

**Darfield Ward Alliance**  
**Notes of meeting held Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016 @ 5.00pm**  
**At Darfield Community Centre**

**Present:** Cllr Pauline Markham, Tanya Dickinson (Community Development Officer), David Hildred, Cllr Dorothy Coates, Margaret Barlow, Michael Fenna, Brian Moore, Cllr Caroline Saunders, Colin Ward, Barbara Tindle (Secretary)

**In Attendance:** Cllr. Mick Stowe (South Area Council) and Dan Wildsmith (Let's Grow)

**1. Introductions and apologies**

Pauline welcomed Cllr Mick Stowe (South Area Council) and apologies received from Geoff Hutchinson

**2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising**

Minutes were agreed. David asked if there was any news regarding the Resilience meeting. Tanya explained that this work has fallen behind schedule but will be prioritised for April.

**3. Ward Alliance Fund**

An up-to-date Ward Alliance Fund Balance Sheet was viewed by members. This year's allocation of Ward Alliance Funding is now fully allocated. Any applications agreed at tonight's meeting will be taken from 2016/17.

Applications

Darfield Cricket Club £2931.20

Tanya gave a brief outline regarding the application but queries were raised from the Alliance regarding how many trees were being cut back, the cost, the wording on the banner and what plans would be put in place when the trees re-grow. It was agreed a site visit would be necessary and the application be deferred until a later date. Colin to arrange a site visit.

**Action:** Colin, Pauline, Margaret, Dorothy

Healthy Active Lifestyles - Upperwood Academy £2,500.00

Pauline declared an interest.

Tanya gave a brief outline regarding the application but queries from the Alliance regarding the cost of the project were raised and found to be excessive. The Alliance was also concerned over setting a precedence for other schools looking to hold the same sessions. The WAF is a small fund which will be unable to cope with such a demand. The Alliance agreed to fund £420 for the Cook & Eat sessions only.

#### Friends of Darfield Library £410.00

Pauline gave a brief outline of the application and after discussion it was agreed to fund the project in full.

#### Houghton Main Welfare Sports & Social Club £1276.80

Colin declared an interest. After a discussion regarding maintaining equipment in general the Alliance agreed to fund the project in full. The need for regular maintenance on pieces of equipment being used by community groups across the Darfield ward was discussed. It was suggested that a small working group be established to explore this issue and the links it has to insurance.

#### **4. Training and Development**

Tanya circulated a timetable for all Alliance members to sign so that individual meetings can be arranged for a one-to-one meeting to go through the new handbook.

#### **5. Area Council Update**

To help reinforce the link between the Area Council and the Ward Alliance it has been agreed that Cllr Mick Stowe (Chair of the Area Council) attends an Alliance meeting once a quarter to share information.

Cllr Stowe informed the meeting that Barnsley had been short listed for Council of the Year and although they didn't win they had come in the top 5 in the country. He then went on to thank the Alliance for their excellent work, not just Darfield but all the Ward Alliances, on their achievements so far. Area Council Projects that have been successful and continue to be are:

The One Stop Shop – giving help and guidance to local people

Enforcement Officers – imposing fixed penalties for indiscriminate parking, dog fouling and litter. Money earned via the penalties goes back to the South Area Council

Tidy Team playing an important role within each village and keeping it tidy

Internships for local school children near leaving age was successful last year and will continue again this summer.

Not so successful was the take up of free training for local businesses following a survey carried out with them last year. Subsequently, this training was offered out to the wider community.

Moving forward into the new financial year the aim of the Ward Alliances is to consult widely in all areas, prioritize what each area needs, to reinforce links and introduce new initiatives and where best money would be spent.

Pauline thanked Mick for attending the meeting.

## 6. **Ward Alliance Project Updates**

Gala – Dorothy explained that it doesn't have to be a Gala just a community event of some kind. Ideas put forward are: Billingley BBQ, Darfield Brass Band & Picnic with rides for younger children. Little Houghton 'walk football' was successful last year Colin to move this forward. **Action:** Caroline, Dorothy, Colin. Lee

Cenotaph – Deferred for a later date

Winter Warmers – Deferred for a later date

Darfield Christmas Tree – Deferred for a later date

Community Notice Boards – Tanya explained that the purchase orders have gone through and that the Alliance needed to now start thinking about how to get them distributed and volunteers recruited to update the boards. **Action:** Dorothy to chase up delivery of the community notice boards with the supplier

Allotment – Dorothy explained to the members that a problem had arisen with regards to releasing monies for the project to get started. She asked the members if the money could be paid straight into the Allotment Society bank account so that they can access monies to pay for work being done as soon as possible. Unfortunately, this would then mean that the Allotment Society will have a VAT bill of £1,512.68 and the members needed to decide if they will agree to pay this out of the new financial year budget. After a discussion the Alliance agreed to fund the additional cost. **Action:** Tanya to draw up a letter for Pauline to sign.

## 7. **Let's Grow – Dan Wildsmith**

Pauline welcomed Dan to the meeting. Dan handed out a power point presentation booklet which highlighted the successful projects and outcomes through the Let's Grow 2014/2015 and then gave a brief summary on what had been achieved as well as future and ongoing projects. Dan also asked if the Darfield Allotment Project needed any help and advice then he was only too happy to help with the project.

Pauline thanked Dan for attending.

## 8. **Any other business**

Tanya asked for volunteers to provide feedback on the work of the Ward Alliance at the next South Area Council meeting in June. Pauline, Caroline and Michael agreed to do this. Tanya to speak to community representatives not at tonight's meeting to see if one more volunteer could be recruited.

**Action:** Tanya, Pauline, Caroline, Michael + 1 other

Tanya wanted to express her thanks to David for stepping in at the last meeting in helping with the Clean for the Queen Tidy day on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

Pauline asked the members if they would consider that the DWA meetings be set for 4.30 instead of 5 as there is more items on the agenda and the end of the meetings seem to be coming increasingly rushed.

**Action:** The 4:30pm start time to be trialled for the May meeting. Tanya will speak to both Lee and Kevin regarding this as they may struggle to make meetings at this time due to work commitments.

Tanya to invite the National Citizenship Service for the May meeting and the One Stop Shop advice workers to the July meeting. **Action:** Tanya

Tanya had been contacted by David Parry (former resident of Darfield) who has bought the Flower Shop in Darfield and asked if there was a need for a Community Hub base or Business Development incubator, or local community coffee shop. He would require a rent of £400 pm. The members discussed this but it wasn't something they thought the Alliance could take on. It was suggested that Enterprise Barnsley could be a useful contact for him.

Dorothy raised concerns with the uncleanliness of Darfield streets and asked if we could consider a big Tidy Up Campaign where organisations, volunteers and the Tidy Team could work together and tidy Darfield.

9. **Date of next Meeting –**

Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 4.30 pm at Illsley Road Community Centre

Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> July 2016 at 4.30 pm at Illsley Road Community Centre

Pauline thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 7.10 pm