

<b>MEETING:</b>	Dearne Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Monday, 22 January 2018
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Meeting Room, Goldthorpe Library

## MINUTES

**Present** Councillors Noble (Chair), Gollick, C. Johnson, Phillips and Sixsmith MBE.

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

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

### 27 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Dearne Area Council held on 20th November, 2017 (Dac.22.01.2018/2)

The meeting received the minutes from the previous meeting of Dearne Area Council. Members noted that the Area Council Manager had arranged to meet the Locality Manager at DISC to discuss concerns.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Dearne Area Council meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 be approved as a true and correct record.

### 28 Performance Report (Dac.22.01.2018/3)

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager by saying that all contractors were performing well, and there were no concerns overall.

It was noted that the Private Sector Housing service had not met its targets for working with groups and volunteers, however the officer had returned to their substantive post and a recruitment exercise had been undertaken. It was hoped that this target would be met in the following quarter.

With regards to the Environmental Enforcement service, it was noted that the number of notices issued overall had fallen, and this was a result of concentrating on dog fouling and littering as opposed to parking violations. Targeted dog fouling operations had been undertaken, but without significant results.

Members discussed the contract with Twiggs Grounds Maintenance and it was noted that revised targets from April 2018 onwards had now been agreed. It was acknowledged that there were ongoing discussions, outside of contract managements meetings, to ensure the service continued to perform. Questions were raised in relation to the figures provided on 'Areas of Blight Targeted' and it was agreed that the Area Council Manager would follow this up with Twiggs.

The Area Council Manager went on to provide an update on the performance of projects funded through the Dearne Development Fund. It was noted that most of those originally commissioned had now concluded, but that the September meeting of the Dearne Development Fund Panel had recommended a number for repeat funding due to the impact they had made in the area.

The service provided by DIAL continued to be heavily subscribed. As this service had similarities with that provided through CAB, the Area Council Manager agreed to help consider whether stresses experienced by the DIAL service could be alleviated.

Members discussed the move to online only provision of information, and the impact this had on services such as DIAL and CAB. It was noted that support in the area is available from the Job Centre, DECV, Digital Champions, Berneslai Homes, and more. However, it was felt that the most vulnerable could be further impacted through online only provision. It was suggested that Members concerns be directed to Ann O'Flynn, Service Director Customer Services.

Goldthorpe Development Group had delivered their last contracted health event in December, which was very well subscribed. Over the lifetime of the contract there had been 1,098 attendance, and Capita had approached the group to organise an event which they offered to fund.

Members heard how the Allotment Group had performed well, and had now been granted £35,000 of funding over three years from the National Lottery.

The attention of Members was drawn to the reports from CAB and from DECV, the services being delivered by both were considered to be performing well, with the latter helping 6 residents into employment since November, 2017.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

## **29 Community Safety in the Dearne (Dac.22.01.2018/4)**

Sergeant Gary Bramall was welcomed to the meeting. The information accurately presented in the circulated report was noted, and a brief update was provided.

Members heard how Operation Lima had been conducted in the previous reporting period Oct-Dec, which had led to increased visibility in the area and intelligence gathered. Much of this was acted upon in January, 2018. Most recently in Goldthorpe cannabis plants were seized and three arrests made.

**RESOLVED** that Sergeant Bramall be thanked for his contribution and the report be received.

## **30 Dearne Area Council Procurement and Financial Update (Dac.22.01.2018/5)**

The Area Council Manager introduced the item, reminding Members of the starting balance at the beginning of the financial year, which stood at just over £218,000. It was noted that approximately £217,000 of this had been allocated.

The unallocated finance, together with the finance returned from Fixed Penalty Notices and Parking Charge Notices left £4,321.96 remaining.

Assuming a starting balance of £200,000, and taking account of already committed funds, approximately £67,000 remained for use in 2018/19.

An update was provided on the Railway Embankment project, it was noted that updated drawings for the site had been received and forwarded to Network Rail.

£15,000 had been granted from Section 106 finance in order to provide benches and railings on site, and Dearne Valley Landscape Partnership had promised £20,000 for improved signage, bulbs, wildlife packs amongst other things. Members noted that abuse of the site had greatly decreased of late, with residents taking more responsibility for the area.

With regards to the Dearne Development Fund, from a starting budget of around £81,000, Members noted that £5,444.62 remained.

**RESOLVED** that the updates and financial position be noted.

### **31 Community Magazine (Dac.22.01.2018/6)**

Members were reminded that they had previously approved the production and distribution of five editions of a Community Magazine for the area.

The documents themselves were funded through the sale of advertising space in the magazine, however the distribution had been funded by the Area Council.

Members discussed the magazine, with the consensus being that this worked well in the area. However, it was noted that deadlines for production could be tight, which could lead to errors.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) That the completion and circulation of the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the community magazine be noted; and
- (ii) That a further two editions of the community magazine be produced and distributed throughout the area at a cost of £2,800.

### **32 Dearne Development Fund (Dac.22.01.2018/7)**

The Area Council Manager introduced the report, reminding Members of the allocations to the Dearne Development Fund made in previous years, and the successful outcomes due to the investment. It was felt that the scheme held to meet Area Council Priorities and provided value for money.

A suggestion was made that a further £65,000 be allocated to the Dearne Development Fund for the 2018/19 financial year.

Members noted that more recently the Fund had worked with appellants in order that match funding was maximised, other funders pursued, and sustainability considered.

Funding roadshows for voluntary and community groups were discussed, and it was noted that two were organised per year in the area.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) That £65,000 be allocated to the Dearne Development Fund for the 2018/19 financial year to be allocated in grants of £1,000-15,000;
- (ii) That Dearne Development Fund be allocated using mechanisms previously agreed by the Area Council, with the Service Director, Stronger, Safer and Healthier Communities authorised to approved grants of between £1,000 and £15,000 in consultation with the Dearne Development Fund Panel.

### **33 Live Well Barnsley (Dac.22.01.2018/8)**

Keith Dodd, Project Manager – Universal Information and Advice, was welcomed to the meeting.

Members heard how Live Well Barnsley was an online resource with information of over 900 organisations providing wellbeing, care and support services.

The website was aimed at users to help themselves, but could also be used by council, voluntary and community sector, and NHS staff.

It was noted that 900 organisations were registered, but content would be continually added to. Entries were searchable by postcode and searches could be further refined.

The site was supported so information would be kept up to date, free to use and included a facility for leaving feedback.

A formal launch was currently being planned, and Members were asked to use, promote and give feedback on the service. It was agreed that if posters and leaflets were forwarded, these would be circulated by Members.

**RESOLVED** that thanks be given for the update on Live Well Barnsley, and that promotional materials be forwarded when available.

### **34 Notes from the Dearne Approach Steering Group held on 13th November, 2017 (Dac.22.01.2018/9)**

Members considered the notes from the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2017.

**RESOLVED** that the notes from the Dearne Approach Steering Group be received.

### **35 Notes from the Dearne Ward Alliance held on 13th November, 2017 and Ward Alliance Performance Reports (Dac.22.01.2018/10)**

The meeting received the notes from the Dearne Ward Alliance held on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2017. The Ward Alliance had received a presentation on the review of library service, and an update from hOurbank. Feedback from the Sloppy Slippers event was very positive, and had led to contact with a number of isolated older people.

The meeting received performance reports relating to each ward and the funding allocated. Members commented on the significant impact the small budget had made. This included the CSCS scheme which had led to a number of people becoming employed, the Salvation Army Job Club which had engaged a number of people who had previously not been so, and the Prom Project, which was working with Dearne ALC, and the response for suits and gowns had been overwhelming.

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

**36 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Dac.22.01.2018/11)**

A report on the use of Ward Alliance Funds was received. Dearne North ward had £4,743.43 remaining from a starting balance of £11,050.53. Dearne South had balance of £5,877.50 remaining from a total of £11,724.90 at the start of the year.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

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Chair