

## Minutes of a meeting of the Bradford South Area Committee held on Thursday, 15 February 2018 at City Hall Bradford

Commenced 5.00 pm  
Concluded 7.00 pm

### Present – Councillors

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR	The Queensbury Ward Independents
Senior	Wainwright T Hussain Berry Dodds Peart Thornton Warburton	L Cromie

### Councillor Wainwright in the Chair

#### 36. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were made in the interest of transparency:

- (i) Councillor L Cromie disclosed an interest in the item relating to Libraries in Bradford South (Minute 40) as the Queensbury Library was located in a building for which she was a director for (The Queensbury Community Programme Limited).
- (ii) Councillor Peart disclosed an interest in the item relating to the Proposals for the restructure of Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) (Minute 41) as she worked within this field and she also had a close relative who received support from the service.

**ACTION:** *City Solicitor*

#### 37. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

### 38. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions submitted by the public.

### 39. CHANGING PLACES (STRONGER BRADFORD)

The Strategic Director Place submitted a report (**Document “T”**) which outlined the development of the Changing Places projects across Bradford District and in particular Bradford South.

The Bradford South Area Coordinator explained that the Controlling Migration Fund was launched by the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government in November 2016; the principle aim of which was to respond to the challenges caused by high migration on localities and thus contribute to wider community cohesion and integration work. The Council had successfully made a bid of £1.388m from the Fund.

To this end a number of projects were being delivered across Bradford South and those involved in some of the projects were present at the meeting to give a flavour of the work being undertaken:

Bradford Youth Service was delivering a Youth Cohesion Programme enabling young people to become positive active citizens and role models for their communities; the target group being new migrant groups. The Youth Services officer responsible for this project was present along with a number of young people involved in the project. The participants through the project had undertaken a number of activities, enabling them to make new friendship groups as well as encouraging others in their respective communities to become more involved.

In Great Horton a project was working with new migrant communities and the project had successfully tackled a number of issues around human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

A number of English and cultural awareness programmes had also been initiated.

That through a number of the projects people had been referred to other agencies, which could offer those people appropriate help and advice.

Projects within the Buttershaw and Holmwood estates were also alluded to, bringing communities together by improving coordination of different existing projects and establishing of new ones ; through a community magazine, as well as promoting wellbeing and positivity of the estates.

Further projects were also alluded to which were detailed in the appendix to the report.

During the discussion, Members welcomed the projects being delivered across Bradford South and the positive impact these projects had had in bringing

communities together as well as offering bespoke help.

A Ward Member for the Great Horton area stated that over the years a lot of concerns had been expressed as new communities moved into the area, however the drop in sessions at St John's church had enabled a number of pertinent issues affecting new communities to be addressed; she however highlighted the need to address the issue of school attendance amongst the new migrant communities.

A Member stated that he had been raising issues facing new communities for a number of years, particularly around exploitation, abusing landlords, CSE and domestic violence and he urged that not only do these projects continue, but that difficult conversations had to take place, if these issues were going to be resolved.

A representative from St John's Church was also present and stated that the church was proud to undertake this work in partnership with the Council in order to help the community.

In welcoming the work being undertaken, a Member stressed that projects had to be fully evaluated in order to measure their success and it was therefore:

**Resolved –**

- (1) That Members welcome the report and look forward to receiving a report on the issues raised by Members, including outcomes achieved across the Changing Place Programme.**
- ((2) That this Committee is scheduled to receive a report at its next meeting on Public Health /CCGs, and therefore officers be requested to incorporate within that report an update on progress of the health projects undertaken as part of the Changing Places Programme.**

***ACTION: Strategic Director Place (resolution 1) / Strategic Director Health and Wellbeing (resolution 2)***

Overview and Scrutiny Area: Corporate

#### **40. LIBRARIES IN BRADFORD SOUTH - UPDATE**

The Strategic Director Place submitted a report (**Document "R"**) which gave an update on progress from April 2017 onwards of the five libraries in Bradford South – Great Horton, Holme Wood, Queensbury, Wibsey and Wyke.

The Principal Libraries Officer gave credit to the library volunteers on what they had achieved in the community managed libraries and in particular transforming them into community hubs, and she hoped this work would continue and become sustainable.

A number of volunteers from the different community libraries across Bradford South were present at the meeting to give an overview of the work being undertaken, which was detailed in the report.

The volunteers were keen to stress that the focus of the libraries had changed significantly, and increasingly they were becoming community hubs offering drop in sessions on employment, education and training as well as engaging with young people and organising of coffee mornings to help new mums. Partnerships were also being forged with other organisations via the library including iNCommunities and the job centre.

During the discussion, Members welcomed the excellent work being undertaken in the libraries and how activities within them had transformed them into community hubs, in particular the contribution of the volunteers was commended.

Members encouraged that officers should look at the activities being undertaken in the community libraries, with a view to implementing the more innovative options in the Council run libraries.

**Resolved –**

**That the report be welcomed and that the volunteers working across the Libraries in Bradford South be commended for their dedication and hard work.**

***ACTION: Strategic Director Place***

Overview and Scrutiny Area: Regeneration and Economy

**41. PROPOSAL FOR THE RESTRUCTURE OF SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND) SPECIALIST TEACHING SUPPORT SERVICES**

The Strategic Director of Children's Services submitted a report (**Document "S"**) which presented the revised proposed model for the restructuring of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Specialist Teaching Support Services for children and young people with SEND to improve their educational outcomes.

The revised proposals for SEND were detailed in the report .

During the discussion, a Member stated that the schools budget was already under severe pressure, which would have a severe impact across the board, and the only viable solution was to ensure schools undertook more early intervention work.

Despite the cuts to the National Funding Formula, a Member stated it was essential that children were still put first. In response it was stressed that a more

integrated support service was being envisaged which would be more streamlined.

A Member stated much of the work should focus on changing perceptions, and keeping more children in mainstream classes and meeting their needs within that setting.

A Member suggested that income generation should be looked at in order to put the service on a more sustainable footing.

A Member urged caution about being too rigid on locality working, and that if services can be provided effectively from a central location, that would be significant in terms of costs.

**Resolved –**

**That Members suggestions, comments and observations on the proposals for the restructure of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) be taken into consideration as part of the consultation process.**

***ACTION: Strategic Director Children's Services***

Overview and Scrutiny Area: Children's Services

Chair

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