

Minutes of a meeting of the Bradford South Area Committee held on Thursday, 28 February 2019 in Committee Room 1 - City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 5.10 pm
Concluded 7.45 pm

Present – Councillors

LABOUR	CONSERVATIVE	THE QUEENSBURY WARD INDEPENDENTS
T Hussain Dodds Peart Warburton Wood Wainwright	Senior	L Cromie

Apologies: Councillor Sabiya Khan

Observer: Councillor Watson

Councillor Wainwright in the Chair

48. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

In the interest of transparency Councillors Dodds and Peart disclosed an interest in the item relating to Bonfire Planning 2018 (Minute 52) as Members of the West Yorkshire Fire Authority.

ACTION: City Solicitor

49. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

50. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions submitted by the public.

51. BRADFORD SOUTH YOUTH SUMMIT OCTOBER 2018

The Area Coordinator submitted a report (**Document “AA”**) which covered the Bradford South Youth Summit that explored issues relating to young people and social mobility. This work was led by the Young Ambassadors group which supported the work of the Bradford Opportunity Area Fund.

The Chair welcomed the young people that were in attendance to talk about the Youth Summit and to share their life experiences with the Area Committee. A number of young people spoke about their experiences and they made the following comments:

A young person stated that she was brought up in Holmewood and that she was the first member of her family to attend University, adding that despite all the barriers and the negative comments from family and friends particular regarding the financial debt she would accrue, attending University had had a profound impact on her life, which would enable her to reach her ambition of becoming a primary school teacher. That through youth volunteering she had met a lot of young people and she was happy to encourage others to follow their dreams and aspirations.

A young person stated the he had experienced a lot of difficulties at secondary school, with his parents separating when he was very young. That working with the Youth Service had helped him to address his issues and now he was attending College, and this would enable him to realise his dreams of becoming a television actor.

A young person stated that he had faced a number of problems in school which had resulted in him attending a pupil referral unit; however the youth service had helped him to turn his life around and he was no back in education.

During the discussion Members welcomed the candid manner in which the young people had expressed themselves and that their inspiring stories would encourage other young people that they could also turnover a new leaf and realise their potential, and this was partly due to the excellent work undertaken by the Youth Service.

A Member stated that much work could be done by the University to encourage more applications from young people who did not necessarily pursue the traditional University route.

The Committee also analysed the outcomes from the Bradford South Youth Summit held in October 2018, and the young people in attendance gave an overview of the recommendations emanating from the Summit around personal connections; right skills and qualifications, emotional support and financial and practical support, the recommendations were detailed in the report and they asked Members of the Area Committee how they could assist them in realising the recommendations.

During a lengthy discussion Members made a series of recommendations in response to the Youth Summit recommendations and it was therefore:

Resolved –

- (1) That the report recommendations from the Young Ambassadors set out in Document “AA” be welcomed and that this Committee works with the Youth Service to have a dialogue that empowers young people to act.**
- (2) That in light of the recommendations from the Young Ambassadors the following actions be taken with the involvement of key partners to try and make a change:**
 - (i) That the Interim Strategic Director Children’s Services in consultation with the Children and Families Portfolio Holder approaches the University to better promote and encourage applications from young people in the Bradford district, particular from areas of the district where university applications are low and follow the good example of the Aiming High programme.**
 - (ii) That the Interim Strategic Director Children’s Services in consultation with the Children and Families Portfolio Holder work with schools with a view to ensuring work experience placements for pupils are more readily offered throughout their secondary education, are more meaningful, increases opportunities for the student through them and enables them to have a better understanding of the world of work.**
 - (iii) That the Bradford Opportunity Area Board work with the Chamber of Commerce to engage employers in offering work experience opportunities.**
 - (iv) That the Children and Families Portfolio Holder approaches the Bradford Opportunity Area Board with a view to funding the Welfare Advice Services on offering budgeting skills to young people in secondary schools in the district.**
 - (v) That the Children and Families Portfolio Holder works with the Bradford Opportunity Area Board to work with schools to improve mental health support within schools, including better signposting of the help they can access, and recognising the good practice examples of Mental Health School Champions and Youth In Mind.**
 - (vi) That the Chair of the Bradford South Area Committee approaches the West Yorkshire Transport Authority/ Leeds City Region around the cost of public transport restricting young people from seeking opportunities.**

- (vii) **The Chair of Bradford South Area Committee to write to Central Government to express concern of the impact of the high level of tuition fees and the disproportionate impact on young people from communities where there are low levels attending university.**
- (viii) **That the Chair of Bradford South Area Committee writes to Young People to thank and commended them for attending the meeting and for sharing their inspiring journeys.**

ACTION: Area Coordinator

52. PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO BONFIRE PLANNING 2018

The Strategic Director Place submitted a report (**Document “AB”**) which provided members with the partnership response and community engagement activity which supported the operational approach to the planning in the run up to and during the bonfire period 2018.

Officers stated that some excellent partnership working, and the work of public volunteers had made a huge difference, resulting in a significant reduction in the number of incidents during the bonfire period.

During the discussion a Member stated that in Great Horton Ward, community calmers had ensured that a pub did not experience issues it had had in previous years, adding that although attack on fire fighters was still occurring the number of incidents had declined considerably.

Officers acknowledged that the improvements were partly due to excellent partnership working between Councillors, community groups and the local mosques, and that a model had emerged which could be built on in future years.

A Member expressed concern at the number of fireworks being sold from a large number of retail outlets with no licence necessarily required, suggesting that fireworks should only be sold from licenced premises. In response it was pointed out that social media was also playing a part in the sale of fireworks, and there was an added issue around the condition of some of these fireworks, which the Police was acting on.

Officers also highlighted that a particular issue they were experiencing was around the fly tipping of large volumes of bulky items to be burnt on bonfire night, and the enforcement team was looking into this issue.

There was a discussion about the use of community calmers and their effectiveness, and it was suggested that Ward Councillors could approach their respective ward officers on their appropriateness and it was therefore:

Resolved –

That the report be welcomed and that Ward Councillors approach their respective ward officers if they want to develop a community calmers programme in their wards for Bonfire Night 2019, as part of their 2019-20 Ward Planning process.

ACTION: Strategic Director Place

53. CONSULTATION ON THE PREVENTION AND EARLY HELP ESTATES STRATEGY PROPOSAL

The Interim Strategic Director Children's Services submitted a report (**Document "AC"**) which presented proposals for consultation for the use of buildings within the Prevention and Early Help Service.

This follows the creation of a new 0-19 years Prevention and Early Help Service that was informed by a public consultation carried out between November 2017 and February 2018; and a decision by Executive of the 3rd of April 2018 that the use of buildings be reviewed to look for ways in which the two year additional funding for staffing could be sustained through different use of buildings assets.

During the discussion a Member stated that he would be keen to get together with officers to explore the proposals for Wyke Ward, as the ward was out on the outer perimeter of Bradford South, and it was therefore important that any provision was in the right location and fit for purpose.

It was pointed that although there was a need to rationalise buildings, the aim of these proposals was not to reduce services but to ensure they were cost effective.

In relation to a question regarding the provision in Queensbury ward, it was pointed out that services were delivered at Victoria Hall on a needs lead basis.

A Member stressed that within Great Horton ward access was an issue for many having to travel to Lidget Green Primary, which was not a central location for many of the residents and therefore location and access should be looked at.

In response to a question regarding consultation it was pointed out that consultation had been undertaken via social media, children's centres and through questionnaires.

In relation to the family hub at Reevy Hill, it was pointed out that Reevy Hill would become a multi agency hub with a number of services provided from there.

The Chair suggested that officers link up with the ward officers and Councillors, with a view to getting a more coordinated approach in the respective wards and it was therefore:

Resolved –

That the report and the progress being made in the Prevention and Early Help Service be welcomed, and that Members comments and suggestions be taken into consideration as the proposals on the use of buildings are developed.

ACTION: Interim Strategic Director Children's Services

54. STRONGER COMMUNITIES STRATEGY AND DELIVERY PLAN

The Strategic Director Place submitted a report (**Document “AD”**) which asked Members to consider the Stronger Communities Strategy and Delivery Plan, produced by the Bradford Stronger Communities Partnership. The Project Coordinator gave a summary of the Strategy and Delivery Plan which was detailed in the report.

During the discussion the Chair pointed out that working in conjunction with schools can be tricky because if schools did not buy into the process, then the desired outcomes would not be achievable. In addition he questioned the wisdom of having the Strategy as the outcomes were not clear. In response it was stated that as part of the initial consultation over 630 people had attended the three events and accompanying workshops, which in turn informed the Strategy and Delivery Plan.

A Member stated that there was no reference in the report regarding the Roma community who were a crucial part of any community strategy and realising community cohesion.

A number of Members questioned how the Strategy and Delivery Plan impacted specifically on Bradford South and that the report failed to provide specific information pertaining to Bradford South. In addition the report lacked information regarding integration and what the real issues were.

The Chair suggested that in the context of the issues raised by Members of the Committee, officers should consult further with Ward Councillors with a view to understanding how the Strategy and Delivery Plan can be implemented in Bradford South and it was therefore:

Resolved –

That further consultation be undertaken with Ward Councillors on how the Stronger Communities Strategy and Delivery Plan can be delivered successfully in the Bradford South area.

ACTION: Strategic Director Place

55. ALLOCATION OF COMMUNITY BUILDINGS GRANTS FOR 2019-2021

The Strategic Director Place submitted a report (**Document “AE”**) which outlined the recommendations of the Bradford South Area Committee Grants Advisory Group for the allocation of Community Buildings Grants 2019-2021.

Members welcomed the additional resources that had been made available to the Bradford South area and it was:

Resolved –

That the Community Buildings Grants outlined in 3.1 to Document “AE” be approved.

ACTION: Strategic Director Place

Chair

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