

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

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

NORTHFIELD DISTRICT COMMITTEE

FRIDAY, 01 DECEMBER 2017 AT 14:00 HOURS
IN COMMITTEE ROOM 2, COUNCIL HOUSE, VICTORIA SQUARE,
BIRMINGHAM, B1 1BB

A G E N D A

1 NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST

The Chairman to advise/meeting to note that this meeting will be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site (www.birminghamnewsroom.com) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

2 APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies.

3 - 14

3 MINUTES

To confirm and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on the 29 September 2017

15 - 16

4 UPDATE ON NORTHFIELD BATHS

Paul Walls, Leisure Projects and Client Manager, Place and Jamie Bryant, Partnership Director, Birmingham Community Leisure Trust will attend the meeting to present the item.

5 FALLS PREVENTION PROJECT IN NORTHFIELD DISTRICT

Zoeta Manning, Network and Commissioning Manager, NHS Birmingham South Central will present the item which is a national pilot project funded by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

6 DISCUSSION ON THE FUTURE OF THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Discussion by Members of the District Committee concerning the future of the District Committee.

7 **BIRMINGHAM COUNCIL HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME**

Tony Richards, Service Co-ordinator, Place will attend the meeting to present the item and to give a feedback on the issues raised at the previous Committee meeting concerning some of the proposed projects.

8 **BRIEF UPDATE ON EDUCATION**

Councillor Valerie Seabright to give a brief update on the item.

9 **CYCLING ISSUE UPDATE**

To receive an update on the item.

10 **SOAP BOX**

11 **OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider any items of business by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) that in the opinion of the Chairman are matters of urgency.

12 **AUTHORITY TO CHAIR AND OFFICERS**

Chair to move:-

'In an urgent situation between meetings, the Chair jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee'.

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

NORTHFIELD DISTRICT COMMITTEE FRIDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER 2017
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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE NORTHFIELD DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD ON FRIDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 1400 HOURS, IN COMMITTEE ROOM 6, COUNCIL HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM

PRESENT: - Councillors Steve Booton, Randal Brew, Debbie Clancy, Ian Cruise, Peter Douglas Osborn, Carole Griffiths, Simon Jevon and Julie Johnson,

ALSO PRESENT: -

Richard Burden, Member of Parliament, Northfield Constituency
Richard Davies, Northfield District Lead
Errol Wilson, Committee Manager

NOTICE OF RECORDING

439 The District Committee were advised that the meeting would be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site and members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there were confidential or exempt items.

APOLOGIES

440 Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillors Andy Cartwright, Peter Griffiths, Brett O'Reilly, Valerie Seabright and Bruce Pitt, Frankley in Birmingham Parish Councillor. An apology was also submitted on behalf of Jonathan Antill, Senior Service Manager for his inability to attend the meeting.

The business of the meeting and all discussions in relation to individual reports was available for public inspection via the web-stream.

MINUTES

In relation to matters arising from the Minutes, the following were amongst the matters raised: -

- a. Councillor Cruise advised that in relation to SORA, the Police was due to undertake another operation, but as a result of resourcing issue in relation to

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the recent terrorists attacks that had taken place across the country, all the officers were involved in that so they had not had the chance to put together a further operation concerning SORA - Minute No. 426, paragraph a) refers.

- b. Councillor Debbie Clancy enquired whether there was any progress concerning the library books - Minute No. 426, paragraph d) refers.

Richard Davies, Northfield District Lead advised that the full library budget for books this financial year would be spent on books and that there was no reduction which represents an increase on what was spent last year. In Northfield District they had three Tier 1 libraries which would get a higher number of books than Tier 2 libraries and the number of people and the stock selection.

- c. Councillor Brew enquired about the finance for the Book Fund. Mr Davies advised that the total Book Fund for Community Libraries was £380k across the city.
- d. The Chairman noted Councillor Cruise's query concerning the District Committee meetings being held in the District and whether any progress had been made - Minute No. 426, paragraph b) refers.

The Chairman advised that no progress had been made concerning the issue. In relation to Minute No. 426, paragraph b) refers; it suggested that District Committees would cease after March 2018.

The Chairman added that as Members may be aware, there were discussions around the future of District Committees. They were under the impression that the District Committees would be discussed at the Full City Council in September 2017, but this did not happen. They were also under the impression that the future of the District Committees at present was uncertain. Whether Northfield District Committee meetings would be held in the District, which was something a number of Members had supported, was uncertain due to the uncertainty concerning the future of the District Committees.

District Committees

At this juncture, the Chairman stated that he wanted to discuss the potential demise of the District Committee as there were a number of agenda items that were reliant on the continuation of Northfield District Committee:-

- The Chairman advised that another District Committee meeting was scheduled for 17th November 2017. Firstly, it would be helpful if Members of the Committee could take away their thoughts about what would happen if the District Committee did not exist.
- How they would work across the District; whether they would work out in the communities more which was Councillor Cruise's point etc. It was hoped that Members would take that discussion away from this meeting
- Secondly, there were items that were on the agenda for today's meeting – NEET, Education Challenge, Cycling - that would potentially be impacted by this issue.

Councillor Cruise remarked that the proposal to discontinue the District Committees goes against part of what was stated in Lord Kerslake's report.

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He added that with the reduction of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Districts would then pick up the scrutiny functions of the devolved functions which was one of the primary role of the District Committees rather than what they were originally supposed to do which was service delivery.

Councillor Cruise highlighted that that with the proposed demise of the District Committees; this leaves a huge hole in the scrutinising of functions and services that were delivered in the District. He pleaded with the Chairman that he fight to keep these meetings formal and that he pressed the new Leader where possible, to ensure that Lord Kerslake's recommendations concerning District Committees be implemented and that they pick up a lot of the scrutiny functions that were originally carried out by Overview and Scrutiny Committee, but now were not

Councillor Brew commented that he was in support of Councillor Cruise's statement and that it was useful to be reminded of the scrutiny role that District Committees had going forward. He added that assuming that November's Full City Council meeting goes the way they anticipated that it would, and District Committees were discontinued, he would not want to lose the strand of work that they were undertaking and he would want to see those continue. He further stated that Councillor Debbie Clancy and the Chairman had been doing some work and that he had been doing some work recently along with Councillors Seabright and Cruise on employability etc. within the District and they had planned for that to continue and to produce a piece of work.

The Chairman enquired whether the Committee was happy to put a more formal discussion about the future of the District Committee over to the next District Committee meeting scheduled for the 17 November 2017. The Committee agreed for this to be done.

- e. Councillor Brew made reference to the date on the meeting header on page 303 and subsequent pages – **Northfield District Committee – 16 June 2016**. This should read **Northfield District Committee – 16 June 2017**.
- f. Councillor Debbie Clancy referred to the co-option of the Police and Fire Service to the District Committee and enquired whether the correct bodies were informed of the intentions of the Committee - Minute No. 430, paragraph a) refers. The Committee Manager advised that this was being done.
- g. In relation to Minute No. 431, paragraph b (iii) refers, Councillor Douglas Osborn stated that it was unfortunate that Councillor Cartwright was not present, but they had a successful Birmingham Heritage Week which lasted for 10 days. There were over 350 separate parts of the city that was included. Although he could not speak for Longbridge area, he was aware that a lot went on at the Longbridge site. He expressed thanks to all the volunteers who had worked hard to make it a successful week.
- h. The Chairman made reference to Minute No 433, paragraph b concerning Neighbourhood Challenge around Anti-social Behaviour and advised that the had spoken with Birmingham Social Housing Partnership concerning the involvement with the Housing Associations in a workshop and they were keen

to do another workshop. This was something that they could do over the winter period and deliver next spring.

441

RESOLVED: -

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2017, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

BIRMINGHAM COUNCIL HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

The Chairman introduced the item and advised that Jonathan Antill, Senior Service Manager, Housing Management South was unable to attend the Committee to present the item due to some pressing issues that needed attention before the weekend.

(See document No. 1)

Members made the following comments:-

- a. Councillor Brew expressed thanks to Mark Rodgers for the information concerning what was the liability for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) general fund and the definitions there which had enabled him to challenge the Loweswater House Icknield Street, Kings Norton project. He questioned whether this was HRA, but the main one he wanted to raise was the Millfield, Church Road, B31 project. He added that the barrier should be repaired, but the element of cost should come from the HRA.
- b. Councillor Johnson stated that when the total spend was added up the projected cost according to her calculation came to about £120k plus. Regarding the total allocated budget of £195,591.00, in terms of the carry forward, whether this would be a carry forward figure that would be retained or whether this would be lost.
- c. Richard Burden, Member of Parliament, Northfield Constituency commented that whilst he could see why the projects came under that budget, he was not convinced that a number of them were not appropriate for the HRA – the Loweswater House and St Columbus Drive projects etc. – when considering the definition concerning what a repair was on page 15, paragraph 2 of the email, the argument could be made for improvement, but equally, the St Columbus Drive project stated that the floor was ‘clapped out’ and was being replaced which appears to be a repair. It was worth querying these issues with Rob James as it appeared that these were appropriate for the HRA.
- d. Councillor Brew commented that he was in agreement with Mr Burden, MP's comment as it was relevant. He stated that the HRA had underspent on repairs last year by £5m.

The Committee agreed for the Loweswater House Icknield Street, Kings Norton project, St Columbus Drive projects, and the Millfield, Church Road, B31 project to be referred back.

- e. Councillor Cruise stated that for the benefit of everyone, and as a point of clarification what the actual Birmingham Council Housing Investment Budget was supposed to be used for as he was in agreement with colleagues around the table these were repairs to housing stock which should be utilised from the HRA.
- f. Mr Burden, MP stated that if the projects were going to be referred back, it was not an attempt by the District Committee to say that the work should not be done as the case was well made that the work should be done. It was simply a question as to which budget it should come from.

442 **RESOLVED: -**

That the proposals be agreed.

NORTHFIELD DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD CHALLENGE UPDATE

443 Councillor Debbie Clancy drew the Committee's attention to the information circulated in the document at the meeting concerning Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET)

(See document No. 2)

Councillor Debbie Clancy stated that there would be an inaugural meeting by Birmingham Employment Skills Board on the 6th October 2017, at the Factory from 9:00am – 1:00pm. Attached to an email she had received was an update from their consultation event that was held on the 24th July 2017. She advised that she was not in attendance at this event as she had sent her apology, but she was surprised that she and Councillor Brew and others did not receive the up to date email to the inaugural meeting considering the work that they had done with NEET. Councillor Debbie Clancy added that she had spoken to Prospect concerning the issue, but it had stated in the email that the information should be forwarded to other people in case they had missed anyone. They had assured her that this would happen. Councillor Debbie Clancy stated that the work would continue irrespective of what happens to the District Committee.

Members then commented as follows: -

1. Mr Burden, MP commented that statistics could sometimes not tell the whole story and it was about the location where schools were – example Weoley had a low figure of 7, but if the figures were generated by what schools those young people had attended before, it would not have told the whole story as Weoley had no secondary schools. Young people from Weoley attended Shenley, Bournville and Dame Elizabeth Cadbury. It might be necessary to exercise a note of caution - if there was going to be a pilot in a particular school it might be that the decision was made to do one within the District. Consider where the young people live and doing that by reference to the school would be an accurate way of doing it.
2. Councillor Debbie Clancy noted Councillor Carole Griffiths' enquiry concerning Longbridge and advised that attached to the document circulated earlier was a colour chart, but it was not schools. As mentioned in the report earlier

concerning care leavers, it was thought that it would be useful for Members to have a breakdown of percentages and Wards in the city so that they could compare this to other districts in the city to see where they were as a district and how they were operating. Councillor Debbie Clancy undertook to forward any data relating to Longbridge schools to Councillor Carole Griffiths.

3. Councillor Cruise stated that he was a Governor for Balaam Wood and that they had tracked all of their year 11 leavers and for 2015/16. He added that for 2015/16, they had zero NEETs which for that area were surprising. This was not derogatory to the area considering the issues they had had around education attainment with white working class boys. He advised that the 2016/17 figures had not yet been released, but that as soon as they were available he would share them with the Committee. He added that for Balaam Wood these could be sourced internally from those who were on governing bodies.
4. Councillor DouglasOsborn made reference to the Heritage Creative Writing competition and how this had been a success, but was now coming to an end. He stated that he felt that this was important in terms of NEET with the opportunities that were available. He added that Councillors Johnson, Debbie Clancy and Brew along with him were present at the opening of the Longbridge Retirement Extra Care Village and there was opportunity there for people that care. He stated that sometimes these things needed to be broadcast otherwise people tended to come from other areas.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Debbie Clancy for the work she had done concerning NEET.

Update on the Work on Education

At this juncture, the Chairman invited Councillor Cruise to give an update on the work around Education by Councillors Cruise, Brew and Seabright. Councillor Cruise gave the following verbal update: -

- a. Along with Councillor Brew they had met with James McNeiley Leader of Ofsted for the West Midlands area to discuss some of the things that they would like to do in the District around education and to try and find out some information.
- b. The meeting was a robust one and the willingness of Mr McNeiley to have the discussion with them and to come out with some of the things that he would recommend that they look at.
- c. These included: - Governance which was one of the things they spoke of at the last meeting i.e. Councillors on Governing Bodies – Mr McNeiley was in favour of this; schools that were stuck at improvement or required satisfactory and the movement in how Ofsted were currently testing schools and whether these schools would be stuck there for a while; the social environment in which the school sat and the social issues they had.
- d. Where they do have gang culture, where there were underperforming white working class boys, where there was a high proportion of domestic violence had to be taken into account and realised that these children that they were teaching were difficult and challenging. He advised that they should not come

in and use the *laissez-faire* approach; the social aspects had to be taken into account.

- e. Chris Quinn, Regional Schools Commissioner was speaking at an event at the end of that week and advised that there was going to be a channel shift by Ofsted in that they would start looking at social aspect of where the school was based and the cohort of the children that attend the school.
- f. They had discussed the transition from primary to secondary school and the support around that which was something they needed to find out from the primary and secondary schools within the District to ensure that they were outward looking and to ascertain how many schools within Northfield work within themselves; whether they were introverted; should they be looking at the whole school approach with regard to collegiate.
- g. There was a discussion regarding the National Schools Improvement Fund and the round two bids which teaching schools lead on, the bidding process was now open and it was about encouraging those schools that were teaching schools in the area to bid into that fund.
- h. They had discussed Birmingham Education Partnership (BEP), declining schools and had also discussed school improvement budget which was originally retrenched back to the government with the responsibility that they would distribute it back to the local authorities with no money, but there was a concern around where school improvement funds would be coming from.
- i. It was recommended that they look into nine issues - governance, collaboration, outward looking schools, where were the working class pupils doing well, not just in Northfield, but across the city. The NEET figures for schools were looked at; further education colleges and how well they work, how did they integrate with the schools in the district; what was the quality of careers and guidance as there were some schools that had a teacher delivering careers advice and guidance.
- j. The importance of transition not just from primary to secondary level, but pre-16 to post-16; having teachers seconded out to industry – example, Birmingham Professional Services who were working with BEP currently to mentor schools in challenging areas to make pupils more aspirational and taking that one step further.
- k. Instead of the pupils going out to industry to see what goes on, if possible, and budgets allow, that teachers go out into the professional sector so that they could see the standards the professional sector was trying to deliver and then try to tie something into the curriculum around that. They had a meeting with Longbridge Jobcentre to discuss what Jobcentre Plus was doing in the area.

Councillor Brew made the following statements: -

- In relation to the Schools Improvement Fund referred to earlier by Councillor Cruise, he was at a Governing Body meeting where it was stated that they were doing a number of things, but they needed to make sure that the schools did.
- The whole object of the exercise when he along with Councillors Cruise and Seabright started was to improve the employability of the youngsters who came from the schools and to help them from the schools point of view. He would like to speak with the employers to ascertain whether they could prepare a receiving place for those youngsters.

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- Although he was not an education professional, but it did not hurt occasionally to challenge what was happening in schools by way of curriculum etc., because they were preparing people for employment.
- He would like to see both as a district and as a city that they try to get some measure of what jobs were likely to come up within the next 5 to 10 years.
- If they could get some measure as to the direction of travel they could then help to inform the curriculum that were delivered in the schools so that they were relevant for the people going out to work.

In the general discussion that followed, Members made the following statements: -

- Councillor Debbie Clancy referred to the information presented by Councillors Cruise and Brew and commented that it was a huge amount of work. She added that she sat on Education and had heard different things and had received different reports. She stated that if there was any way that she could help because of what came up on their work programme she would be happy to do so.
- Councillor Debbie Clancy stated that she did not know whether all Councillors were issued with the Schools Notice Board that was sent from Education which was a valuable tool. She added that Colin Diamond, Interim Executive Director for Education sends this information out to schools which she could also share with the Committee. At the last Education Committee she had congratulated at the end of the meeting and stated that as a Committee they should not forget the pupils who had taken their GCSE exams this summer.
- There was some uncertainty from parents, (she included), as a lot of secondary schools would not continue the Sixth Form placement at the school unless five to six Grade B were accomplished. For those students who had already made alternative provision, or placement arrangements elsewhere, that was fine, but for those that had thought they were one Grade B off this school, this left a lot of people dangling in a short time frame in trying to get a Sixth Form placement or college place.
- This lack of forward planning for that period, as a city they needed to look at this issue. For those who did not get the five or six Grade B in some of the secondary schools that had Sixth Form provision in their own schools, they were advising pupils to do the Health and Social Care BTEC which left a question mark over a lot of students who had already gained four grades B and two Cs. This was not dumbing down or downgrading Social Care, but aspirationally, this was not moving them up to the next mark and they needed to look at the issue.
- Councillor Johnson stated that it was believed that it was the Councillors that sat on the Schools, Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee that receive the Schools Notice Board, but it would be something that would be useful to be sent out to Councillors. She referred to Councillor Brew's comment concerning curriculum and stated that she had previously sat as a parent governor and one of the things she had worked hard on for three years was the curriculum and how it varies. As a parent they did not have any input about curriculum and how it was established. She added that it would be useful to see some work done on curriculum and how it varies in schools.

- Councillor Cruise commented that he was in agreement with Councillor Johnson's statement concerning curriculums as they do vary from school to school. Alongside this it would be interested to see if they teased this out they would also be teasing out the schools budget share for each of those schools to see what they could afford to deliver. There were schools that had low numbers on roll and those with high numbers on roll, but were not swirling in money, but compared to other schools they were looking at the broad base curriculum they could deliver compared to other schools that cannot do so. He would take this away and try to find out some information concerning the issue.

The Chairman thanked Councillors Clancy, Cruise and Brew for presenting the information and stated that they would make an item of this for the next Committee meeting.

NEXT STEP FOR CYCLING ISSUE

444 The Chairman introduced the item and advised that the next steps around the cycling issue on the Bristol Road South - a general traffic issue. He gave the following verbal feedback from the workshop that they had on the 27 June 2017: -

1. A number of forward looking ideas that was discussed like extending the cycle lane that would be developed from the City into Selly Oak, from Selly Oak to Northfield – putting this down the centre of the road or the old tram line.
2. Whether it was possible to have their own enforcement officer to deal with parking in cycle lanes etc. There were a number of proposals, but they had hit upon a roadblock in terms of funding.
3. There was a long term view that cycling needed to be promoted heavily and they were looking at doing something about the Bristol Road South, albeit, in a longer term. The question of enforcement was discussed and one of the things that seem to have happened on Bristol Road was suddenly enforcement had gotten a little better as there was not the people parking in the cycle lane although they were now parking on the grass verges.
4. From a safety point of view this had gotten a little better. The idea of a 24 hour clearway was discussed but difficult to achieve as there needed to be consultation with the emergency services, but highways undertook to look at this issue.
5. The parking issue at the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital was discussed and assurance was given that this would be improved. They were opening more areas at the hospital to take more patient parking.
6. A suggestion was that a monitoring group from the District Committee be set up to work with enforcement officers and the Police occasionally, to see how things were going. They were entering a period - autumn/winter - where if people park dangerously, cyclist lives would be put at risk. This was the main suggestion and was something they could go back to whatever happens to the District Committee.
7. The workshop event had brought together people from across interest groups – highways, hospital, the cycling campaign organisation etc. and they were able to discuss the area as a whole where people park off the Bristol Road south and where parking was a problem.
8. A small group of people could meet on an irregular basis to monitor what was happening perhaps towards spring. They could look in more detail if they

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were successful in taking people from parking on the Bristol Road South where they were going to go as they could be pushing the problem to other areas.

Councillor Brew stated that the value of the workshop they had was the range of people they had attending. He added that he was hoping that they had a report back from that meeting to that audience concerning the progress being made. One reason for this was that it put pressure on the reporting bodies if they realised that they would be asked to report back. Councillor Brew stated that he would be happy to be part of the small group to feedback. Regarding enforcement, in his opinion he believed that this could be self-financing. Enforcement was needed not only on the Bristol Road South but other areas in the District. He added that they should be entitled to employ their own enforcement officer and use the income.

Councillor Johnson stated that she was in agreement with Councillor Brew's comment and that she would be happy to be part of the small group going forward. They have had a good representation at the workshop and had discussed how they could move the parking further into Northfield with the parking that was available there. It was about how they could get people to walk a bit further. There were facilities available and it was about making people aware of the other options. She agreed that they should have a feedback to say where they were and what had been achieved as this would be useful for all the partners that had attended the workshop and to discuss what they wanted as well as looking at other options.

SOAP BOX

445 None submitted.

OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

446 a) **Bus Stop Rationalisation - South Birmingham Bus Network Review**

Councillor Cruise stated that there was a bus stop review being undertaken by National Express West Midlands (NXWM) which takes effect from the 1st October 2017. One of the stops that NXWM would be taking out was the Bus Stop for Service 63 outside the Northfield Shopping Centre into the city. Having voiced his concerns to Transport for West Midlands (TfWM), their office had confirmed that this was a high usage bus stop, but it would be removed by NXWM. TfWM and NXWM would then review this in six months to determine whether the stop should be reinstated. This was to make people aware that the bus stop for Bus Service 63 would not be in operation from the 1st October 2017. This was amongst a number of stops to be taken out on the route as NXWM was complaining that their buses were only travelling at an average speed of 6 miles per hour along the route.

Councillor Cruise added that his response to this was that NXWM, TfWM and Birmingham Connected should be putting in measures to reduce the price of bus fares; promote modal shift from cars as there were a number of people driving into Birmingham who were the only occupants in their cars. This would help to reduce the congestion on the roads. He stated that he had sent a written response to explain that this was what they should be doing, rather than taking a short term fix. One of the responses that they gave was that there was a bus stop within 250 yards

of the stop being removed. In his opinion, much thought had not been given to the stop being removed.

b) National Express West Midlands South Birmingham Bus Network Consultation

Councillor Johnson advised that there was a south consultation for buses and a number of people had given their comments to NXWM concerning the issue. She stated that this was something that they had done in Weoley over several months. They had commented on Bus Service 48 and a number of buses, but they did not make a great deal on progress and then the bus consultation came out. She added that from what she had read in the press, in Birmingham, 600 bus stops would be axed with a view to speeding up the service they were offering to their customers, except that if this affects residents it was not speeding up anything. It would be interested to know which bus services would be reviewed following the consultation.

Councillor Johnson stated that she understood that some of the buses in Northfield - Services 27, 18, 63 and 48 were all services that were part of the consultation, but that, she did not had anything back as to the effect the consultation would have on the services.

Of concern was that people who use the buses was that if all the stops had been taken out, it would be interesting moving forward to see how this would affect people. In her opinion, the consultation was not widely advertised to people in the district and the City of Birmingham and these would have been cut leaving people wondering why their service did not arrive. They would then have to walk 400 metres down the road. There were a number of people who rely on the buses to get to work, do their shopping etc.

Councillor Johnson remarked that getting into the City Centre early in the mornings from where she was living, depending on which service people got, they could not get into the City Centre for 7:00am in the morning as the first bus did not start early enough. This was not in the consultation as it was all about cutting services. Every January there was an increase in bus fares and understanding why they were cutting fares etc. was part of the consultation.

The Chairman commented that the bus companies had a strange way of what they considered to be consultation. They were currently refusing to attend public meetings, stating that they were consulting by other means. One of the things they were considering was to take some people in to see them as they have been dealing with this issue for about 18 months and it strikes them that the services they provide was not designed to serve the public but was profit motivated.

Councillor Cruise remarked that they were taking the bus stops out and were trying to create a modal shift, but if they took a bus stop out and someone had 400 – 600 yards to walk to the next bus stop and they had a car, they would take the easy option. This would not encourage modal shift, but would be getting more people into cars, the knock on effect of which would slow the buses down further. In his opinion, this was short term and short sighted.

c) Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2022 Bid

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Councillor Douglas Osborn advised that the Government was backing Birmingham to be the UK's official candidate city for the 2022 Commonwealth Games. He added that there was a need for Northfield and Birmingham to generate work for their own residents if Birmingham's bid was successful. The Committee expressed congratulations and thanks to Andy Street, Mayor of the Combined West Midlands Authority, the Interim Leader for Birmingham City Council, Councillor Ian Ward and the Birmingham Bid Team for their hard work concerning the bid for the Games.

DATE OF NEXT NORTHFIELD DISTRICT COMMITTEE

- 447 It was noted that the next Northfield District Committee meeting will be held on Friday 17 November 2017, at 1400 hours, in Committee Rooms 3 and 4, Council House, Victoria Square, Birmingham B1 1BB.
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AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS

- 448 **RESOLVED: -**

Chairman to move:-

"That in an urgent situation between meetings, the Chair jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee."

The meeting ended at 1510 hours.

CHAIRMAN



Project Overview:

The new Northfield Leisure Centre, designed to provide the whole community with a fresh, modern exercise and recreation venue, will feature a 25-metre swimming pool, a teaching pool, a 70-station gym and a community room/studio space.

The £7.9 million replacement of Northfield's leisure centre is part of a city wide investment of nearly £40million by Birmingham City Council and will be the third of four new complexes to be completed. Birmingham Community Leisure Trust, working in partnership with Birmingham City Council, has overseen the project and will manage the new centre once it opens its doors.

The Leisure Trust has a full mobilisation plan in place ready to open the building which will include a fit out of all brand new equipment. While details of the programme on offer are still to be confirmed, in addition to the normal swim and gym sessions, a wide range of fitness classes as well as children's holiday play activities and birthday parties will also be available.

Construction Update:

ISG Construction plc has undertaken the construction of the new leisure centre to designs by Calderpeel Architects. Construction works commenced in November 2016 and 12 months on the building is now nearing completion. With access remaining from Great Stone Road the design provides a clear and attractive elevation on approach from the Bristol Road South.



Externally the brick work and cladding is almost complete and the window frames are currently being fitted. Internally both pools have been rendered and the tiling has started. The block work is complete on both floors and the ground floor has had walls rendered and under floor heating installed. Floor screeding is now well underway with walls being plastered along with the installation of ceilings. Building services, such as cables, pipework and ventilation are now being installed throughout the building.

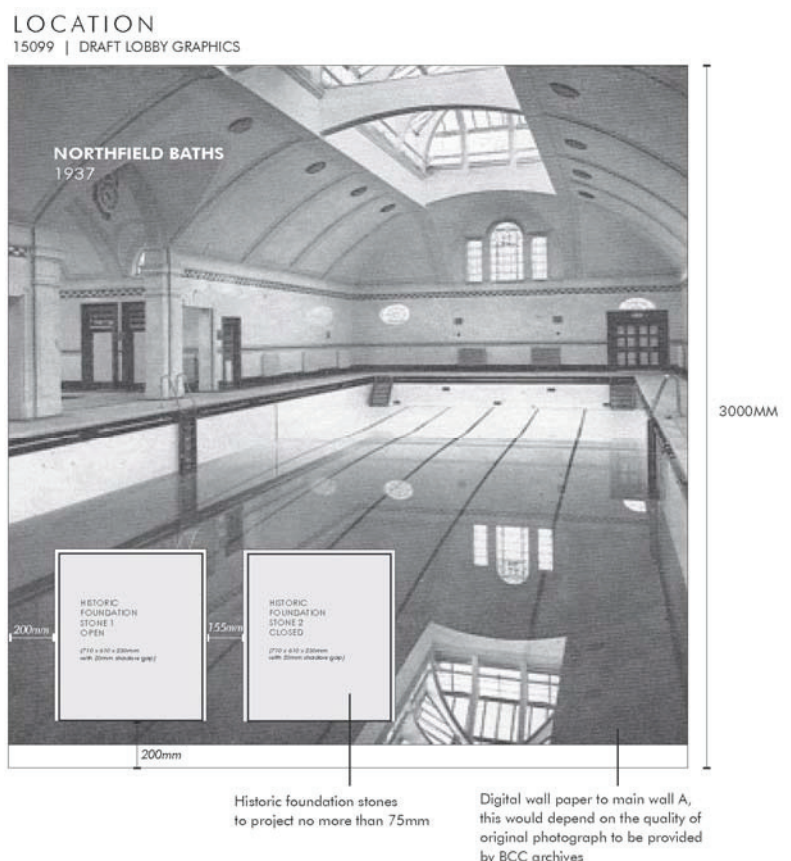
As an associate member of the Considerate Constructors Scheme, ISG Construction plc are committed to providing a first class service. They are also extremely passionate about ensuring daily operations cause minimum disruption to the local community during works and have opened up various ways of communication with the local residents.

- They provide a monthly newsletter confirming what has been completed so far and the tasks ahead.
- A notice board has been erected on the site hoarding by the main gates.
- They have set up a scheme website: www.isgbirminghamleisure.com/northfield-leisure-centre
- They facilitate monthly drop-in meetings on the first Friday of every month where anyone who is interested in the works can drop in and ask questions.
- They have worked on projects with local schools including an art work project for the hoardings.

The new facility will fully conform to the requirements of Sport England's Affordable Pools Guidance and will make a positive contribution towards regeneration, providing increased employment opportunities within the local community. Serving the local community and the wider Northfield District, the new facility will act as a focus to increase overall participation in sport and leisure activities.

Northfield Pool Legacy:

A number of comments and suggestions about the legacy for the old Northfield Pool have been taken on board following consultation on the pool project. A feature in the grounds to the front of the leisure centre will incorporate the original crest and it is also proposed to use historic photographs internally, as part of a timeline type piece, to showcase the history of the site. The two foundation stones from the original pool will be incorporated as part of this display (see example) to demonstrate the significance of the original pool to the local community. Unfortunately it has not been feasible to utilise the original weather vane within the pool project but we remain committed to working with local members to identify a long term solution to see this back up in the Northfield area. In the meantime the weather vane remains safely stored away.



Completion Date:

The contractual completion date for the new Northfield Leisure Centre remains as 9th May 2018. However, excellent progress has already been made and the project is currently several weeks ahead of target. As with any such project there are always a number of external variables and risks that can impact on completion but we remain confident that this brand new facility will be delivered ahead of time and on budget.

Northfield District Committee

Capital Environmental Budget Projects Report and Position Statement 2017/18

C/fwd figure for Northfield - £66,791 from 2016-17

Total Env Cap budget allocation 2017-18 = 195,591.00

Total 'committed' to date = 57,517.60

Total 'awaiting DC approval' = 109,367.66

Remaining budget 'to spend' = **28,705.74**

Awaiting Approval	
Works Issued	
Awaiting Quote	

No	Location	Ward	Project description	Project Cost	Comments	Approval Status
1	60-70 St Columbus Drive, Rednal, B45 8TW	Longbridge	Replace existing vinyl floor flooring with new non-slip floor covering	3,032.57	Existing vinyl flooring in communal stairs is very old and tired-looking, It is split from many places particularly on steps making it difficult to clean	Awaiting DC decision on whether capital or revenue

No	Location	Ward	Project description	Project Cost	Comments	Approval Status
2	79-89 St Columbus Drive, Rednal, B45 8TW	Longbridge	Replace existing vinyl floor flooring with new non-slip floor covering	4,024.41	Existing vinyl flooring in communal stairs is very old and tired-looking, It is split from many places particularly on steps making it difficult to clean	Awaiting DC decision on whether capital or revenue
3	32-40 St Columbus Drive, Rednal, B45 8TW	Longbridge	Replace existing vinyl floor flooring with new non-slip floor covering	5,174.56	Existing vinyl flooring in communal stairs is very old and tired-looking, It is split from many places particularly on steps making it difficult to clean	Awaiting DC decision on whether capital or revenue

No	Location	Ward	Project description	Project Cost	Comments	Approval Status
4	47-59 St Columbus Drive, Rednal, B45 8TW	Longbridge	Replace existing vinyl floor flooring with new non-slip floor covering	3,035.25	Existing vinyl flooring in communal stairs is very old and tired-looking, It is split from many places particularly on steps making it difficult to clean	Awaiting DC decision on whether capital or revenue
5	Millfield, Church Road, B31	Northfield	Upgrade existing electric car park barrier to current safety standards and to operate automatically on demand.	4,818.74	The barrier is in working order but has been switched off as it is not fit for its purpose as well as due to safety reasons	Awaiting DC decision on whether capital or revenue
6	Access Road at rear of Tenby Tower B31	Northfield	Resurfacing of housing owned access road to rear of blocks.	20,592.84	The road surface has deteriorated and has many pot holes	Works Issued

No	Location	Ward	Project description	Project Cost	Comments	Approval Status
7	Block 23-29 Shifnal Walk, B31 4ED	Northfield	Upgrade communal lighting to incorporate emergency lighting.	5,674.76	This is compliment the recently fitted secure by design doors to enhance security for the occupants of the block	Works Issued
8	Car park at rear of Elmdon Court, Abdon Avenue, Weoley Castle B29 4PQ	Weoley	Resurface car park complete – approx 940 sq m area	31,500	<p>Worst pot holes have recently been made good but the surface has deteriorated beyond repair.</p> <p>Surface has very loose grit and is causing water logging when rains.</p>	Works issued

No	Location	Ward	Project description	Project Cost	Comments	Approval Status
9	Foyle Road, Kings Norton, B38 9DQ	Kings Norton	Install metal trip rail along edge of Housing Department land, including mowing strip using concrete slabs	<p>Option1: Cost of 171m of metal trip rail with mowing strip - 23,852.81</p> <p>Option2: Cost of 171m 100mm x 100mm wooden trip rail with mowing strip - 10,889.37</p> <p>Option3: Cost of 95no concrete bollards – 7,808.05</p>	This project has been requested by Councillor Griffiths to prevent further incursions of travellers.	Awaiting DC decision to approve preferred OPTION

No	Location	Ward	Project description	Project Cost	Comments	Approval Status
10	Shannon Road, Kings Norton, B38 9AY	Kings Norton	Install metal trip rail along edge of Housing Department land, including mowing strip using concrete slabs	<p>Option1: Cost of 102m of metal trip rail with mowing strip – 14,300.01</p> <p>Option2: Cost of 102m 100mm x 100mm wooden trip rail with mowing strip – 6,527.96</p> <p>Option3: Cost of 56no concrete bollards – 4,684.83</p>	This project has been requested by Councillor Griffiths to prevent further incursions of travellers.	Awaiting DC decision to approve preferred OPTION

No	Location	Ward	Project description	Project Cost	Comments	Approval Status
11	Campion and Saffron House	Kings Norton	<p>Convert ex-aerial / communication room into mobility scooter room for the residents of sheltered scheme.</p> <p>Works include – installing new electrical supplies to building, forming DDA compliance and installing new fob control entrance door etc.</p>	28,143.76	Residents are currently taking scooters into their flats to charge them	Awaiting DC Approval
12	Blocks 111, 113, 115, 117 and 119 Staple Lodge Road	Kings Norton	Installation of new non-slip vinyl flooring to communal landings and stairs.	<p>22,985.55</p> <p>Cost per block - 4,597.11</p>	Floor surfaces currently are bare concrete and they are hard to keep clean	Awaiting DC Approval

No	Location	Ward	Project description	Project Cost	Comments	Approval Status
13	Hillside House	Longbridge	Install 1m high metal boundary fencing along Cockhill Lane to prevent vehicles driving over the grassed area	Awaiting Quote		Awaiting Quote
14	Dowry House	Longbridge	Install 1m high metal boundary fencing along Cockhill Lane to prevent vehicles driving over the grassed area	Awaiting Quote		Awaiting Quote
15	Quarry House	Longbridge	Install 1m high metal boundary fencing along Cockhill Lane to prevent vehicles driving over the grassed area	Awaiting Quote		Awaiting Quote