

CENTRAL AREA COUNCIL

9th September, 2013

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

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16. **Present:** Councillors D. Green (Chair), P. Birkinshaw, Bruff, G. Carr, J. Carr, Clarke, M. Dyson, Johnson, Mathers, Mitchell, Perrin and T. Sheard.

17. **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests.**

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

18. **Minutes of the previous meeting of Central Area Council, held 8th May, 2013.**

The minutes were accepted as a true and correct record.

With regards to the flooding issue in Dodworth, it was confirmed that feedback had been received. However, Members were still trying to arrange to meet with relevant officers to discuss the issue further.

Comments were made with regards to reducing grass cutting and turning certain areas into wildflower meadows. Whilst it was acknowledged that this could increase habitat for wildlife and reduce service costs, concern was expressed that this could lead to certain areas looking unkempt.

As enforcement had featured prominently in the discussion at the previous meeting, it was suggested that a future meeting may wish to consider this area in more detail.

19. **Notes of the Ward Alliances.**

The Chair introduced the item, asking Members to make any comments on the notes if they so wished.

It was noted that the discussion about community representatives on the Worsbrough Ward Alliance was lengthy, but a consensus was eventually reached.

RESOLVED:- that the notes of the Central, Kingstone, Worsbrough, Dodworth and Stairfoot Ward Alliances be received.

20. **Appointment of Ward Alliance Members.**

The Central Area Council Manager introduced the item noting the community representatives that had been put forward by each of the Ward Alliances. This included the following:-

CENTRAL AREA COUNCIL

9th September, 2013

Central Ward Alliance - Ms. D. Cureton, Mr. N. Morris, Mr. I. Newton, Mr. E. Naylor, Mr. M. Murray and Ms. P. Leigh;

Worsbrough Ward Alliance - Mr. A Perry, Mr. B. Travis, Mrs. C. Wilson, Mrs. S. Dunn, Mr. K. Williams, Mrs. S. Speight, Mr. S. Taylor and Mrs. J. Aranyj;

Dodworth Ward Alliance - Mr. D Dickinson, Mr. S. Race, Mr. I. Goddard and Mr. M. Howarth;

Stairfoot Ward Alliance - Ms. J. Thirkell, Mr. R. Marsden, Mr. R. Stendall, Ms. A. Hart, Mr. L. Neville and Ms. C. Cunningham;

Kingston Ward Alliance - Ms. V. Mawby.

RESOLVED:- that the individuals proposed be approved as community representatives on the respective Ward Alliance for a 12 month period.

21. **Representative on the Local Development Plans Group.**

The Chair made the meeting aware that a group was being established to consider local development plans, previously referred to as the Local Development Framework (LDF). A request had been made for a representative from each Area Council to take part.

RESOLVED:- that Councillor Johnson represents Central Area Council on the Local Development Plans Group.

22. **Report on the use of Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds.**

The Central Area Council Manager introduced the item, highlighting that approximately £35,000 of the £100,000 Devolved Ward Budget had been allocated and therefore approximately £65,000 remained.

It was noted that the Ward Alliance Fund had yet to be allocated, as this was conditional on the production and consultation of a Ward Plan. It was acknowledged that much of the work to agree priorities and identify potential schemes was already underway. However, if Ward Alliances needed to accelerate progress additional Ward Alliance meetings could be arranged, and support was available from officers.

It was noted that for any engineering schemes to be completed within the financial year they needed to be programmed in as soon as possible. However, it was acknowledged that as the area governance arrangements were in their infancy it had been agreed that financial allocations could be carried forward from the financial year 2013/14 into 2014/15.

RESOLVED:- that the report on the use of Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds be noted.

CENTRAL AREA COUNCIL

9th September, 2013

23. **Future agenda items including planning and format for the next meeting of Central Area Council.**

The Chair invited comments and suggestions about items for the next meeting of Central Area Council, scheduled for the 11th November 2013.

The following items were put forward:-

- Priorities for Central Area Council commissioning in 2014/15;
- Areas for Central Area Council to scrutinise/challenge the performance of in 2014/15 and associated timetable;
- Enforcement;
- School performance;
- Public health;
- Waste management.

RESOLVED:- that the Central Area Council Chair and Central Area Council Manager consider the suggestions in planning future meetings.

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Chair