

MINUTE of MEETING of the LIVINGSTON NORTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE of WEST LoTHIAN COUNCIL held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST LoTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, on 28 JUNE 2018.

Present – Councillors Dom McGuire (Chair), Alison Adamson, Robert De Bold, and Andrew Miller

In Attendance –

Jim Jack, Lead Officer for Livingston North Local Area Committee, West Lothian Council

Scott McKillop, Community Regeneration Officer, West Lothian Council

Beverley Akinlami, Education Services, West Lothian Council

Sergeant Iain Wells, Police Scotland

Gordon McCaig, Scottish Fire & Rescue Services

Jill Parton and Gloria Gibson, Carmondean Community Council

Brian Johnston, Livingston Village Community Council

Julie Henderson, Knightsridge Community Council

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

2. MINUTE

The committee confirmed the Minute of its meeting held on 3 May 2018. The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

Matters arising were dealt with as follows :-

Having previously agreed to report the council's Winter Maintenance Policy to the local area committee it was noted that this item of business was not included on the agenda.

The Leader Officer therefore undertook to bring this item of business to the next meeting of the committee.

3. WARD 3, LIVINGSTON NORTH, UPDATE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by Police Sergeant Iain Wells providing an update on performance activities and issues across the ward for the months of April, May and June and for the year-to-date.

The report also provided an update on the changes to the West Lothian Community Police Team which had taken place following changes to funding provided by West Lothian Council. The changes had taken effect from 16 May 2018 and were summarised in the report.

Sergeant Iain Wells continued to explain that with regards to recent anti-social behaviour there was a continued downward trend. However despite

this recently large groups of youths had been congregating at various locations in the ward, consuming alcohol, setting fires and littering. Therefore a partnership response was co-ordinated by Police Scotland, details of which were detailed in the report. Additionally good use had been made of social media to explain and advise of the action that was being taken to tackle the identified issues. This included reminding parents of their responsibility in knowing where their children were at all times.

Information continued to be provided in relation to road safety issues. This included uptake of the Parksmart Scheme at local primary schools and issues with parking in and around Livingston North Railway Station.

In relation to parking in the vicinity of the railway station which it was perceived as being on the increase a request was made for double yellow lines to be painted in the area as the indiscriminate parking was having a negative impact on the local businesses. Sergeant Wells explained that this was a matter for the council. Therefore the Lead Officer undertook to have a discussion with Highway colleagues on the matter.

With regards to changes to the Community Policing Team a request was made from local ward members to be provided with details on the best way to log calls with community policing officers. Sergeant Wells explained that there was now a generic email address, as opposed to individual email addresses and that he would share these details with elected members in due course.

The report concluded with an update on tackling substance misuse.

The Local Area Committee was asked to note the content of the report.

#### Decision

1. To note the contents of the report;
2. To request that the Lead Officer consult Highway colleagues with regards to the possibility of having double yellow lines painted in the vicinity of Livingston North Railway Station; and
3. To request that Sergeant Iain Wells supply elected members with details of how they and members of the local community could log calls with community policing officers.

#### 4. FIRE SERVICE REPORT

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service providing an update on the activity within the ward for the period up to 31 March 2018.

Attached to the report at Appendix 1 was a series of graphs showing details of accidental fire dwellings, fire casualties and fatalities, deliberate fires, fires in non-domestic properties, non-fatal non-fire emergency casualties and unwanted fire alarm signals.

Decision

To note the terms of the report

5. COMMUNITY REGENERATION UPDATE

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration providing an update on progress towards developing a regeneration plan within the ward.

The report recalled that the Regeneration Framework which was approved by Council Executive in February 2014 contained a commitment to develop regeneration plans in key areas of deprivation in West Lothian. In addition to this, as part of the Community Empowerment Act, there was a requirement on all Community Planning Partnerships to develop plans to improve their most disadvantaged areas.

Eight regeneration areas had been identified in West Lothian, based on the data zones within the bottom 20% of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. One of the areas identified was Livingston Central, which covered the communities of Knightsridge, Ladywell and Dedridge.

Since the last local area committee meeting there had continued to be progress around a number of identified priorities and included the development of action plans. The Regeneration Group last met on 15 May with a further meeting planned during the school holidays to continue to progress the action plans.

A number of initiatives were being developed under the headings of Improving Access to Services & Amenities; More Activity, Play & Learning Opportunities; and The Environment & Community Safety. The report provided details under each of these headings of some of those initiatives including community clean-ups, gala days, a bus link to Carmondean and an Environmental Visual Audit (EVA) for the Knightsridge area.

With regards to the EVA this had been carried out on 10 May 2018 and was led by Police Scotland, and included council officers, voluntary sector representatives, residents and elected members. A copy of the report produced following the conclusion of the EVA was attached to the report at Appendix 1.

The committee was also advised that there was now a community council established in Knightsridge.

With regards to the EVA the Community Regeneration undertook to provide local ward members with an update on progress with those issues identified in due course.

It was also noted that an EVA had been completed for Deer Park Heights and that since this time ownership of the nearby woodland and footpath had been established. Therefore a request was made for council officers

to continue to investigate the identified issues in this area, in conjunction with Scottish Fire and Rescue colleagues.

It was recommended that the Local Area Committee notes :-

1. The update on progress towards the first version of the regeneration plan for the Knightsridge area;
2. The priorities that had been set for the plan to be based on;
3. The updates on the early actions for each priority; and
4. The updates on efforts to try to improve the local neighbourhood centre within Knightsridge.

#### Decision

1. To note the contents of the report and the Knightsridge EVA;
2. To agree that the Community Regeneration Officer provide local ward members with an update on progress to date with the Knightsridge EVA; and
3. To request that council officer's progress those issues raised via the recent Deep Park Heights EVA now that ownership of the nearby wooded area and footpath had been established.

#### 6. COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT YOUTH SERVICES

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources) providing an update on youth work developments undertaken by the CLD Youth Service and partners in the Livingston North ward.

CLD Youth Services managed and delivered six term time children's/youth clubs in Livingston North ward, details of which were summarised in the report.

Club attendance had varied across provisions, but most notably the numbers of children and young people attending the after school club and children's club in Knightsridge had dropped significantly over the past 18 months despite promotional activities in schools and local community venues.

As part of the ongoing monitoring and reporting of information, members of the Livingston North Youth Providers Group had identified a gap in provision for secondary aged school pupils; this was supported by feedback from local residents who had participated in community consultation events undertaken by the council's regeneration team.

To address these issues, CLD Youth Services and the Vennie were working together and had developed a pilot programme for young people aged 11-16 years. The new initiative was set to run on Saturday evenings

over a four week period commencing on 28 July 2018, from the Vennie and Mosswood Community Education Centre. If the programme proved successful then partners would seek further venue access and resources to run the club on Saturday evenings from October 2018 to March 2019.

The report continued to provide information on the Year of Young People including events around the football world cup and the summer holiday lunch club which would be delivered in Livingston Station Community Centre for three weeks.

It was recommended that the committee notes the content of the report.

#### Decision

To note the contents of the report

### 7. WORKPLAN

A copy of the workplan had been circulated for information.

It was noted and as previously agreed by the local area committee that as a result of increasing the frequency of meetings from four to six per twelve month period then some subjects, for example Nets and Land Services Update, would only be reported to every other meeting. Therefore the Clerk advised that only those subject matters which were on the agenda should be considered.

Members agreed that certain subject matters should be included on every committee agenda and this included the Community Regeneration update.

#### Decision

1. To note the contents of the workplan;
2. To note and as previously agreed that some reports, such as Nets and Land Services would only be reported to every other meeting of the local area committee;
3. To agree that the Community Regeneration Update report would be included on every agenda for the local area committee; and
4. To agree that the workplan should be updated to reflect previous decisions of the committee in relation to an update on the Carmondean Ability Centre and the Winter Maintenance Policy.