

Minutes of a meeting of the Bradford West Area Committee held on Wednesday, 19 September 2018 in Committee Room 1 - City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 6.00 pm
Concluded 7.20 pm

Present – Councillors

LABOUR
A Ahmed
Akhtar
Amran
Azam
Duffy
Engel
Dunbar
Nazir
Shaheen

Apologies: Councillor Kamran Hussain

Councillor Amran in the Chair

17. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Councillor Engel disclosed an interest in the item relating to Youth Service – Bradford West (Minute 23) as her two children attended uniformed youth service activities.

Councillor Duffy disclosed an interest in the item relating to Youth Service – Bradford West (Minute 23) as she was an ex Youth Worker.

ACTION: City Solicitor

18. MINUTES

Resolved –

That the minutes of the meetings held on 22 February and 25 October 2017; 24 January, 28 March, 27 June and 25 July 2018 be signed as correct records.

19. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

20. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions submitted by the public.

21. 16 FARFIELD TERRACE, BRADFORD - REQUEST FOR A DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACE FOLLOWING AN OBJECTION

The report of the Strategic Director, Place (**Document “I”**) considered an application for a Disabled Persons Parking Place where the application had received an objection.

The Principal Engineer was in attendance and with the consent of the Chair commenced with the following synopsis. The Council had received an application for a Disabled Persons Parking Place (DPPP) from the occupant of 16 Farfield Terrace. The resident who lived at this residence was registered disabled, in receipt of PIP at the higher rate, held a current Disabled Person's Blue Badge and had a vehicle registered at the property. There was no off-street parking at these premises.

As part of the DPPP application investigation process, officers undertook consultations with adjacent neighbours to determine if there were any objections to the proposal. An objection had been received from the occupant at number 14 Farfield Terrace who stated parking outside their property would be more difficult if the bay was approved.

The objector was present and was invited to make representations to the Committee. He brought the Committee's attention to his issue that he was not in objection to the proposal but to the element of the wheelchair access part of the bay; that he was in need of his vehicle to be nearby in order for easy immediate access at all times and this DPPP would prevent him easy access to his vehicle.

In response to the objector's concerns, the Principal Engineer confirmed to the Committee that the proposal was a standard bay application and the bay would slightly overlap by 1 foot in front of both adjacent properties.

The Chair sought the reason for the objector requiring immediate access to his vehicle at all times to which it was replied that he too was ill and had to make regular hospital visits.

The applicant was also at the meeting and through the Chair made the following representations to the Committee. The DPPP was required due to a member of the family who was a resident was blind, diabetic and had continual anxiety attacks.

Resolved –

- (1) That the installation of a Disabled Persons Parking Place at 16 Farfield Terrace be allowed.**
- (2) That the applicant be informed accordingly.**

ACTION: Strategic Director, Place

22. SCHOOL GREEN, THORNTON - PETITION REQUESTING 'ACCESS ONLY'

The report of the Strategic Director, Place (**Document “J”**) considered a petition from residents of School Green, Thornton requesting that the road be made 'Access Only' for residents.

The Principal Engineer was invited to present the report to the Committee. He explained the information contained in the Appendix which was attached to Document “J”.

Succeeding the presentation, the Committee sought clarity on what other options were available in order to progress towards a one-way scheme. In response, it was highlighted that further work could be undertaken in order to establish further solutions but in the meantime the preferred ultimate solution would be the closure of Allerton Lane to reduce the high volume of traffic as the levels of speed was not of concern on School Green.

The Committee then made the following comments::

- It was clear from the report that the concerns raised by the signatories of the petition had been disregarded by officers;
- The amount of traffic flow through School Green was immense which included the flow of high levels of HGV traffic, hence the need for a drastic solution;
- The residents had undertaken immense work in order to bring to light the concerns of School Green to the Council;
- The recommendations proposed by the Principal Engineer would not fulfil the needs of the signatories of the petition; and,
- The contents of the report lacked substantial information for the Committee to progress towards a long term solution.

The lead petitioner was in attendance and with the permission of the Chair made the following representations to the Committee:

- HGVs were aware not to use School Green as access towards their destination;
- HGVs were constantly reversing due to the narrow access which was causing continuous high volume of stand still traffic;
- Minor accidents were a regular showcase in the area;
- Residents were unable to gain easy access in and out of their properties;
- A significant amount of road rage by motorists was occurring on a daily basis;
- The road had started to subside;

- Residents could see vehicles passing through from their front windows; and,
- Vehicles were passing through at early hours in the morning which was causing sleeplessness and making residents poorly.

The Committee concluded that further discussions with those affected were fundamental to establish the full scale of the problem and for the eventual long term goal, therefore:

Resolved –

- (1) **That officers liaise with Thornton & Allerton Ward Members and residents to determine an agreed proposal for School Green that can be presented to a future Bradford West Area Committee.**
- (2) **That an appropriate item be added to the list of schemes awaiting funding from the Safer Roads budget.**
- (3) **That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.**

ACTION: Strategic Director, Place

23. YOUTH SERVICE - BRADFORD WEST

The report of the Strategic Director, Place (**Document “K”**) gave an update on work undertaken by the Youth Service in the Bradford West Area during April 2017 and March 2018.

The Senior Youth Work Manager was invited to present the report to the Committee. She highlighted that Bradford Council Youth Service was part of the wider Bradford District Youth Offer that aimed to ensure the provision of a range of activities and services took place in safe spaces, where young people could develop a sense of belonging, socialise with their peers and develop relationships with adults they can trust. It recognised that with the right supportive relationships, strong ambitions and good opportunities all young people could realise their potential and be positive and active members of society.

She was accompanied by young people who had played an integral role in the provision of activities. Following introductions, they verbally showcased their journey's supported by the Youth Service, as follows:

- **Young person 1** A 17 year old and a resident of the Allerton area. She had been involved with the Youth Service for 3 years and had become involved due to her mental health anxiety issues. In the 3 years she had been involved with various projects. Her experience since joining had made her more confident and in control of her emotions.
- **Young Person 2** Had been a volunteer for a number of years. Assisted in alleviating his shyness and embarked on many projects on a voluntary basis for the young people in the Bradford West area.

- **Young Person 3** Originally joined the Youth Service to gain invaluable experience for long term goals.
- **Young Person 4** Recently joined the Youth Service as a volunteer and the staff had been exceptionally experienced and very professional. This journey opened new experiences for her which she never knew existed.
- **Young Person 5** Worked for the Provident on a full time basis but also joined the Youth Service as a volunteer in March 2018 in order to help other young people in the area.

Following presentation, a question and answer session ensued:

- What feedback had been given by young people who had been helped during projects to the Youth Work volunteers?
 - Assisting the young generation gave young people the sense of knowing that support was available if needed in various aspects of their daily lives
- How could Councillors assist young people in a more attractive youth experience?
 - Response of Young Person – The awareness of the Youth Service could be boosted by circulating more information of various projects and activities through schools;
 - Response of Senior Youth Work Manager - The Youth Service did participate in schools but the work was overwhelming therefore the sustainability of work had to be adhered to. Significant work had been done with Pupil Referral Units and also had summer programmes that have been positive and rewarding. There was also on-going dialogue with the Regional Youth Work Unit and discussions of bringing further staff into Bradford

During the discussion between the Committee, the following comments were made:

- It was clear that the Youth Service had made great efforts to make a significant difference in young people's lives which resulted in a positive impact on their respective families.
- It was important that there were more Youth Workers because of the increasing numbers of young people who needed guidance in their daily lives;
- It would be preferable if a further report was presented in the future that captured a ward by ward basis of what activities were undertaken and the numbers of young people participating;
- Many young people were not acquainted with youth activities and more work was coming up to get the attention of a wider audience;
- The funding associated with the National Citizens Service (NCS) was extremely costly;
- The NCS had commenced with programmes that were led by people who were not professional as it had spent around £50 million on advertisement during the period around 600 professional Youth Workers lost their jobs; and,
- Individual wards contained young people with differing issues and educational programmes had to be tailored to meet distinct problems.

The Chair praised the young people for their efforts in the area of volunteering for the sake of helping themselves and others. However, he expressed disappointing sentiments in the contents of the report as he was not fully satisfied as to the accuracy of the information therein. He further highlighted the lack of youth provision in certain Wards of the Bradford West area. In response, the Bradford West Area Co-ordinator stated that this was a result of the lack of staff, the loss of administration staff and the leaving of a Youth Worker. Posts were being filled at the present time and 11 apprenticeships had also been filled.

The Chair further queried as to the under spending of around £50,000 in the Bradford West that was intended for youth activities area and as to the whereabouts of the funding. The unused funding had been put into the Council's central pot due to the overall financial constraints.

The Chair stated that he was disappointed as to the lack of youth provision in the Bradford West area especially after hearing from the young people of how much they had achieved personally and the significance in helping others. The fact that the Toller Ward did not even have a qualified youth worker was disheartening to be made aware of. It was important that the Committee's comments were made a note of by officers present at the Committee in order to apply equality and fairness to all Wards in the Bradford West area.

The Committee then expressed reservations to some of the work that had been delivered. In response, a Social Worker stated that the service did its upmost with all aspects including the networking with all faith organisations.

The Chair concluded the discussion by highlighting the importance of communicating with Ward Councillors of the activities before, during and after, to which it was responded that information will be circulated on what was going on in Members respective Wards.

Resolved –

- (1) That the work undertaken by the Youth Service in the Bradford West area be noted, whilst acknowledging the devastating impact of Government cuts towards youth work nationally.**
- (2) That the Bradford West Area Committee receives a quarterly report on the Youth Service budget spend in the Bradford West area.**

ACTION: Strategic Director, Place

24. ALLOCATION OF COMMUNITY BUILDINGS GRANT (CBG) CONTINGENCY FUND FOR 2018-19

The report of the Strategic Director, Place (**Document “L”**) outlined the allocation of the CBG contingency fund to the Voluntary and Community Sector organisations in Bradford West Area for 2018 -2019 as recommended by the Grants Advisory Group.

Resolved –

- (1) That the decision of the Grants Advisory Group for the allocation of CBG contingency funding, as outlined in paragraph 3.1, detailed in Document “L” be welcomed and agreed.**
- (2) That Members of Bradford West Grants Advisory Group be thanked for their active participation in the allocation of the CBG contingency fund across Bradford West.**

LEAD: Strategic Director, Place

Chair

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

THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER