

NORTH AREA COUNCIL

3rd February, 2014

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

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35. **Present:** Councillors Burgess (Chair), Cave, Cherryholme, Howard, Leech, Lofts, Platts, Spence and Tattersall.

36. **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non Pecuniary Interests**

Non pecuniary interests were received from Councillors Leech and Platts as members of Roundhouse Community Partnership who manage the Romero project, which may tender for work commissioned under the 'Anti-Poverty' priority.

37. **Minutes from the North Area Council meeting held on 13th January, 2014**

The meeting received the minutes from the North Area Council meeting held on 13th January, 2014. Members noted that the procurement of the 'Summer Holiday Internship' project was now moving forward. With regards to the possibility of establishing a grant scheme for the area, it was noted that proposals were still being worked on and would be considered by the Area Council when more fully developed.

RESOLVED:- that the minutes of North Area Council, held on 13th January, 2014 be approved as a true and correct record.

38. **Notes from the Ward Alliances**

Members considered the notes from Darton East, Darton West, Old Town and St. Helen's Ward Alliances held in November and December, 2013 and January, 2014

RESOLVED:- that notes from the Ward Alliances be received.

39. **Report on the use of Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Fund**

The report was presented by the North Area Council Manager. It was noted that though Devolved Ward Budgets could be taken forward into 2014/15, it would be advisable for the planning of larger schemes to commence as soon as possible. The meeting acknowledged that expenditure of Ward Alliance Funds and funds allocated from Public Health had now commenced.

RESOLVED: - that the report on the use of Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Fund be received.

40. **North Area Council update on priorities and commissioning**

The Chair introduced the item by reminding Members of the priorities agreed by the Area Council of Health and Wellbeing; Youth Provision; Anti-Poverty; and Regeneration and Economic Development.

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The meeting discussed the draft specification for 'Healthy Eating - Cook and Eat'. Costs were given for various options, from around £12,000 to £40,000 depending on the size and complexity. The merits of extending the project to target a wider range of beneficiaries and the benefits of linking this to community grow projects were acknowledged. Sustaining the benefits of this project was also discussed, with one suggestion being that Ward Alliances may wish to provide some support for Cooking Champions in the way of resources in future years.

It was agreed that option 3 within the paper be explored further at the next workshop session of the Area Council.

The meeting went on to discuss the Anti-Poverty priority and the suggestion for a project under this theme. Proposals were based on a signposting service rather than providing advice directly. It was suggested that a base in each of the wards may be most appropriate, however it was agreed to discuss proposals in more detail at the workshop session.

Members heard how the Head Of Community Safety and Enforcement was due to attend the meeting to discuss providing an enhanced enforcement service to the North Area, but unfortunately due illness could not be in attendance.

The meeting generally supported the suggestion of an enhanced service to deal with environmental issues, but noted the need to consider when and where the service would be most required. It was suggested that Members alongside the Ward Alliances could consider which areas and at what times an enhanced enforcement service would be most beneficial, in order to feed into an additional workshop session to develop the proposal in more detail. The first week in March was put forward as a possible date. It was also suggested that Neighbourhood Pride may be aware of which locations were 'hotspots'.

Members also discussed the use of stickers and paint stencils to communicate messages of clearing up after dogs and not dropping litter.

With regards to the workshop sessions, it was agreed that, where possible, one Member from each ward should be in attendance. In addition it was suggested that Members involved in tender evaluation panels should also have been involved in drafting of the specification.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the progress in taking forward the North Area Council priorities be noted;
- (ii) that 'Environment' be identified as a priority for the area, specifically the need for increased enforcement;
- (iii) that workshop sessions be arranged in order further progress specifications to deliver against the area priorities.

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Chair