

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

NORTH EAST AREA COUNCIL

9th April 2015

- 47. Present:** Councillors Hayward (Chair), Tim Cheetham, Tracey Cheetham, Ennis, S. Green, Higginbottom, Makinson, North, Richardson, M. Sheard and C. Wraith MBE.

48. Declarations of pecuniary and non pecuniary interests

Cllr Hayward declared a non pecuniary interest in Minute no. 51 as he is the Chair of Barnsley Community Build; Cllr Higginbottom declared a non pecuniary interest in Minute no. 53 as she is involved with Great Houghton Youth Club.

49. Minutes from the North East Area Council meeting held on 12th February 2015

The meeting considered the minutes from the previous meeting of the North East Area Council, held on 12th February 2015. There was a discussion about the community magazine which was approved in principle at the last meeting. It was confirmed that the Area Council will retain full editorial control and that once more details of the proposals for distribution and advertising are available these will be brought to a further Area Council meeting.

RESOLVED: - that the minutes of North East Area Council, held on 12th February 2015 be approved as a true and correct record.

50. 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 2015. The following updates were noted:

Cudworth – The recent Health Fayre, at which daffodils and fruit were distributed, was very well attended and will be repeated again towards the end of the year and again in spring 2016. At the last meeting it was agreed that grants should be given to Yorkshire Dance Fusions and Crystal Lights as the majorettes have now been disbanded. In the new financial year a maximum of £500 of funding will be available for new community group applications. Work at Carlton Nature Reserve is on-going; also plans for Cudworth in Bloom are underway.

Monk Bretton – At a recent clean-up 80 bags of rubbish were removed by 65 volunteers, many of whom were recruited through Facebook. The next summer gala is planned for 4th July at Monk Bretton Priory. All are welcome. Wi-Fi is now in place at Silverdale and 3 new Ward Alliance Members have come forward. Last winter a ton of grit was purchased to refill the 6 extra grit bins in the ward. These have been refilled on several occasions and another ton of grit will need to be purchased. The cost-saving this represents is significant and other wards were advised to do the same. A Food Hygiene course for volunteers was very successful and useful for when food is provided at community functions.

North East – The last Ward Alliance meeting was held on 7th April. At the moment efforts are concentrated on self-promotion and self-awareness. Members had considered the format of the Darton ward newsletter, which they considered to be a

good example, although the incorporation of a contact list would be beneficial. The purchase of a CCTV camera to combat anti-social behaviour at a cost of £1000 has been agreed. A number of local projects could potentially stop due to lack of funds and a plea was made to ensure funds for agreed projects are available as soon as possible.

Royston – There are a number of on-going projects such as the allotments etc. The renaming of the former Civic Hall to the Albert Shepherd VC centre has now taken place. The event was very well attended by the public, community groups, schools and descendants of Albert Shepherd, with the possibility of Mr Shepherd's medal being displayed in the Barnsley Museum. Thanks were expressed to Area Team Officers for their hard work in making the event a success. The Disablement Information Advice Line (DIAL) started today as a 6 month pilot scheme. A 3 hour drop-in session will be held once a month and is complementary to the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) service. Ward Alliance priorities are being considered alongside the poverty report of the Anti-Poverty Board. Discussions are ongoing regarding a fitting memorial to Mr. Scurfield, the local soldier who was killed during the conflict in Syria. Royston Gala is planned for 28th June and will be attended by Royston Dynamos and a brass band.

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

51. Update for the North East Environment Team commissions for the Cudworth and the North East area and the Monk Bretton and Royston area

Sue Shaw and Steven Palmer of Barnsley Community Build (BCB) were welcomed to the meeting and delivered a presentation outlining the history and mission of the company whilst highlighting the projects they had developed in the North East area. These included work in Royston Park, Carlton Marsh, Cudworth Park, Monk Bretton Park and the Young Wardens Clean up. They also spoke about staff development and training, which includes health and safety, use of power tools and sharps and asbestos awareness. BCB works in conjunction with Barnsley College and is sub-contracted to offer modern environmental apprenticeships over a fixed 12 month term to young people who may not be accepted onto the traditional apprentice pathway at Barnsley College. 93% achieve a qualification, with 83% securing employment following completion of the course.

The BCB representatives were thanked for their attendance and contribution at the meeting and for the positive work done across the North Area Council.

RESOLVED: -

- (i) that the BCB presentation be noted and that representatives be invited back to give a further update in 6 months' time.

52. Report on the use of Area Council Budgets, Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds

The Area Council Manager introduced this item. The North East Area Council has a full grant allocation of £219,264 for the 2014-15 financial year, made up of a £115,032 Devolved Ward Budget allocation, a £78,632 Ward Alliance allocation and a £25,600 Public Health allocation. Members were urged to ensure that the Area Council Manager is made aware of spending plans as soon as possible. Problems have been experienced with receipt of photographs and publicity when grants have

been given. It is a condition of grant that invoices etc. are sent in within 6 months of receiving funding.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the report on the use of Area Council Budgets, Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds be received and noted.

53. North East Area Council update on the delivery of commissioned projects

The Area Council Manager updated Members on the delivery of commissioned projects, specifically around enforcement, the youth development fund, luncheon clubs and the school holiday internship.

An urgent application for a grant of £3000 for Royston Luncheon club was accepted by the Chairman in view of the urgent need for a decision. Members were asked to approve the grant to ensure the continued provision of the luncheon club at Royston until the end of August when the contract will be renewed.

RESOLVED: -

- (i) that the update report on the delivery of commissioned projects be received.
- (ii) that a report on youth development be received at each Area Council meeting for the purpose of monitoring performance.
- (iii) that a grant of £3000 be made towards the continued operation of the luncheon club at Royston.

54. Love Where You Live volunteering initiatives

The Area Council Manager updated Members in respect of recent volunteering activity. 252 volunteers have completed 591 hours of volunteering activity. There have been 90 posts to the Facebook page, with 1500 views and 15 shares. The Twitter page (which is linked to the Facebook page) has had 136 tweets, 82 followers with an average of 5 new followers each week across a diverse range of people and groups, including Berneslai Homes and local schools. Members gave examples of volunteering work taking place in their wards and reiterated the need to feed in 'hot spots' for litter picking as soon as possible to ensure prompt remedial action.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the update with regard to volunteering be noted.

55. Replacement of play equipment damaged by antisocial behaviour

Members were reminded that they had set aside £10,000 to replace damaged play equipment in playgrounds across the North East Area Council wards. A 'Springer' had broken in Cudworth Park and approval was sought to replace it, at a cost of approximately £2500. A discussion ensued about replacement of damaged equipment in areas where there is a Parish Council responsible for replacement of equipment. It was felt that the system should be fair across all wards, particularly when equipment has been damaged through anti-social behaviour rather than wear and tear.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that approval be given to replacing the 'Springer' in Cudworth Park, at a cost of approximately £2500;
- (ii) that clarification be sought regarding replacement of play equipment in wards with Parish Councils and

56. Consideration of Future Priorities for the North East Area Council

A discussion took place regarding the determination of future priorities for the North East Area Council. It was felt that the best way to do this would be through a workshop meeting, to be arranged shortly after the municipal elections.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that a workshop will be arranged to take place on 13th May at 10 o'clock in order to determine future commissioning priorities. Further details will be provided in due course.

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Chair