

# SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

## South West Local Area Committee

### Meeting held 22 February 2024

**PRESENT:** Councillors Andrew Sangar (Chair), Tim Huggan (Deputy Chair), Joe Otten, Sue Alston, Roger Davison, Barbara Masters, Ruth Milsom, Minesh Parekh, Martin Smith and Cliff Woodcraft

#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

1.1 An apology for absence had been received from Councillor Colin Ross

#### **2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

2.1 No items were identified where resolutions may be moved to exclude the public and press.

#### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

#### **4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

4.1 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

#### **5. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SESSION- ACHIEVEMENTS ON COMMUNITY PLAN PRIORITIES.**

5.1 The Chair asked attendees to break out into groups in order to reflect on the actions and achievements against the Community Plan priorities for the year and to discuss any mid-term and longer-term actions. Members joined the groups.

5.2 The webcast was paused while this activity took place.

#### **6. FEEDBACK ON ENGAGEMENT SESSION**

6.1 The webcast restarted and the Chair advised that members of the

LAC team would compile a summary of the group discussions which had just taken place, and this would be published as an supplement to the agenda.

6.2 The Chair invited Members present to give a summary of what topics had been raised in the group discussions and the following were mentioned:

- How to evaluate the success of projects- particularly long-term projects.
- The certainty of funding and how to make the best use of it
- Community cinema
- Parking enforcement- e.g. Operation Park Safe
- Speeding and enforcement
- Lack of available parking in some areas, e.g. Crookes
- Parking around schools
- Need to reduce fly tipping and increase recycling
- Tree planting
- Working with “Friends” groups to improve the green environment
- An art project at Ecclesall Library which aimed to reduce graffiti
- Improving active travel
- The state of the roads and the importance of getting value from AMEY
- The potential formation of a neighbourhood forum similar to that in Ecclesall (i.e. the Millhouses and Ecclesall Community Group)
- Community food shops
- A LAC WhatsApp group
- Community speed watch.

## 7. FINANCE REPORT

8.1 The report was presented by Tania Bustamante, South West LAC Area Manager, who confirmed that no surplus was anticipated at present.

8.2 **RESOLVED:** That the South West Local Area Committee:-

- a) Notes the expenditure against the £100,000 budget to address local priorities in the South West LAC in 2023/23, as detailed in the report.
- b) Notes the expenditure against the £26,697 LAC Cost of Living budget.
- c) Approves the reallocation of the surplus £10,000 budget carried forward

from 2022/23 to be added to the LAC Ward Funds at £2,500 for each ward.

**8.3 Reasons for Decision**

The South West LAC is asked to note and approve the allocation of funding under the priority headings identified to assist its ability to monitor its budget and to support delivery of the Community Plan.

**8.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

Decisions on any expenditure above the existing authority to the Community Services Manager could be reserved to the LAC but this would inevitably delay delivery of priority actions to address specific issues identified in the Community Plan.

All decisions on expenditure to support Community Plan priorities could be delegated to officers. However, this would restrict and undermine the LAC's ability to monitor its delegated budget and delivery of the Community Plan

**8. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS**

8.1 The Committee received the following questions from members of the public who had submitted questions prior to the meeting:

(a) Donald Lennox (present)

*“What has recently changed or will be introduced in 2024 in South West area in respect of care and wellbeing services?”*

*There have been a number of city council reports referring to a transformation in such matters e.g. Hospital discharge and urgent care plans, preventative health care services, place-based initiatives to improve care health and wellbeing, integrated pathways of care, Team Around the Person, primary care networks, pathways for support and information platforms about care and health.*

*Will we live longer and better as a result of these and how will local people be engaged in service development?”*

Mr Lennox advised that a meeting had been arranged to discuss the question, between him, members of the LAC team and senior public health officers on the 8<sup>th</sup> March.

(b) Julia Watkinson (not present)

*“What Council fundraising support can we seek to offer teenagers and young adults for essential mental health benefits through recreational play and the environment?”*

*Our vision for 2025 and beyond is to create an outdoor activity hub for teenagers to meet and acquire ‘self-taught’ agility skills such as skateboarding and low-level core and team building activities.*

*I am the current Chair of More in Dore (Dore Recreation Ground Playground Appeal) ('MID').*

*MID is a subcommittee of Dore Village Society (Charity Commission No. 1017051). There are 4 of us who juggle parenting, work commitments and fundraising.*

*Since 2018, with the fantastic support of Sarah Garrett and the SCC Parks Team, we have raised and spent £39,500 to begin to refurbish the playground. As with many playgrounds within Sheffield, Dore has not benefitted from Council funding for over 20 years. The high cost of equipment and safety surface (which has to be installed in conjunction with Sheffield City Council who maintain equipment and retain liability) means the £39,500 has done little more than add a small toddler and Junior climbing frame.*

*Next year the Council will remove the swings. We are currently fundraising to replace the slide, removed during 2023.*

*We would like help and guidance as to how best to fundraise to achieve our aim of safe recreational play for all ages and abilities. Currently the playground cannot cater for children with disabilities.*

*Our focus for 2025 and beyond is mental health and the environment.”*

The Chair advised that a written response would be provided for Ms Watkinson and published on the Council's website.

## **9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 9.1 The Chair thanked everyone present for attending and contributing to the discussion.
- 9.2 The Chair advised that whilst Councillors valued the opportunity that LAC meetings provided, for them to come out into the local community, and wanted this to continue, there was a proposal to move the formal part of LAC meetings to the Town Hall. He invited attendees to give their opinion on this to Members after the meeting.
- 9.3 A request was made from an attendee that an acoustic check be carried out in advance of any meetings at new venues as there had been difficulties with the PA system at previous events. It was noted that the venue that evening had been excellent.
- 9.3 The date and time of the next meeting of the South West LAC is to be confirmed.