

WERNETH AREA COMMITTEE

Meeting: 14 December 2020
At: 6.00 pm

PRESENT

Councillor Christine Corris (Chair) in the chair; Councillor Angie Clark (Vice-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 9 November 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.

No declarations of interest were made.

3. URGENT DECISIONS

No urgent decisions were reported.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

(i) Chair's Announcements

The Chair announced that the Friends of Romiley Station had won an award at the recent Best Kept Station awards for its Community Arts Project.

The Chair stated that it was a matter of some regret that the markets in Romiley and Woodley had been cancelled at short notice, however it was noted that the Council had compensated the stallholders which was welcomed.

It was further announced that Bredbury Library was due to reopen on Wednesday, 16 December 2020 for three days a week.

The Chair then referred to the recent meeting of the Council Meeting where it was agreed that the Council would not approve the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework and that local councillors had supported this decision.

Finally, Councillor Roberts reported that the 'Light-up Romiley Christmas Trail' had started on Saturday, 12 December and had been well-received by local residents. Those wishing to undertake the trail were encouraged to maintain social distancing when doing so.

(ii) Public Question Time

No public questions were submitted.

(iii) Petitions

Members of the public were invited to put questions to the Chair on any matters in the powers or duties of the Area Committee, subject to the exclusions set out within the Code of Practice.

No petitions were submitted.

(iv) Open Forum

A representative of the Strategic Head of Service (Legal & Democratic Governance and Monitoring Officer) reported that no organisations had indicated that they wished to address the Area Committee as part of the Open Forum arrangements.

(v) Ward Flexibility Funding - Stockport Garrick Theatre Limited

A representative of the Strategic Head of Service (Legal & Democratic Governance and Monitoring Officer) submitted an application received on behalf of Stockport Garrick Theatre Limited for a grant from the Ward Flexibility Budget towards the cost of completing a basement renovation project.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to an application received from Stockport Garrick Theatre Limited for a grant of £100 from the Ward Flexibility Budget towards the cost of completing a basement renovation project.

5. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

There were no development applications to consider.

6. PLANNING APPEALS, ENFORCEMENT APPEALS AND ENFORCEMENT NOTICES

A representative of the Strategic Head of Service (Legal & Democratic Governance and Monitoring Officer) 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.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

7. ONE STOCKPORT BOROUGH PLAN

A representative of the Corporate Director (Corporate and Support Services) and Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) detailing how the Council was proposing to progress the development of the borough plan; the approach to capturing the views of residents, businesses and the workforce; the data and insight that would be considered, and how this would inform the priorities for the future.

Holly Rae (Head of Service, Strategy and Commissioning, Stockport Council) attended the meeting to present the item and to respond to questions from councillors.

The following comments were made/ issues raised:-

- In response to question from a councillor, it was stated that following the last round of area committees in November at which members commented on the One Stockport campaign, particular note had been taken of the strong sense of local identity that residents felt towards their specific community within the borough.
- Members expressed support for the development of a borough plan that reflected on and supported some of the good work that had taken place in response to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.
- Concern was expressed that the continued use and application of the 'One Stockport' brand did not reflect local identity and may not solicit the right level of engagement or response.
- Clarification was requested on the level of engagement in specific areas of the borough received through the consultations already undertaken to ensure that there were no areas that were geographically underrepresented.
- It was highlighted that through the work undertaken so far 'looking after the environment, climate change and having access to parks and open spaces' had been identified as being an important issue for children and young people across the borough.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

8. PROGRESS ON AREA COMMITTEE DECISIONS

A representative of the Strategic Head of Service (Legal & Democratic Governance and Monitoring Officer) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) updating the Area Committee on progress since the last meeting on decisions taken by the Area Committee and the current position on Area Flexibility Funding.

The following comments were made/ issues raised:-

- Ward councillors were working on a number of projects for the allocation of funding from the Area Committee's Delegated Budget that would come forward to future meetings of the area committee.
- It was stated that there had been a number of serious incidents of vandalism and anti-social behaviour that had taken place at Romiley Allotments and that a report would be brought forward to a future meeting of the Area Committee so that consideration could be given to the use of funding from the Area Committee's Delegated Budget to make improvements to the existing security arrangements.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 6.27 pm