

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

NORTH EAST AREA COUNCIL

3rd APRIL, 2014

44. **Present:** Councillors Hayward (Chair), Tracey Cheetham, Ennis, S. Green, Higginbottom, Makinson, North, M. Sheard, and C. Wraith.

45. **Declarations of pecuniary and non pecuniary interests**

No member wished to declare any pecuniary or non pecuniary interests.

46. **Minutes from the North Area Council meeting held on 13th February, 2014**

The meeting considered the minutes from the previous meeting of North Area Council, held on 13th February, 2014.

RESOLVED:- that the minutes of North Area Council, held on 13th February, 2014 be approved as a true and correct record.

47. **Notes from the Ward Alliances**

The meeting received notes from the Cudworth, Monk Bretton, North East and Royston Ward Alliances held throughout January, February and March of 2014.

The following points were noted:-

Cudworth:- the recently held Health Fayre had been a success with in excess of 500 people attending and thanks were given to officers who had worked hard to make it so. Mention was given to the Junior Warden's visit to Rabbit Ings and how all were impressed by the facility.

Monk Bretton:- the meeting noted that a Health Fayre had also been held in this area, with many people in attendance but it was hoped numbers could be increased for future events. It was noted that the Ward Alliance had been discussing the arrangement of activities for young people in the summer holidays. The meeting was also made aware of the work of the 'One Stop Shop', which provided a much used facility for older people and those with a disability.

North East:- it was noted that arrangements for a Health Fayre in the North East ward were slightly behind other areas, but progress had been made with the Environment and Young People priorities within the area with £2,500 being recently allocated to each of the 5 primary schools within the ward.

Royston:- Members noted that positive feedback had been received regarding the CAB sessions being held. The meeting heard how the domain www.RoystonWA.co.uk had been secured and a web page was under development. The success of the leaflet aimed at older people was noted, and Members heard how a similar leaflet aimed at younger people was in development.

RESOLVED:- that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received.

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

The report was introduced by the Area Council Manager. It was noted that, with recent approvals, approximately 75% of the Devolved Ward Budget had been committed in 2013/14.

The meeting heard that a summary of finance being carried forward and therefore total allocations for 2014/15 would be circulated to Members very shortly.

It was also noted that amendments were being made to Ward Alliance Fund paperwork in order to make forms more user friendly.

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

49. **Commissioning against the North East Area Council Environmental Priorities**

The item was introduced by the Area Manager, making reference to previous discussions at the Area Council. Environment had been selected as the first of the priorities for the area on which the Area Council was to concentrate.

The meeting considered the proposals for an enhanced Enforcement Service. Following on from the previous meeting, it was noted that advice had been received that enforcement officers would now need to be procured externally. It was suggested that this should be supported through a service level agreement with the Community Safety and Enforcement Service to provide training, equipment and other sundry items. Members were supportive of the proposal and it was approved.

Members went on to consider two specifications for the Community Enablement Service, one for Cudworth and North East Wards and another for Monk Bretton and Royston. These had been revised following feedback from Legal, Operational Services and Norfolk Property Services. Both were approved to a value of £75,000 each for one year.

Linked to this, Members discussed the issue of increased levels of fly tipping in the area. It was noted that the core Enforcement Service will be focusing on this issue and an offer of working with Members to discuss procedures for preserving evidence to enable successful prosecution was received. Thanks were given to the Head of Community Safety and Enforcement Service and staff for their support on this issue.

The meeting discussed the levels of vandalism and anti-social behaviour at some of the many park sites within the area. It was noted that in 2013/14 this had resulted in £7,495 of repairs, which would no longer be available from budgets within Parks Services. It was therefore agreed to enter into a Service Level Agreement with Parks Services to provide a budget of up to £10,000 for these repairs in the North Area.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the specification of requirements for 'Environmental Enforcement' to a value of £50,000 for a year be approved;
- (ii) that the service level agreement with the Community Safety and Enforcement Service for support items be approved to a value of £14,000;
- (iii) that the two revised specifications of requirements for a 'Community Enablement Service' in Cudworth and North East, and Monk Bretton and Royston, be approved to

a value of £75,000 each for one year, with a price quality split of 35:65 in favour of quality, and with final approval of the Procurement Strategy delegated to the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods, Access and Support;

(iv) that the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods, Access and Support be authorised to enter into a Service Level Agreement with Parks Services to a value of up to £10,000 to replace equipment and safety surfacing as required across the 31 play sites of North East Area Council.

50. **Activities for Young People**

The Chair introduced the item, noting that Young People was one of the agreed priorities of the North East Area.

In order respond to this priority it was suggested that around £60,000 of the 2014/15 allocation be put aside for a grant regime to support activities for young people. As Ward Alliances had supported many activities within the summer holidays it was suggested that the grants focus on activity outside of school holidays, primarily at weekends and on evenings.

It was agreed that a working party be convened, with representation from each of the wards, to develop the proposal in more detail. The following Members were put forward:- Cllrs Tim Cheetham, S. Green, Higginbottom, and C. Wraith.

On a similar basis it was suggested that group be convened to consider activities for Older People linked to Health and Wellbeing. The following Members were put forward:- Makinson, Higginbottom, M. Sheard, and C. Wraith.

RESOLVED:- that working parties be established with representation from each ward as established above, feeding back to the Area Council for further discussion and approval, where relevant.

51. **Annual Review of the North East Area Council**

Members received a presentation, delivered by the North East Area Team, which gave an over view of progress made throughout 2013/14. It was noted that the milestones for North East Area Council 2013/14 had all been achieved and expenditure to the value of £224,000 approved.

The meeting noted that the Ward Alliances within the area had all achieved the milestones set for 2013/14. £20,742 had been approved across 21 projects, helping to achieve the equivalent of £5,091 of additional social value.

Members noted that £55,690 of Devolved Ward Budgets had been allocated across 27 projects. Including other known community projects in which Members were involved and funds committed to projects by Berneslai Homes, a cumulative value of funding worth £150,707 was accumulated across the North East Area. In addition a value of £15,562 due to social action by volunteers could be evidenced.

The meeting went on to discuss a number of significant projects across the North East Area, which gave an indication of the breadth of work undertaken. This included the Health Fayres, Junior Wardens scheme, networking and a significant number of environmental initiatives.

The Lead Locality Officer made the meeting aware that a comprehensive review of the Area Governance Arrangements was currently underway. Members were encouraged to complete self-assessment forms and provide feedback as part of the process.

Thanks were given for the support received and the hard work of all who contributed to the success of North East Area Council in 2013/14.

52. **Next steps for North East Area Council**

It was suggested that a future item for North East Area Council to consider should be a programme of community clean ups, which would be a priority as summer approached.

.....
Chair