

MEETING:	Penistone Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 5 April 2018
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Penistone Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Barnard (Chair), David Griffin, Hand-Davis, Millner and Wilson.

40 Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

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

41 Minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 8th February, 2018 (PAC.05.04.2018/2)

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th February, 2018.

The meeting noted that the consultation on the additional housing sites in the villages had now closed, with developers having submitted objections on the basis that further additional sites should be included. There was concern that developers would be emboldened to submit applications in what local Members considered to be inappropriate locations, although it was noted that the conclusion of the Local Plan would make it easier to resist them in planning terms.

Members referred to the proposed Ward Alliance funding application in respect of activity associated with Tour de Yorkshire. Whilst fewer visitor numbers were anticipated in Penistone compared to last year's cycle race, work was being undertaken to make this a successful event and attract large numbers of spectators. Consideration was being given to storage arrangements for banners and other equipment associated with the cycle races, perhaps somewhere in the Paramount Cinema, although there was likely to be a cost associated with this.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting on the 8th February, 2018 be approved as a true and correct record.

42 Notes from the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance held on 22nd February, 2018 (PAC.05.04.2018/3)

The meeting received the notes from the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance meeting held on 22nd February, 2018.

The meeting noted that an infographic to explain the achievements of the Ward Alliance has been produced and publicised, and a new Ward Alliance Plan is being developed for consideration at the next Ward Alliance meeting.

Members commented on progress in developing plans for events to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War One, both in Penistone and through the Parish Councils. An application for Ward Alliance funding in respect of these projects was expected to come forward in due course.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance meeting held on 22nd February, 2018 be received

43 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (PAC.05.04.2018/4)

The Area Council Manager introduced a report outlining the use of the Ward Alliance Fund during 2017/18 and noting that the full allocation had been spent in the year. It was noted that Ward Alliance funding had been increased by an allocation from the Area Council in 2017/18 and there would be a need to consider in due course whether to make a similar allocation during 2018/19.

The meeting noted that the Penistone Pigeon Defences had not proved particularly successful and other approaches may need to be considered in due course. Twiggs Clean and Tidy contracted service have indicated that they would ensure the cleanliness of the areas affected ahead of specific events to be held in the town centre if sufficient involvement from businesses and volunteers could be secured.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

44 Performance Update (PAC.05.04.2018/5)

The Area Council Manager introduced a report giving an interim performance update for the Area Council's commissioned work and projects, bearing in mind that the year-end position would be reported to the next meeting in June.

The meeting noted that an underspending was anticipated on both the Bumping Spaces and Penistone youth projects, which would allow the projects to continue for slightly longer. More detail on this would be given in the June report. Members commented on the potential need for future youth project support to focus on activities to divert anti-social behaviour in the market and station areas of Penistone.

Bumping Spaces has enabled individuals to provide valuable peer support to vulnerable individuals in their networks especially during the recent bad weather. The project outcomes were really positive, particularly their ability to network with other organisations. Representatives from the Penistone project would be attending a regional conference in Doncaster to tell their stories. Bumping Spaces is also linked with the emerging Penistone Community Ale House, which is submitting a Ward Alliance application. This project would need to aim to provide more than a public house and could provide a useful community space to support projects such as Bumping Spaces. The Penistone FM open day had limited attendance due to the weather, but there is real interest in the project. Volunteers and trainees have broadcasted to the wider community and made contacts with groups to help promote them through broadcasts. A number of positive stories had been generated by the Age UK work during the bad weather, particularly with contacts through Barnsley Council being referred to the project so that vulnerable older people could be helped during the snow.

The recent wintery weather had resulted in some of the DIAL sessions being postponed. Members noted that there were still high levels of demand for the DIAL project, to support with welfare and disability benefit claims. The Area Council Manager was discussing options with the DIAL project manager and advice worker to

help alleviate waiting times. The outcome of these discussions would be reported to the June meeting.

Members noted that the contract for Penistone Matters magazine was currently out to tender, with the Area Council covering delivery costs only. Further discussions were required with Communications regarding the reach/distribution of the magazine. The next edition was due to be issued in June, so the likely deadline for copy would be sometime in May. It was noted that the information about the Sloppy Slippers project would be a good story to include.

The meeting noted that the Twiggs Clean and Green project continued to perform well, in spite of the weather conditions during the first full quarter of the contract. The meeting noted that Twiggs recently identified a vacancy, and Members queried whether this was in relation to the Penistone contract. The Area Council manager will investigate if this will have any effect for the Penistone contract. The meeting noted that Twiggs continued to work well with community groups, although it was not clear how information about dates of litter picks, for example, were notified to local Councillors or the community more generally.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the progress on the Area Council's commissions and projects as identified in the report be noted;
- (ii) that the Area Council Manager liaise with Mark Miller to consider how the Penistone youth project might focus activity to tackle anti-social behaviour; and
- (iii) that the Area Council Manager would discuss the issue of providing information on litter picks and whether progress would be affected by current vacancies when she met Twiggs at the next contract meeting.

45 Area Council Procurement and Financial Update (PAC.05.04.2018/6)

The Area Council Manager introduced a report giving an update on commissioning and procurement activity in respect of isolated and vulnerable older people service, the Working Together Fund and the Clean and Tidy service. The report also outlined the current financial position and projected this into 2018/19 having regard to the expected forward commitments.

Members noted the allocation of £10,000 by the Area Council to the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance in 2017/18 and that this would affect availability for commissioning other activity if Members were minded to make a similar allocation in 2018/19. The meeting discussed proposals for traffic calming measures, referred at Section 7.2 of the report, and amounting to £15,300 in total to be funded from an available allocation of £52,500. It was noted that Thurgoland Parish Council had indicated a willingness to contribute £1,000 towards the cost of the sign into the village, although the estimate now given was significantly greater than anticipated, due to the additional highways works that would be required. On the wider issue of road safety, Members commented on the contribution that could be made by the South Yorkshire Camera Partnership but that they lacked information on how this operated.

The meeting noted the success of the Working Together Fund and the range of projects supported by it. The 2017/18 underspend of £33,856 would be carried forward into 2018/19. The Working Together Fund Panel was due to consider whether the South Pennine Bus Company should be funded for a further 12 month period, at a maximum cost of £20,000. The Area Council Manager circulated further information on the performance of this service identifying the number of passengers using this service as the basis for Members to take a view on the future of this contract in advance of consideration by the Panel. The meeting also noted comments by the South Yorkshire PTE about the potential impact on commercial services and its long-term sustainability, although it had not followed this up with detailed information.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the update on procurement activity be received;
- (ii) that the update on the Working Together Fund and the proposals for the 2018/19 grant process, as outlined at paragraph 4.6 of the report, be noted;
- (iii) that the support expressed by the Area Council for the community transport service to continue for a further year be noted at a cost of up to £20,000, and a further application to the Working Together Fund for this purpose be encouraged;
- (iv) that the Ward Alliance Fund allocation for 2018/19 be noted and further consideration be given to the anticipated demand on this and the Working Together Fund at the Area Council meeting in June;
- (v) that the speed indicator device and the Thurgoland boundary sign proposals be considered for funding contribution via the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance , to be presented as separate project proposals;
- (vi) that, specifically in respect of the Thurgoland boundary signs, the Area Council Manager seek to confirm that Thurgoland Parish Council will still contribute £1,000 to the cost of this and to suggest that the Parish Council should contact local companies to seek a contribution towards the cost by way of sponsorship; and
- (vii) that the financial update including the budget for the 2018/19 financial year as set out at Section 8 of the report be noted.

Chair