

WALSALL SOUTH AREA PANEL

Tuesday, 2 July, 2013 at 6.00 p.m.

Conference Room, Council House, Walsall

Present

Councillor K. Hussain (Chairman)
Councillor D.A. Anson
Councillor M. Arif
Councillor I. Azam
Councillor A. Ditta
Councillor Mrs. R.A. Martin
Councillor H.S. Sarohi
Councillor V. Whyte

Officers in attendance

Jo Lowndes – Partnership Manager
Denise Perry – Area Manager
Craig Goodall - Committee Business and Governance Manager

1/13

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Z. Ali and E. B. Russell.

2/13

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest for the duration of the meeting.

3/13

Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)

The meeting noted that there were no items that were required to be considered in private session.

4/13

Funding Procedures

The meeting considered the funding procedures for Area Panels including a proposed urgency procedure.

The Area Manager highlighted the report to Members.

Resolved

That:-

1. the Area Panel noted that they have authority to make decisions on their partnership funding as allocated to them by Council;
- and;
2. the Area Panel approve delegated authority to the relevant Area Manager for any urgent project up to the value of £500 in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair and relevant Ward Members.

5/13

Funding Report

The meeting considered applications for funding from the Area Panel

The Area Manager highlighted the projects for approval by Members.

Resolved

That:-

1. £950 be allocated towards Caledon Street/Roachford security improvements;
2. £363.20 be awarded towards AOG Saddlers pitch fees;
3. £552 be awarded towards Environment Day in Walsall Arboretum;
- and;
4. a special meeting of Walsall South Area Panel be called to consider further applications for funding.

6/13

Area Manager Update

Members considered an update on activity in the Walsall South Area from the Area Manager.

A Member enquired when the faulty CCTV cameras would be operational? The Area Manager explained that she was working on this and she was unable to notify Members of the timescale at the current time. The Area Manager explained that it was difficult to source alternative cameras during periods whilst faulty cameras were away for repair.

Members requested further information on the free positive activity sessions being provided by the Goldmine Centre.

A Member reported that she was pleased with the assistance provided by Tarmac to remediate problems with pot holes in the car park at the Grange. She also highlighted 'The Silver Scheme' group which provided services to older people. Members requested further information on the group.

Resolved

That:-

1. a report be considered by the Walsall South Area Panel on the free positive activity sessions being delivered by the Goldmine Centre;
2. the Area Manager provide Members with further details on 'The Silver Scheme';
- and;
3. the report be noted.

7/13

Area Plan Summary Document Approval

The Panel considered the Area Community Plan Summary Document for the Walsall South Area.

The Area Manager introduced the Area Community Plan Summary Document and highlighted key points to Members.

Members were pleased with the plan. It was noted that it would be helpful if a date was included.

Resolved

That, subject to the addition of a date, the Area Community Plan Summary Document for Walsall South be approved.

8/13

Devolution to Area Partnerships Update (including Participatory Budgeting)

The Panel considered a report highlighting activity taking place regarding devolution through Area Partnerships.

The Partnership Manager highlighted ongoing activity regarding devolution through Area Partnerships. She explained the report highlighted seven proposals which would further develop the Area Partnership model. She explained that there would be a pilot taking place later in the year which would look to empower local people to influence resources with direct

impact at a local level this would mainly focus on the influencing of street cleansing, grounds maintenance and highways maintenance. As part of this work Tarmac had offered access to supplies and services in order to deliver localised projects.

With regard to Local Area Co-ordinators (LAC) this work was still at the design stage. No areas for the LAC's to work in had been chosen. She also explained that a Strategic Resource Officer had recently been appointed by the Council. The role of this Officer was to support the Council, its Partners and the Voluntary Community Sector in identifying appropriate funding sources for projects and service delivery.

Resolved

That:-

1. the Strategic Resource Officer be invited to present their external funding strategy to a future meeting;
- and;
2. the proposals through devolution through Area Partnerships be noted.

9/13

Election to the Local Police and Crime Board

Resolved

That Councillor A. Ditta be appointed to represent the Walsall South Area Panel on the Local Police and Crime Board in the Municipal year 2013/14.

10/13

Dates and venues for Walsall South Area Panel meetings

It was noted that a special meeting of the Area Panel would be called shortly.

Termination of meeting

The meeting terminated at 6.18 p.m.

Chairman:

Date: