

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

BRANDWOOD WARD COMMITTEE 26 FEBRUARY 2014
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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BRANDWOOD
WARD COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26
FEBRUARY 2014 AT 1900 HOURS AT THE
BRANDWOOD CENTRE, 157 ALLENS CROFT ROAD,
B14 6RP**

PRESENT: - Councillor Eva Phillips in the Chair;
Councillor Barry Henley.

ALSO PRESENT:

Karen Cheney – District Head (Erdington)
Karen Stevens – Ward Support Officer
Sarah Stride – Area Democratic Services Officer
A representative from West Midlands Police

(There were 7 members of the public in attendance).

HOUSEKEEPING

134 Members and members of the public were advised of the location of fire exits,
toilet facilities and general housekeeping rules for the meeting.

APOLOGY

135 An apology was submitted on behalf of Councillor Mike Leddy for his inability to
attend the meeting due to Mayoral duties.

CODE OF CONDUCT

136 The Code of Conduct for the Brandwood Ward Committee was noted:-

(See Document No. 1)

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

137 Members were reminded that they must declare all relevant pecuniary and non-
pecuniary interests relating to any items of business to be discussed at this
meeting.

No declarations of interest were raised.

MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

138 The Minutes of the Ward Committee meeting held on 18 December 2013 having been previously circulated were confirmed and signed by the Chairperson.

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

139 The Chairperson had no announcements.

KINGSWOOD DRIVE RESPITE CARE SERVICES

Councillor Barry Henley gave an update report and made the following comments:

- The Kingswood Drive Respite Care Service was located off Monyhull Hall Road and was used by adults with learning difficulties in order to give their carers respite.
- The bungalows were run by the National Health Trust (NHS) and specialised nurses were available for 24 hour care.
- If, for any reason the adult with learning difficulties could not attend the respite care at Kingswood Drive then they would have to be admitted into hospital. The carer would then have to accompany them.
- Section 75 Joint Commissioning Team 'purchased' care from the NHS to provide the care at Kingswood Drive. The Joint Commissioning Team has reduced the care budget which in turn will reduce the number of specialised care nurses at the respite centre.
- Councillor Henley explained that a meeting was held between John Tomlinson (Joint Commissioning Team), Andy Harrison (NHS Trust), 30 carers and interested parties to discuss their concerns and a petition containing over 2,000 signatures in support of the care provided at Kingswood Drive was submitted.
- The formal consultation process had not, as yet, commenced.
- The NHS Trust has committed not to back down as they are aware of the calibre of adults attending the centre and understood the specialised care they required.
- The 3 Ward Councillors aim to continue with the campaign to retain the existing staff at Kingswood Drive care centre. Negotiations were ongoing and he stated that regular updates will be reported to this Ward Committee in due course.

It was –

140

RESOLVED:-

That the verbal update on Kingswood Drive Respite Care Services be noted.

SELLY OAK DISTRICT SAVINGS PROPOSALS 2014 – 2016
PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The following report of the District Head, Selly Oak was submitted:

(See Document No. 1)

Karen Cheney introduced the report and stated that the City Council faced a number of significant financial pressures in the coming years. Every service area and Directorate had to make savings. None of the services provided by the District were statutory services i.e. the District was under no obligation to provide the service.

Following a review the Cabinet Committee determined that the funding allocation to all Districts will be based on a Fair Funding formula and has apportioned savings for Districts accordingly. Selly Oak District has been allocated a savings target based on the controllable net budget of £2,062,000.

The Selly Oak District had a savings target of £700,000 in 2014/15 based on a controllable net budget of £2,062,000 rising to £987,000 in 2015/16. This represented just fewer than 50% reduction in the overall controllable budget.

She concluded that the proposals put forward in the report will be considered by Cabinet Committee and was subject to local consultation with staff, Trade Unions and the public.

In response to a question raised by a member of the public, Councillor Barry Henley advised that the plans to widen Brandwood Park Road will not be developed because the Council did not have the necessary funding to finance the scheme.

A number of issues were raised concerning Neighbourhood Advice Centres. The Chairperson clarified that residents will notice a difference in the level of service provision as it was impossible to cut the budget and not expect a reduction in the service provided.

It was -

141

RESOLVED:-

That the public consultation report on the District savings proposals 2014 - 2016 be noted.

COMMUNITY CHEST FUNDING – UPDATE

The following document was circulated at the meeting:

(See Document No. 2)

Karen Stevens, Ward Support Officer introduced the paper circulated and stated that there was an error on the fifth line, last column that should read '0' and not 2,000.

She confirmed that all of the projects were progressing well and that she was awaiting final invoices from several of them. The Community Chest budget will be 100% spend by the next financial year.

The Chairperson stated that this was the last Ward Committee that Karen Stevens will be presenting as she was leaving the City Council after 14 years' service. She wished Karen well in all her future endeavours and thanked her for all her hard work that she had accomplished in the Ward. Members echoed comments made.

It was –

142 **RESOLVED:-**

That the update report and verbal amendment be noted.

PETITIONS

143 No petitions were submitted.

OUTSTANDING MINUTES

The following list of Outstanding Minutes was submitted:-

(See Document No. 3)

144 **RESOLVED:-**

That Outstanding Minute No. 16(a) be continued.

MATTERS OF URGENT LOCAL CONCERN

145 No matters of urgent local concern were raised.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

146 The Chairperson agreed that an update report on Fleet and Waste Management Services be included as an agenda item at the next meeting of this Ward Committee.

DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

- 147 That the next meeting of the Brandwood Ward Committee be held on Wednesday 23 April 2014 at 1900 hours at The Brandwood Centre.
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AUTHORITY TO CHAIRPERSON AND OFFICERS

148

RESOLVED:-

That the Chairperson is hereby authorised to act until the next meeting of the Committee except that, in respect of the exercise of the Council's Executive functions delegated to it by the Cabinet, the appropriate Chief Officers are hereby authorised to act in consultation with the Chairperson and that the Director of Legal and Democratic Services is authorised to affix the Corporate Seal to any document necessary to give effect to a decision of the said officers acting in pursuance of the power hereby delegated to them; further that a report of all action taken under this authority be submitted to the next meeting and that such report shall explain why this authority was used.

The meeting ended at 2030 hours.

CHAIRPERSON