

## **WERNETH AREA COMMITTEE**

Meeting: 9 March 2020

At: 6.00 pm

PRESENT

Councillor Angie Clark (Vice-Chair) in the chair; Councillors Stuart Corris, Chris Gordon, Mark Roberts and Lisa Smart.

### **1. MINUTES**

The Minutes (copies of which had been circulated) of the meeting held on 27 January 2020 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors and officers were invited to declare any interests which they had in any of the items on the agenda for the meeting.

The following interest was declared:-

#### **Personal and Prejudicial Interest**

<b><u>Councillor</u></b>	<b><u>Interest</u></b>
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Chris Gordon	Agenda Item 4(iii) – ‘Ward Flexibility Funding – Stockport Accordion Club’ as his wife was a member of the organisation.
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Councillor Gordon left the meeting during the consideration of this item and took no part in the discussion or vote.

### **3. URGENT DECISIONS**

No urgent decisions were reported.

### **4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

#### **(i) Chair's Announcements**

The Chair reported that International Women’s Day had been held on Sunday, 8 March 2020 and that an event was due to be held at Stockport Town Hall on Tuesday, 10 March to mark the occasion. It was stated that each ward had been invited to nominate someone to attend, and that Bredbury Green & Romiley ward had wished to recognise Mrs Moona Hull who operated the school crossing patrol on Berrycroft Lane for 25 years.

The Chair then reported that a litter pick was due to be held on the Goyt Valley Estate on Saturday, 4 April 2020 between 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm in partnership with the Jean Byers Community Hub. Anyone who wished to participate was asked to meet at the Hub on Bents Avenue, Bredbury at 2.00 pm.

The Chair then reminded the public that councillors held regular surgeries in the community and stated that Bredbury & Woodley ward councillors held their surgery at Woodley Civic Hall on the second and fourth Saturday of the month at 10.30 am, while Bredbury Green & Romiley ward councillors held their surgery at Bredbury Library on the first Saturday of the month.

Finally, the Chair reported that members of the Area Committee were supporting a petition that was being circulated in relation to the proposed withdrawal of the 375 bus service.

(ii) Public Question Time

Members of the public were invited to submit questions to the Chair of the Area Committee on any matters within the powers and duties of the Area Committee.

Four public questions were submitted as follows:-

- Relating to the potential for the provision of additional highway trees at the entrance to the University Estate, Woodley and along Healdwood Road in the light of ongoing issues with excessive water and the flooding of properties.

RESOLVED – That the Corporate Director for Place Management & Regeneration be recommended to undertake an investigation with regard to the feasibility of introducing new highway trees on the University Estate, Woodley and that a report be prepared for a future meeting of the Area Committee detailing locations where it might be feasible to introduce planting and any associated costs.

- Relating to residents' concerns over further delays to the introduction of mitigation measures to reduce the impact of excessive water and the flooding of properties on the University Estate, Woodley.

Councillors acknowledged the concerns of local residents, and it was stated that the proposed hydrology measures had been included in the list of planned works at schools during the forthcoming financial year.

- Relating to whether there were any plans to resurface the remaining roads on the University Estate, Woodley.

RESOLVED – That the Corporate Director for Place Management & Regeneration be requested to respond to the questioner in writing.

- Relating to the provision of off-road parking bays for the residents of Waterloo Cottages, Compstall Road linked to the grant of planning permission for the Cherry Tree Nursing Home.

RESOLVED – That the Corporate Director for Place Management & Regeneration be requested to respond to the questioner in writing.

(iii) Neighbourhood Service Structure

Charlotte Nicholls (Neighbourhoods Manager, Stockport Council) and Adam Cunningham (Senior Neighbourhood Officer, Stockport Council) attended the meeting and submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) providing an update on the creation of the Neighbourhoods Team and outlining the duties of the officers within the new team.

The following comments were made/ issues raised:-

- It was commented that the existing online reporting mechanisms that councillors were being encouraged to use did not effectively facilitate the reporting of multiple issues simultaneously, such as several gully blockages.
- Concern was expressed that there was insufficient feedback on issues once reported through the Council's website.
- Some problems did not lend themselves to online reporting mechanisms such as multifaceted or complex enquiries.
- Members had a dedicated telephone number they could call to report these more complex matters.
- It was confirmed that officers would continue to attend meetings of the Area Committee, albeit as a reduced frequency.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

(iv) Petitions

One petition was submitted requesting that the Council give consideration to resurfacing Kingsway, Bredbury in the light of the failure of a number of temporary and patching repairs that had been attempted over the years.

RESOLVED – That the petition be referred to the Corporate Director for Place Management & Regeneration for investigation.

(v) Open Forum - District Centres Update

Paul Richards (Director of Development and Regeneration, Stockport Council) attended the meeting and submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) providing an overview of the recent Scrutiny Review into the health and prosperity of the borough's District Centres and seeking early views from Members to shape a future programme of work that would feed into the Council's Local Plan and future delivery of regeneration and investment.

The following comments were made/ issues raised:-

- It was commented that the report contained some factual inaccuracies such as the suggestion that there was a carnival and street parade in Romiley when in fact there had not been one for 20 years.
- It was queried what baseline had been used to determine that Romiley's cycling provision was average as there was little dedicated provision within the District Centre.
- There needed to be publicity provided for the new £300,000 loan fund to ensure that businesses were aware of the opportunity.

- While the work was directed towards District Centres, there needed to be a degree of focus on Stockport's local and small shopping centres that were excluded from the scope of the review.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

(vi) Ward Flexibility Funding - Friends of Romiley Park

Philippa Bonorino attended the meeting and submitted an application on behalf of The Friends of Romiley Park for a grant from the Ward Flexibility Fund towards the cost of installing an additional picnic bench in the park.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to an application for Ward Flexibility Funding from The Friends of Romiley Park for a grant of £975 towards the cost of installing an additional picnic bench in the park.

(vii) Ward Flexibility Funding - Greave School

A representative of the Deputy Chief Executive submitted an application received on behalf of Greave Primary School for a grant from the Ward Flexibility Fund towards the cost of a new sensory room at the school.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to an application for Ward Flexibility Funding from Greave Primary School for a grant of £1,000 towards the cost of a new sensory room at the school subject to receipt of confirmation that the facility would be available for community use.

(viii) Ward Flexibility Funding - Stockport Accordion Club

Marj Howard attended the meeting and submitted an application received on behalf of Stockport Accordion Club for a grant from the Ward Flexibility Fund towards the cost of a single all day workshop for 15 accordion players to improve playing ability.

RESOLVED – That approval be given to an application from Stockport Accordion Club for a grant of £300 from the Ward Flexibility Budget towards the cost of single all day workshop for 15 accordion players to improve playing ability.

(ix) Ward Flexibility Funding - African & Caribbean Community Association

A representative of the Deputy Chief Executive submitted an application received on behalf of the African & Caribbean Community Association for a grant from the Ward Flexibility Fund towards the cost of equipment to provide at events.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to an application from the African & Caribbean Community Association for a grant of £92.28 from the Ward Flexibility Budget towards the cost of equipment to provide at events.

(x) Ward Flexibility Funding - Help the Hatters

A representative of the Deputy Chief Executive submitted an application received on behalf of Help the Hatters for a grant from the Ward Flexibility Fund towards the cost of a number of initiatives at Stockport County Football Club.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to an application from the Help the Hatters for a grant of £95.22 from the Ward Flexibility Budget towards the cost of a number of initiatives at Stockport County Football Club subject to the receipt of confirmation that the applicant had the necessary child protection policies in place.

**5. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS**

Development applications were submitted.

(NOTE: Full details of the decisions including conditions and reasons for granting or refusing planning permission and imposing conditions are given in the schedule of plans. The Corporate Director for Place Management & Regeneration is authorised to determine conditions and reasons and they are not therefore referred to in committee minutes unless the committee makes a specific decision on a condition or reason. In order to reduce printing costs and preserve natural resources, the schedule of plans is not reproduced within these minutes. A copy of the schedule of plans is available on the council's website at [www.stockport.gov.uk/planningdecisions](http://www.stockport.gov.uk/planningdecisions). Copies of the schedule of plans, or any part thereof, may be obtained from the Place Directorate upon payment of the Council's reasonable charges).

A representative of the Deputy Chief Executive outlined the procedure for public speaking on planning applications.

(i) DC075137 - Romiley Primary School, Sandy Lane, Romiley

In respect of plan no. DC075137 for the retention of existing single storey modular building and external play area for use as a preschool and before and after school clubs at Romiley Primary School, Sandy Lane, Romiley, it was

RESOLVED – That the Planning & Highways Regulation Committee be recommended to grant planning permission.

(ii) DC075572 - 123 Werneth Road, Woodley

In respect of plan no. DC075572 for the erection of a rear extension and demolition of existing outbuildings at 123 Werneth Road, Woodley, it was

RESOLVED – (1 against) That the Planning & Highways Regulation Committee be recommended to grant planning permission.

**6. PLANNING APPEALS, ENFORCEMENT APPEALS AND ENFORCEMENT NOTICES**

A representative of the Corporate Director for Place Management & Regeneration submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) listing any outstanding or recently

determined planning appeals and enforcements within the area represented by the Werneth Area Committee.

Further information was requested with regard to the replanting of 100 native woodland trees on land adjacent to Unity Mills, Poleacre Lane, Woodley that was due to be completed by 11 March 2020.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

#### **7. ROAD SAFETY AROUND SCHOOLS - ST CHRISTOPHER'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

A representative of the Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report of the Corporate Director for Place Management & Regeneration (copies of which had been circulated) detailing a series of proposed interventions to improve the road safety of children and other road users in the area around St Christopher's RC Primary School.

RESOLVED - That the Cabinet Member for Sustainable Stockport be recommended to give approval to the proposed interventions detailed in Section 3 of the report and the legal advertising of the associated package of Traffic Regulation Orders detailed in Appendix 3 of the report, and subject to the receipt of no objections within 21 days of the advertisement date, the subsequent making of the orders at a cost of £13,500 to be funded from the Road Safety around Schools 2018-19 programme budget allocation.

#### **8. PARK EVENT APPLICATION - MAY DAY ON THE MEADOW 3RD MAY 2020**

A representative of the Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report of the Corporate Director for Place Management & Regeneration (copies of which had been circulated) detailing an application received from the Friends of Tangshutt Fields to hold their annual May Day on the Meadow Event at Tangshutt Playing Fields on 3 May 2020.

RESOLVED – That the application be granted.

#### **9. PROGRESS ON AREA COMMITTEE DECISIONS**

A representative of the Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) updating the Area Committee on progress on decisions taken by the Area Committee since the last meeting and the current position on the Area Flexibility and the Delegated budget.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.34 pm