

WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL WEST CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE

30 JUNE 2016

SUBJECT:	CONSTITUENCY MANAGER'S PROGRESS REPORT
WARD/S AFFECTED:	WARDS WITHIN THE WIRRAL WEST CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ GREASBY, FRANKBY AND IRBY▪ HOYLAKE AND MEOLS▪ PENSBY AND THINGWALL▪ WEST KIRBY AND THURSTASTON▪ UPTON
REPORT OF:	CONSTITUENCY MANAGER (WIRRAL WEST)
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	CABINET MEMBER – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides an update on current projects and activities funded using the Committee's 2015-16 budget allocations and budgets carried over from previous years.
- 1.2 The Constituency Committee's budget allocation of £50,000 for 2016-17 is subject to a separate report.

2.0 CONSTITUENCY PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Community Fund (2015-16 core budget allocation)

- 2.1 In relation to the Committee's core budget of £50,000 for 2015-16, the Committee agreed in July 2015 that it would continue with the broad framework previously established in respect of the Community Fund, i.e. £10,000 per ward with an opportunity for local groups to bid for funding (and any remaining monies to be allocated at the discretion of ward councillors).
- 2.2 The deadline for applications to the Community Fund was Friday 26th February 2016. As for previous rounds of the Community Fund, local people were asked to show their support for eligible projects by participating in a widely publicised voting survey which was made available online and in hard copy from 7th March to 18th March. A planned networking and voting event did not take place due to the capacity of the planned venue being insufficient to accommodate the numbers of groups applying.

2.3 Over 2,800 residents placed their vote, representing around 1,000 more people voting than the previous year:

Ward	Number of Residents Voting	Percentage of Total
Greasby, Frankby and Irby	521	18.86%
Hoylake and Meols	566	20.49%
Pensby and Thingwall	261	9.45%
Upton and Woodchurch	401	14.52%
West Kirby and Thurstaston	521	18.86%
Rest of Wirral	492	17.81%
Not specified	48	1.7%

2.4 The Committee agreed in February that delegated authority would be given to ward councillors to review the outcomes of the community vote and agree which projects should receive funding in their ward. The outcomes of the voting and projects funded were subsequently published at www.wirral.gov.uk/wirralwest. **Appendix 1** sets out the lists of projects funded by ward, ranked in accordance with the public vote. The total amount of funding allocated by ward was:

Ward	Total Grants Awarded
Greasby, Frankby and Irby	£8,250.00
Hoylake and Meols	£11,586.48*
Pensby and Thingwall	£9,956.37
Upton and Woodchurch	£9,905.00
West Kirby and Thurstaston	£9,594.95
Total	£49,292.80

**utilising underspend from previous years for Hoylake and Meols ward*

2.5 As for previous years of the Community Fund, any underspend will be retained for local improvements at the discretion of ward councillors.

Special Places Project (2014-15 Love Wirral budget allocation)

2.6 The Committee agreed at its meeting in February 2015 to use £5,000 of its Love Wirral allocation for 2014-15 to fund the Special Places Project aimed at celebrating places in all parts of Wirral West which are special to local people through the installation of benches. This project was widely promoted with an excellent response. Over 30 suggestions were put forward to the constituency team. The closing date for local people to submit their suggestions as to possible locations for benches was February 2016 and, in line with what was agreed at the last meeting of the Committee, a Wirral West Special Places Panel was convened on the basis of one member per ward to agree which locations should be selected.

2.7 Following the recommendations of the Panel and subsequent work by the constituency team to establish final approvals and costings, the list of locations being taken forward as a priority at the current time is as follows:

- Pump Lane Pond, Greasby;

- Carr Lane Play Area, Hoylake;
- Grove Park, Hoylake;
- Ridgewood Park, Pensby;
- Thingwall Road, Thingwall;
- Outside St Bartholomew’s Church, overlooking the Village Green, Thurstaston;
- Footpath 43, Grange Hill (Lang Lane / Grange Old Road), West Kirby;
- Cubbins Green, West Kirby;
- Hilbre Island;
- Warwick Park, Upton.

2.8 The Committee is asked to note that the Panel was extremely impressed by the quality of suggestions and asked the constituency team to seek alternative sources of funding for a number of other locations on the list. This work is ongoing.

2.9 As noted in 2.6 above, the Committee made £5,000 available for this project and also agree to ring-fence a maximum of £2,000 from the Committee’s environmental budget of £10,000 should there be a funding shortfall. The work that has been done with regards to costing the benches indicates that the project will be delivered within this budget. A further update will be brought to the next meeting of the Committee.

Patron’s Lunch Small Grants (2014-15 Love Wirral budget allocation)

2.10 As referred in the Constituency Manager’s report to the Committee in November 2015, the remainder of the Committee’s Love Wirral budget following the Big Picnic event in summer 2015 has been used to encourage Wirral West schools and communities to organise events as part of HM The Queen’s birthday celebrations. Grants of up to £250 were advertised to cover costs such as furniture hire, decorations, food and drink and promotional materials. The high level of interest meant that the maximum grant available was revised to £125 in order to support as many events as possible. Any road closure fees relating to street parties were met by the Council.

2.11 Street parties, lunches and events organised by residents and community groups across all five wards of the constituency were awarded a grant:

Ward	Location
Greasby, Frankby and Irby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brookdale Avenue North, Greasby ▪ Irby Methodist Church ▪ Hall Drive, Greasby ▪ Penrhyd Road, Irby
Hoylake and Meols	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carr Lane Recreation Area, Hoylake ▪ Fellowship House, Hoylake ▪ Queens Park
Pensby and Thingwall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Elmwood Drive, Pensby ▪ Nelson Drive, Pensby ▪ The Hope Centre, Pensby ▪ Thingwall Recreation Centre ▪ Whitfield Business Services and local community, Pensby

Upton and Woodchurch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Salacre Allotments, Upton ▪ St Mary's Church, Upton ▪ Upton Victory Hall
West Kirby and Thurstaston	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Abbey Road, West Kirby ▪ Burlingham Avenue, West Kirby ▪ Cholmondeley Road, West Kirby ▪ Dawpool Primary School, Thurstaston ▪ Gleggside, West Kirby ▪ Newton Guides

Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour (2015-16 ASB allocation)

- 2.12 As previously reported to the Committee, the Council's February 2015 budget made provision for dedicated funding for Constituency Committees to identify actions for tackling issues of ASB.
- 2.13 The Constituency Committee resolved in July 2015 that an ASB Panel would be established (with representation from one member per ward, to be determined by the Committee) to make recommendations about the use of the Committee's budget. The Committee delegated decision-making in respect of this budget to the ASB Panel in conjunction with the Chair of the Committee and agreed that, given that Woodchurch is the constituency hotspot for ASB, the majority of funding (i.e. £10,000) should be utilised in Upton ward but with each ward having some resource to be deployed as necessary (i.e. £5,000 split between the remaining 4 wards).
- 2.14 The Panel met in September 2015 reached a broad agreement on a number of proposals for utilising the Committee's ASB which were set out in the Constituency Manager's report in November last year. A number of projects are now well underway:

Promoting Neighbourhood Watch in Wirral West

- 2.15 The ASB Panel was keen to support the further development of Neighbourhood Watch schemes in the constituency. The constituency team have been working closely with Merseyside Police and the Wirral Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator to take this forward and have supported the delivery of an event at Woodchurch High aimed at community members currently acting as Neighbourhood Watch leaders across Wirral, and anyone interested in becoming a scheme leader. This will now be followed up with a constituency campaign to encourage new schemes and target particular areas and neighbourhoods, taking into account the differences in local circumstances and communities.

Youth Engagement in Woodchurch

- 2.16 In December 2015, the Panel agreed to use £1,200 of the Woodchurch ASB budget to support diversionary activities delivered by the Council's Sports Development team at the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) in response to reports of ASB issues around the Carr Bridge Road area. A total of 12 sessions took place across the months of January – March 2016 (and into the first week of April). Sports

Development used their 'sports mobile' to light the MUGA for the sessions. Youth Outreach Workers (working on foot on the estate) signposted young people to the sessions.

- 2.17 The key points of feedback from Sports Development as to the young people who engaging in the sessions are that:
- The age range of young people engaged was 14-19, both male and female;
 - Different groups of young people were evident from week to week, with well over 100 young people engaged in total;
 - Whilst some engaged in the sports activities on offer, many used the session as an opportunity to gather together and socialise;
 - No risk-taking behaviour was observed during the sessions.
- 2.18 Merseyside Police data analysed by the Council's ASB team showed that reports of ASB within the Woodchurch catchment area for the period during which the activities took place were lower than for the same period in 2015. Although no definitive conclusions can be drawn from this initial analysis in terms of the impact of the diversionary activity funded by the Committee, the comparative data and anecdotal feedback from agencies as to the impact on low level ASB on the estate is positive. A business case to fund similar activities over the summer months is therefore being developed for the ASB Panel. The Constituency Manager is also working with community stakeholders and partner agencies to explore other possible diversionary activities which could be delivered at the MUGA location and to develop a plan for this asset in the longer term.

Little Brothers Project

- 2.19 On the basis of the Panel's agreement to use up to a maximum of £5,000 from the ASB budget for early intervention work by children in years 5 and 6 at risk of becoming engaged in ASB / criminal damage and ending up on the police 'radar', the Woodchurch Community Hub at Fender Primary School has developed the Little Brothers Project. The project will be delivered by 4 activity leaders or 'big brothers'. The activity leaders have strong links to the school community and experience of working with young people through sport. These leaders will act as role models - developing positive relationships with male pupils at risk of engaging in ASB, inspiring involvement in a range of health and fitness and learning activities and providing guidance and support.
- 2.20 The Committee's ASB funding will be used for a programme of activities to be delivered on a sessional basis outside of core school hours. The programme will include:
- Health, fitness and well-being – e.g. Box Clever, team building, football including referee training, gym and circuit training, badminton, tennis, volleyball, tag rugby and hockey;
 - Learning linked to the national curriculum;
 - Community weeks in conjunction with Merseyside Police, e.g. clean ups, fundraising and intergenerational activities involving older people.
- 2.21 The project will be underpinned by a strong focus on respect, choices, managing anger and behaviour and will involve parents throughout. It is anticipated that up to

20 pupils will be engaged in the programme, with the average participation being between 12-16 pupils per session. Appropriate incentives and rewards linked to progress and achievement will be identified to take place over the summer holiday period, supported by the activity leaders and delivered at limited cost given the leaders' links to sports clubs and facilities, e.g. Saturday boxing club and attendance at local league football matches. It is also planned to introduce a friend night as part of the programme and hold tournaments in order to encourage positive relationships and behaviours with a wider cohort of young people.

Environmental Budget (2015-16 allocation)

- 2.22 As reported previously to the Committee, at its meeting on 24th February 2015 Council allocated £40,000 to support communities to help clean up their neighbourhoods (£10,000 for each constituency area). It was agreed at the last meeting of the Constituency Committee that an Environmental Panel should be established (on the basis of one member per ward) and given delegated authority in conjunction with the Chair of the Committee to agree expenditure relating to action to address hotspots in the constituency and/or to encourage community involvement in environmental initiatives. It was also agreed that £2,000 of this budget would be ring-fenced to meet the delivery costs of the Special Places budget should this be required, leaving £8,000 available to allocate to environmental initiatives.
- 2.23 Given that it has not been possible to convene the Environmental Panel to date, it is suggested that the Constituency Manager consults with members of the Committee on developing a proposal to use the budget for a Wirral West 'Neat Streets' project focused on the constituency's key shopping / retail areas (i.e. West Kirby Town Centre, Upton Village, Irby Village, Greasby Village, Market Street, Hoylake, Pensby Road and Woodchurch – Hoole Road / Eltham Green). The aims of the project would be to:
- Work with local businesses and community groups to engage them in the campaign, with a focus on the use of social media;
 - Undertake an audit of environmental issues at these locations and work with the Waste and Recycling team to tackle these using the budget available and any additional resources secured through working with local businesses and other partners and;
 - As part of the campaign, to identify and introduce localised, small scale behaviour change initiatives where possible.

Road Safety Budget

- 2.24 A detailed report to the Committee in November 2015 set out the position in respect of the Constituency Committee's 2015-16 Integrated Transport Block (road safety) budget allocation (including 2014-15 underspend). The Committee resolved that the Road Safety Panel established in 2014 to make recommendations about the 2014-15 allocation should reconvene to identify how the funding available might be allocated to local schemes and that decision making in respect of the budget should be delegated to the Panel in conjunction with the Chair of the Committee.
- 2.25 Following a meeting of the Road Safety Panel on 26th January 2016, work has been ongoing with colleagues in Regeneration and Environment to collate the information

requested by the Panel in respect of a 'shortlist' of schemes. The Panel will meet as soon as practicably possible to agree its recommendations as to which schemes should be funded using the remaining road safety budget (amounting to £40,879).

3.0 RISKS

3.1 A detailed risk assessment has been developed to support the constituency working approach.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 This report sets out activities undertaken in relation to actions agreed by the Committee, all of which have been progressed with due consideration to a range of options.

5.0 CONSULTATION

5.1 Consultation is undertaken with the members of the Constituency Committee as to the development and operation of the Committee. Ongoing consultation with the local community as to issues for the area is a clear objective of the constituency working approach.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

6.1 The constituency working approach has positive implications for voluntary, community and faith groups in Wirral West.

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

7.1 The activities set out in this report are being delivered via existing resources and utilising the constituency budget as determined by the Committee.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no legal implications relating to the activities set out in this report.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 An impact review relating to neighbourhood working can be found at the link below: <http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/community-and-living/equality-diversity-cohesion/equality-impact-assessments/eias-2010/chief-executives>

10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no direct carbon reduction implications relating to this report.

11.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no direct planning and community safety implications relating to this report.

12.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 It is recommended that the Committee notes the progress and updates set out in the Constituency Manager's report.

13.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

13.1 In order to ensure that actions requested by the Committee are being progressed as required.

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APPENDICES

None

REFERENCE MATERIAL

None

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Meeting	Date
Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager's Report	12 th December 2013
Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager's Report	6 th March 2014
Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager's Report	3 rd July 2014
Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager's Report	16 th October 2014
Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager's Report	26 th February 2015
Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager's Report	16 th July 2015
Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager's Report	12 th November 2015
Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager's Report	11 th February 2016

CONSTITUENCY MANAGER'S PROGRESS REPORT - APPENDIX 1

WIRRAL WEST COMMUNITY FUND 2016

GRANT AWARDS – GREASBY, FRANKBY AND IRBY

Ranking (based on votes from Greasby, Frankby and Irby residents)	Project	Grant Award
1st	Coronation Park Playground Improvements (Greasby Association: Friends of Coronation Park Playground)	£1,000.00
2nd	Greasby Christmas Lights (Greasby Community Association)	£1,000.00
3rd	Green and Blooming Greasby Environmental Upkeep (Greasby Community Association)	£750.00
4th	Green and Blooming Greasby New Planters (Greasby Community Association)	£900.00
5th	The Greasby Messenger (Greasby Community Association)	£1,000.00
6th	Irby Library Improvements (Friends of Irby Library)	£1,000.00
7th	Celebrate Greasby Day (Greasby Community Association)	£1,000.00
8th	Greasby Allotments Improvements (Greasby Allotment Holders and Gardeners Association)	£1,000.00
9th	Irby Cricket Club Improvements	£600.00

WIRRAL WEST COMMUNITY FUND 2016

GRANT AWARDS – HOYLAK AND MEOLS

Ranking (based on votes from Hoylake and Meols residents)	Project	Grant Award
1 st	Hoylake and Meols in Bloom Events Equipment	£963.51
2 nd	Decorating Hoylake JFC's Pavilion	£1,000.00
3 rd	A Garden at the Parade	£1,000.00
4 th	Parade Gardens Seaside 'Grasses Bed' Wall Renovation (Hoylake and Meols in Bloom)	£400.00
5 th	Lighting the Parade	£500.00
6 th	Heating the Melrose Club	£1,000.00
7 th	St Hildeburgh's War Memorial and Community Woodland Walk	£1,000.00
8 th	St Luke's Food and Friends Lunch Club	£1,000.00
9 th	Festival of Firsts Community Participation Project, Hoylake Carnival Parade	£1,000.00
10 th	Hilbre Scout Group HQ Improvements	£975.00
11 th	Young at Heart at St John the Baptist	£829.97
12 th	Parade Gardens Replacement Murals (Hoylake and Meols in Bloom)	-
13 th	Queens Park Seating Improvements (HAWK Bowling Club)	£500.00
14 th	Festival of Firsts Community Participation Project, Children's Festival	-
15 th	Queens Park Bowling Green Picket Fence (HAWK)	-
16 th	Shelter for Hoylake Marine Bowls Club	£500.00
17 th	Hoylake Summer Beach Volleyball	£418.00
18 th	The Iris Programme Equipment	£200.00
19 th	Advertising for Hoylake Model Boat Club	£300.00

WIRRAL WEST COMMUNITY FUND 2016

GRANT AWARDS – PENSBY AND THINGWALL

Ranking (based on votes from Pensby and Thingwall residents)	Project	Grant Award
1st	Pensby Library Volunteers	£989.37
2nd	Pensby Community Christmas Meal (Pioneer People)	£500.00
3rd	Pensby Recreational Centre Refurbishment	£1,000.00
4th	Pensby Library Audio Book Project (Friends of Pensby Library)	£1,000.00
5th	Comfortable Seating for Pensby Library (Friends of Pensby Library)	£996.00
6th	Thingwall Recreation Centre Electrical Repairs and Refurbishment	£220.00
7th	Training, Experience and Awareness Around Children's Mental Health (the TEACH Programme) – Sunrise Play Therapy	£1,000.00
8th	Carers Get Together Outings	£901.00
9th	Pensby Family Funday (Pioneer People)	£500.00
10th	Shedheads Community Workshop Equipment (Pioneer People)	£1,000.00
11th	Carers Get Together Christmas Party	£350.00
12th	Barnstondale Centre Sports Equipment	£1,000.00
13th	Thingwall Bowling Club Irrigation Project	£500.00

WIRRAL WEST COMMUNITY FUND 2016

GRANT AWARDS – UPTON

Ranking (based on votes from Upton residents)	Project	Grant Award
1st	Holy Cross Parish Church Cooker and Dry Rot Repairs	£1,000.00
2nd	Holy Cross Parish Church Jubilee Rooms Refreshment	£1,000.00
3rd	Young Farmers Experience (Woodchurch High School Farm)	£783.00
4th	Upton Victory Hall Kitchen Refurbishment	£1,000.00
5th	Upton Victory Hall Room 1 Project	£500.00
6th	Growing 4 Life (Woodchurch High School Farm)	£1,000.00
7th	Upton Victory Hall Storage Improvements	-
8th	Upton and Woodchurch Community Coaching Hub (Metaneo CIC)	£880.00
9th	Upton Victory Hall Chairs	-
10th	Mucky Business at Salacre Allotments	£200.00
11th	Making Friends and Changing Lives (Woodchurch Community Hub based at Fender Primary)	£1,000.00
12th	HYPE on Tour	£1,000.00
13th	Salacre Spills the Beans (Salacre Allotments)	£342.00
14th	Gearing up for Crafts (Upton craft oriented group)	£600.00
15th	Flourish @ Ford Way (Ford Way Project)	£600.00

WIRRAL WEST COMMUNITY FUND 2016

GRANT AWARDS – WEST KIRBY AND THURSTASTON

Ranking (based on votes from West Kirby and Thurstaston residents)	Project	Grant Award
1st	West Kirby Christmas Lights	£1,000.00
2nd	Ashton Park Interpretative Boards	£1,000.00
3rd	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Manikins (Calday Grange Swimming Pool Trust)	£452.00
4th	Autism Together New Surfaced Trail at Wirral Country Park	£984.95
5th	West Kirby Messenger Community Magazine	£1,000.00
6th	Beyond Recovery Group (Wirral West Voices) at West Kirby United Reformed Church	£1,000.00
7th	West Kirby Methodist Church Community Activities IT Support	£800.00
8th	West Kirby Arts Centre Community Event Resources	£958.00
9th	Autism Together Woodland Oasis at Wirral Country Park	£1,000.00
10th	West Kirby and Wasps FC Fun For All Football Festivals	£1,000.00
11th	Wirral Community Orchestra Percussion Project	£400.00