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| <b>MEETING:</b> | North East Area Council             |
| <b>DATE:</b>    | Thursday, 1 October 2015            |
| <b>TIME:</b>    | 2.00 pm                             |
| <b>VENUE:</b>   | Meeting Room 11, Barnsley Town Hall |

## MINUTES

### Present

Councillors Hayward (Chair), Cheetham, Clements, S. Green, Hampson, Higginbottom, Makinson, Sheard and C. Wraith MBE

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

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

### 19 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of North East Area Council held on Thursday 30th July 2015 (NEAC 01.10.15/2)

The meeting considered the minutes from the previous meeting of the North East Area Council held on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2015. It was reported that Cudworth had won three awards in the Yorkshire in Bloom Awards. The afternoon tea sessions to replace the luncheon clubs are starting in Grimethorpe imminently and will be moving around the wards. An exit strategy meeting for the luncheon clubs had been held and the provider was happy with the proposals.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the North East Area Council held on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2015 be approved as a true and correct record.

### 20 Notes of the Following Ward Alliances with Feedback from each Ward Alliance Chair (NEAC 01.10.15/3)

The meeting received notes from the Cudworth, Monk Bretton, North East and Royston Ward Alliances held throughout June, July and August 2015. The following updates were noted:-

#### *Cudworth – 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015*

Production and distribution of an Information Guide listing all the activities and organisations in Cudworth is imminent. The grassed area to the rear of the Co-op has now been cut and will be maintained in the future. The new Park gates have been installed and look really impressive. A winter Health Fayre, to take place in November, has been agreed.

#### *North East – 1<sup>st</sup> July and 12<sup>th</sup> August 2015*

The summer holiday activities and the Family Fun Day were very successful. Improvement work to the War Memorial area is almost complete, and the new Notice Boards in each of the four villages are being ordered,. The updated local Information Booklet has been agreed and will be going to print shortly. The Ward Alliance is looking at piloting a Healthy Teeth Initiative, working with the Primary Schools, following concerns raised about poor oral health received across the North East area.

*Royston* – 29<sup>th</sup> June and 24<sup>th</sup> August 2015

The Summer Activities Programme was very successful, with almost 600 children taking part, and it was noted that there was an increase in the numbers of young people going to the swimming baths. An initiative to provide an 'Orchard in the Park' will be taking place in October. It has been agreed that Street Games will be funded again, and that DIAL will also be funded for two sessions per month. The Community Directory is to be published shortly. A Christmas event is planned for 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2015.

A discussion took place around the reporting of 'hot spots'. Cllr Makinson was advised to speak to Sarah Ford regarding the cutting back of trees alongside public footpaths. It seems that several members have been reporting work which needs to be done by the Local Authority but to no avail.

*Monk Bretton* - Funding has been given to the Friends of Monk Bretton Priory to encourage membership, and to the West Green Junior Football Club. An entrance arch to the memorial gardens will be installed, and the area will be decorated with 94 poppies, with the name of every Serviceman who died from the Monk Bretton Ward attached. The Air Scouts will be helping to attach the names to the poppies. Replanting the shrub beds at the War Memorial will be carried out with local school children in time for Remembrance Sunday. It was noted that thanks to the dedication of the Councillors and local Volunteers that this area has become a focal point in the Village, and it is anticipated that it will be entered into the 2016 Yorkshire in Bloom competition.

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

**21 Changes to Community representation on the North East Ward Alliance (Verbal Report from the Chair of the North East Ward Alliance)**

It was reported that Mick Handley had now been appointed to the North East Ward Alliance in respect of the vacancy at Grimethorpe.

**RESOLVED** that the appointment be noted.

**22 Employability for under 16's Initiative - C & K Careers (presentation)**

Katren North and Jill Ellis from C & K Careers were welcomed to the meeting and provided an overview of the Employability for under 16s Summer Holiday Internship Programme. The aim of the programme was to motivate and inspire young people to achieve their potential; to reduce the NEET figures of young people aged 18-24 and prevent them becoming NEET by engaging them in striving for a positive destination. 127 applications for work placements were received, with 112 students completing the 4 day employability programme. Over 47 local businesses offered 120 work placements, which 100 students completed. A Celebration Event has been held and several young people have been offered further opportunities ranging from volunteering to part-time work. Members felt the programme had been a great success and thanked Katren for her attendance and contribution.

**23 Report on the Use of Area Council Budgets, Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds (NEAC 01.10.15/6)**

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and highlighted the spend to date. The North East Area Council has a Devolved Ward budget allocation of £81,939.54 for the 2015-16 financial year, of which £50,801.80 is committed. The Ward Alliance grant allocation of £92,047 includes £52,046 carried forward from the 2014-15 financial year.

**RESOLVED** that the report on the use of Area Council Budgets, Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds be received and noted, and in particular the funding which is as yet unallocated.

**24 North East Area Council - Performance Report (NEAC 01.10.15/7)**

The Area Manager introduced this item and gave an overview of performance in respect of commissioned projects across the North East Area Council. To date three providers have completed their contract monitoring and management reporting, namely the Environment Teams, Enforcement and C and K Careers. Attention was drawn to the work to clean out the storm drains on the High Streets which ensured that rain water runs away effectively and to the Environment Team Apprentice Case Study on the following page. A Member highlighted problems with vehicles parking in spaces for disabled people on Robert Street. The problem of BMBC Enforcement and Kingdom working together and areas of responsibility was raised. Paul Castle is aware of the problem and is working towards a solution.

**RESOLVED** that the North East Area Project Performance be received and noted.

**25 Commissioning and Procurement Update - Employability for under 16's Initiative - Summer 2016 (NEAC 01.10.15/8)**

Members were asked to consider recommissioning the Employability for Under 16s initiative for 2016, giving due consideration to the performance update presentation by C & K Careers at the beginning of the meeting. The initiative, if recommissioned, will need to be advertised in November and will be subject to a full procurement process, with preparatory work commencing during the Spring term of 2016. Members acknowledged that there may be an opportunity to run this initiative in partnership with the North Area Council, which has been identified as Good Practice. It was felt that an element of performance related pay should be included within the specification, as actual numbers of young people fell short of the target.

**RESOLVED** that the Employability for Under 16's contract be advertised at a maximum contract value of £45,000 with a specific clause relating to performance related pay included therein.

**26 Commissioning and Procurement Update - Home Grown Apprentices Scheme (NEAC 01.10.15/9)**

The Area Council Manager provided an update on the proposed 'Home Grown Apprentices' scheme. The initiative would comprise of one supervisor and three apprentices, working specifically with the Parks Service in local parks. The contract would be for one year initially, with an option to extend for a further year subject to

the satisfactory achievement of outcomes and outputs. The initiative would be subject to a Service Level Agreement with the Parks Service, which was attached as an appendix to the report.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) Members approve the Service Level Agreement with Parks Services for the Home Grown Apprentice Scheme, at a cost of £98,000 per annum.
- (ii) An established Barnsley MBC Service is used to deliver this initiative

**27 Commissioning and Procurement Update - Environmental Enforcement (NEAC 01.10.15/10)**

The Area Council Manager provided an update regarding the future extension of the Environmental Enforcement contract, seeking agreement on the future of the contract after March 2016, which is the extension period currently agreed by the North East Area Council. Members acknowledged that an additional fee will be payable to Barnsley Enforcement Services to ensure that the procured enforcement service operations are carried out in a practical manner. Members noted that a full retender will be carried out after April 2016, at which time the contract will be split into 'lots', allowing each Area Council to specify individual requirements.

**RESOLVED** that:

- (i) the information contained within the report be noted;
- (ii) the Environmental and Parking Enforcement contract be advertised for a minimum of 2 years, at a value of £62,500 per annum for two Enforcement Officers, on the understanding that it is 'let' one year at a time, with 'break' clauses included, should funding be discontinued, and that
- (iii) a full re-tender of the Service will be carried out from April 2016 onwards in partnership with the other Area Councils within Barnsley MBC.

**28 The Development of the Love Your High Street Initiative (NEAC 01.10.15/11)**

The North East Area Council Manager introduced this item. It was explained that research shows that first impressions count, so when people visit the High Streets in the North East Area Council it is important that the streetscape reflects the distinct character of the area, whilst being clean, safe and green. It is proposed that a Working Party, comprising of a Councillor from each of the Wards and the Chair of the Area Council should work with the Area Team to look at how local High Streets can be improved.

Members felt that it is important the High Streets portray a positive image. A Member felt that the issue of grey shutters in some areas should be addressed, perhaps with eye-catching painted designs. A new Public Arts Officer has recently been appointed and may be able to help with this.

**RESOLVED** that the Area Council Manager be empowered to further develop the Love your High Street initiative.

## **29 Parks Service - Play Areas Service Level Agreement (NEAC 01.10.15/12)**

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and explained that In April 2014, the North East Area Council agreed a ring fenced sum of £10,000 to be used for a Service Level Agreement with Parks Services to replace equipment and safety surfacing damaged through anti social behaviour. A further contingency sum of £10,000 per annum is now required for the financial years 2015 – 2016, and 2016 – 2017.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) a further sum of £10,000 per annum is ring fenced to be used for a Service Level Agreement with Parks Services for the financial years 2015 – 2016, and 2016 – 2017;
- (ii) the self closing gate on the Shafton Green Play area should be replaced at a cost of £1,300.

## **30 Community Magazine (verbal update)**

The Area Council Manager distributed a draft copy of the 'Village Life' magazine. The magazine is being produced in conjunction with the BMBC Communications Team, who are also sourcing local and Borough wide advertisements for the publication. Concern was expressed that there is a limit to the number of magazines a Council can publish and that publication laws may be broken. There was also some concern that the advertisements within the magazines may not be appropriate.

**RESOLVED** that the Area Council Manager will obtain a list of advertisers and circulate to the Councillors, and will feed back to Communications that Members wish to be involved in the choice of advertisers approached in the future.

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Chair