

<b>MEETING:</b>	North East Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Thursday, 28 September 2017
<b>TIME:</b>	2.00 pm
<b>VENUE:</b>	Meeting Room 1 - Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

### Present

Councillors Hayward (Chair), Clements, Ennis, Hampson, Higginbottom, Makinson, Richardson, Sheard and C. Wraith MBE

### 21 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

### 22 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of North East Area Council held on 27th July 2017

The meeting considered the minutes from the previous meeting of the North East Area Council held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2017.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the North East Area Council held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2017 be approved as a true and correct record.

### 23 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 June, July and August 2017. The following updates were noted:-

*Cudworth* – The Ward Alliance Action plan has been completed. Ward Alliance projects coming up include the Winter Health Fayre (25<sup>th</sup> November), Sloppy Slippers (27<sup>th</sup> October), schools Wildlife Project at Carlton Marsh (12<sup>th</sup> October), ‘Our Town, Our Roots’ and Christmas tree lights switch on (28<sup>th</sup> November). Cudworth received four awards in Barnsley in Bloom for Carlton Marsh (platinum), Cudworth Park (gold), Robert St allotments (Level 5 outstanding) and Cudworth Environment Group (Level 5 outstanding)

*Monk Bretton* – It was reported that there are plans to take local children to the pantomime at Priory Campus and tickets have been provisionally booked. The Friends of Monk Bretton Memorial Garden and Friends of Monk Bretton Park both received a Gold award in the recent ‘Barnsley in Bloom’ competition. Metal poppies have been ordered for the memorial. The recent Rotherham Road Playing Fields Volunteer Community clean-up was a great success. The Christmas lights switch on is planned for 1<sup>st</sup> December. The final draft of the Monk Bretton booklet is out for consultation.

*North East* – The Ward Alliance Action Plan has been completed. Volunteers are being sought to help clearing litter and overgrown footpaths at the Dell, Grimethorpe, supported by the North East Area Team, VAB, BMBC Public Rights of Way and volunteers from XPO Logistics. A new Brierley Residents Group recently held a successful litter pick, collecting 23 bags of litter. The new Reading Bus will be opened at Milefield Primary school on 20<sup>th</sup> October. Christmas tree lights switch on events have been planned in Shafton, Grimethorpe, Brierley and Great Houghton.

*Royston* – It was highlighted that Royston Canal Club received a Gold Award and Royston in Bloom received a Level 4 – Thriving Award in the Barnsley in Bloom competition. An Employee Supported Volunteering day is planned for the park for 3<sup>rd</sup> October with Officers from Benefits and Taxation and Finance. Section 106 funding has been secured to improve the pavilion, which was recently covered in graffiti. The help of the community is needed to stop this happening. It appears that the 'Royston Plant Rustler' is still targeting planters throughout the village. Work is taking place on the car park and ponds at Rabbit Ings.

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

## **24 Safe and Well Checks Initiative**

Tracey Leach was welcomed to the meeting and updated the North East Area Council about this joint initiative with South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (SYFRS).

It was explained what safe and well checks are, why they are needed and how the North East Area Council can help with this initiative. Every year SYFRS visits 21,000 homes which can help to lower fire risk, provide health information, identify cold homes, reduce slips, trips and falls and help to prevent crime.

It was highlighted that in Barnsley around 47,000 people (23.3% of the population) smoke. Emergency hospital admissions due to falls in people aged 65+ currently stand at 2,282.6 per 100,000 population and 11.3% of households in Barnsley experience fuel poverty. Risk factors for injury from fires and falling in people aged 65+ include, amongst other things, mobility problems, frailty, dementia, medication, visual impairment, living alone, low income, poor balance and alcohol consumption, all of which can be identified as part of a safe and well check.

The local pathway for delivery in Barnsley has been developed in conjunction with BMBC, Berneslai Homes, SWYFT, Dementia Action Alliance, South Yorkshire Housing Association and Barnsley Age UK. The Pilot Project will be launched in February 2018 by Fire Officers within the Cudworth Fire Station, with Safe and Well Checks launched later in the year across the Borough. Local Members will be invited to the launch to show their support for the scheme.

It was felt that it would be beneficial and appropriate to invite SYFRS to local events to raise the profile of Safe and Well Checks and to encourage local services who work with vulnerable people to become referrers for the scheme.

**RESOLVED** that Tracey Leach be thanked for her attendance and contribution and that the Area Council Manager invite SYFRS representatives to attend appropriate events (such as health fayres) across the area.

## **25 Youth Development Fund**

Michelle Cooper and Rachael Sharpe from Ad Astra were welcomed to the meeting and delivered a presentation about the work of Ad Astra, which is a not for profit Community Interest Company geared towards improving the social and emotional wellbeing of children and young people, supporting them (and their parents) with homework and improving their confidence and self-esteem, enabling them to make more positive decisions in their lives.

Ad Astra is currently contracted to deliver two projects in the North East Area: Homework support in an after school setting at Burton Grange Community Centre and Pupil Support at Outwood, Shafton.

In the ensuing discussion the following points were highlighted:

- All volunteers are DBS checked and undertake a comprehensive 6 hour training package (which includes safeguarding and risk assessment) across 2 days.
- Volunteers are recruited via social media and face to face contact, with parents of children who have been helped by the scheme often coming forward as volunteers.
- Ad Astra successfully engages with children and young people disengaging (or at risk of disengaging) with education
- There is a high level of school exclusion in local schools and it is anticipated that the work of Ad Astra will help to combat this.

**RESOLVED** that the representatives be thanked for their attendance and contribution.

## **26 North East Area Council Project Performance Report - update on the delivery of commissioned projects.**

The North East Area Council Manager introduced this item and provided Members with a detailed report regarding performance of the North East Area Council's commissioned projects, including case studies for many of the projects together with a summary performance management report for each service.

Key points to note include the success of the North East Area Council in the recent 'Yorkshire in Bloom' competition and the success of the initiative between the North East Area Council and BMBC Fostering Service to promote foster care.

Twelve months prior to the campaign, the Barnsley Fostering team received a total of 52 fostering enquiries. However, since the launch of the recruitment campaign just six months ago, they have achieved 82 enquiries. Of this number, 14 households have come directly from the North East Area.

**RESOLVED** that Members note the performance update.

## **27 Report on the Use of Area Council Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds**

The North East Area Council Manager introduced this item and updated Members regarding progress in respect of the North East Area Council budget and progress in each Ward in expending the Ward Alliance Fund in line with priorities. It was highlighted that the budget surplus due to the delay in the undergraduate scheme.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted and that Members be encouraged to identify projects which would benefit from funding, in line with the North East Area Council's agreed priorities.

## **28 Review of the North East Area Council Commissioned Enforcement Services**

The North East Area Council Manager introduced this item, highlighting the recommendations from the workshops held on 4<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017 with regard to the review of the North East Area Council Environmental Enforcement contract, which is held by Kingdom Security.

It was explained that at the review workshops, Councillors acknowledged that there had been a decrease in litter in communities and that the visible presence on the streets of the Enforcement Wardens was a deterrent, whilst recognising that issuing tickets for dog fouling can be more difficult than for littering. It was also recognised that closer integrated working with BMBC parking enforcement would be beneficial, complimentary and would avoid duplication of resources. Overall, Councillors are satisfied with the performance of Kingdom Security.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) The Environmental Enforcement contract remain with Kingdom Security until the end of March 2019 at a cost of approximately £66,552 (including the service level agreement contribution).
- (ii) A more targeted approach be adopted for littering on local streets and estates with positive reinforcement through the promotion of the 'Bin it to Win it' campaign.
- (iii) A more targeted approach be adopted for dog fouling on local streets and estates with positive reinforcement through the distribution of dog fouling bags.
- (iv) A media campaign is undertaken in order to raise public awareness of how to report areas that require attention.
- (v) Enforcement Officers will accompany the Councillors and partner agencies at Street Surgeries to further highlight their presence in the local community.

## 29 Reduce Smoking Project Proposal

The North East Area Council Manager introduced this item, seeking approval to take forward a 'Reduce Smoking' initiative. It was explained that smoking prevalence in some of the North East Area Council wards is amongst the highest in Barnsley. The population of the North East Area Council is 45,679 which equates to around 11,968 smokers across the 4 electoral wards.

Barnsley Council commissions a stop smoking service, with the contract held by SWYFT. This service has recently been revised to focus on more targeted interventions as a result of new national public health guidance. This presents the North East Area Council with an opportunity to commission a 'Stop Smoking' specialist at a cost of approximately £25 - £30,000 per annum to carry out targeted work in the communities of the North East Area Council to reduce smoking prevalence rates and bring about a social return on investment in terms of improved health across all age groups.

### **RESOLVED** that

- (i) the Reduce Smoking initiative be supported in principal at an approximate cost of £25-£30,000 and that
- (ii) A Steering Group consisting of Cllrs Sheard, Ennis, Clements and C Wraith be formed to explore options to take this initiative forward.

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Chair