

MEETING:	North Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 1 December 2016
TIME:	12.00 pm
VENUE:	Meeting Room 5, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Leech (Chair), Burgess (Mayor), Howard, Lofts, Platts, Spence and Tattersall.

31 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Burgess declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute number 32 in relation to her position as board member of BBIC and as trustee of Barnsley CAB.

32 Recommendations from the meeting of North Area Councillors on 21st November, 2016 (Nac.01.12.2016/2)

The Area Council received the notes of the meeting of North Area Councillors on 21st November, 2016, as appended.

In relation to the Opportunities for Young People project, it was noted that the closing date for tender submissions had now passed. Councillor Lofts expressed a desire to be involved in the priority working group related to this area.

In discussing the Community Magazine, it was noted that there had been a meeting arranged to discuss the first proof of the magazine. This was to take place on 12th December, 2016 at 11.30am at the Darton Centre.

The meeting discussed the Stronger Communities Grant, and it was agreed that Councillors Leech, Howard, Charlesworth and Lofts act as ward representatives on the grant panel.

Members noted the previous discussion with regards to the Business Survey Project proposal. It was suggested that this work could provide a useful starting point for discussions with traders on high streets within each ward about potential improvements to their area.

With regards to the financial position previously discussed, members were reminded of the proposed reduction of £40,000 for 2017/18 and the corresponding impact. It was suggested that a future meeting of the Area Council discusses whether to devolve any further finance to the Ward Alliance Funds in the area.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 19th September, 2016 be approved as a true and correct record;
- (ii) That the report relating to opportunities for young people be noted;
- (iii) That the report on the Community Magazine be noted;
- (iv) That approval be given to run a Stronger Communities Grant in 2017/18 with a total allocation of £100,000;
- (v) That the remainder of the 2016/17 Stronger Communities Grant finance be added to that for the 2017/18 year;

- (vi)** That, subject to the addition of information about the moderation stage of scoring applications, the Stronger Communities Grant guidance information circulated at the meeting 21st November, 2016 be approved;
- (vii)** That Councillors Charlesworth, Howard, Leech and Lofts represent their respective wards on the Stronger Communities Grant Panel;
- (viii)** That approval be given to work in partnership with BBIC to provide small business surgeries, peer support, and networking, with up to £5,000 allocated towards advertising and promotion;
- (ix)** That the financial position for the Area Council, including forecast reductions in the 2017/18 budget be noted;
- (x)** That Andrea Hoyland and Liz Pitt be invited to a future meeting of the Area Council to discuss the Anti-Poverty priority, including child poverty in the Area;
- (xi)** That consideration be given to holding a workshop to consider the clean and green priority in the longer term;
- (xii)** That the report on the Ward Alliance Fund be noted;
- (xiii)** That the notes of the Ward Alliances in the North Area held in July, August, September and October be noted

Chair



MEETING:	Meeting of North Area Council Members
DATE:	Monday, 21 November 2016
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Meeting Room 1, Barnsley Town Hall

NOTES OF A MEETING OF MEMBERS OF NORTH AREA COUNCIL

Present Councillors Leech (Chair), Burgess (Mayor), Charlesworth, Howard, Miller, Platts, Spence and Tattersall.

1 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Burgess declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute number 37 in relation to her position as board member of BBIC, and a non-pecuniary interest in minute 35 in relation due to her position as trustee of CAB.

2 Minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 19th September 2016

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th September, 2016.

It was noted that the blue plaque in Darton West had yet to be installed, but arrangements had been made to do so.

RECOMMENDATION:- that the minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on the 19th September, 2016 be approved as a true and correct record.

3 Opportunities for Young People - Project Development Update

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager, who made the meeting aware that the advert for the Opportunities for Young People project would be live until the end of the month. Moderation of tender submissions was due to take place on 19th December, with interviews taking place on 19th January, 2017.

Members expressed thanks to the Area Council Manager for her work to pull together a rather complex specification of requirements, engaging a wide range of partners with different areas of skill and knowledge.

RECOMMENDATION:- that the report be noted.

4 Community Magazine

The Area Council Manager provided Members with an update of the progress made in coordination of the next edition of the Community Magazine. The editorial group had met, with the cover of the magazine being one area they had discussed.

It was confirmed a new distributor had been sourced, and discrepancies in the postcodes used by the original distributor were noted.

Members noted that a proof would be available to view from 9th December, 2016 and it was agreed that that the Area Council Manager circulates this as soon as available, making Members aware of the short timescales for comment before publishing.

RECOMMENDATION:- that the report be noted.

5 Performance Management Report

The Area Council Manager introduced the item, referring to the Performance Report circulated. For each of the commissions a RAG rating for performance was given, together with a corresponding narrative.

Dave Andy from Barnsley Citizens Advice Bureau was welcomed to the meeting and presented performance information in relation to the contract with the Bureau and DIAL Barnsley. To date 1,058 client contacts had been made, with 288 in the previous quarter. The centres at Mapplewell and Athersley North were sometimes congested and residents had been referred to less subscribed sessions at Emmanuel Church and in Darton. Though all residents were currently being seen, the sessions were nearing capacity. Feedback showed the importance of sessions being based in the locality.

Indications were that many residents either did not have access to the internet or did not currently possess the skills to use it, and device doctors had attended some sessions to offer assistance with this.

To date there had been £1.4m of benefit gained, with £20 returned for every £1 invested. The case studies detailed the positive personal benefit for some of the beneficiaries of the service.

Members questioned whether there was any further detail about the number of clients seen by the service in a week, and relating to the numbers of those unable to access services via the internet. It was agreed that these would be provided to Members.

Members of the Area Council gave thanks for Dave's attendance, and for the hard work of those involved in delivering the service, which had made a real difference in the area.

Attention was drawn to the low number of Fixed Penalty Notices for dog fouling in the area, which was contrary to the number of complaints received by Members. It was suggested that this be a focus for Kingdom Officers in the future.

The meeting discussed the need to consider the long term impact of commissions, supporting behaviour change in the area. It was noted that work had been undertaken on the Clean and Green contract to ensure the details for volunteers were collected and were available to share within data protection regulations, in order to be able to engage these residents in the longer term.

RECOMMENDATION:- that the report be noted.

6 Stronger Communities Grant 2017/18

The Area Council Manager introduced the report, referring to the appendices circulated. These included revised Terms of Reference and guidance for the fund, and an amended scoring matrix.

Members discussed the fund, and it was suggested that the guidance should be amended to provide more detail about the moderation stage, which took place after submissions were scored independently.

It was noted that the guidance provided clarity for repeat applicants.

The meeting discussed monitoring of the projects funded, and it was noted that funds were released in stages and that this was subject to the return of appropriate monitoring information. Should this not be forthcoming, then grant finance would be withheld.

The meeting discussed membership on the grants panel, and it was agreed that one member for each ward would be represented.

RECOMMENDATION:-

- (i) That approval be given to run a Stronger Communities Grant in 2017/18 with a total allocation of £100,000;
- (ii) That the remainder of the 2016/17 Stronger Communities Grant finance be added to that for the 2017/18 year;
- (iii) That, subject to the addition of information about the moderation stage of scoring applications, the grant guidance information included in the appendices circulated be approved;
- (iv) That Councillors Spence, Howard, and Leech, together with a Councillor from Old Town Ward represent their respective wards on the Stronger Communities Grant Panel.

7 Economic Regeneration - Business Survey Project Proposal

The Area Council Manager reminded Members of the history of the project, including a survey of small businesses which had taken place in August.

The proposal involved a maximum of £5,000 investment to be spent on advertising and promotion of BBIC's offer to small businesses trading more than 2 years. The marketing will be targeted at businesses who are based in North Barnsley.

It was recognised that other services existed to support start-up businesses up until the 2 year point, but that established independent business in the area were at risk of being overlooked.

It was noted that it was shortly to be the 30th anniversary of BBIC, and that this initiative would also benefit from the promotion associated with this.

RECOMMENDATION:- that approval be given to work in partnership with BBIC to provide small business surgeries, peer support, and networking, with up to £5,000 allocated towards advertising and promotion.

8 Financial Position and Forecast

The Area Council Manager drew the attention to the report providing an up to date financial position for the Area Council. Members were reminded that it was likely that the 2017/18 budget would be reduced by £40,000.

It was noted that for commissions to start in September, 2017 decisions would need to be taken in early 2017 to allow appropriate lead in time for procurement. This related to the Clean and Green, and Anti-Poverty priorities.

In relation to the Anti-Poverty priority, it was suggested that up to date definitions on children living in poverty be provided to Members alongside numbers per ward. It was suggested that Andrea Hoyland and Liz Pitt be invited to a future meeting to discuss the subject in more detail.

With regards to the Clean and Green priority, a suggestion was made to hold a future workshop to consider the legacy of current commissioned activities, and to discuss how to change behaviour and increase respect of the environment.

RECOMMENDATION:-

- (i) That the financial position for the Area Council, including forecast reductions in the 2017/18 budget be noted;
- (ii) That Andrea Hoyland and Liz Pitt be invited to a future meeting of the Area Council to discuss the Anti-Poverty priority, including child poverty in the Area;
- (iii) That consideration be given to holding a budget to consider the Clean and Green priority in the longer term.

9 Report of the Ward Alliance Fund

Members received a report containing Ward Alliance Fund budgets and expenditure for 2016/17.

Through the Chair the meeting received thanks from Councillor Hayward for the funding approved by Ward Alliances to commemorate the centenary of the Battle of the Somme. It was noted that the Council had been nominated for a regional award for their work on the commemoration.

RECOMMENDATION:- that the report be noted.

10 Notes from the following Ward Alliances

The meeting received the notes from the Darton East Ward Alliance held on 8th September, and 3rd October, 2016; Darton West Ward Alliance held on 11th July, 1st August, 12th September, and 10th October, 2016; Old Town Ward Alliance held on 7th September, and 5th October, 2016; and St Helen's Ward Alliance held on 1st September, 13th October, and 20th October, 2016.

Darton East Ward Alliance - Councillor Spence provided an update on the work of the alliance, noting a meeting he had attended with Staincross Alliance to discuss land use. Also noted were the 8,000 bulbs ordered with the support of the Ward Alliance which the Mapplewell and Staincross Greenspace Groups would be planting with the help of volunteers.

The Christmas lights switch on had been planned to take place on Friday 2nd December, 2016 with a number of local schools involved, and Foster's Bakery had agreed to provide mince pies.

Darton West Ward Alliance - Councillor Burgess made Members aware of the fundraising taking place for Barugh Green Christmas lights, with a concert taking place on Sunday 4th December, 2pm at Barugh Green Club. Also noted was the open evening planned by Gawber History Group on 9th December, 2016 where a timeline of the history of Gawber would be available to view.

Councillor Howard made Members aware that the community defibrillator had successfully been installed at Thompson's Garage. It was also noted that funding had been awarded to plant perennials on Claycliffe Roundabout, but it was hoped in the longer term there would be a more permanent installation.

Members heard of a plan to reflect on the past 3 years of operation of the Ward Alliance with a view to identifying areas for improvement.

St Helen's Ward Alliance - Councillor Platts updated Members on the success of the cook and eat sessions held in the ward, with both sessions for children and adults well attended. Thanks were given to Councillor Burgess for opening the gala in her position as Mayor, a sentiment echoed by other Councillors for her commitment to their respective wards in her mayoral year.

It was noted that the Ward Plan had been developed and an open day had been arranged to engage residents and get their views.

A number of Christmas events had been arranged in the ward, with school choirs scheduled to perform. It was hoped these would also offer opportunities to engage residents and get their views on the Ward Plan

RECOMMENDATION:- that the notes of the respective Ward Alliances and associated updates be noted.

Chair