

NORTH EAST AREA COUNCIL

4th December 2014

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

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28. Present: Councillors Hayward (Chair), Tim Cheetham, Tracey Cheetham, Ennis, S. Green, Makinson, North, Richardson, M. Sheard and C. Wraith MBE.

29. Declarations of pecuniary and non pecuniary interests

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

30. Minutes from the North East Area Council meeting held on 2nd October 2014

The meeting considered the minutes from the previous meeting of North East Area Council, held on 2nd October 2014.

RESOLVED: - that the minutes of North East Area Council, held on 2nd October 2014, be approved as a true and correct record, subject to the following amendment:

Councillor Wraith highlighted that the Cudworth Environment Community Group had done extremely well in the 2014 Yorkshire in Bloom competition, winning three awards in total, and which included a Gold medal for the Public Open Spaces at the Carlton Marsh Nature Reserve.

31. Notes from the Ward Alliances

The meeting received notes from the Cudworth, Monk Bretton, North East and Royston Ward Alliances, held throughout September and October 2014. The following updates were noted:

Cudworth – The Citizens Advice Bureau project starts in January 2015. Over 100 people attended the Health Fayre on 15th November, and feedback highlighted that residents found the opportunity to speak to local service providers very useful, and appreciated the Winter Warmth packs. The Cudworth Luncheon Club had got off to a good start and it was reported that the standard of food provided at the Lunch Club was excellent.

Monk Bretton – the Ward Alliance has supported lots of improvement work at the War Memorial by local residents and school children. Feedback from residents is that the area is looking really good. It was reported that a battery operated lawnmower had been purchased using environment funds for community use. Ten people from local community groups, who had been funded to sit a Food Hygiene exam, had all passed and another course had been requested. The Health Fayre on 28th November was well attended. A Lunch Club is planned for 15th December.

North East – The Christmas lights switch on at Brierley was a great success, with over 200 people attending. Locations for community notice boards are being

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identified in all four villages. Fly tipping on Sandbridge Lane remains a problem. Highways are investigating, as it seems it may be coming from over the border in West Yorkshire.

Royston – The Citizens Advice Bureau sessions are continuing and doing very valuable work. Figures are now available for the Allotments project. The Adopt a Planter scheme has been very successful and local residents and school children have helped to renew and maintain the planters with help from the Ward Alliance members. Agreement has been reached to extend the car park at the top of the park. The Christmas tree has been erected and the lights switched on at an event was attended by two school choirs and a brass quartet. Over 200 local residents enjoyed the festivities.

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

32. Changes to Community representation on the Cudworth and Royston Ward Alliances

RESOLVED: that John Hayhoe, and John Craig and John Clare are appointed to the Cudworth and Royston Ward Alliances respectively.

33. Report on the use of Area Council Budgets, Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds

The Area Council Manager introduced this item. The North East Area Council has a full grant allocation of £219,264 for 2014 -15 and a devolved ward budget allocation of £115,032 which is made up of an allocation of £80,000 for 2014-15 and an ear marked allocation of £35,032 from 2013-14. To date 45 projects are due to be completed this financial year at an approximate spend of £72,348. With regard to the Area Council's initiatives £235,454 of expenditure has been committed this year, with £164,546 rolled over. Next year's committed commissioning budget is £188,151, with an in year balance of £211,849. The North East Ward Alliance allocation is £78,632 together with an additional £25,600 from Public Health. To date 52 projects, costing approximately £73,635 are being considered to be completed this financial year. A total number of 1,675 volunteer hours have been declared on the committed projects to date which equates to the equivalent monetary value of £18,575.75.

A discussion took place about the possibility of purchasing a litter/dog fouling stencil for use on pavements across the wards as this is one of the biggest problems highlighted by local residents.

RESOLVED: -

- (i) that the report on the use of Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds be received; and that
- (ii) the Area Council Manager investigate costings, permissions etc. for the purchase and use of a litter/dog fouling stencil.

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The Area Council Manager introduced this item. To date 95 fixed penalty notices have been issued across the North East area. Of these, 81 have been for littering and 14 for dog fouling. £3,975 has been raised, which represents a payment rate of 60%. 31 'hotspots' had been identified, led by local intelligence. It was felt that this should be publicised through a press release and that parish and town councils and Ward Alliances should also be sent the information. Thanks were expressed to the Enforcement Team for their hard work.

Two apprentices who worked for the North East Area Council have now gained full time employment. It was reported that 341 bags of litter were collected in September in Cudworth and North East Wards, together with 546 bags of litter in Royston and Monk Bretton. It was pointed out that the villages of Shafton, Brierley and Great Houghton have their own litter pickers and these statistics are not included. Royston Fishing Club also does a lot of clearing up work.

In terms of the Youth Development Fund, the Exodus Project in Cudworth Ward has been agreed at a cost of £5,288 together with Karisma and Ellie's Entertainments in the Royston Ward at a cost of £6,443 and £3,248 respectively.

The Luncheon Clubs have started well, with 24 people attending the Cudworth Luncheon Club and 9 in Great Houghton.

RESOLVED:-

(i) that the report on the delivery of commissioned projects be received and noted;

35. Employability for Under 16's Initiative – School Holiday Internship

The Area Council Manager outlined this project, which is designed to address the Economy and Regeneration and Youth Provision priorities for the communities of the North East Area Council. The aim of the project is to motivate and inspire young people to achieve their potential and to prevent young people becoming Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET).

RESOLVED: - that the North East Area Council approves the Employability for Under 16's – Summer Holiday Internship initiative, working in partnership with the North Area Council, at an approximate cost of £45,000 per Area Council.

36. North East Area Council Review

The Area Council Manager presented this item. The draft Review gives an overview of the work of the Area Council and each of the Wards, highlighting the initial progress made in meeting the North East Area Council priorities. Members were asked to consider the draft version of the Review. A Councillor requested that the font and colour of the document were changed to enable easier reading of the text.

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RESOLVED: that Members receive the Review report, and that 50 copies are printed when the changes listed have been made.

37. Love Where You Live – Events feedback

The Locality Support Officer delivered a presentation highlighting the work undertaken over the period from October to December 2014 as part of the Love Where You Live initiative. It was reported that the North East Area Council's Facebook page had received 7,330 views since the last Area Council meeting. 409 volunteers had given a total of 820 volunteering hours, which equates to a Social Action value of £9,093 across the same period. It was noted that this figure does not include Ward Alliance project volunteering figures.

The Chair thanked all Councillors and Officers for their hard work for the North East Area Council over the year, and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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Chair