

MEETING:	Penistone Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 15 June 2017
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Penistone Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Barnard (Chair), Hand-Davis, Millner and Unsworth.

1 **Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests**

No Members declared an interest in any item on the agenda.

2 **Minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 6th April, 2017 (PAC.15.06.2017/2)**

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 6th April, 2017.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 6th April, 2017 be approved as a true and correct record.

3 **Notes from the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance held on 25th May, 2017 (PAC.15.06.2017/3)**

The meeting received the notes from the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance held on 25th May, 2017.

With regards to the applications from Neighbourhood Services to the Ward Alliances, it was noted the funding of such as hanging baskets in the future would be discussed in more detail. Potential options included funding this from Area Council budgets, or considering other methods of provision, such as by voluntary or community groups.

Members noted that the pigeon defences funded through the Ward Alliance were on track to be installed by Armed Forces Day.

With reference to Armed Forces day, it was noted that preparations were in hand and the event was expected to be a success.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance held on 25th May, 2017 be received.

4 **Section 106 Finance (PAC.15.06.2017/8)**

Andrew Shorthouse, Development Officer within the Place Directorate, was welcomed to the meeting.

Members noted the principles around the provision of Section 106 finance, in essence a contribution from developers towards areas such as public open space, education, highways and affordable housing.

The meeting heard of the process for projects to be approved, through a strategic panel. It was suggested that officers with any prospective project discuss this with Andrew in the first instance, who, if suitable, would direct the project to be developed with colleagues in the appropriate department.

Members noted that projects were being developed for a number of sites within the Penistone Area to improve access to green space. These were being developed with the assistance of officers within the parks department, taking account of the playing pitch strategy and the strategic park sites within the borough. It was acknowledged that the finance was generally spent in close proximity to the contributing site for this element of Section 106.

Members discussed affordable housing provision, noting the preference for this to be provided on the site. If this was not viable, then provision would be sought within the vicinity. If these could not be delivered a commuted sum would be provided, which would be used within the vicinity of the associated development if possible. Only if there was risk that affordable housing could not be delivered in the area would the authority look to use the finance elsewhere.

It was noted that the most recent housing developments in the Penistone area did include affordable housing provision on site. A suggestion was made to invite an officer within the housing team to a future meeting to discuss the affordable housing planned and currently being delivered within the area.

Thanks were given to Andrew for his contribution.

5 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (PAC.15.06.2017/4)

The item was presented by the Area Council Manager. The attention of Members was drawn to the expenditure in 2016/17, with all of the £51,000 allocated.

Members noted the opening balance for the 2017/18 financial year, Members noted the awards made, and the figure remaining for allocation.

The Area Manager added that since the reports were printed, the Ward Alliance had met and considered a number of allocations and therefore the remaining balance was in the region of £6,000.

Members commented that the Ward Alliance Fund had supported a wide range of quality projects, geographically spread throughout the area.

It was noted that groups in receipt of Ward Alliance Fund finance would be asked for more detailed performance information in future. This would assist in producing a more detailed report for the Area Council.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

6 Performance Report (PAC.15.06.2017/5)

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager. Attention was drawn to the Part A of the report, in particular the figures relating to the numbers of young people engaged in volunteering which had increased by 123 to 138.

The meeting went on to consider Part B of the report which provided a more detailed narrative on the projects funded.

With regards to the Clean and Tidy Team, the meeting noted that the contract with the existing provider had been extended in order to ensure that there was a scaled down service in place until the retendered service was established. This comprised of two members of staff employed three days a week. These staff would be TUPEd to the organisation successful in gaining the new contract.

Performance against the contract with DIAL continued to be positive, with a significant increase in numbers in the previous month. It was agreed that this situation be monitored closely.

For Penistone FM Young People in Radio, Penistone Youth Project, and Penistone Scout Activity Centre Development it was noted that a more detailed report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Area Council. Members did note the work of Penistone FM and the young people involved in reporting at the Tour De Yorkshire.

The meeting discussed the contract with Age UK, and it was noted that all targets were being met. The 'Eyes on the Ground' initiative had been successful in identifying people who could make use of the service and had led to a number of people being referred. It was suggested that the success of the commission was attributed to the involvement of local people.

Members noted that 'Penistone Big Knit' would shortly be launched, which was hoped would raise the profile of the project, reaching more people and increasing involvement.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

7 Procurement and Financial Update (PAC.15.06.2017/6)

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager, who referred to the contract a service to reduce social isolation, currently held by Age UK. It was noted that the contract was initially offered for 12 months, with an option to extend this subject to performance, and funding being available.

In order to inform this discussion, it was suggested that a report be produced, highlighting the performance of the contract, followed by a presentation by Age UK. The proposed course of action was supported by Members.

The meeting noted that the current figure available for allocation through the Working Together Fund was £105,455. The panel had recently met and considered five expressions of interest, selecting three to be further developed. A second stage application for these would be submitted in due course.

The meeting noted the procurement of a Clean and Tidy Team, with the deadline of 19th June, 2017 for tenders to be returned. It was expected that the contract would start mid-August, 2017.

Members acknowledged the TUPE implications, and noted the extension to the employment of current Clean and Tidy Team staff. The team would therefore be able to support Penistone Gala, Mayor's Parade and Armed Forces Day, and costs would be contained within normal contract variations, due to underspends.

The financial position of the Area Council was noted, with £36,373.50 remaining unallocated for 2017/18. Members discussed proposals within the report to consider a contract for increased enforcement around dog fouling, littering and parking, and the possibility of devolving additional finance to the Ward Alliance. After some discussion a decision was made to devolve a further £5,000 per ward.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the update on the Isolated and Vulnerable Older People service be noted;
- (ii) That a 6 month performance report be produced by Age UK with a subsequent presentation to the Area Council, and that the contract be discussed in depth at the Area Council meeting on 5th October, 2017;
- (iii) That the update on the Working Together Fund be noted;
- (iv) That the position in relation to staffing and extension of the existing Clean and Tidy Service contract be noted;
- (v) That the procurement timescales for a new Clean and Tidy Service be noted;
- (vi) That an additional £5,000 per Ward be devolved to the Ward Alliance Fund to be allocation as per agreed processes; and
- (vii) That the finance report be noted.

8 Tour De Yorkshire (PAC.15.06.2017/7)

The meeting received a number of presentation slides referring to the Tour De Yorkshire. Members noted that the attendance was in the region of 25,000 with an average dwell time of 3 hours. The economic impact was estimated to be £538,000.

Members heard how some cafés in the area had completely sold out of food and drink on the day, due to the high visitor numbers. This was representative of many of the businesses within the area.

A number of the glowing comments received were discussed, and Members took pride in the success of the event. Members noted negative comments about litter, but praised the response from the community in responding quickly to these. It was hoped that the success could be built upon with events in the future.

All Members placed on record their thanks to all involved in organising the event including Council staff, volunteers, and community groups.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Chair