

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PENISTONE AREA COUNCIL

20th February, 2014

35. **Present:** Councillors Barnard (Chair), Hand-Davis, Millner, Rusby and Starling.

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

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

37. **Minutes from the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 12th December, 2013.**

The Area Council received the minutes from the previous meeting held on 12th December, 2013. It was noted that Members had met with officers in Waste Management about the proposed changes to collections to rural properties. The meeting acknowledged the health and safety issues the proposal aimed to address but Members expressed concern about the potential impact in a number of areas, which included blocking the public highway with bins at various locations.

It was noted that work continued with officers, but it was suggested that solutions would be required on a property by property basis and that this may take a great deal of time to resolve.

It was noted that an Equalities Impact Assessment had been completed on the proposals, but Members had yet to be provided with a copy.

RESOLVED:- that the minutes from the Penistone Area Council meeting held on the 12th December, 2013 be approved as a true and correct record.

38. **Notes from the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance held on 23rd January, 2014.**

The meeting considered the notes from the Ward Alliance held on 23rd January, 2014.

RESOLVED:- that the notes from Penistone East and West Ward Alliance 23rd January, 2014 be received.

39. **Report on the use of Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Fund.**

The Area Council Manager referred to the report which detailed the expenditure from April 2013 to February 2014.

Up-to-date figures were provided and it was noted that £15,539 of the £20,000 Ward Alliance Fund had been committed and £20,592 of the £40,000 of the Devolved Ward Budget had also been committed. Whilst it was acknowledged that funds could be carried over to 2014/15, Members agreed that projects should be taken forward as expediently as possible to avoid any issues in the future.

RESOLVED:- that the report on the use of Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Fund be noted.

40. **Penistone Area Council update on priorities and commissioning.**

The Area Council Manager spoke to the report. It was noted that the following projects were being taken forward:-

- A countryside skills training course, responding to the 'Positive Activities for Young People and 'Growing the Economy' priorities;
- Town centre improvements/Town Centre Caretaker, responding to the 'Environment' and 'Growing the Economy' priorities, and;
- A subsidised bus service for market days, responding to the Growing the Economy and 'Roads and Transport' priorities.

With regards to countryside skills project, Members heard how meetings with procurement and organisations with expertise in the field had been arranged to further develop the project. It was noted that a further meeting of the Area Council may be required in order to approve to specification and meet timescales for procurement, ensuring the project starts at the most appropriate time.

The meeting discussed the Town Centre and potential improvements in some depth. This included issues with pedestrian road safety around the 'square-about' and the adequacy of pavements in front of the new business units on St. Mary's Street. It was suggest that a site meeting with relevant officers in the Council be arranged.

Also noted was the need to ensure any proposals for improving the town centre were complementary to those being taken forward by Penistone Town Council.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the progress in taking forward the Area Council priorities be noted;
- (ii) that the Area Council Manager, in consultation with relevant Members and officers, further develops the countryside skills project with a view to presenting a final specification of requirements to the next meeting of the Area Council;
- (ii) that Cllr Hand-Davis be part of the Tender Evaluation Panel for the countryside skills project.

41. **Appointment of community representatives to the Ward Alliance.**

Members noted the paper which provided details of three individuals proposed to become community representatives on the combined Penistone East and West Ward Alliance.

RESOLVED:- that the individuals proposed be approved as community representatives on the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance for the remainder of the 2013/14 municipal year.

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Chair