



Constituency Committee - Wirral South

Date:	Thursday, 22 January 2015
Time:	6.00 pm
Venue:	Mayer Hall, The Village, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 7PL

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AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to consider whether they have any disclosable pecuniary or non pecuniary interests in connection with any item(s) on this agenda and, if so, to declare them and state the nature of the interest.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE (Pages 1 - 12)

To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 16 October 2014 as a correct record. **(Copy attached.)**

4. ASSET BASED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT UPDATE AND FIVE MINUTE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

To receive a presentation from Chris Shaw (Nurture Development) to update the Committee on the project's progress. A five minute slot has been allowed for ABCD specific questions to allow Mr Shaw to leave this meeting and attend the Wallasey Constituency Committee meeting.

If there are still questions to be asked beyond the allocated time, details will be taken and answers obtained outside the Committee meeting.

5. WIRRAL SOUTH BUDGET AND SPEND UPDATE 2014/15 (Pages 13 - 20)

A report by the Constituency Manager (Wirral South) is **attached**.

6. WIRRAL SOUTH PRIORITIES UPDATE (Pages 21 - 34)

Report by the Constituency Manager (Wirral South) is **attached**.

7. UPDATE FROM MERSEYSIDE POLICE

To receive an oral report from the Neighbourhood Inspector.

8. UPDATE FROM THE MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

To receive an oral report from the Station Manager.

9. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION (APPROXIMATELY 20 MINUTES)

Although it is possible to forward pre-notified questions to the Constituency Manager, questions will also be answered on the night, via the Chair.

10. URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE CHAIR - POLICE PRIORITY SETTING MEETING

To consider any business that the Chair accepts as being urgent.

11. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee is reminded that its next meeting will be held at 6pm on Thursday, 16 April 2015 at Mayer Hall, Bebington.

CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE - WIRRAL SOUTH

Thursday, 16 October 2014

<u>Present:</u>	Councillor	P Gilchrist (Chair)	
	Councillors	A Hodson D Mitchell C Muspratt S Niblock W Smith	A Sykes J Walsh I Williams KJ Williams
<u>In attendance:</u>	Co-optees	L Longshaw Parr K Sutton M Wright MA Craig WA Ward	

MARK DELAP - PRINCIPAL COMMITTEE OFFICER

The Chair reported the sad and sudden death of Mark Delap at the age of 53. Mark had been employed by the Council for 37 years. He was a Principal Committee Officer and was responsible for taking the Minutes of the Wirral West Constituency Committee, amongst other things.

The Committee stood in silence for one minute in tribute to Mr Delap.

16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C Carubia, K Hodson, C Povall, L Rowlands and T Smith.

17 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor C Muspratt declared a personal interest in respect of Agenda Item 6 – Wirral South Priorities Update (Minute No. 21 refers) as she was a Friend of Mayer Park and Mayer Park was mentioned in the report.

18 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

Further to Minute No. 15 – Date of Next Meeting - when the Committee had been informed that it was not possible to hold its meetings at the Mayer Hall on Wednesday evenings due to a block booking, Members raised concerns over the inconvenience, to some, of holding meetings on Thursday evenings and requested that this be reviewed.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 25 June 2014 be confirmed as a correct record; and**
- (2) the matter of holding meetings on a Thursday evening be reviewed before to the Council's Committee Calendar for 2015/16 is agreed.**

19 COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE UPDATE

Further to Minute No. 19 – Constituency Representative Update, the Constituency Manager reported that Dave Johnson was unable to take up his co-option on to the Committee because of family reasons.

The five remaining co-opted Members introduced themselves to the Committee; they each provided details of their background, experience they had working within the local community and their particular interests.

RESOLVED:

That the co-opted Members' introductions be noted.

20 WIRRAL SOUTH BUDGET AND SPEND UPDATE

A report by the Constituency Manager provided the Committee with an update on the current allocation of all budgets devolved to the Committee. This included:

- £50K Wirral South Health & Wellbeing Fund
- £38,720.50 core budget rolled over from 2013/14 (allocated £10k per ward)
- £50K Core budget allocated to three main priorities
- £77,750 Road Safety Money
- £35K "Your Wirral" funding

The report also set out the Committee's three budget priorities and recommendations in relation to the various projects to be funded from the "Your Wirral" grants programme.

Appended to the Constituency Manager's report were:

- Wirral South Health and Wellbeing Fund Successful Projects Updates (Appendix 1)
- Wirral South Road Safety Task and Finish Group Meeting Notes – 13 August 2014 (Appendix 2)
- "Your Wirral South" Recommended Funding Applications (Appendix 3)

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the progress made in respect of the allocation of the “Wirral South Health & Wellbeing Fund” be noted;**
- (2) Members will work closely with the Constituency Manager and other officers to ensure that the remaining under spend from 2013/14 is allocated, prior to the first Constituency Committee meeting of 2015 (22 January);**
- (3) the following proposals of the “Road Safety Task and Finish Group” be agreed:**
 - To utilise some of the £77,750 (£10K suggested) to carry out a constituency wide project to future proof a number of Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS).**
 - The remaining amount to be split evenly per ward.**
- (4) Members will work closely with the Constituency Manager and other officers to ensure that the ward based road safety monies are spent in a timely manner (with a full and detailed report on the projects and their progress being brought to the first Constituency Committee meeting of 2015 (22 January); and**
- (5) the proposal to fund the ten “Your Wirral” projects outlined in Appendix three to the report be agreed. (To reopen the aforementioned fund until 28 November 2014, reconvene the existing task and finish group to assess applications expediently and allocate monies reporting back to the January 2014 Committee meeting.)**

21 WIRRAL SOUTH PRIORITIES UPDATE

A report by the Constituency Manager set out progress in respect of the resolved priorities for the Committee during 2014/15 and beyond.

The Committee noted that Members had attended a priority setting session in order to identify possible themes for the Committee’s consideration. The following three main themes were proposed and agreed by the Committee at its meeting on 25 June 2014 (Minute No. 4 refers.):

- Improved Open Spaces; to increase the number of green flag parks in Wirral South year on year.**
- Gaps in Youth Provision; to work with the internal and external partners to identify and rectify any existing gaps in provision of youth services in Wirral South.**

- Tackle Social Isolation; Identify the various groups affected by social isolation in Wirral South, establish the evident gaps in provision throughout the Constituency and aim to either support existing providers or commission a new piece of work.

The Committee had also resolved that each of the priorities above should be allocated £15k each, thus leaving £5k of core budget to support various engagement initiatives.

The Constituency Manager detailed current initiatives, progress made and proposals for the Committee's consideration in respect of each of the three identified priority areas.

Since that meeting the Committee, noted in particular, that the Constituency Manager had met with representatives from the Wirral South Park's Team, including the Senior Manager - Parks and Countryside Services to highlight the most suitable location on which to focus the Committee's efforts throughout 2014/15. Based upon this discussion and a subsequent site visit it was decided that Mayer Park was the most suitable location because of a number of factors, not least the existence of an enthusiastic and active "Friends Of" group plus the overall infrastructure being in acceptable condition. Since then a Parks Priority Task and Finish Group of elected Members has been set up and met on 6 August 2014. The notes of its meeting were appended to the Constituency Manager's report as Appendix 1. It had made the following proposals for the Committee's consideration:

- Installation of new bins.
- Arboreal work (removal of old tree stumps which require specialist equipment).
- Installation of a small fence to make a "kick around" area safer as it currently opened onto a main road.

A Member queried how a small fence would prevent children running out onto the road or balls going over it. The Constituency Manager reported that advice had been sought from a Green Flag Award judge who was of the view that chestnut fencing would work to begin with by emphasising the barrier to the Park.

The Member told the Committee that it was responsible for children's safety and that a risk assessment needed to be carried out. He considered that Green Flag Awards were more about how things looked rather than safety aspects.

Another Member felt that the fence would act as a deterrent and that it needed to be erected where the allotments used to be. It was an improvement on what was there now but she was unsure how safe it was going to be.

A Member reported that Bebington Members were awaiting quotations for road works to be carried out. These quotations were not being submitted very quickly so this may mean that the work may not be able to be completed within the agreed timescale. The Constituency Manager agreed that he would chase up these quotations so that the work was not delayed.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the spend associated with the following improvements to Mayer Park be agreed:
 - Installation of new bins
 - Installation of a small fence to make a "kick around" area safer as it currently opens on to a main road
- (2) the Park Related Priority for Wirral South be amended to encapsulate the wishes of the Task and Finish Group regarding increased access for those with a disability. The updated Priority should read:

“Improved Open Spaces; to increase the number of green flag parks in Wirral South year on year *and ensure accessibility is improved in each chosen location.*”
- (3) the Constituency Manager be requested to continue to work with Colleagues in the Parks and Countryside Service and members of the ‘Parks Priority Task and Finish Group’ to produce a shortlist of locations for consideration in 2015/16;
- (4) the Committee grants delegated powers to the existing and representative ‘Parks Priority Task and Finish Group’ to ensure budgetary spend can be agreed and improvements can be made as expediently as possible, thus maximising the potential for applying for the Green Flag Award within 2014/15;
- (5) the Constituency Manager be requested to work with Youth Support to compile a list of further initiatives in relation to the remaining youth budget for 2014/15; (This list be presented to Committee in January.)
- (6) the progress made in relation to initiating a “Dementia Friendly Community Pilot” in the Heswall area be noted and an initial allocation of up to £1000 between now and January 2015 be approved to allow the project to proceed in a timely manner; and
- (7) the progress made in relation to the identification of ways in which the Wirral South Constituency Committee can support

carers within the five wards be noted and a proposal be presented at the next meeting of the Committee.

22 UPDATE FROM MERSEYSIDE POLICE

The Neighbourhood Inspector, Wirral South made a presentation to the Committee on the Police Estates Strategy and it was noted that it was proposed to reduce Police buildings in Wirral from ten to five. The proposed Strategy was out for public consultation until 30 November 2014. There were two road shows planned (Thursday, 30 October 2014 – 12 – 2pm at Tesco's in Heswall and Tuesday, 28 October 2014 – 10.30 – 12.30pm at Asda at Bromborough) and there would also be a public meeting at Birkenhead Town Hall on 11 November 2014.

The Inspector informed that in Wirral South it was proposed: That

- Bebington Police Station would be retained and refurbished and would become a Community Police Station and Neighbourhood and Patrol Hub replacement for Bromborough Police Station. Bromborough Police Station could then be declared surplus to requirements and disposed of; and
- Heswall, Hoylake, Moreton, Well Lane and Laird Street Police Stations could each be replaced by one Community Police Station and then they could each be declared surplus to requirements and disposed of.

The Inspector informed that the proceeds from the sale of some of the estate would be reinvested into the new estate, in laptops for all Officers (so they did not need to return to the Station each day) and in body worn cameras. He also informed which PCSOs were aligned to which ward.

Following the presentation the Inspector answered questions put by the Committee. It was noted that Bromborough Police Station was a lovely building but most of it was not in use and that Bebington had been deprived of a Police Station for a long time.

RESOLVED:

That the Neighbourhood Inspector be thanked for his report.

23 UPDATE FROM THE MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

The new Station Manager (Andy Forshaw) informed the Committee that he had been based at Bromborough and Heswall Fire Stations for the last six weeks. He also provided statistical information for both station areas in respect of:

- Home fire safety checks.

- Responses to dwelling fires, secondary fires, deliberate vehicle fires, road traffic collisions, non domestic property fires.
- Call outs during the Bonfire periods 2011/12 and 2012/13. It was noted there had been a large reduction each year.

The Station Manager also reported on arrangements being put in hand with partner agencies for the 2014 Bonfire period including education integration, education messages, uncertain fireworks' drop offs, hazard spotting, free skips in certain locations, the media campaign targeted at youth groups via Facebook and Twitter and the Cage Soccer being provided in New Ferry as an alternative. He informed of the arrangements to deal with remnants of bonfires where crews would be touring all areas and ensure any remnants were extinguished.

Members noted that in the past debris from bonfires in public places had remained in situ for up to six months but last year they were cleared away quickly. This had been the result of a partnership arrangement between the Fire and Rescue Service, the Probation Service and the Council. This arrangement was still in place and bonfire residue would be removed quickly this year as well.

RESOLVED:

That the Station Manager be thanked for his report.

24 **PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION (APPROXIMATELY 20 MINUTES)**

Elected Members and members of the public in attendance raised the following questions, comments and requests.

Number 1

A member of the public asked if Housing Associations were still "dumping" their problem tenants in New Ferry. He went on to inform that residents were even more convinced than ever that this ongoing problem was getting worse. (It was not only public sector tenants, but private rented sector ones too. He asked what could be done about it.

When representatives of the Housing Associations had been invited to attend a NeFRA meeting, two years ago, they had denied that they had a deliberate policy of putting tenants with anger management/drugs/alcohol/antisocial behaviour issues in New Ferry, but the problems just did not seem to go away. They had said that if residents had issues with any tenants, to report them to the relevant Housing Association. However, he had found residents who were reluctant to do this because they feared "reprisals" from the

unsavoury neighbours with whom they had been having problems. Some people, he said, had been hounded out of the local area by problem tenants.

The member of the public formally requested that representatives from the various Housing Associations be invited to the South Wirral Constituency Committee meeting to answer the questions residents had about this issue.

The Chair informed that some detailed work would be carried out behind the scenes.

The Constituency Manager agreed to facilitate a closed meeting and to invite representatives of Riverside to attend. Also, Shorefields Problem Solving Group would consider this matter at its next meeting. A holistic approach would need to be taken.

Councillor S Niblock declared a personal interest by virtue of him being a tenant of a social landlord.

A Member informed that there were problems with tenants of social and private landlords and that there was a scheme on the Wirral to register private landlords so they were more responsible and did not just “dump” people in areas. However, this was not the forum to debate this matter in too much detail.

The Neighbourhood Inspector informed that from 20 October 2014 there would be major changes in legislation which would make it easier to evict bad tenants.

Number 2

A member of the public wanted to update the Committee on progress made in relation to the adoption of a private pumping station in Eastham Mews by United Utilities. She wished to draw attendees' attention to the fact that United Utilities were actively seeking out such locations in order that they might adopt them. (The following link signposts to United Utilities relevant web page: <http://www.unitedutilities.com/private-pumping-stations.aspx>).

The Chair informed that he had a copy of relevant correspondence. He would review it and obtain some technical advice.

It was noted that anyone who had a pump should be directed to United Utilities because they wanted to identify where they all were.

Number 3

A member of the public informed that the Council had contracted with an external organisation [Nurture Development] to promote the concept of Asset

Based Community Development [ABCD] throughout the Borough. He asked the following questions:

- Does the Committee endorse the concept of ABCD?
- How many Committee Members and officers have attended a meeting or seminar to learn about or discuss the concept?
- What plans did the Committee have to help communities within their boundaries to develop and carry forward the ABCD principles?

The Constituency Manager informed that the Council did endorse the concept of ABCD. He and some Members had received some training on this concept and on 10 November 2014 Members had been invited to a Seminar facilitated by Nurture Development.

It was intended that each Constituency area would develop programmes that come out of the Workshops being held.

Question 4

A member of the public informed that Higher Bebington Road had been closed that afternoon because of an event at the Sports College and it had involved three Police Officers. Road closures were now taking place whenever a tournament was on. Members considered it important that the School was informed that it needed to redirect the traffic in a safer way. Today, the road had been closed as the children were returning home from school.

A Member, who was also a governor of the School informed that he would take this matter up as a matter of urgency.

Congestion issues would be taken forward and the Assistant Chief Executive would speak to the Headteacher.

Question 5

A member of the public asked what could be done about parking outside schools at the beginning and end of the school day. The member of the public also informed that pupils from Higher Bebington School ran down the road on Tuesday and sometimes Wednesdays knocking over wheely bins in the process.

A Member informed that parking around schools was an issue across all schools. Headteachers and Governors tried to tackle this by sending out letters to parents asking that they park responsibly but this was not something that could easily be enforced.

Members could try to get yellow lines but down on roads in the vicinity of schools but this just moved the problems further down the road. PCSOs did issue tickets when vehicles caused an obstruction.

The Neighbourhood Inspector highlighted the fact that parking offenses were now decriminalised. There were very few Parking Officers. The Police could issue tickets for obstruction but it had a high burden of proof.

The Constituency Manager informed that the Council could speak to Headteachers where a problem had been identified and it could also consider using CCTV vehicles.

A Member requested that a CCTV vehicle could be deployed to Cross Lane, Bebington where parents regularly parked on double yellow lines. The Constituency Manager agreed to compile a list of hot spots and forward them to a relevant Council colleague for consideration.

Question 6

A member of the public made reference to isolation and loneliness of elderly men and asked if consideration could be given to how to get them out of the house and involved with other people e.g. Men in Sheds.

It was noted that the policy of not gritting estate roads added to the isolation as the elderly could not leave their houses for long time periods in the winter.

A Member informed that it was no longer possible to arrange for grit bins to be filled. This was a funding issue and it was very serious. The problem regarding ice was understood and it was the result of the severity of the cuts the Council had been forced to make. Members would try to find a way to solve this problem in these very difficult circumstances.

Question 7

The Alzheimer's Society in Birkenhead had received £9,000 to promote dementia and could hold an ABCD session.

The Chair informed that there had been a Notice of Motion to the Council about giving ABCD a higher priority and there was a training session planned at the Lauries Centre in Birkenhead shortly.

25 URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE CHAIR - POLICE PRIORITY SETTING MEETING

It was noted that the Police wanted to carry out a priority setting session before or after a future Committee meeting.

The Neighbourhood Inspector reported that he wanted to hold a meeting for local people so they could voice their concerns about the Police and what they thought the Police should be dealing with. This would be an opportunity for local people to raise issues in this forum or in private with Police Officers in a Break Away Room.

RESOLVED:

That the Neighbourhood Inspector's report be noted and his proposal to hold a meeting for local people, so they can voice their concerns about the Police and what they think the Police should deal with, be supported.

26 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next meeting had been advertised as taking place at 6pm on Thursday, 22 January 2014 at Mayer Hall, The Village, Bebington.

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WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL SOUTH CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE

22 JANUARY 2015

SUBJECT:	WIRRAL SOUTH BUDGET & SPEND UPDATE
WARD/S AFFECTED:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>BEBINGTON</u> ▪ <u>BROMBOROUGH</u> ▪ <u>CLATTERBRIDGE</u> ▪ <u>EASTHAM</u> ▪ <u>HESWALL</u>
REPORT OF:	CONSTITUENCY MANAGER (WIRRAL SOUTH)
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	COUNCILLOR GEORGE DAVIES NEIGHBOURHOODS, HOUSING & ENGAGEMENT
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report gives an update on the current allocation of all budgets devolved to the Wirral South Constituency Committee. This includes:

- £50K Wirral South Health & Wellbeing Fund
- £38,720.50 core budget rolled over from 2013/14 (allocated £10k per ward)
- £50K Core budget allocated to three main priorities
- £77,750 Road Safety Money
- £35K “Your Wirral” funding
- £10k “Love Wirral” funding

2.0 WIRRAL SOUTH HEALTH & WELLBEING FUND

2.1 As outlined at previous Constituency Committees; 18 projects have been funded from the Wirral South Health & Wellbeing Fund during 2014/15. The total of funding the aforementioned projects was £48,118.97, leaving £1,881.03

2.2 At the first Wirral South Constituency Committee of 2014/15 (June 25) the above outlined allocation (2.1) was recommended and resolved. Payments were subsequently made to the approved 18 projects. Many of these projects are at varying stages of completion (some are complete and were one off events, others are yet to begin until later in the year). Further updates will be requested and reported at the final constituency committee of 2014/15 (16 April, 2015).

3.0 REMAINING CORE BUDGET FROM 2013/14

3.1 Over £38K of the 2013/14 devolved core budget for Wirral South remained and was carried over into 2014/15. Each ward was allocated £10k each and spend continues. Further works has been programmed since the last committee on 16th October which will see this remaining amount reduced. Although there are a number of projects in development members are reminded to ensure this allocation is used expediently (see recommendation 17.1). Appendix 1 shows the current rate of spend per ward.

4.0 2014/15 CORE BUDGET

4.1 At Wirral South's first Constituency Committee of 2014/15 three main priorities were proposed and resolved:

These priorities are (amendment made to "Open Spaces" priority, see resolution 2 of minute 21 Wirral South Constituency Committee, 16 October 2014):

- Improved Open Spaces; to increase the number of green flag parks in Wirral South year on year and ensure accessibility is improved in each chosen location
- Gaps in Youth Provision; to work with the internal and external partners to identify and rectify any existing gaps in provision of youth services in Wirral South
- Tackle Social Isolation; Identify the various groups affected by social isolation in Wirral South, establish the evident gaps in provision throughout the Constituency and aim to either support existing providers or commission a new piece of work

For further information relating to progress on this matter please see the report entitled "Wirral South Priorities update 2014/15" presented to the Wirral South Constituency Committee 22 January 2015.

5.0 ROAD SAFETY DEVOLVED BUDGET

5.1 It was outlined at Wirral South's first Constituency Committee of 2014/15 that £77,750 had been devolved to Wirral South to address Road Safety issues within the constituency area.

5.2 The "Local Transport Capital Funding/Integrated Transport Block (ITB) programme budget Task & Finish Group" for Wirral South met for the first time, Wednesday 13

Aug (see appendix 2 for meeting notes). This group discussed possible options for distributing the relevant budget and came to the following conclusion:

“Utilise some of the £77,750 (£10K suggested) to carry out a constituency wide project to future proof a number of Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS). The remaining amount to be split evenly per ward”.

- 5.3 Based upon the above proposal all members were requested to submit a concise “wish list” in order of preference stating schemes they would like to fund from their ward based budget (approximately £13.5K). The aforementioned schemes can be programmed in for completion throughout the remainder of 2014/15.
- 5.4 Following receipt of ward based requests from elected members the constituency manager has been in consultation with Road Safety and Traffic sections. Relevant public notices have now been released in respect of relevant proposed schemes. The current projected spend against the overall budget of £77,750 is £76,100. As such members are asked to note progress in relation to this matter (see recommendation 17.2).

6.0 “YOUR WIRRAL” BUDGET

- 6.1 Your Wirral funding has been devolved to the Constituencies Committees for 2014/15. It is a small grants programme that has been in operation since 2007 To be eligible for funding, applications must fit within one or more of the seven themes (below), which were agreed by the Joint Working Group in line with the charitable objectives of the Community Fund Deed they are:
- i. Creating an attractive and safe environment
 - ii. Contributing to community economic regeneration
 - iii. Preventing crime or reducing the fear of crime
 - iv. Providing employment and training for local people
 - v. Benefiting local people who face discrimination
 - vi. Improving community facilities
 - vii. Engaging communities to improve quality of life
- 6.2 The first tranche of the “Your Wirral Fund” for Wirral South closed on. On 1 October 2014 a representative task and finish group met to assess the application received against an agreed criteria.

Following allocation based upon the recommendations of the aforementioned task and finish group in October there was £11,886.28 remaining. The fund reopened until November 28th to allow for applications to considered expediently by the already existing task and finish group. The task and finish group met once again (January 7, 2015) to assess one application which had been further received. The aforementioned group consisted of:

Cllr Phil Gilchrist (Chair)
Cllr Jerry Williams (Vice Chair)
Cllr Christina Muspratt (Bebington)
Cllr Irene Williams (Bromborough)
Cllr Tracey Smith (Clatterbridge)

Cllr Les Rowlands (Heswall)
Paula McGlynn (Magenta Living Rep)

- 6.3 Although a number of clarification questions were requested of the applicant, members of the task and finish group agreed that the project should be funded on receipt of acceptable responses to said questions (recommendation 17.3).
- 6.4 The task and finish group also propose the “Your Wirral” fund for Wirral South be reopened January 23 for 6 weeks, thus closing at noon on Friday March 6, 2015 (see recommendation 17.4).

7.0 LOVE WIRRAL FUNDING

- 7.1 £10K has been devolved to the Wirral South Constituency Committee in the form of “Love Wirral” funding. The constituency Manager is currently seeking clarification that this spend can be carried forward into 2015/16. Unlike previous “Love Wirral” allocations the committee have complete control over how they wish to see the monies allocated, provided the spend is linked to environmental quality. It is recommended that a “Love Wirral” task and finish group be established to discuss the project and report back to the final committee of 2014/15 (16 April, 2015). See recommendation 17.5.

8.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 8.1 Failure to agree project spend expediently may result in a loss of funding allocation in future years.

9.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 9.1 Careful consideration has been given to the best way to distribute this funding to help tackle the Constituency’s priorities.

10.0 CONSULTATION

- 10.1 Extensive online literature was available to both promote and explain the “Your Wirral Fund” and support was offered from Community Action Wirral to aid those applying. Elected members have been consulted via various task & finish groups.

11.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

- 11.1 The “Your Wirral” fund will offer a well needed injection of funds into the social sector within Wirral South.

12.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

- 12.1 This report has implications for the expenditure of budget allocated to Wirral South Constituency Committee.
- 12.2 Funding may assist in greater use of and/or access to community assets.

13.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 The arrangements will help the Council to deliver on the Localism Act 2011 and Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.

14.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

Yes an impact review can be found at the link below (Progressing Neighbourhood Working). A specific EIA related to the grants fund itself will be carried out should the relevant recommendation be approved.

<http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/community-and-living/equality-diversity-cohesion/equality-impact-assessments/eias-2010/chief-executives>

15.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

- 15.1 Allocation of funds promoting localised services will have an impact on the Wirral South's overall carbon footprint

16.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 16.1 This report may have positive community safety implications dependent upon the allocation of spend determined by the Constituency Committee.

17.0 RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that:

- 17.1 Members work closely with the Constituency Manager and other officers to ensure the remaining under spend from 2013/14 is allocated by the end of 2014/15.
- 17.2 Members note the progress in relation to spend of the "Local Transport Capital Funding/Integrated Transport Block (ITB) programme funding for 2014/15.
- 17.3 Note the progress made in relation to further allocation of "Your Wirral" funding.
- 17.4 The "Your Wirral" fund for Wirral South be reopened January 23 for 6 weeks, thus closing at noon on Friday March 6, 2015.

17.5 Members form a “Love Wirral” task and finish group to develop proposals in relation to the devolved £10k budget and report back to the final committee of 2014/15 (16 April, 2015).

18.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

18.1 To enable the work of the Constituency Committee to be focused upon the needs of the local area and to ensure projects commence as expediently as possible.

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REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Voluntary Sector Support Fund Wirral South Constituency Committee	10 December 2013 25 June 2014

Appendix One: Projected Spend of Carried Over 2013/14 Core Budget

Appendix One: Projected Spend of Carried Over 2013/14 Core Budget

Ward	Projected Spend
Bebington	£9,201.05
Bromborough	£9,812.50
Clatterbridge	£5,695.79
Eastham	£10,090.49
Heswall	£9,524.76
Total	£44,324.59

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WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL SOUTH CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE

22 JANUARY 2015

SUBJECT:	WIRRAL SOUTH PRIORITIES UPDATE 2014/15
WARD/S AFFECTED:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>BEBINGTON</u> ▪ <u>BROMBOROUGH</u> ▪ <u>CLATTERBRIDGE</u> ▪ <u>EASTHAM</u> ▪ <u>HESWALL</u>
REPORT OF:	CONSTITUENCY MANAGER (WIRRAL SOUTH)
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	COUNCILLOR GEORGE DAVIES NEIGHBOURHOODS, HOUSING & ENGAGEMENT
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report details the progress relating to the resolved priorities for the Wirral South Constituency Committee for 2014/15 and beyond.

2.0 PRIORITY SETTING

2.1 At its meeting on 25 February 2014, Council agreed to fund the four Constituency Committees with £50k each. This was to “enable the new approach to Neighbourhood Working to be further developed.”

2.2 On Wednesday 9 April 2014 Wirral South’s Elected Members were invited to attend a priority setting session. The objective of this session was to produce a set of proposed themes that could be presented at the first Wirral South Constituency Committee of 2014/15 for consideration.

2.3 Based upon the findings of the above priority setting session three main priorities were proposed and resolved at Wirral South’s first Constituency Committee of 2014/15, 25 June.

2.4 These priorities are (amendment made to “Open Spaces” priority, see resolution 2 of minute 21 Wirral South Constituency Committee, 16 October 2014):

- Improved Open Spaces; to increase the number of green flag parks in Wirral South year on year and ensure accessibility is improved in each chosen location
- Gaps in Youth Provision; to work with the internal and external partners to identify and rectify any existing gaps in provision of youth services in Wirral South
- Tackle Social Isolation; Identify the various groups affected by social isolation in Wirral South, establish the evident gaps in provision throughout the Constituency and aim to either support existing providers or commission a new piece of work

It was resolved that each of the priorities above should be allocated £15k each, thus leaving £5k of core budget to support various engagement initiatives.

3.0 PRIORITY PROGRESS

3.1 Improved Open Spaces

3.1.1 Since the last Wirral South Constituency Committee the Constituency Manager has met with the Senior Manager of Parks and Countryside Services. During this meeting current progress against the above priority was presented. Discussions also took place in relation to possible locations for future focus in an attempt to highlight the most suitable location on which to focus the Committee’s efforts throughout 2015/16.

3.1.2 On 11 December the Wirral South ‘Parks Priority Task and Finish Group’ met for the second time (see appendix 1 for meeting notes). Elected members were presented with progress in Mayer Park to date:

- A brand new entrance sign erected (*Beb Cllrs Core Budget*)
- Lines of sight improved by reducing height of existing hedges (*Friends*)
- New flower beds dug and planted up (*Beb Cllrs Core Budget*)
- Dead trees removed (*Parks*)
- New litter bins throughout (***Constituency Budget***)
- Work carried out on offending vegetation in roof of Mayer Hall/Pennant House (*Asset Management*)
- Stonework repaired on Mayer Hall/Pennant House (*Asset Management*)
- Stumps removed (*ongoing, Parks*)
- A fence at Ellen’s lane (***imminent Constituency Budget***)
- Replacement of rose bed in Ormerod gardens (*imminent Beb Cllrs Core Budget*)
- Edging of all paths throughout (*imminent*)
- Disabled access swing installed (***imminent Constituency Budget***)

The Wirral South 'Parks Priority Task and Finish Group' were (as of 16 October) given delegated powers to "...ensure budgetary spend can be agreed and improvements made as expediently as possible, thus maximising the potential for applying for the Green Flag Award within 2014/15" (minute 21 refers). With this in mind the task and finish group were presented with two main improvement options for Mayer Park, namely:

- The refurbishment of decorative gates and railings (at a cost of £5,400) and
- Installation of a round top, metal fence along the (currently open) grassed area on Ellen's Lane (at a cost of £3,700)

Following responses from a clarification question (relating to guarantee of work on gates and railings) the members of the task and finish approved both options.

3.1.3 Members of the task and finish group also considered the possible geographical location of focus for the committee in 2015/16. This discussion not only considered the existing distribution of Green Flag Awards throughout Wirral South per ward but also the level of involvement of community/friends groups in relation to their local park. Based on this discussion it was proposed that Dawstone Park in Heswall be recommended as the area of focus for 2015/16 (see recommendation 13.2).

3.1.4 Appendix One details the current projected spend against the parks Priority for 2014/15. If all relevant recommendations are resolved within this report then there will be £2496.10 remaining to spend in 2014/15. It is recommended that the Wirral South 'Parks Priority Task and Finish Group' consider the views of both parks staff and the existing "Friends" group for Mayer Park and expedite the spend of the remaining budget where necessary.

3.2 Gaps in Youth Provision

3.2.1 The following proposals were presented to the Wirral South Constituency Committee 16 October 2014 (minute 21 refers):

i. Diversionary Activities

*2 x excursions to mountain biking facility in Delamere Forest for 14 young people to encourage engagement in focussed locations experiencing existing anti-social behaviour. **These events will occur on the 24th January and the 25th February. Engagement has already taken place and the young people attending have been selected from the New Ferry area.***

ii. Education in Theatre

*20 x themed performance/workshops aimed at equipping young people with the tools to deal with both abusive relationships and bullying. **Performances are planned to run in February and March from various locations in Wirral South. Underspend from the late commencement date of the counselling services will be used to provide a counsellor after each performance. As the performances are hard hitting it was***

felt that this would support young people who might have been affected by any of the issues that are raised within the performances.

- iii. Extension of 'The Lads' engagement programme
Doubling the provision for Wirral South from 14 to 28 for young Men completing the above development programme. The course will be starting 4th Feb. Young people are being referred in through the Gateway, up to now we have 8 participants.
- iv. One to One Counselling Services
Offering a one to one counselling service to young people within the Wirral South Constituency footprint until 31 March 2015. These sessions have been running since the week beginning 17th November 2014. They run on a Wednesday and Thursday.

Response – Information and Advice

Wednesday, 7pm – 10pm @ South Wirral Youth Hub

Counselling

Thursday, 3pm – 5pm @ Bebington Childrens Centre

Thursday, 6.30pm – 10pm @ South Wirral Youth Hub

See appendix 3 for a full breakdown of costs for each element of this priority. Further work will be carried out with Youth Services to develop recommendations for the remaining budgetary spend. These recommendations will be presented to the committee 16 April (giving time for assessment of success re. existing activity).

3.3 Social Isolation

3.3.1 Members of The Wirral South Public Service Board met on 4 September to discuss the opportunity of setting up "Dementia Friendly Communities" in Wirral South (see appendix four for further detail). Utilising existing evidence from the Wirral South Profile (produced by Public Health) and with support from the Alzheimer's Society it was proposed at the Wirral South Constituency Committee 16 October 2014 that Heswall be recommended as a pilot location for this initiative.

3.3.2 Following the resolved recommendation (3.3.1 above) an open meeting was held in Heswall library 27 November 2014. This open meeting (entitled "Making Heswall a Dementia Friendly Community") was well attended by a variety of community and partnering organisations. Initial pledges were made by many organisations in attendance and a plan for action in 2015 is soon to be developed.

3.3.3 The second meeting in relation to this project will be held at the Church of the Good Shepherd (188 Telegraph Road, Heswall), 6pm on Thursday the 29th of January.

4.0 RELEVANT RISKS

4.1 Failure to agree project spend expediently may result in a loss of funding allocation in future years and an inability to deliver tangible improvements within 2014/15.

5.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 Careful consideration has been given to the best way to distribute this funding to help tackle the Constituency's priorities.

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 Existing evidence from the Wirral South Profile Document (produced by Public Health) has been used to inform the formulation of Wirral South's priorities. Feedback from communities to Elected Members has also factored into the priority setting process. Wirral South's Community Representatives have been consulted upon the proposals relating to their allocated theme.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

- 7.1 The overarching proposed model for neighbourhood working will strengthen the Council's relationship with the voluntary and community sector.
- 7.2 Tackling the priorities of the Constituency will benefit communities directly.

8.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

- 8.1 This report has implications for the expenditure of budget allocated to Wirral South Constituency Committee.
- 8.2 Funding may assist in greater use of and/or access to community assets.

9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The arrangements will help the Council to deliver on the Localism Act 2011 and Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.

10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

Yes an impact review can be found at the link below (Progressing Neighbourhood Working). A specific EIA related to the grants fund itself will be carried out should the relevant recommendation be approved.

<http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/community-and-living/equality-diversity-cohesion/equality-impact-assessments/eias-2010/chief-executives>

11.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 None

12.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

12.1 This report may have positive community safety implications dependent upon the allocation of spend determined by the Constituency Committee.

13.0 RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that:

13.1 Members note the progress made by the Parks Priority Task & Finish Group for Wirral South.

13.2 Dawstone Park in Heswall be agreed as the location of focus in relation to the parks priority for 2015/16.

13.3 Members note the progress made in relation to the Youth Priority and that previously identified gaps in youth provision for Wirral South are being addressed.

13.4 Members note the progress made in relation to the "Dementia Friendly Communities" project in Heswall.

14.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

14.1 To enable the work of the Constituency Committee to be focused upon the needs of the local area and to ensure projects commence as expediently as possible.

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REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Wirral South Constituency Committee	25 June 2014

Appendix one: 'Parks Priority Task and Finish Group' 11 Dec, 2014

Appendix two: Projected Spend Against Parks Priority (as of Jan 2015)

Appendix Three: Update Spend Re. Gaps In Youth Provision

Appendix Four: Dementia Friendly Communities

PARKS PRIORITY TASK & FINISH GROUP WIRRAL SOUTH

Thursday, 11th December 2014

Present	Councillor	P Gilchrist (Chair)
	Councillors	C Povall L Rowlands J Williams I Williams
Constituency Manager		Fergus Adams

1) MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors C Muspratt had already declared non pecuniary interests by virtue of being the Treasurer of friends of Mayer Park, a community group who feature in the plan for 2014/15. As such Councillor J Williams represented Bebington.

2) MAYER PARK PROGRESS

Fergus Adams explained that he had a meeting with Mary Worrall (21 Nov) to discuss both Mayer Park and possible locations of focus moving into 2015/16. Progress in Mayer Park to date was discussed (via; Constituency, asset's budget and local elected member funded. Recently Mayer Park has seen:

- A brand new entrance sign erected (*Beb Cllrs Core Budget*)
- Lines of sight improved by reducing height of existing hedges (*Friends*)
- New flower beds dug and planted up (*Beb Cllrs Core Budget*)
- Dead trees removed (*Parks*)
- New litter bins throughout (***Constituency Budget***)
- Work carried out on offending vegetation in roof of Mayer Hall/Pennant House (*Asset Management*)
- Stonework repaired on Mayer Hall/Pennant House (*Asset Management*)
- Stumps removed (*ongoing, Parks*)
- A fence at Ellen's lane (***imminent Constituency Budget***)
- Replacement of rose bed in Ormerod gardens (*imminent Beb Cllrs Core Budget*)
- Edging of all paths throughout (*imminent*)
- Disabled access swing installed (***imminent Constituency Budget***)

3) FURTHER PROPOSALS FOR DISCUSSION

- 3.1) Fergus Adams shared a quote for refurbishment to the decorative Gates and railings for discussion, detail of works:

- Removal of gates and railings from site to our workshop
- Initial blast clean to expose corroded parts in local grit blasters
- Make good any corroded parts to match existing in our workshop
- Delivered to specialist painting contractor
- Blast cleaned to SA2.5 (Millscale, rust paint and foreign matter is removed completely. Any remaining traces are visible only as slight stains or discoloration in the form of spots or stripes)
- Apply 1 coat Zinc Phosphate Primer to 75um
- Apply 1 coat Epoxy HB Intermediate coating to 100um
- Apply 1 coat Polyurethane finish to 60um
- Total nominal DFT 235um
- Refitted on site with final paint touch up by painting contractor

Total Cost: £5400.00

Members agreed that £5,400 be spent on refurbishment of the gates and railings provided some form of guarantee for works could be obtained by the contractor.

- 3.2) In the previous meeting of the “Parks Task & Finish Group” the installation of a fence at the park’s boundary with Ellen’s Lane was discussed. A quote for a round top, metal fence (painted black) was received from parks and presented to the group:

Procurement and installation of round top metal fence, painted black: £3,700

Members agreed that £3,700 be spent on the round top metal fence (painted black).

- 3.3) The cost and timeline of “Green Flag Award” application itself was discussed (Jan apply, judging in approx. July). Standard cost of £312 was discussed.

4) FUTURE LOCATIONS FOR 2015/16 & BEYOND

Members discussed future locations for the Constituency Committees’ focus during 2015/16 and it was agreed that Dawstone Park in Heswall was a logical proposal given the level of commitment and involvement by local residents reported. A resolution reflecting this decision will be presented at the next Wirral South Constituency Committee (22nd of January, 2015).

Actions from 11/12/14		
1	Secure guarantee for works from preferred supplier prior to signing off spend.	FA

2	Include recommendation in progress report to Constituency Committee for the 22 nd January re. Dawstone Park as location of focus for 2015/16.	
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Appendix two: Projected Spend Against Parks Priority (as of Jan 2015)

Mayer Park Budget Spend	
Item	Cost
Disabled Access Swing	400
Litter bins	2691.9
Fence	3700
Gates	5400
Application for award	312
Total	12503.9
Remaining	£2,496.10

Appendix Three: Proposed Spend Re. Gaps In Youth Provision

1) *Diversiory/Incentive Activity*

Aimed at addressing a current issue with young people in the New Ferry area (predominantly in the park/shorefields area). Although these young people do engage with the youth services in the area there has been an increase in criminal damage. The proposed project mirrors a recent successful initiative in the Woodchurch using the prospect of attendance at a mountain biking facility in Delamere Forest as a reward for modified behaviour. It is important to note that this initiative not only acts as diversion/incentive but affords youth workers the opportunity to further engage with the individuals in question. Example costs are outlined below:

- 14 young people + 2 staff @ £15 per head = £240
- £100 for instructor
- £50 for mini bus =

Total: £390

2) *Expansion of The Lads Personal Development Project*

This is an 8 week project aimed at 13-19 year olds, referred for attendance based upon existing issues. The project is currently programmed to run from September 2014, with 14 individuals from Wirral South attending. Further funding would allow a further 14 individuals to attend in the spring, thus doubling the existing impact for individuals and communities in Wirral South in 2014/15. The programme culminates in a residential element at Oaklands. Example costs are outlined below:

- 14 young people plus 4 staff @ £104 per head = £1872
- Contingency money = £100
- Mini Bus and fuel = £150 (includes fuel for a minivan that we own)

Total £2122

3) *Theatre in Education*

Pieces to tour Youth Units/other relevant venues in South Wirral. These cover various subjects from abusive relationships to bullying. Attendees are also offered follow up workshops in which they receive signposting to further support and advice where necessary. These sessions cost between £200 to £400 depending on the scale. Example costs are outlined below:

IF YOU LOVED ME per performance and after show workshop: 'If You Loved me You Would' is a play which explores healthy and unhealthy relationships. It enables young people to see, and, understand the full spectrum of relationship abuse. A follow up workshop facilitated by company members offers young people the opportunity to check their understanding, and where to seek advice or support if they, or, someone they know are in an abusive relationship

- 6 ACTORS/performers X 3 HOURS X £9 p/hr - £162.00
- 2 tech workers x 3hours x £9 per hour- £54.00
- Transport x 1 people carrier- £55.00
- 1 transit van for set and lighting- £50.00
- Fuel- £10.00
- 1 Level 2 worker x 3 hours x £15p/hour- £45.00

TOTAL £376.00

‘BECAUSE’ per performance and after show workshop ‘Because’ explores the bullying spectrum, including cyber bullying. Young people will learn about the impact of bullying behaviour on others. The follow up workshop helps young people understand the consequences of bullying behaviour and where to get help and support.

- 5 x peer educators x £15 per show- £75.00
- People carrier- £55.00
- Fuel- £10.00
- 1 level 2 worker x 3 hours x £15 p/hr- £45.00

TOTAL £185.00

4) *Pilot offering one to one counselling sessions offered in Wirral South* (delivered by Response in two locations -Eastham Hub and Children's Centre in Bromborough)

The counsellor will operate within the Wirral South area offering a counselling service. The counsellor will deliver this service during the operational opening times of the Hub and the local Children’s Centre. A typical counselling session will last for 50 minutes. Response will provide 3 x 3hrs counselling sessions per week for young people between Oct 2014 – March 2015. These young people will all be from Wirral South and will either be on an existing waiting list or signposted via gateway.

- Staff costs (Counsellor) 10 hrs per week @ £11.4637 + 22% on costs
- £14.70 per hour for 30 weeks (300 hours) = £ 4410
- £450 travel costs = £450
- Non Managerial supervision £30 per hour (met by Response) = £000

Total £ 4860

Given the information above if the Wirral South Constituency Committee spent only **£10,567** of its agreed £15K youth provision budget it could:

- Facilitate heightened engagement with 14 young people based upon an existing issue related to criminal damage etc. - **2 x events total £780**

- Double the impact of the Lads' Personal Development Project in 2014/15 (meaning 28 young males are involved rather than 14 as currently funded) - **£2122**
- Provide 10 performance and after show workshops (one of each theme per Ward e.g.) - **£2805**
- Provide ongoing counselling within Wirral South from October 2014 to March 2015 - **£4860**

Dementia-friendly communities

