installation of a pedestrian crossing on Knowles Lane.

Resolved -

- (1) That the Bradford South Area Committee overrules the objections to the scheme and makes the Traffic Regulation Order for the closure of Saint Margarets Avenue permanent.**
- (2) That a survey be carried out to determine the most appropriate type of pedestrian crossing to be installed on Knowles Lane, with a view to a crossing being added to the list of schemes for Area Traffic Measures to be considered by the Bradford South Area Committee in March 2014 - or sooner if funding allows.**
- (3) That a 20mph School Zone be implemented on Knowles Lane between the Saint Margarets Avenue junction and the Junction with Telscombe Drive.**
- (4) That the Strategic Director Regeneration and Culture writes to the Police on behalf of the Committee requesting traffic monitoring on Knowles Lane.**
- (5) That the objectors be informed accordingly.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Regeneration and Culture

(Environment & Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

28. BRADFORD SOUTH YOUTH SERVICE BUDGET FOR 2013-14

The Strategic Director Children's Services submitted a report (**Document "P"**) which informed the Area Committee of the deployment of the annual allocation of the Bradford South Youth Service budget for 2013-14.

The Strategic Director gave a comprehensive overview of the budget, performance and targets and the service delivery plans which were detailed in Document "P".

Members expressed their thanks and gratitude to the improvements made by the Youth Service in youth provision in the Bradford South area, in particular the scope of the activities being provided and how this had had a positive impact on the young people and the wider community.

Members added that having a designated full time youth worker in the area had given clearer focus to youth provision as well as addressing specific issues in an area.

The Chair acknowledged Members comments and stressed that the service had made huge inroads, adding that devolution was a process that should be embraced as it enabled services to be better customer focused and more responsive.

Resolved -

- (1) That the existing deployment of Youth Service resources outlined in Document "P" be agreed.**
- (2) That the Youth Service Performance against targets outlined in Document "P" be reported to this Committee in the autumn of 2013 and spring 2014.**
- (3) That the continued involvement of young people in local decision making be supported.**
- (4) That the development of the "Positive for Youth Partnership" for Bradford South Constituency be endorsed.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Children's Services

29. PARKS & GREEN SPACES OVERVIEW

The Council's Executive had identified the Parks and Green Spaces Service to report to Area Committees through the devolution agenda.

The Assistant Director, Sport and Leisure Services submitted a report (**Document "Q"**) which outlined the basis on which the Parks and Green Spaces Service operated in the Bradford South Area.

During a lengthy discussion Members raised the following issues in relation to the Service:

- That although there had been improvements in grass cutting, problems were still being experienced in terms of blocked gullies and grass debris being left on pavements following cutting. In response the Assistant Director stressed that the grounds maintenance service had now been brought back in house and that work was ongoing to ensure that a more efficient and effective service was being provided. However he acknowledged that the improvements would take a while to fully materialise.
- That there was no systematic way in which cleaning was done following grass cutting and that cleaning was sometimes duplicated as a result.
- That problems with grounds maintenance were as a result of poor communication and that officers should work with Ward Councillors to resolve issues in their respective areas.
- That there was an issue in respect of the effectiveness of weed spraying in the district. In response the Assistant Director explained that the weed spraying contract was undertaken by an external contractor and that if members wished further information could be provided.

In response to some of the issues raised, the Assistant Director explained that since the grounds maintenance service had been brought back in house there had been a number of teething problems which were being ironed out, and he assured Members that these outstanding issues would be dealt with.

The Chair stressed the need to for the Service to engage with Ward Councillors on issues affecting the area and that only then would residents be satisfied with the service, adding that the report had failed to identify the officer structure, what the lines of responsibility were, nor did it give a clear insight into the workings of the service, and that when this information was presented, members would be able to fully engage with the service and make suggestions for improvements.

Resolved -

That the report be noted and that a further report be presented to the September meeting of the Committee which addresses issues around grass cutting, weed spraying, staffing structure and how teams are deployed within the Bradford South area.

ACTION: The Assistant Director, Sport and Leisure Service

(Environment & Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

30. **LOCAL HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE – ADDITIONAL FUNDING & DEVOLUTION UPDATE**

The Strategic Director Regeneration and Culture submitted a report (**Document “R”**) which set out the additional funding available to the Bradford South Area Committee for both Local Highway Maintenance and Strategic Highway Maintenance in the 2013/14 financial year.

The report also gave information regarding 2012/13 Category 1 and 2 repairs and the current figures for 2013/14.

The Chair stated that the system for dealing with road maintenance was working well and that the priority system meant that the resources were targeted effectively and he commended staff on their work.

A Member stressed the need to ensure that work between the maintenance team and the major works team was better coordinated in order to avoid works being duplicated.

Resolved –

- (1) That the proposed programme of works for 2012/13 as shown in Appendix 1 to Document “R” be approved.**
- (2) That officers be permitted to vary the allocated spend as necessary to ensure best value for the particular type and scope of works required, up to the £100,000 limit.**
- (3) That the proposal that officers prioritise the various Highway Maintenance works covered by the £55,000 revenue budget be approved as detailed in paragraph 2.11 to Document “R”.**
- (4) That the reported Cat 1 & Cat 2 information be noted with a view to a more detailed report on Local Highway Maintenance being presented to this Area Committee in September 2013**
- (5) That the additional strategic works to be carried out by the Major Maintenance Section be noted and approved.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Regeneration and Culture

(Environment & Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

31. **ANNUAL UPDATE ON ROAD SAFETY IN BRADFORD SOUTH**

The Strategic Director Regeneration and Culture submitted a report (**Document “S”**) which sought to update members on current casualty levels and trends in Bradford South and on the Road Safety education, training and publicity initiatives aimed at reducing these casualties.

A Member expressed his concerns at the level of child injuries and suggested that further work was needed through the Children’s Centres, working with the new communities in the district and the Schools Forum in order to address this issue.

A Member also highlighted the need to work with parents on road safety messages in order to reinforce the message given to children.

The Strategic Director agreed to take these issues on board and advised Members that if they had any further suggestions that they communicate them to her.

Resolved -

- (1) That the information in respect of casualty trends and Road Safety activities in Bradford South be noted.**
- (2) That the Bradford South Area Committee continues to support the evidence based approach to determine Road Safety priorities.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Regeneration and Culture

(Regeneration and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

32. STREET CLEANSING - DEVOLUTION

The Strategic Director Environment and Sport submitted a report (**Document “U”**) which provided further information with regards to the devolution of Street Cleansing services and included specific information relating to:

- Street Cleansing service delivery plan
- Finance
- Performance
- Involving citizens in service delivery
- Opportunities and challenges for the service

The Area Coordinator commended the work of the clean teams within the Bradford South area, in particular how the teams were deployed and targeted areas of greatest concern. He added that the clean teams were also very appreciative of the support offered by Ward Members within Bradford South.

Members of the Committee echoed the above comments and the way in which the Clean Teams had responded to incidents in their respective wards.

Resolved -

- 1) That the update and progress of Street Cleansing services with regards to devolution be noted.**
- (2) That a breakdown of funding by Ward be brought with the next report to this Area Committee.**

ACTION: The Strategic Director Environment and Sport

(Environment & Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

33. COUNCIL WARDEN SERVICE DEVOLUTION TO AREA COMMITTEE

The Strategic Director Environment and Sport submitted a report (**Document “V”**) which provided further information regarding the devolution of the Council Warden Service and includes specific information about:

- Service Delivery Plan
- Performance
- Involving citizens in service delivery

- Opportunities and challenges for the Service
- Finance

In response to a question on staffing numbers, the Area Coordinator reported that he was currently undertaking a recruitment for Council Wardens and that the Service should be up to its full compliment of staff following this process.

Resolved -

That the detailed information on Council Wardens which will assist in decision making with regard to this devolved budget be noted and welcomed.

ACTION: The Strategic Director Environment and Sport

(Environment & Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

34. 2013/14 WARD BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

The Strategic Director Environment and Sport submitted a report (**Document “W”**) which outlined proposed projects in Queensbury, Tong, Wibsey and Wyke Wards and requested decisions on funding.

Resolved -

- (1) That the proposed projects outlined in Appendices 1, 2, 3 and 4 to Document “W” be approved.**
- (2) That the Area Co-ordinator presents a report to a future meeting of Bradford South Area Committee on progress made on the development of this project.**

ACTION: The Strategic Director Environment and Sport

(Corporate Improvement Committee)

35. 2012/13 COMMUNITY CHEST GRANTS

The Strategic Director Environment and Sport submitted a report (**Document “X”**) which detailed the Community Chest Grants awarded from applications received prior to the 31 May 2013 deadline for the benefit of communities within Bradford South

Resolved -

- (1) That the wide range of applications from groups, organisations and individuals across Bradford South be noted and welcomed.**
- (2) That the Bradford South Area Co-ordinator’s Office continue to ensure the effective allocation of the Community Chest budget by providing appropriate advice and support to applicants.**

ACTION: The Strategic Director Environment and Sport

(Corporate Improvement Committee)

Chair

Note: These minutes are subject to approval as a correct record at the next meeting of the Bradford South Area Committee.

i:\minutes\lso 25 July.doc THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER