

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

NORTH EAST AREA COUNCIL

1ST AUGUST 2013

9. **Present:** Councillors Hayward (Chair), T. Cheetham, T.J. Cheetham, S. Green, Higginbottom, Kyte, North, M. Sheard, C.C. Wraith

10. **Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest**

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest.

11. **Minutes of the previous meeting of North East Area Council, held on 6th June 2013**

The minutes of the previous meeting of North East Area Council were accepted as a true and correct record.

Regarding minute 4, members thanked the North East Area Team for their hard work and support in developing the community's web presence. Several new Facebook pages were already operational, including one advertising the Cudworth 'Tea in the Park' event that had attracted over 8400 'hits' to date. All Communities and Area Governance staff now had access to Facebook on the Council's IT system, to enable the roll out of similar engagement activities to other areas.

Members also noted that work continued to develop a self financing model of enforcement, which could be refined as required depending on the Area Council's priorities. It was stressed however that any new service delivery model would focus on environmental issues such as fly tipping and dog fouling, and would not include parking enforcement.

12. **Notes of previous Ward Alliance meetings**

Members received the notes from the area's most recent Ward Alliance meetings, held in June and July 2013. No member wished to raise any issues arising from the notes.

RESOLVED: that the notes of the Cudworth, Monk Bretton, North East, and Royston Ward Alliances be noted.

13. **Report on the use of devolved ward budgets**

Members considered a report on agreed spend to date from devolved ward budgets within the North East area, which the Area Manager explained was being reported to the Area Council to ensure complete transparency.

It was noted that members were free to jointly fund projects with neighbouring wards, including those that were not part of the North East Area Council. The Chair stressed that Area Councils would also consider jointly commissioning services with each other, particularly where this could generate economies of scale.

RESOLVED: that the report on devolved ward budgets be noted.

14. **Appointment of community representatives to Ward Alliances**

The Area Manager presented three reports nominating community representatives to join the Cudworth, North East, and Monk Bretton Ward Alliances respectively. The Chair noted that the Alliances were generating an encouraging level of support and that no ward had yet had any difficulty recruiting at least six community representatives, which was the minimum number required under the Council's constitution.

It was noted that Royston's Ward Alliance was scheduled towards the end of the current meeting cycle, but that expression of interest forms had already been sent to several local groups and organisations.

RESOLVED: that the individuals proposed be approved as members of their respective Ward Alliances for the remainder of the municipal year.

15. **Planning and format for the next meeting of North East Area Council**

The Chair drew members' attention to the Area Council's work programme for its next meeting in October, and in particular the need to agree an Area Plan for public consultation.

Members discussed the need for more information on the ongoing restructure of the Youth Service and its implications for the area, as part of the Area Plan priority setting process. It was agreed that the Area Council needed to engage with both youth outreach and youth offending teams, and that the idea of a single local 'hub' for youth provision should be explored further.

Members noted that the Youth Service was currently consulting on its proposed new offer, and that the Area Council could contribute to this process by feeding in local concerns and priorities. In particular, members agreed there was a need to challenge negative attitudes towards young people, which sometimes led to unfair accusations of antisocial behaviour. The Chair stressed that the Area Council would not itself be providing youth clubs, but that it could consider giving extra support to existing and newly emerging services.

The meeting also heard that development of the performance management element of the Area Council's work programme was continuing. Members noted that this would include contract monitoring

and overview for any services commissioned by the Area Council, and potentially an investigation into the impact volunteers and community groups were having on the local area.

RESOLVED: that a representative of the Youth Service be invited to the next meeting of the North East Area Council, to discuss the Service's proposed new offer.

16. **Arrangements for future meetings of the North East Area Council**

Those present discussed the current arrangements, and agreed that these be revised to ensure as many members as possible were able to attend future meetings.

RESOLVED: that future meetings of the North East Area Council begin at 12.30pm in Barnsley Town Hall.

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Chair