

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PENISTONE AREA COUNCIL

27th June, 2013

1. **Present:** Councillors Barnard (Chair), Milner, Rusby, Starling and Wilson.

2. **Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests.**

No Members declared an interest in any item on the agenda.

3. **Terms of reference, purpose of the Area Councils, and role of Elected Members.**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Penistone Area Council.

Members considered the paperwork circulated. Attention was drawn to the terms of reference and key elements of the role of the Area Council. These included to set priorities within the area, develop an area plan, monitor the performance of services and approve the community representatives on the ward alliances.

The role descriptions were thought useful for ensuring members understood their role fully.

It was confirmed that Area Council meetings are held in public, but do not have the provision for public involvement.

RESOLVED:- that the terms of reference and supporting paperwork be noted.

4. **Notes from the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance, 23rd May, 2013.**

The meeting received the notes from the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance.

Members discussed the combining of the two Ward Alliances, based on the notion that community action does not always adhere to electoral boundaries. All members were supportive of this.

RESOLVED:- that the notes from Penistone East and West Ward Alliance on 23rd May, 2013 be received.

5. **Community representatives on the Ward Alliance.**

The meeting considered the report circulated, which suggested a number of individuals who had expressed an interest in becoming a community representative on the Ward Alliance.

Members discussed other activists, with a view to inviting them to apply to become a member of the Ward Alliance. This included representatives from Penistone Grammar School, a number of the parish councils, St. John's Church and the Chamber of Commerce.

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Though there was no upper limit for the number of community representatives, it was noted that the meetings could become difficult to manage with larger numbers. It was suggested that the wider Neighbourhood Network could provide another avenue to further engage groups and individuals.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the individuals proposed be approved as community representatives on the Ward Alliance, initially for the remainder of the 2013/14 municipal year;
- (ii) that the final version of the community representatives expression of interest form be circulated to members.

6. Work programme for 2013/14, including key milestones.

The Central Area Council Manager introduced the item, drawing attention to the theme of each of the remaining meetings of the municipal year.

It was recognised that throughout their first year of operation Area Councils will grow and develop. However, it was agreed that the meetings need to focus on the task in hand and therefore each meeting should not stray far from the work programme and the timescales should not slip.

RESOLVED:- that the work programme be noted and be utilised as the basis for future meetings of Penistone Area Council.

7. Standard agenda format for Area Councils.

The meeting considered the standard agenda format, which had been developed for use in the Area Councils. All were in favour of using the format, subject to any amendment to tailor this to future needs.

RESOLVED:- that the standard agenda format be noted and be used as a basis for future agendas of Penistone Area Council.

8. Deadlines for Area Councils.

Members considered and noted the deadlines for circulation of papers for each Area Council and when the minutes would be submitted to Full Council.

RESOLVED:- that the deadlines for Penistone Area Council be noted and that any member wishing to put forward items for the agenda should contact the Chair in advance of these dates.

9. Planning and Format for the next Area Council meeting.

Following on from Item 6, the meeting discussed arrangements for the September meeting of Penistone Area Council.

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It was suggested that a workshop format may be more suitable. This could include the presentation of data and consideration of information from a variety of sources may help the Area Council to arrive at a number of draft priorities.

Members heard of the impending launch of the Penistone Town Council Community Led Plan, which had been subject to wide consultation. It was agreed that this would provide a useful source of information.

The Chair encouraged members to consider what may be the top priorities within their ward prior to the September meeting.

Concern was expressed about the reductions in Youth Service provision within the area due to take effect from October 2013. It was suggested that more detailed discussion takes place with colleagues in the Children, Young People, and Families Directorate as soon as possible, in order to understand the implications of the reductions.

RESOLVED: -

- (i) that the Area Council Manager in conjunction with the Chair discuss and agree the agenda and format for the next meeting;
- (ii) that the Area Council Manager arranges a meeting between Members and colleagues from Children, Young People, and Families to discuss changes in Youth Service provision.

10. **Dates, times and venue for future meetings.**

Members noted the dates for the 2013/14 municipal year, which had been recently revised to ensure that the majority of Members could attend.

RESOLVED:- that future meetings of the Area Council be held on the dates circulated and be held at Penistone Town Hall.

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Chair