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| <b>MEETING:</b> | Penistone Area Council               |
| <b>DATE:</b>    | Thursday, 11 February 2016           |
| <b>TIME:</b>    | 10.00 am                             |
| <b>VENUE:</b>   | Council Chamber, Penistone Town Hall |

## MINUTES

**Present** Councillors Barnard (Chair), Griffin, Hand-Davis, Millner, Unsworth and Wilson

### 31 **Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests**

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

### 32 **Minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 10.12.2015 (PAC.11.02.2016/2)**

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 10 December 2015.

The Area Council Manager reported on the progress of the DIAL service, with three clients helped during week commencing 1 February and one the previous week. Last week's sessions had taken all of the available time, indicating how involved the process was. Nevertheless, Members considered that the service needed to be promoted further, including through the Barnsley Chronicle.

In relation to Ward Alliance membership, it was noted that it might be possible to recruit a Foundation Governor from Penistone Grammar school and discussions had been held with Father David regarding church representation. It was noted that the Reverend Ann Parr might be interested and that Councillor Millner would make contact with her.

The meeting noted the positive feedback received about the community magazine, including from the Community Liaison Manager at Tesco's. Members were reminded that articles for the next edition were required by the end of March 2016.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on the 10 December 2015 be approved as a true and correct record.

### 33 **Notes from Penistone East and West Ward Alliance held on 17th December, 2015 (PAC.11.02.2016/3)**

The meeting received the notes from the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance held on 17 December 2015.

The meeting noted that Joe Pingy was liaising with John Openshaw regarding a local event to commemorate the Battle of the Somme on 1 July 2016, to be coordinated with the event to be held in Barnsley. Councillor Millner would preside over the Penistone event as Deputy Mayor of the Town Council, given that Councillor Hand-Davis was visiting Serre.

**RESOLVED** that the notes from the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance held on 17 December 2015 be received.

**34 Report on the use of Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Fund (PAC.11.02.2016/4)**

The Area Manager presented a report detailing expenditure from the Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Funds, which included funds allocated from Public Health. The Area Manager gave an update on the information in the report, noting that the Devolved Ward Budget was now fully allocated because of applications currently in the pipeline. £18,000 of Ward Alliance Funding remained unallocated, although it was noted that this could be carried forward to 2016/17.

**RESOLVED** that the report detailing the use of the Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Fund be noted.

**35 Penistone Area Council commissioning, procurement and funding update (PAC.11.02.2016/5)**

The Area Manager presented a report giving an update on the current position of services commissioned and procured by Penistone Area Council. The report also incorporated, at Appendix 1, a financial analysis of the commissioning budget for 2014/15 to 2016/17.

The meeting noted that the countryside skills training commission had not necessarily achieved its initial objective, of providing practical skills for young people in developing stone walling and hedge laying businesses, but had had considerable success in re-engaging people in a work routine. In particular, an initial assessment of the social return in investment from the project was considered to be extremely positive, and the full results from this assessment would be reported to the Area Council in April. Members commented on the approach of GrowForest in taking forward the commission, which suggested that the proprietor's skills could be used to motivate young people in other fields of activity.

In relation to the clean and tidy commission, the meeting noted good progress against targets, and the particular impact in the work to clear verges and litter on the main routes in the Penistone area, that is A616, A628 and A629.

The meeting went on to discuss the arrangements to consider priorities for commissions in 2016/17, and the proposal to arrange a workshop meeting for this purpose. The meeting discussed whether the experience of the countryside skills commission could be used to develop a further project, perhaps with Enterprising Barnsley, to seek to develop new businesses or self-employment. Members commented that they would like to revisit the issue of a rural bus service commission, particularly given the extent of rural isolation. The Area Manager commented that she would make the necessary arrangements for a workshop, with relevant supporting information and expert contributions to assist in Members' consideration of this issue.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the update on current commissioned projects, as set out in the report now submitted, be received;
- (ii) that the current financial position of the Area Council commissioning budgets for 2015/16 and 2016/17 be noted; and
- (iii) that the Area Manager make appropriate arrangements for a workshop session to consider commissioning and procurement priorities for 2016/17.

### **36 The Future of Penistone Working Together Fund (PAC.11.02.2016/6)**

The Area Manager presented a report giving an update on activity of the Working Together Fund and seeking consideration of options for the future of the approach. The meeting noted that only two applications had been received, which seemed to be more suited to funding support from Section 106 money or the Ward Alliance Fund and so were being progressed accordingly. Members expressed disappointment that initial expressions of interest had not resulted in formal applications and that Members needed to work through their networks to promote the Fund more vigorously. The need for greater promotion of the Fund, through Facebook and the community magazine was also discussed.

#### **RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the Penistone Working Together Fund continue in 2016/17 with a total allocation of £120,000 and on similar criteria, as set out at section 3 of the report;
- (ii) that the need for more active promotion of the Fund, including through Facebook and the community magazine, be agreed, with Members making contact with appropriate community organisations to promote the fund; and
- (iii) that the Area Manager convene the grants panel to consider the outstanding application in order that this might then subsequently progress to be considered for Ward Alliance funding, if appropriate.

### **37 Elaine Slater - Appreciation**

The meeting noted that the Penistone Area Manager, Elaine Slater, was due to take retirement on 31 March 2016. The Chair expressed his appreciation for the work that Elaine had done in her time as Area Manager to take forward the work of the Area Council and he expressed his best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

**RESOLVED** that the Chair's comments be endorsed.

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Chair