

MEETING:	North East Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 11 February 2016
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Meeting Room 1, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Hayward (Chair), S. Green, Hampson, Higginbottom, Houghton CBE, Makinson, Richardson and C. Wraith MBE

41 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Hayward declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute no. 48 on the agenda – 'North East Area Council Apprenticeships and Employability Study Programme'.

42 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of North East Area Council held on Thursday 3rd December 2015.

The meeting considered the minutes from the previous meeting of the North East Area Council held on 3rd December 2015.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North East Area Council held on 3rd December 2015 be approved as a true and correct record.

43 Notes of the Following Ward Alliances with Feedback from each Ward Alliance Chair

The meeting received notes from the Cudworth, Monk Bretton, North East and Royston Ward Alliances held throughout. The following updates were noted:-

Cudworth – 26th October 2015 and 7th December 2015. The CAB project is now up and running in the area. The Health Fayre and Christmas events went very well. A litter pick is planned for 5th March, it is hoped that this will make a big difference to the park and wider area.

Monk Bretton – 20th November 2015 and 15th January 2016. It was reported that it is fairly quiet at the moment. Pat Hall had passed away and will be sadly missed. The Achievement Awards event is planned for mid-March, involving three schools. A meeting about the information booklet will take place next week.

North East – 4th November 2015 and 16th December 2015. The Christmas events went very well. The Healthy Teeth project will be starting soon and events to commemorate the Queen's birthday are being planned. It was reported that the community noticeboards had now been erected in all areas.

Royston – 9th November 2015 and 14th December 2015. The Green Fingered Gardening Club is to hold a litter pick on 5th March. The CAB/DIAL project is proving

to be beneficial. A visit to a potential allotment site is to take place soon and tenancies etc., are being considered.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received.

44 North East Area Council Youth Development Fund - Children and Young People's Activity Club

Martin Sawdon from the Exodus Project was welcomed to the meeting. Martin explained that the project had been running for more than 10 years in Barnsley, working with children and young people with the aim of diverting them from anti-social behaviour and enabling them to fulfil their potential. The Exodus Project now has 15 clubs across the Borough with a wide variety of activities such as dance, drama, crafts and games. There is also a significant education element and the young people have the opportunity to talk about issues such as citizenship, anti-social behaviour etc. The project provides midweek activities, weekend camps and volunteer development, working with schools and community organisations at galas etc. The project has over 70 volunteers, who are mainly former service users. The North East Project in Cudworth works with around 30 children at after school clubs, providing youth groups for children aged 8-11 and 11-15. Local children have been to the camps, day trips and taken part in activities such as bowling at the Metrodome. Various sessions are held, at 5.30 until 7 for the younger children and then at 7.30 until 9 for the older children. Lots of activities are provided in the summer months. The project has received 5 separate lottery grants, but the biggest issue faced is that of funding sustainability as the aim is to make a difference long-term in an area.

A Member asked about the location of the camps. It was explained that the Project has used Scout Dyke previously but now has its own weekend activity camp site at South Hiendley, in a former Methodist church.

A question was raised about whether the project tackled anti-social behaviour on the streets. It was explained that this was not an area of expertise and both the YMCA and the Youth Offending Team do this type of work. However, provision of activities, particularly during school holidays, would help to combat anti-social behaviour amongst young people. Martin was thanked for his attendance and contribution.

The Area Council Manager updated Members on the Youth Development Fund current projects, including financial allocations, number of volunteers, volunteer hours, number of young people attending and 'in kind' contributions.

45 North East Area Council Project Performance Report - update on the delivery of commissioned projects

The Area Council Manager updated Members on the Youth Development Fund current projects, including financial allocations, number of volunteers, volunteer hours, number of young people attending and 'in kind' contributions. The members agreed that this initiative was achieving good outcomes and outputs. 68 volunteers have been involved in the supported projects, providing 2,348 volunteering hours. This represents a social value of £26,040, indicating that for every £1 spent, there is a social investment return of £11.09, which demonstrates the value of the investment. The Area Council Manager also fed back with regard to the Fit Reds and Fit Me initiatives which were also being positively received in the local communities.

RESOLVED that the North East Area Project Performance report be received and noted.

46 NEAC Financial Position and Procurement Update

The Area Council Manager outlined the commissioning budget current position, which included expenditure approved up to March 2017. The 2015/2016 balance including any base expenditure not used in the previous financial year currently stands at £133,836. A workshop has been organised for 25th February to consider the area council's priorities and to look at future finance.

RESOLVED that the North East Area financial position and procurement update report be received and noted.

47 Report on the Use of Area Council Budgets, Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and highlighted the spend to date in respect of Area Council Budgets, Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds. Members were reminded of the need to ensure that funding is allocated to projects in line with identified priorities.

RESOLVED that the report on the use of Area Council Budgets, Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds be received and noted.

48 North East Area Council Apprenticeships and Employability Study Programme projects - commissioning

Due to his previously declared interest in respect of this item, Councillor Hayward left the meeting during discussion and voting on this item.

Members considered the contract specification for procurement of an Apprenticeship and Employability Study programme, focusing on the environment. The programme will consist of a minimum of 12 apprenticeship opportunities, placed within two environment teams and focused on maintaining and improving environmental cleanliness in high profile areas such as village centres/shopping centres and key access routes across Cudworth, Monk Bretton, North East and Royston. The programme will include a second stage apprenticeship scheme for the two apprentices who have already completed Stage 1.

It was felt that an Apprenticeship and Employability initiative would be very beneficial for the local area, and as environmental issues receive the most complaints, this should also be a priority. Furthermore that the project should include holiday period working as well as work on 'hot spots'. This will be strengthened up. The contract will not exceed £245,000, with a £23,000 contingency fund if required.

RESOLVED that the North East Area Council approve the specification for an Apprenticeship and Employability Study Programme, focusing on the local Environment, at a contract price not exceeding £245,000.

49 Volunteering Celebration Event

The Area Council Manager reported that the Volunteering Celebration Event will take place on 8th September from 6.30 p.m. until 10 p.m. at Priory Campus. The venue will seat 200 people – i.e. 25 volunteers and their partners per Ward. The working party has organised a 12 foot screen, photographer, the menu and bar etc. Some details are yet to be decided.

RESOLVED that Members note the arrangements for the Volunteering Celebration Event.

Chair