

AREA COMMITTEE: SOUTH LUTON
DALLOW, FARLEY & SOUTH WARDS

DATE: TUESDAY 11TH MARCH 2008

SUBJECT: AREA REPORT

REPORT BY: HEAD OF LOCAL DEMOCRACY

CONTACT OFFICER: GARY J. ROBERTS 01582 546985

IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL	COMMUNITY SAFETY
EQUALITIES	ENVIRONMENT
FINANCIAL	CONSULTATIONS
STAFFING	OTHER

WARDS AFFECTED: DALLOW, FARLEY & SOUTH WARDS

PURPOSE

1. To bring before the committee an update on the issues that were raised following the last Area Committee held on the 14th January 2008

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. The South Luton Area Committee are recommended to note the report and make recommendations on further action where required.

BACKGROUND

3. This report encapsulates the progress of the area committee since the implementation of the initiative in October 2001. In addition it includes information on projects and activities supported by the committee and following liaison and mediation with both internal and external service

areas, pursues the concerns raised by both the local community and Members of the council.

REPORT

4. Members of the public who appear on the current database were informed of this meeting by post on the 19th February 2008 and publicity for this cycle of meetings appeared in the Luton News and Herald & Post during week commencing 18th February 2008 and in the Luton on Sunday on the 24th February 2008 and 2nd and 23rd March 2008. The area committees also have a regular feature in Lutonline, which Members will be aware is circulated across the town.
5. Additionally, posters in keeping with the new style advert and corporate approach to area committees were also dispatched to every General Practitioner, Dental Practice, Chiropodists, Chiropractors, Educational establishment, Library, Sports Centre, Community & Youth Centre, Day Centre, Places of Worship and Sheltered Housing provision, across the borough. The information gave dates for every Area Committee and was then followed up with specific information about the Area Committee, relevant to that area.
6. The Area Committee web site is regularly updated and can be accessed on www.luton.gov.uk/areacommittees

COMMUNICATION

7. I would like to remind the area committee that the area committee web pages on www.luton.gov.uk/areacommittees are regularly updated and members of the public can access all of the following on these pages:-
 - Information – What are area committees? What are ward forums?
 - Dates of all meetings
 - Dates and information of all area tours
 - Ward Forum issues/updates
 - Agendas
 - Minutes
 - Reports
 - Area project proposal form

AREA COMMITTEE ATTENDANCES

8. The following are up to date attendances at the South Luton Area Committee for the period March 2006 to January 2008

Area Committee cycle	March & April 2006	May & June 2006	September & October 2006	January 2007	March & April 2007	May & June 2007	September & October 2007	January 2008
South Luton	40	35	40	36	33	47	25	30

AREA PROJECT

9. There are two applications for Members to consider at the meeting this evening.

Project Number	Project	Cost of project	Amount requested
285	<p><u>Nubian Jak Community Trust Limited</u></p> <p>"ON TRACK 4 GOLD -- Olympic Role Models for Luton" -- A local project to stimulate interest in the London 2012 Games amongst the 14 to 20 age groups. The project is aimed at encouraging the youth community to research the local library resources, take up opportunities for volunteering and participation in the active sports programme. This will take the form of 3 linked events: (1) day-long exhibition with performances in St George's Square; (2) "Nubian Jak Sporting Quiz," an evening event in the lecture theatre at the Hat Factory which requires preparation using local library resources and the "On Track 4 Gold" website and (3) an education project requiring Year 10 students to research and write about the local sporting history. Nubian Jak has already researched some of Luton's sporting past. The exhibition component already exists and took part in the recent visit of Lord Coe to the Hat Factory where the company is a tenant. It features life-sized cut outs of former UK Olympic gold medallist's champions in track and field from 1948 to 2004. The project highlights the changing diversity of the UK games from 1984 and its importance in the London 2012 win.</p>	£7,500	£5,000

Project Number	<u>Project</u>	Cost of project	Amount requested
FA 286	<p><u>The Next Generation Scheme</u> Farley Summer programme 6 week summer holidays The Farley Summer programme will provide holiday provision for young people aged 8-16 years of age at Farley Junior School. It will provide recreational activities for young people such as Basket ball, Net ball, Tennis, Professional football training. A supervised environment to play game consoles. Table top games, pool, snooker, arts and craft, Study support and an internet cafe will also be available.</p> <p>We have discussed this with the Head teacher at Farley Junior School who is on board as well as parents, children and the local community as a whole 2). Against What Criteria Are You Justifying The Project?: Deprivation It will improve life chances for young people and take them out of deprivation by giving them opportunities to develop themselves positively.</p>	£2,500	£2,500
SO 287	<p><u>Park Town Community Centre</u> To provide a holiday club that operate throughout the summer holiday period that will accommodate children in the 5 – 12 year age group. The scheme will run on the same lines as the LBC Schemes that took place in the past and will provide a varied activity programme. If possible a day trip will also be included</p>		£1,000

BUDGET UPDATE

10. The following table shows the budget for the South Luton Area Committee as at the 11th March 2008.

<u>South Luton</u>			
Dallow, Farley & South Wards			
Balance brought forward :-			£12,070.00
The projects below have not yet received their award from the South Luton Area Committee as we are awaiting a decision from the other area committees.			
Project Number	Project	Cost of project	Amount Granted
DA 266	<u>Mary Seacole Housing Association</u> Service users and staff team building exercise. The team building exercise will last for a day in October at Whipsnade Zoo and will comprise of a number of activities. The objectives of this project are:- ♦ to take a total of 90 vulnerable, socially excluded, young people and staff out of the hostel environment ♦ trip to the Zoo accompanied by staff members who they trust ♦ provision of a round robin of events with a semi-competitive structure ♦ individual prizes and awards throughout the day	£6,815.00	£500
SO 269	<u>Starlight Youth Club ' Past to Present Project</u> The project will seek to bring together different aspects of the black culture as it relates to black history from slavery to the modern day place in society. We will be using a process of drama, dance and storytelling in a showcase. The project will also allow young people from all backgrounds the opportunity to learn about a group that help to contribute to British society.	£2,500.00	£400.00
Balance brought forward :-			£11,170

AREA TOURS

11. The Action Plans and issues that were raised during the course of past area tours can be viewed in the folder at the back of the hall. The new dates for the 2008/2009 Municipal Year are currently being set and will be circulated to Members in due course. These dates will also be accessible on the area committee web pages.

AREA COMMITTEE BOARD - OUTCOME FOLLOWING PILOT SCHEME

12. Members will recall that at the last meeting of South Luton Area Committee the Area Committee Support Officer reported on the proposed pilot scheme that was taking place in the East and West areas following a report that was submitted to the Area Committee Board on the 6th December 2007. The two pilots embraced the resolutions as set out below –
13. **The Area Committee Board resolved:** (i) That the outcome of the review of Area Committees as set out in the Chief Executive's report (Ref: 8), be noted.
 - (ii) That the Chief Executive be instructed to reconvene the officer working group that will embrace the fundamental purpose of the recent White Paper, to particularly review the role of the Area Committee and how it could be developed to take on the role of monitoring the Neighbourhood Plans as they are developed.
 - (iii) That the Chief Executive submit an interim report on the findings of the officer working group referred to at (ii) above to the Area Committee Board on 9th April 2007.
 - (iv) That the implementation of two pilot schemes, one in West Luton and the second in East Luton to:
 - (a) extend the ward forums so that they operate from 18:30 Hours to 20:00 Hours;
 - (b) allocate the first part of the ward forum e.g. 18:30 hours to 18:50 hours (including the pilots) to receiving feedback from the Police on matters from the last meeting and for the Police to record any new issues and thereafter the Police Depart. This to also embrace issues of community safety which should be recorded by the forum facilitator; and
 - (c) each of the pilots receiving any reports specific to the ward at the ward forum, be supported.
 - (v) That Chief Executive report the outcome of the pilots to the Area Committee Board meeting to be held on 29th January 2008.
 - (vi) That Area Committee agendas continue to receive information on presentations as a mechanism to advise constituents how to engage with a consultation process, but that this be restricted to a

five minute overview and no power point presentations be permitted.

(vii) That Area Committee agendas contain a maximum of three or four discussion items only.

(viii) That no late applications under the area committee projects scheme will be considered.

14. On the 30th January 2008 the Area Committee Board considered the 'feedback' report of the Area Committee Support Officer and

Resolved: (i) That the report (Ref: 8) be noted.

(ii) That the Chief Executive be instructed to implement the new approach, as detailed in Area Committee Board Minute 6/07, across all of the area committees effective from March 2008.

(iii) That the Chief Executive be instructed to explore and to submit a report on possible options for the ward forums to be more formally clerked to the next meeting of the Board on 9th April 2008.

(iii) That the Area Committee Support Officer be instructed to liaise with the Police to secure the attendance of one officer to remain to the end of each ward forum and a senior officer until the end of the public question time at the area committee.

PROPOSAL/OPTION

15. It is proposed that Members of the South Luton Area Committee note the report.

In terms of the application under the Area Committee Projects Scheme

◆ Reference 285 ◆ FA 286 and ◆ SO 287

Members may consider the following: -

- (i) Granting the full application.
- (ii) Making a different contribution towards the scheme.
- (iii) Deferring the application for future consideration.
- (iv) Refusing the application

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

16. Much of the work conducted by the Area Committee will have an impact on Council services and will address issues such as accessibility, local participation and the general quality of life within the Borough.

COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

17. A large amount of the work being pursued and undertaken by service areas and other outside agencies will make a major contribution to community safety and need to be considered alongside other schemes that may be under consideration or being implemented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

18. Any contribution made by the Area Committee will be met from existing budgets.

ENVIRONMENT IMPLICATIONS

19. The implications of the work being undertaken will address and improve the environment, create safer communities and address the quality of life for local people.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D

There are no background papers relating to this report.