

Lenton and Wollaton East Councillors – Annual Report 2019-20

Introduction

Councillors Pavlos Kotsonis, Sally Longford and Dave Trimble are the elected members of Nottingham City Council representing Lenton and Wollaton East ward.

The councillors work as a team to support the residents in the ward. They work alongside resident groups, hold advice surgeries, community meetings and communicate with local residents in order to identify and address current concerns. This report will cover common ward-work as well as committee and council related business that reflects the individual efforts of the local councillors.

Council Involvement

In 2019-20 we were on the following committees and outside bodies:

Councillor Kotsonis

Chair of Lenton and Wollaton East, Meadows and Wollaton West Area Committee
Area Lead for Wollaton West, Lenton and Wollaton East and Meadows
Chair for Employment and Skills Partnership for Nottingham South (ESAP)
Member of Planning Committee
Member of Standards Committee
Member of covid-19 BAME commission
Member of Equalities Board
Member of Nottingham Together Board
Member of Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Member of Special Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)
Trustee at the Lenton Centre
Director at City of Nottingham Historic Buildings Ltd
Director at Robin Hood Energy Ltd.

Councillor Longford

Deputy Leader
Portfolio Holder for Energy, Environment and Democratic Services
Member of Commissioning and Procurement Sub-committee
Vice-chair of Companies Governance Executive Sub-committee
Vice-chair of the Executive Board
Member of the Joint Committee on Strategic Planning and Transport
Member of Lenton and Wollaton East, Meadows and Wollaton West Area Committee
Chair of the Outbreak Control Engagement Board
Member of Planning Committee
Director at EnviroEnergy Ltd.
Director at Groundwork Greater Nottingham
Member of Joint Planning Advisory Committee
Member of the Local Pensions Board
Director at the Meadows Ozone Energy Services Ltd.
Member at One Nottingham
Member at Trent Regional Flood and Coastal Committee, and Chair of Financial Sub-Committee

Councillor Trimble

Portfolio Holder for Culture, Leisure and IT

Member of the Executive Board
Member of Lenton and Wollaton East, Meadows and Wollaton West Area Committee
Member of Licensing Committee
Member of the Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE)
Director at Nottingham Ice Centre Limited
Director at Nottingham Racecourse Ltd

Community Involvement and wider ward-work:

-Held monthly surgeries 6:30pm-7:30pm the second Tuesday of every month at the Lenton Community Centre; 7pm-8pm at the 4th Friday of every month at the Dunkirk and Old Lenton Community Centre (DOLCA); 2:30pm-3:30pm the 1st Tuesday of every month (term time only) and 10am-11am at the Sheila Roper Centre the 2nd Friday of every month.

-Undertook monthly Councillor ward walks with partner services (e.g. Police, Licensing, Community Protection, Street Scene) where residents have the opportunity to raise any neighbourhood issues.

-Held Street-surgeries where-by we visited targeted areas and we listened to residents on the doorstep about the issues concerning them.

-Organised and held public meeting to discuss UNITE proposal for Purpose Built Student Accommodation Building at Jaguar Caryard site Derby Rd chaired by Councillor Trimble.

-Participated in residents meetings with groups such as the Lenton Drives and Neighbours Residents Association (LDNRA) and the Wollaton Park Resident Association (WPRA).

-Held monthly Neighbourhood Action Team (NAT) meetings including key partners in order to highlight issues affecting residents and finding ways to address them.

-Helped to fund and organise popular community summer events such as the Lenton Abbey Fun day held at Lenton Abbey Park and the Lenton Fun Day held at the Lenton Recreation Ground.

-Funded and organised the Lenton Abbey lights switch on on December the 4th and the Kennington road lights switch on at December the 14th. Both events were attended by local residents and their families and enjoyed their time with Santa and the gifts from the tombola.

-Launched a Kennington Road Action Plan to address issues of littering in the Kennington road area; the plans included anti idling signage near the Southwold Primary, new bins at the Chesil Green and Kennington Rd as well as developed plans for planting in the area.

-Increased the number of trees in the ward by funding the planting of new trees in areas including Lenton Green, the Highfields park and Greenfield Street and Highfield street in Dunkirk.

-Supported Forever Stars by funding improvement works at the Serenity Garden at Highfields Park.

-Worked to find funding for road safety improvements in Derby Rd, including an average speed camera, new signage and other related works which will be carried out later this year and early in the next.

-Participated in Community litter picks organised by the local residents groups and encouraged people to become street champions to take responsibility for their own communities.

-Sally took active role in the citywide Covid response whilst Pavlos became the area lead for the Wollaton West, Lenton and Wollaton East and the Meadows overseeing the work of the local teams on the ground during the lockdown. Pavlos also visited and participated in the activities of a variety of organisations engaged in Covid relief work including Himmah and the Pythian Club during the breakdown.

-Committed funds for the installation of new litter bins in a variety of areas in our ward including Chesil Green, Kennington Road, Abbey street, Arnesby Rd near Chip Box, Lenton Lane Bridge and Abbey Street near Jimbos

-Committed funds for Footpaths improvements including Charles Ave and Varden Ave planned future work on pavements in different locations in Lenton and Wollaton East.

-Worked with the police and community protection to tackle issues of ASB and party-noise in the ward.

-Implemented improvements at the bottom of Chippendale street, and restored missing tiles on the footpath.

-Worked with Environmental Health to ensure the structure of the wall on the alleyway behind the beginning of Park Road is safe as there was a tree that grew on top of the wall and rectification building works happened there.

-Allocated the funding for work that will be done in the next financial year to introduce a single yellow line at Sutton Passeys Crescent to help the bus go through the Wollaton Park estate.

-Implemented improvements in our estates including a new wooden fence on the back of houses in Abbey Street and the unveiling of the mural and decorated tiles made by students of the Edna G Olds academy and local artists at the gate of the old underpass to the Lenton towers next to Thomas Heweleys church.

-Worked hard with Community Protection and Licensing to ensure that houses of multiple occupation have the proper licence and that their owners abide by the licensing conditions. Continued to work towards uniform standards for landlords and tenants.

-Sally supported AJ Sports in their bid for funding to create a music technology room at the Sheila Roper Centre.

-Sally Dave and Pavlos supported and continue to work with a number of organisations in the Lenton and Wollaton East ward including the Lenton Centre, the Lenton Drives and Neighbours Residents Association, the Nottingham Action Group, the Wollaton Park Residents Association, the Crocus Cafe, Abbey Lodge, Palmer Court, Dunkirk Primary, AJ Sports and others.

Area Capital Fund for 2019-20

Sally Pavlos and Dave used their allocated funding for Traffic Regulation Orders in the following areas: (works have been ordered and they are with the contractors for final installation).

Area 1- QMC Area

Charnock Avenue

Dorket Drive

Orston Drive

Fairham Drive, Averton Sq. & Longore Sq.

Harby Drive

Calver Close

Also Includes a single yellow line around Sutton PASSES Crescent for the L5 bus.

Area 2- Derby Road Area

Arnesby Road

Swenson Avenue

Ingham Grove

Penn Avenue

Forsythia Gardens

Councillor Pavlos Kotsonis (Chair for Lenton and Wollaton East, Wollaton West and Meadows Area Committee)

-He engaged in work of hate crime prevention and consulted the police and community cohesion on work to address discrimination and racism. He became a hate crime champion and worked during the year in related casework as well as wider organisational improvements on his various committee positions including Nottingham Together, the Equalities Board and the Covid-19 BAME led commission.

-He offered feedback and voted on a variety of planning projects including exciting new developments such as the guildhall development and the crocus place development.

-He became the first elected representative to co-direct the City of Nottingham Historic Buildings Ltd, a new charity engaged in heritage work in the Nottingham Area focusing on buildings at risk. He engaged and participated in assessing plans for potential heritage restoration works at Bullwell hall stables.

-He assessed and approved along with the other committee members the new curriculum for religious education for Nottingham schools as part of his work with SACRE.

-With regards to full council and political work, he seconded and spoke on Cllr Sam Webster's motion on insourcing of council operations on the September Council meeting; he also seconded Cllr Rebecca Langton's motion on economic resilience at the November full council meeting. He is proud to have voted and spoke alongside other councillors on the

Nottingham climate action plan for carbon neutral Nottingham by 2028 which was first presented in January's full council meeting and was moved by Sally. Pavlos is also proud to have participated and to have organised alongside fellow Nottingham City councillors the campaign for debt cancellation, asking the government for an end to austerity; fair needs based funding; as well as the cancellation of council debt in order to offer local authorities more funds for needed services.

-He worked with officers to formulate the objectives for partners (such as Futures Nottingham jobs et al) in their overall strategy for addressing joblessness following the easing of covid restrictions, as part of his work as Chair for the ESAP for Nottingham South. This involved the introduction of the idea of Area Hubs for employment support in his area of jurisdiction as well as the idea of prioritising people that might have additional barriers to finding employment.

-As Chair of the area committee he worked to ensure that community representatives are given the opportunity to engage in discussion on a variety of topics including issues related to students, shared housing and ASB. He ensured that communities were encouraged to participate in important surveys including the survey on the most recent proposed SPD on the introduction of 106 payments for new PBSAs. He also worked to ensure that committee business was conducted in a timely fashion, that the funding was allocated as required by local councillors as well as ensuring that all committee members and partners such as CPOs NCH reps, police, councillors et al. were given the opportunity to have their say.

-With regards to Overview and Scrutiny Committee Pavlos raised issues with regards to a variety of areas aimed to organisational improvements in NCH repairs, community cohesion and elsewhere. He also undertook a work project alongside Cllr Carol McCulloch aimed at interviewing members of the Research Engagement and Consultation Department (REC) and he worked to produce a set of recommendations for improvements on the council's consultation services.

Councillor Sally Longford (Council Deputy Leader)

-Sally's responsibilities cover a wide range of the Council's work including Emergency Planning, which has been very significant this year. From the early stages of the Covid-19 pandemic, she has been involved in ensuring that the Council responded appropriately to the needs of our citizens. She has been attending planning meetings, during lockdown and as the issues emerged every day to ensure that our most vulnerable citizens were being supported, that essential services continued, and that supplies of essential materials, such as PPE were available to our front line workers. The work has been relentless, but also very rewarding and made possible by the outstanding work of our key administrative staff, Customer Services and our IT department, who have enabled much of the Council to continue to function remotely during the crisis. Sally is currently chairing the Local Outbreak Engagement Board, which is working to ensure that all organisations within the City have clear plans in place to deal with outbreaks effectively and to reduce the impacts on our citizens.

-Customer Service - Sally opened the new Customer Service Hub on the Ground Floor of Loxley House this year, it incorporates a variety of services including DWP and Housing Aid. Sally was involved in ensuring it provides an attractive, accessible family friendly environment for anyone accessing those services. Key to effective working during lockdown was the Council's ability to make more of our services available digitally and progress has

been swift and citizens have benefitted from being able to use traditional ways of contacting the Council, but also online. Our Democratic Services team have had to adapt to online meetings, and Sally supported this transition.

-Clean Air - Nottingham's air quality benefits hugely from the sustainable public transport system we have developed over many years, including the tram, electric and bio-gas buses and the cycling infrastructure. Sally meets regularly with a cross council group to monitor progress towards our goal of reducing nitrogen dioxide and particulate pollution by 20% by 2023. Progress has been made in with our developing network of electric vehicle charge points, cleaning up of the hackney taxi fleet and the increasing proportion of our own fleet which is EV.

-Carbon Neutral 2028 - As Portfolio Holder responsible for the Environment this is a key part of Sally's work. Nottingham is making good progress and Sally meets regularly with people from across the city, and takes every opportunity to talk to community groups about how they can contribute, the Action Plan to lead us up to 2028 has been published and will be reviewed annually. She was very proud to collect on behalf of the Council the overall Guardian Public Service Award for this important work.

-Bee Friendly Nottingham - We are committed to providing good spaces for pollinators in every part of the city, and Sally has led on the progress towards that goal, starting with the central reservation of the ring road, and identifying patches in neighbourhoods. Some areas will be left unmown except at the beginning and end of the growing season, others will be planted with wild flower seeds and plants. Alongside this we also introduced a Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document, which sets standards for improving biodiversity in new developments.

-Flood prevention is an important part of Sally's portfolio and has been working locally to ensure that not only are we prepared to help people who unfortunately suffer from flooding, but also that we take action to reduce the threat of flooding to 1,000 homes by 2023. A complex project has been underway on the Day Brook to protect 160 homes for sometime, and should be completed soon. Sally has been keen to ensure that we have a strong pipeline of projects which can attract Government funding, and she is working hard to reach our target.

Councillor Dave Trimble (Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Culture and IT)

-Dave's portfolio is leisure, culture and IT. This year Dave delivered a new world class attraction at Nottingham castle. He also was responsible for plans and delivery behind the building of the new Central library that is going to replace the one currently located in Angel Row.

-He worked alongside Sally to support plans for the planting of 50,000 trees by 2023 to help increase biodiversity, reduce CO2 emission and improve health outcomes.

-He is proud to have played a leading role in protecting and enhancing the outlook and aesthetic value of Nottingham's parks. Achieving the highest number of Green Flag awarded parks in the UK. He also worked to support a wide range of city-wide and community events.

-Dave delivered a new World War 1 memorial located at the embarkement, Meadows to commemorate those who gave their life in combat. He achieved to bring together a wide range of organisations to fund it alongside Nottingham City Council.

-Working alongside former councillor Sarah Piper he delivered a new Sculpture Park next the Priory Church Lenton accessible by tram at the Gregory Street tram stop.