

MEETING:	North Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 20 November 2017
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Meeting Room 1 - Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Leech (Chair), Cave, Cherryholme, Howard, Miller, Platts, Spence and Tattersall

19 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Howard declared a non-pecuniary interest in respect of item 6 on the agenda as her mother lives in the Woolley Colliery village area.

20 Minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 18th September 2017

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th September 2017.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 18th September 2017 be approved as a true and correct record.

21 Safe and Well Checks

Tracy Leach, Health and Wellbeing Officer, was welcomed to the meeting and delivered a presentation regarding the Safe and Well initiative here in Barnsley. Key points to note included:

- This is a national movement, being rolled out across South Yorkshire, building on existing fire safety checks and including falls prevention and identifying cold homes.
- The initial focus is on vulnerable people aged 65+ and those with disabilities who are most at risk. A pilot is due to be launched in February 2018 and will be rolled out across the Borough later in the year.
- In Barnsley 47000 people smoke – 23.3% of population. Emergency hospital admissions due to falls is 2282.6 per 100,000 65+. In addition 11.3% of households in Barnsley experience fuel poverty.
- Partners include Barnsley MBC, South Yorkshire Police, South Yorkshire Housing Association, Berneslai Homes, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue, Dementia Action Alliance, SWYFT and Age UK.
- Help from the Area Council is needed to raise the profile of the Safe and Well checks, to support the launch at Cudworth Station and to encourage local services who work with vulnerable people aged 65+ in the pilot area to become referrers to the scheme.

RESOLVED that the Area Council support the initiative and that Tracey Leach be thanked for her attendance and contribution.

22 Commissioning, Project Development and Finance Update

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and provided the Area Council with a financial position and forecast for expenditure based on the projects that have been proposed, highlighting the projects requiring significant financial commitment.

Members were informed that the recruitment to the Private Sector Housing and Enforcement Officer post had been unsuccessful. However, the Housing Migration Officer (HMO) role graded as scale 6 offered a satisfactory alternative. Recruitment for HMO posts is currently underway and a healthy number of applicants were being interviewed. It was recommended that the Area Council recruit an HMO for the North Area because the post holds similar responsibilities and requires many of the same skill. The feasibility of employing a Youth Participation worker was being explored and looked positive. However, it was felt that a similar post focussed on older people did not fit within existing structures and alternative possibilities should be considered.

It was also highlighted that the Area Council had benefitted from £112,294 of recycled Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) income since 2014 and that this will cease in March 2018 following the decision to decommission the service.

RESOLVED that:

- i. The North Area Council note the existing budget position and forecast for the funding commitments.
- ii. The North Area Council note that contrary to previous information the North Area received a budget of £400,000 for the period 2017/18.
- iii. Members note the position on the recruitment of the Private Sector Housing and Environment Officer
- iv. Members note the current financial position and the surplus budget of £180,341 for 2017/18.
- v. Members note the forecasted annual budget commitments based on the decisions that were made at the September 2017 meeting.
- vi. The option to combine the older people's participation project with a larger project linked to prevention of winter deaths was looked on favourable and should be explored in a workshop.

23 Fresh Street Project

The Area Council Manager introduced this item, providing the Area Council with an introduction to Sheffield University's FRESH Street Project proposal for Athersley

North, which also includes a proposed match funding arrangement. £5,000 has been secured from the Alexander Rose Charity by Sheffield University. The aim of the project is to increase participants' consumption of fresh fruit and vegetables to encourage behaviour change and contribute to improved health and wellbeing.

The target group for the project is all residents (adults and children aged 2+) living on two randomly selected streets within the Athersley North ward, who will be given vouchers to spend locally on fruit and vegetables for a 6 month period. The Yorkshire Health Study Questionnaire will be used to assess the health of the people in the Athersley North Area and the impact of the project.

RESOLVED that

- i. The North Area Council note the specific details of the FRESH Street Project provided within the report.
- ii. The Area Council agree a match funding proposal of £5,000 so that more local people will benefit from the project.

24 Energy Efficiency - Woolley Colliery Pilot & Larger Cross Area Project for 2018

The Area Council Manager introduced the report and provided the Area Council with an introduction to Strategic Housing's proposal to target Energy Efficiency Works in Woolley Colliery Village.

The project will install central heating systems in private sector households who do not have a gas supply and are at risk of fuel poverty. Members were aware of many, mainly elderly residents who did not receive a fuel allowance and were unable to keep their homes warm during the winter months. It was highlighted that Darton East ward has the second highest no. of excess winter deaths in the Borough. The project will be delivered by the Better Homes Barnsley energy efficiency programme. The current maximum amount of funding per household is £4,400 but this does not include VAT.

Members were asked to consider contributing additional funding to achieve added value. This will include VAT and the cost of ensuring that minor repairs, flue extensions and additional pipework is completed. A detailed business case is being drawn up and will be presented at a future meeting.

RESOLVED that

- i. The North Area Council note the proposed energy efficiency works in Woolley Colliery Village.

- ii. The North Area Council agree in principle to provide additional funding for the project once resident consultation has been completed and the business case has been fully costed up (by March 2018).

25 Performance Management Report - Commissioned Projects & Grant Summary

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager, who updated Members with regard to the performance of commissioned projects and Stronger Communities projects for the period July to September 2017 (2017/18 Quarter 2).

A discussion took place regarding the various commissioned projects. The following key points were highlighted:

The Summer Holiday Internship programme (2015/16), delivered by C & K Careers, had achieved its objectives for those students who took part. Evidence indicated that all the young people involved were heading in a positive direction. Students had become more career confident and were pro-active about taking decisions and focussing on their post-16 opportunities. None of the participants had become NNET and 55 out of 83 had enrolled on a level 3 qualification. A copy of the final report was available on request.

Councillors were disappointed that the Kingdom Security project had not delivered the anticipated behaviour change with regard to littering and dog fouling.

It was highlighted that the CAB/Dial project had generated more than £3 million in benefit gains across the two-year life of the project and had handled £478,246 of debt. Survey feedback indicated that the project had helped to reduce residents' stress and improve their health and wellbeing, leaving them now more able to manage their own affairs.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) Members note the content of the report.
- (ii) C & K Careers be sincerely thanked for their work on the Summer Holiday Internship Project, which had delivered positive outcomes for the young people involved.

26 Stronger Communities Grant - Approval to advertise 2018/19

The Area Council Manager updated Members with regard to the provisional grants programme for 2018/19, as recommended by the Stronger Communities Grant Panel.

RESOLVED:-

- i. that the indicative dates for applications, evaluation, notification of successful applicants and project start dates be agreed

- ii. that the value of the grant funding pot for 2018/19 be agreed at £80,000
- iii. that Councillors Charlesworth, Platts, Lofts and Howard represent their wards on the Grants Panel.

27 Commissioning Forward Plan

The Area Council Manager provided an update regarding progress on the Commissioning Forward Plan that had been made since the September meeting and requested a clear indication of which priority the Area Council wanted to concentrate on over the coming months.

A discussion took place regarding the recruitment of a Youth Participation Support Officer. The postholder's core hours would be in the afternoon and into the early evening, to include holiday times and occasional sessions at lunch time and over the weekend. Following discussions with Adult Social Care, it has been established that an Older People's Participation Support Officer would not fit within the existing structure of the Council.

RESOLVED that

- i. Members note the financial implications of commissioning a Support Worker for young people for the North Area and agreed to recruit to this post.
- ii. Members note that the Participation for Older People post does not fit within BMBC's existing structure
- iii. A workshop be arranged to identify an alternative project for Older People that would benefit from an intervention commissioned by the North Area Council, perhaps addressing loneliness and isolation, preventing winter deaths, healthy housing and social inclusion/befriending.

28 Report of the Ward Alliance Fund

The Area Council Manager updated Members with regard to the current financial position of the Ward Alliance budgets for 2017/18.

RESOLVED that Members note the current position of the Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance funds and priorities the efficient expenditure of the Ward Alliance funds in line with the guidance on spend.

29 Notes from the Area's Ward Alliances

Members received an update regarding the progress made by each ward in relation to Ward Alliance implementation and received the notes of Ward Alliance meetings held in September and October 2017. Members were reminded of the requirement for Ward Alliance notes to be received by the Area Council.

Darton East

Cllr Spence congratulated The Green space Group for their hard work in planting between 5,000 and 7,000 spring bulbs per year and for their work on the Cenotaph.

Darton West

As printed.

Old Town

As printed.

St Helens

Cllr Platts reported back on the Feeding Britain project, which had been a great success. Over 1000 meals had been served to children across the Ward. Four Christmas events are planned (one being a memory tree service), across three venues, providing opportunities for residents to sign up for various activities such as healthy eating, exercising, money matters and volunteering.

RESOLVED that Members note the individual updates from each Ward Alliance.

Chair