

**BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**NOTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTH AREA COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**20<sup>th</sup> June, 2014**

1. **Present:** Councillors Stowe (Chair), Franklin, Frost, Morgan, Saunders, and R. Wraith.

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

Cllr Franklin declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6, as a member of the management committee of Forge Community Partnership.

3. **Minutes of the meeting of South Area Council, held on 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2014**

The meeting considered the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2014.

**RECOMMENDED:** - that the minutes of South Area Council, held on 25<sup>th</sup> April be approved as a true and correct record.

4. **Notes of the Ward Alliances**

Members considered the notes from Darfield Ward Alliance, held on 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2014, and Hoyland Milton and Rockingham Ward Alliance, held on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2014.

**RECOMMENDED:** - that the notes of the Ward Alliances be received.

5. **Report on the use of Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds**

The Area Council Manager introduced the item, referring to spend to date from Ward Alliance Funds and Devolved Ward Budgets.

Members noted the need to accelerate expenditure where possible, before the end of the 2014/15 financial year. It was acknowledged that there were a number of significant projects planned.

**RECOMMENDED:** - that the report on the use of Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds be noted.

6. **South Area Council Annual Review 2013/14**

The Area Council Manager introduced the item. This followed on from the previous meeting, which considered the progress made by the Ward Alliances and Neighbourhood Networks.

The meeting noted the milestones for 2013/14, all of which had been achieved with the exception of 'beginning the delivery and performance monitoring of commissioned activities', which was due to start in June and July, 2014.

Members were reminded of the commissions already agreed:-  
Environment enforcement – at a cost of £128,000 for one year with the potential to extend.

Tidy Teams - at a cost of £150,000 for one year with the potential to extend. It was noted that the preferred provider would provide far more staff than suggested in the specification, providing value for money.

One stop shop – at a cost of £72,500 per annum for 2 years.

The meeting noted that this left a remaining balance for £49,500 for 2014/15, which was suggested to be used as a contingency budget.

Members discussed the need for the publicity of commissioned services to recognise that they were funded from South Area Council, in order to make residents aware.

The meeting considered the milestones for 2014/15, which included the self-evaluation of the first year of activity. Also suggested was the further exploration of Area Council roles around performance management.

**RECOMMENDED:** - that the Annual Review for 2013/14 be received.

7. **South Area Council priorities and commissioning update**

The South Area Council Manager introduced the item and provided an update on progress in delivering the priorities of the Area Council.

It was noted that the One Stop Shop had commenced with a week of extensive promotion, but had also engaged with 11 clients within the week.

With regards to the Environment Enforcement, a preferred contractor had been awarded the contract, with final contractual details being finalised. It was noted that other Area Councils had also selected the same contractor, so it was hoped that some economies of scale could be achieved.

Members were keen to ensure that the requisite signage and lineage were all in good order to ensure penalty notices could be issued.

The meeting discussed the Tidy Teams and noted that the same organisation scored highest for each of the tenders and had been awarded the contract. Pre-contract meetings had been arranged for early July, 2014.

The arrangements for the Tidy Team steering group were discussed and a number of options considered. Option 3 within the report was preferred; to hold a single meeting split into two parts to discuss each contract. It was suggested that the steering group membership be as proposed, and that the group themselves discuss whether any provision for gardening should be provided.

Members discussed the need for the teams to engage with schools and young people to address the blight outside schools. Also discussed was the need to work closely with Neighbourhood Services and the Enforcement Team.

A suggestion was made that part of the contingency funding should be accessible by the Tidy Team, following relevant consultations, should they find a need for environmental works outside the scope of their contract and that of centrally provided Council services. Members suggested that an amount of £10,000 be allocated.

**RECOMMENDED:-**

- (i) that the progress made in implementing the various projects to deliver the Area Plan be noted;
- (ii) that Option 3 as proposed within the report, be approved for the Tidy Team Steering Group;
- (iii) that the membership of the Tidy Team steering group be as proposed;
- (iii) that £10,000 be made available for environmental improvements, and that the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods Access and Support be authorised to approve expenditure in consultation with members on the Tidy Team steering group.

**8. Monitoring progress and challenging performance**

The item was introduced by the Head of Organisational Development, Performance and Partnerships.

Members noted that the contract monitoring role of the Area Council was of paramount importance. This was now being taken forward as part of the contracting process.

In addition, the Terms of Reference of the Area Councils also included the monitoring and performance management of other area based services, or borough wide service delivered locally. This included escalating issues to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee if required.

It was noted that discussions are taken place between officers and members to more adequately define the roles and inter-relationships between Corporate Performance, Scrutiny and Area Councils.

Members heard that, due to the reorganisation taking place, there were varying levels of performance information available from services. It was

noted that this was scheduled to be far more developed from April, 2015 from when the reorganisation would take effect. However in the interim period services could be asked to provide information or attend an Area Council to discuss their performance.

**RECOMMENDED:-**

- (i) that the proposed contract monitoring arrangements outlined in the report be approved;
- (ii) that the September meeting of the Area Council receives a further report on the Area Council's role monitoring progress and challenging performance.

9. **Appointment of community representatives on the Ward Alliances**

The meeting considered the report, which proposed a number of individuals to act as community representatives on the three Ward Alliances covering the South Area.

**Darfield**

Margaret Barlow  
Brian Moore  
Donald Bishop  
Geoffrey Hutchinson  
Lee Parkinson  
Rev David Hildred  
Deborah Murray  
Kevin Osbourne  
Colin Ward

**Wombwell**

Brian Whitaker  
Rev Nigel Elliot  
Alan Taylor  
Paul Dawson  
Jordan Ramsey  
Paul Tingle  
Phil Jenkins  
Rebecca Wilson  
Richard Ulyott  
Tony Dutton

**Hoyland Milton & Rockingham**

Joan Whittaker  
Ann Edgar  
Andrew Hodgkinson  
Janet Cartwright  
Ian Warhurst  
June Walker JP  
Neil Spencer  
Dave Graham

Fiona Tennyson  
Albert Bishop  
Anne Sanderson

**RECOMMENDED: -**

(i) that the individuals proposed, be approved to act as community representatives on the respective Ward Alliances for the remainder of the municipal year;

(ii) that a review of the Membership of the Ward Alliances takes place towards the end of 2014, with a view to recommending community representatives for the 2015/16 municipal year.

10. **Date and times of future meetings**

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 10:00 am  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2014 10:00 am  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2014 10:00 am  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 10:00 am  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April, 10:00 am  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June, 10:00 am

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Chair