

**NORTH AREA COMMITTEE**

22 November 2012

7.30 - 10.15 pm

**Present:** Councillors Todd-Jones (Chair), Price (Vice-Chair), Abbott, Boyce, Bird, Brierley, Gawthrop, Kerr, O'Reilly, Pitt and Tunnacliffe

**Area Committee Members:** County Councillors Manning and Sales

**Officers:**

Project Delivery & Environment Manager: Andrew Preston

Urban Growth Project Manager: Tim Wetherfield

Committee Manager: James Goddard

**Other Officers in Attendance:**

Chief Executive of Cambridgeshire Community Foundation: Jane Darlington

Head of Major Infrastructure Delivery, Cambridgeshire County Council: Bob Menzies

Project Manager, Cambridgeshire Guided Busway, Cambridgeshire County Council: Chris Poultney

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL**

**12/62/NAC Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from City Councillor Ward and County Councillor Wilkins.

**12/63/NAC Welcome and Introduction (including Declarations of Interest)**

The Chair welcomed the public and explained the format of the meeting.

There were no declarations of interest.

**12/64/NAC TO CONFIRM WHAT WAS SAID (MINUTES) AT THE LAST MEETING AND WHAT WE HAVE DONE (ACTION LIST)**

Councillor Pitt has discussed recycling issues with Councillor Swanson (minute item 12/55/NAC).

**Action Point: Councillor Pitt to further discuss the issue of recycling units with the Executive Councillor for Environmental and Waste Services and the Executive Councillor for Housing. Councillor Pitt to give feedback at meeting on 31 January 2013.**

Councillor Pitt has discussed the issue of probation and community service workers with Councillor Swanson (minute item 12/55/NAC).

**Action Point: Councillor Pitt to further discuss the issue of probation and community service workers with the Executive Councillor for Environmental and Waste Services. Councillor Pitt to give feedback at meeting on 31 January 2013.**

### **12/65/NAC YOU WANT TO KNOW (OPEN FORUM)**

1. **Mrs Blair queried the amount of flexibility available to waive information submission requirements for small community groups making funding bids.**

Councillor Pitt offered to review Council policy, but said the Council had a Duty of Care to follow. Support was offered to community groups making applications.

**Action Point: Councillor Pitt to review amount of flexibility available to waive information submission requirements for small community groups making funding bids.**

2. **Mrs Dockerill raised the following points:**
  - **Campkin Road and St Kilda Avenue traffic concerns.**
  - **Bags obscuring bicycle lights concern.**

North Area Committee Members referred to a citywide 20 mph project, which may help mitigate traffic flow issues.

**Action Point: Councillor Price to raise Campkin Road and St Kilda Avenue traffic concerns; plus bags obscuring bicycle lights concern; during Police and Safer Neighbourhoods section of next meeting.**

3. **Mrs Harris raised concerns regarding traffic flow and parking issues as a result of the proposed new Chesterton Station.**

Councillor Todd-Jones noted the points and asked for them to be raised in the discussion concerning the station under item 12/69/NAC on the agenda.

- 4. Ms Howson raised concerns regarding the departure of Manor School Head and asked for clarification on the issue.**

**Action Point: Councillor Price to raise concerns regarding departure of Manor School Head Teacher with Chair of Governors.**

- 5. Mrs Blair asked for clarification regarding Councillor Kerr's voting at Community Services 11 October 2012 in support of the Council new build programme. Mrs Blair raised the query on behalf of a Water Lane resident.**

Councillor Kerr said there was a need to invest in council housing, and referred to comments made at Council 25 October 2012. Councillor Kerr was happy to meet with residents upon request to discuss any concerns.

### **12/66/NAC Devolved Decision-Making and Developer Contributions: Update Following North Area Workshop**

The Committee received a report from the Urban Growth Project Manager regarding devolved decision-making and developer contributions. The report provided a summary of the project ideas for new or improved local facilities suggested at the North Area workshop 6 October 2012. The ideas were assessed in terms of their eligibility for developer contributions funding and their deliverability in the short-term (by the end of March 2014).

A list of six project proposals was identified as being eligible for the funding and deliverable in the short-term. The North Area Committee was asked to prioritise three or four of these project ideas, within the developer contributions funding currently available to the North Area (£100,000 for informal open space and £125,000 for community facilities). Detailed project appraisals would be developed for priority projects.

The report contrasted the relatively high needs and deprivation levels in the North Area with the relatively low levels of devolved developer contributions available (compared to the city's three other Areas). It also highlighted project

ideas raised at the North Area workshop which could also benefit other Areas, and projects on the 'on hold' list of the City Council's Capital Plan: these will be reported to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee in January 2013 for the Executive Councillors to consider their priorities for city-wide funding.

The Committee received a public question. Mr Bond asked:

- (i) **How the Community Infrastructure Levy would impact on devolved decision-making and developer contributions.**

The Urban Growth Project Manager responded that he understood that devolved decision-making over the use of developer contributions would continue under the Community Infrastructure Levy system, when introduced.

- (ii) **Whether the Council could procure supplies (exempt of VAT) needed by community groups for building projects instead of some of its grant-funding so that the groups would not need to pay VAT.**

The Urban Growth Project Manager said he would seek advice from colleagues about the detailed requirements relating to procurement and VAT exemptions before replying to Mr Bond.

**Action Point: Urban Growth Project Manager to respond to Mr Bond regarding his query over the procurement of supplies.**

Councillor Boyce said the Council was unlikely to undertake direct procurement as this would push its expenditure over the threshold where it was exempt from VAT. He was awaiting clarification from Officers on this in his role as Chair of the Civic Affairs Committee.

The Area Committee made the following comments in response to the report:

- (i) The Chisolm Trail could be considered for city-wide funding, but some Members felt, as noted in the report, no. X01, as transport-related, suggestion for funding should be passed on to the County Council.
- (ii) Members asked for more information on the project idea to extend St Andrew's Hall to provide dedicated space for a community café.

**Action Point: Head of Community Development to liaise post meeting with project officers and Councillor Pitt to bring back further information (when known) to North Area Committee regarding St Andrew's Church Hall extension proposal.**

- (iii) Councillor Pitt requested that Downs Play Area be added to the list of North Area play areas listed on agenda page 20 (paragraph 7.10, table 4 of the Officer's report). The Urban Growth Project Manager confirmed that this would be done.
- (iv) Following the precedent set by West/Central and South Area Committees, one North Area Member asked whether the community facilities grant could be considered as a 'plus one' priority (ie not counting as one of the North Area). The Urban Growth Project Manager replied that the North Area Committee could only spend the developer contributions funding that it currently has available.
- (v) The Area Committee held back on identifying a fourth priority (as recommended in areas with four wards) until the March 2013 meeting, by which time it may have become clearer whether there is any further developer contributions funding available for play provision in the North Area. (There are a number of proposals for play area improvements that could be delivered in the short-term, but only if funding was available).

Following discussion, the North Area Committee **resolved:**

- (i) To note the summary of all consultation feedback arising from the North Area workshop and related emails.
- (ii) To identify the community facilities grant for the provision of community meeting space at the new Sikh Community Centre in Kings Hedges (£50,000) as a priority for delivery, subject to project appraisals and the identification of appropriate funding to meet any related revenue and maintenance costs.

City councilors on the North Area Committee then voted on their priorities from the five project ideas from the informal open space contribution type. The two projects receiving the most votes were:

- Formalise the BMX track next to Brown's Field Community Centre in East Chesterton (£30,000)

- Improve Nun's Way skate park in King's Hedges (£65,000).

The North Area Committee **resolved**:

- (iii) To identify the BMX track next to Brown's Field Community Centre and improvements to the Nun's Way skate park as its other priority projects for delivery by March 2014, subject to project appraisals and the identification of appropriate funding to meet any related revenue and maintenance costs.
- (iv) To add St Andrew's Church Hall extension proposal to the list of project ideas to be reported to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee in January 2013 for consideration for city-wide developer contributions funding.
- (v) To urge the Executive Councillor for Arts, Sport and Public Places (via the Community Services Scrutiny report in January) to make funding available from the city-wide fund for the Logan's Meadow Local Nature Reserve extension.
- (vi) To ask the Executive Councillor for Arts, Sport and Public Places and the Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health to consider making further developer contributions funding available for projects in North Area given the Area's relatively high level of need and relatively low level of devolved developer contributions.

### **12/67/NAC Bus Shelter Programme**

The Committee received a report from the Project Delivery & Environment Manager regarding the Bus Shelter Programme.

The report outlined that the City Council has approved expenditure of £267,000 on the provision of 12 new shelters and the replacement of approximately 60% of the 62 existing City Council owned shelters across the city. This report requests that North Area Committee approve the proposed allocation of 3 new shelters at existing bus stops in the north area of the city.

In response to Members' questions the Project Delivery & Environment Manager confirmed the following:

- (i) There would be consultation in the vicinity of all proposed bus stop locations prior to implementation work.
- (ii) Bus shelters should not lead to anti-social behaviour. The design would provide basic shelter facilities (a wall, roof and seat) where people could wait for a bus. This would not encourage people to gather for long periods.
- (iii) The Project Delivery & Environment Manager would liaise with Ward Councillors to ascertain which bus shelters were the priorities for replacement now that a condition survey has been undertaken.
- (iv) Bus shelter maintenance concerns could be forwarded to the Project Delivery & Environment Manager, Streets and Open Spaces Asset Manager, or Technical Officer.
- (v) Most bus stops did not have shelters. The intention was to provide some now (capital and maintenance budgets permitting), then review investment options in 2019 when the Clearchannel contract ends.

**Action Point: North Area Committee Councillors to notify Andrew Preston (Project Delivery & Environment Manager) of any concerns regarding siting, location and maintenance of bus shelters.**

**Action Point: Project Delivery & Environment Manager to liaise with Alistair Wilson (Streets and Open Spaces Asset Manager) and Declan O'Halloran (Technical Officer).**

Following discussion, Members **resolved (unanimously)** to approve the proposed allocation of 3 new shelters, subject to consultation, at:

To approve the proposed allocation of 3 new shelters at:

- (i) Carlton Way (Arbury), Kingsway Flats, outbound.
- (ii) Histon Road (Arbury), near Aldi / Iceland access, outbound.
- (iii) Victoria Road (Arbury), near 222 Victoria Road, inbound.

## **12/68/NAC Community Development and Leisure Grants**

The Committee received a report from the Chief Executive of Cambridge Community Forum regarding Community Development and Leisure Grants. She advised that the report contained a typographical error on P55 of the agenda regarding Chesterton Festival Committee where "Small fee charged,

£1m, for adventure zone...” should read “Small fee charged, £1, for adventure zone...”.

Members considered applications for grants as set out in the Officer’s report and table below. The Chief Executive of Cambridge Community Forum responded to Member’s questions about individual projects and what funding aimed to achieve.

<b>Current Applications. Available: £10,748.16</b>			
<b>CCF ref</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Offer</b>
WEB 54343	Old Chesterton Residents' Association (OCRA)	To assist in holding public meetings to make as many residents as possible, aware of the activities.	£399.00
3676	Arbury Townswomen's Guild	To pay for speakers to educate members and subsidise annual lunch.	£250.00
WEB 54249	Bermuda Community Room	To hold a series of afternoon tea parties, evening buffets and a Family Christmas Party for all residents.	£515.00
WEB 54334	Meadows Children and Family Wing	To continue to provide vital Family Support Drop-Ins.	£3,990.00
WEB 54281	Romsey Mill Trust	For a weekly group creating positive opportunities for 12 vulnerable young women aged 14-16.	£4,835.00



WEB 54993	Rowan Humberstone Ltd	For a Winter Warmer and Open Studio event.	£500.00
WEB 55176	St Andrew's Hall Chesterton	For a community carols event for the local community.	£226.00
WEB 55188	Chesterton Festival Committee	To enable deposits and bookings for the 2013 event	£800 (see 2.2 below)
WEB 55064	Kings Hedges Family Support Project	To purchase books to give out to preschool aged children attending family drop-ins.	£750
Total			<b>£12,265</b>
Budget remaining			<b>£10,748.16</b>
Left to spend			<b>- £1,516.84*</b>

\*£1,516.84.84 to be allocated from Community Development Grants budget to cover deficit.

Mrs Blair spoke in favour of funding for Old Chesterton Residents' Association (WEB 54343). This would contribute towards the Association being able to comment on planning applications.

The Chair asked for comments on each recommendation highlighted in the Officer's report prior to separately recorded votes:

- (i) **Resolved (unanimously)** to approve the grant allocation for £399 to Old Chesterton Residents' Association (WEB 54343).
- (ii) **Resolved (unanimously)** to approve the grant allocation for £250 to Arbury Townswomen's Guild (3676).
- (iii) **Resolved (unanimously)** to approve the grant allocation for £515 to Bermuda Community Room (WEB 54249).
- (iv) **Resolved (unanimously)** to approve the grant allocation for £3,990 to Meadows Children and Family Wing (WEB 54334).

- (v) **Resolved (unanimously)** to approve the grant allocation for £4,835 to Romsey Mill Trust (WEB 54281).
- (vi) **Resolved (unanimously)** to approve the grant allocation for £500 to Rowan Humberstone Ltd (WEB 54993).
- (vii) **Resolved (unanimously)** to approve the grant allocation for £226 to St Andrew's Hall Chesterton (WEB 55176).
- (viii) **Resolved (unanimously)** to approve the grant allocation for £1,100 to Chesterton Community Association (WEB 55190).
- (ix) **Resolved (unanimously)** to approve the grant allocation for £800 to Chesterton Festival Committee (WEB 55188).
- (x) **Resolved (unanimously)** to approve the grant allocation for £750 to Kings Hedges Family Support Project (WEB 55064).

Members were asked to approve the following from the 2013-14 budget to enable planning and advance bookings to be made.

<b>Group</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Offer</b>
Chesterton Community Association	For newsletters, a programme of public meetings on community themes and garden competition	£1,100
Chesterton Festival Committee	2013 event. 28th – 30th June. Over 3,000 attend the main event plus a range of other activities. Costs include: entertainment, stage, equipment, license, hall and park hire, minibus, publicity, marquees, insurance. (£800 in 2.1 above as required this year) Full cost £7,680	£3,520
Arbury Carnival	2013 event. 8th June. Attendance is usually between 3,000-5,000. Costs include: stage hire, PA, publicity,	£2,500

	mobile toilets, waste disposal, cleaning, first aid, insurance. Full cost is £4,269.	
		£7,120

The Chair asked for comments on each recommendation highlighted in the Officer's report prior to separately recorded votes:

- (i) **Resolved (by 10 votes to 0)** to approve the grant allocation for £1,100 to Chesterton Community Association.
- (ii) **Resolved (by 10 votes to 0)** to approve the grant allocation for £3,520 to Chesterton Festival Committee.
- (iii) **Resolved (by 10 votes to 0)** to approve the grant allocation for £2,500 to Arbury Carnival.

### **12/69/NAC Cambridge Science Park Station**

The Committee received a verbal report from the Head of Major Infrastructure Delivery (Cambridgeshire County Council) regarding the Cambridge Science Park Station.

The Head of Major Infrastructure Delivery made the following points:

- (i) A consultation exercise was underway regarding the station design, prior to a planning application being submitted in 2013. If approved building work would commence in 2014/15.
- (ii) The Cambridge Science Park Station was needed as people drive to the current city centre station. It is hoped the Cambridge Science Park Station would reduce cross city commuting.
- (iii) The County Council used an alternative method of raising funding for the Cambridge Science Park Station project by borrowing from train companies and paying them back.
- (iv) The Cambridge Science Park Station should service the following routes:
  - Kings Cross to Ely.
  - Birmingham to Stansted.
  - Cambridge to Kings Lynn.
  - Additional routes may be proposed in future.
- (v) The Cambridge Science Park Station should have three platforms with appropriate access facilities such as lifts. There would also be an

on-site shop. The station would be similar in size to Ely or Huntingdon Station, rather than Cambridge Central Station.

- (vi) The guided busway would be extended to connect Cambridge Science Park Station. Citi 2 buses would also service the station.
- (vii) Cambridge Science Park Station is intended to be accessible to foot and bicycle traffic. One thousand bicycle parking spaces plus four hundred and fifty car parking spaces are proposed based on traffic flow identified through transport modelling. Access was proposed from Cowley Road/Milton Road interchange.

Members of the public made the following comments in response to the Cambridge Science Park Station verbal report:

- (i) Sought clarification regarding:
  - If the station would be fit for purpose ie points of access, parking provision and facilities appropriate for size of station.
  - If cycle parking could be split around the site instead of grouped in one location.
  - Could measures be implemented to mitigate commuter parking, such as a monitoring scheme.
  - Access routes.
  - Transport modelling methodology.
  - Traffic survey and flexibility to change/adjust routes in future.
  - Could a pedestrian bridge over the guided busway give access to Chesterton Fen and the local primary school.
- (ii) Raised concerns regarding:
  - Fee for car park may lead to offsite parking.
  - Impact on traffic flow and safety in surrounding area such as Fen Road crossing; and possible exacerbation of current issues.
  - Impact on local nature reserve and allotments.

In response to public questions the Head of Major Infrastructure Delivery confirmed the following:

- (i) The consultation would end 30 November 2012. Details could be obtained from the County Council and its website.
- (ii) Further bicycle and car parking provision could be provided as required.
- (iii) It was important to build an appropriately sized station building.
- (iv) The Head of Major Infrastructure Delivery was mindful of concerns regarding parking. A street survey would be undertaken pre and post

building work. If the Cambridge Science Park Station caused significant commuter traffic, resident parking schemes could be implemented in the surrounding area.

- (v) The Head of Major Infrastructure Delivery was mindful of concerns regarding traffic flow. Transport modelling suggested the Cambridge Science Park Station should have a positive impact as it may reduce overall commuter numbers. Transport modelling looked at traffic flow in the City and greater/surrounding area for current and proposed future developments. The Head of Major Infrastructure Delivery was confident that transport model figures were robust.
- (vi) The Cambridge Science Park Station should not adversely affect other transport projects.
- (vii) A commuter bridge was not required over the guided busway.

### **12/70/NAC Any Other Business**

The North Area Committee facebook page would close 30 November 2012. The corporate City Council facebook page would remain in place.

The meeting ended at 10.15 pm

**CHAIR**

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