



Petteril
Community Panel

Date: Monday, 17 June 2024
Time: 5.00 pm
Location: Bowman Lounge, Harraby Community Centre, Edgehill Road, Carlisle, CA1 3SN

Present: Cllr L Brown (Chair), Cllr R Betton, Cllr L Patrick and Cllr C Wills

In Attendance: Area Planning Manager, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Community Development Officer, Cumberland Network Manager and Area Planning Manager

1 Election of Chair

Members agreed that this item would be deferred to the Panel meeting scheduled for 2 September 2024 following the By-Election for the Harraby North Ward.

Councillor Patrick **MOVED** and Councillor Betton **SECONDED** that Councillor Brown be appointed as Chair for this meeting only.

RESOLVED, that Councillor Brown be appointed Chair of the Panel for this meeting only.

Councillor Brown thereupon took the Chair.

The Panel held a minute's silence in honour of the late Councillor Weber.

Following the one minute silence the Chair, on behalf of the Panel, paid tribute to Councillor Weber, a colleague and friend to many on Cumberland Council and within the community.

2 Election of Vice-Chair

The Panel unanimously agreed that this item be deferred to the Panel meeting scheduled for 2 September 2024 following the By-Election for the Harraby North Ward.

RESOLVED, that this item be deferred to the Panel meeting scheduled for 2 September 2024.

3 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from the Director of Adult Social Care and Housing.

4 Disclosures of Interest

There were no disclosures of interest on this occasion.

5 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED, that the press and public be not excluded from the meeting for any items of business on this occasion.

6 Minutes

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting of the Community Panel held on 4 March 2024 be agreed as a correct record and thereupon signed by the Chair.

7 Co-opted Members

Members received a report which provided an update on the Co-opted Member recruitment process and how it affected the Panel.

RESOLVED, that

- (1) the contents of the report be noted;
- (2) the following nominations be agreed as the Co-opted members of the Petteiril Community Panel until March 2025:-

Fiona Fergus
Barrie Marskell
Andrea Templeton.

The identified Co-opted members formally joined the meeting and were welcomed by the Panel.

8 Investing in our Neighbourhoods

Members received a report which outlined the current position of the Neighbourhood Investment Fund allocation to the Petteiril Community Panel as agreed by the Cumberland Council Executive, together with investment applications from the budget allocation for consideration and approval.

The Panel was informed that the Neighbourhood Investment Fund budget allocation to this Community Panel, as agreed at full Council on 30 April 2024, was £78,619.

Members were advised that, following agreement by the Executive on 13 February 2024, this Community Panel had also received an increase on the previous year which now included an additional allocation of £80,400. The Panel was informed that this was previously from a Carlisle City Council fund which had been allocated to a number of community centres as general support whilst noting this was not now ring-fenced.

Members were informed that the total amount available to this Panel for the financial year 2024/25 was £159,019. It was noted that this allocation was intended to enable the Community Panel to plan activities in their communities through investment that would assist in the achievement of its priorities.

The Panel held a detailed discussion regarding the additional £80,400 and concerns were raised regarding the procedure and lack of ring fencing for community centres. During the course of discussion further concerns were highlighted regarding the numerous deadline dates for investment applications and it was felt there should have been one date set for community centre applications and all considered together.

Members emphasised concerns about the potential lack of available funding for community centres who had not yet submitted their applications and the Panel was assured by officers that they were confident funds would be available.

The Panel debated the whole investment allocation process, noting that the funding was largely project-based and suggested this should also be available for resources and building maintenance costs. Members highlighted the need to ensure equality for the most deprived wards was taken into consideration and encouraged Observatory data and other funding formulas to be considered when allocating investments. The Panel agreed that Observatory information would be included in their future Neighbourhood Investment Plan.

The Panel emphasised the importance of good relationships between the community centres and the Community Panel and agreed that Community Development colleagues would continue to provide strong links with them and encourage further engagement.

Members felt that the process for allocating funding to community centres should be investigated further taking into account the comments made by the Panel.

The Area Manager confirmed that criteria and details of investment application deadlines would be circulated separately to the Panel.

Members were informed of the common themes from recent network events which included training, signposting, facilities and funding. The Panel welcomed the proposed mapping exercise to highlight and signpost training availability for children and young people, the provision of support and guidance to enable communities to deal with mental health issues and encouraged the community cycling schemes.

A discussion took place regarding the creativity around dog fouling and whilst it was felt this was an issue for the Authority as a whole the Panel suggested that the option of piloting an initiative involving the provision of free dog waste bags be investigated.

The Panel discussed the Neighbourhood Investment Plan which they felt ran parallel with the Local Plan and should involve local businesses. It was agreed that an informal meeting would take place to discuss the Plan prior to it being considered at the next Panel Network Event in advance of it being presented to the formal Panel meeting in September.

In conclusion, the Chair felt there was too much responsibility on the community development officers and area managers and that there was a need to work across the whole of the Cumberland footprint. The Panel agreed to recommend to the Executive that discussions take place with the Senior Leadership Team about the wider role of community panels across the Council's directorate.

The Panel was then presented with details of investment applications (referred to in the appendices of the report) for approval and considered each one individually.

Members welcomed the pilot scheme by the Friends of Newtown Primary School on behalf of Petteril Bank School to support families with trauma and felt that the proposed investment of allocation of £1,000 should be increased to £1,500 to assist such an invaluable service.

The Panel agreed to the proposed investment allocation of £1,440 to Anti-Racist Cumbria and asked that the Organisation be invited to a future Panel Network event.

Members discussed the application from North Cumbria Rescue and Response to update equipment and PPE. Whilst commending the work they undertook the Panel suggested that this funding should be available from other sources. It was, therefore, agreed to decline the investment and suggest that the Organisation contact the Cumbria Community Foundation and Cumbria Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner with a view to obtaining funding.

The Panel considered the suggested investment allocation to Greystone Community Centre and welcomed the proposed provision of a community café within the area. Members discussed the application in detail and agreed that an investment of £24,110.79 be allocated subject to the Centre working collaboratively with the Authority and producing a detailed Business Plan in the future.

The Panel discussed the application from Harraby Community Centre and agreed an investment allocation of £24,800. During the course of discussion concerns were raised about the ongoing issues regarding the lack of a Lease for the Centre and the potential consequences of this. Members were informed this was, in part, due to the Local Government Review whilst noting that the Community Development Officer had recently been notified that this was being investigated.

RESOLVED, that

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) the Neighbourhood Investment Plan be considered at an informal meeting, prior to it being considered at the next Panel Network Event before being presented to the formal Panel meeting in September;
- (3) the Executive be RECOMMENDED to undertake discussions with the Senior Leadership Team about the wider role of community panels across the Council's directorate;
- (4) investments not exceeding £1,500 continue to be authorised outwith the Community Panel by the Chair and local Member in consultation with the Senior Manager – Community Services;
- (5) the following investments be agreed:-
 - (i) £1,500 to Friends of Newtown Primary School (CCGA/20961-24) on behalf of Petteril Bank School towards a pilot scheme to support families with trauma;
 - (ii) £1,440 to Anti-Racist Cumbria (CCGA/2098-24) to support a safe space pilot project for members of the black and brown community;

- (iii) £24,110.79 to Greystone Community Centre (CCGA/2087-24) to support community centre projects to create a community café;
 - (iv) £24,800 to Harraby Community Centre (CCGA/2086-24) to support community centre projects throughout the year;
- (6) the recommended investment to North Cumbria Rescue and Response towards updating their equipment and PPE be declined.

9 Community Panel Update

The Panel considered a detailed report which updated members on the recent activity in the Community Panel area.

Members received information on a number of network events and activity which included Carlisle Youth Festival, Petteril Community Network event, Carlisle Radio FM, Botcherby Brew, Show and Tell events and Teenage Market.

A discussion took place regarding the cost of equipment for events such as the Teenage Market and it was suggested that materials, for example, gazebos, were available from within the Authority and should be provided to organisations at no extra cost.

The Panel also received updates on capital programmes which included Carlisle Market Square and Greenmarket, Devonshire Street, Carlisle, Central Plaza, Carlisle and Carlisle Southern Gateway as well as other activities which included the Great Big Green Week and the Nature Strategy Consultation.

Members expressed their thanks and appreciation to the Community Development Team for the positive work they had undertaken.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

10 Highways and Transport Strategic Board

The Panel received the minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Highways and Transport Strategic Board held on 22 April 2024.

Members welcomed the additional information regarding forthcoming highway-related schemes which were scheduled within the Panel's footprint and it was agreed the Cumberland Network Manager would provide this at future meetings.

It was agreed that the link on the Council's website regarding future schemes would be included in forthcoming Panel newsletters.

RESOLVED, that the minutes be noted.

11 Date of Future Meeting

Members noted that the next meeting of the Panel was scheduled to take place on Monday 2 September 2024 at 5.00 pm. It was agreed the venue, if possible, would be Petteril Bank Community Centre, Carlisle.

The Panel agreed that future meetings would take place at St John's Hall and Currock Community Centre, Carlisle.

The meeting finished at 7.10 pm