

Darfield Community Board
Notes of meeting held Wednesday 12th June 2013,
Darfield Community Centre

Present: Cllr Pauline Markham, Cllr Brian Key, Cllr Caroline Saunders, Lawrence Sheppard, David Hildred (Chair), Geoff Hutchinson, Cllr Mick Stowe (Chair of South Area Council), Kate Faulkes (Area Council Manager) and Tanya Dickinson (Locality Support Officer)

1. Apologies

Carmen Hancock and Margaret Barlow

A round of introductions was made.

2. Minutes of last meeting held 18th April 2013

The previous minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Reconciliation of Community First Budget

- A table listing all of the 2012/13 allocations was circulated. All of year 2's money has been allocated however, there is an overspend of £85. This is due to a discrepancy between the figure listed as allocated and that submitted to CDF for payment.
- Geoff is to check if the money drawn down by the Darfield Community First Panel to cover room hire / expenses has been paid. If it hasn't there are 2 options available to the group for reconciling this overspend; reduce the amount to be paid to the Panel by £85 or take from Year 3's allocation. The Area Team to check with CDF which is the more viable option – **Action: South Area Team**
- Parkhill Nature Reserve Group (£900) – This funding hasn't yet been received by the Group. The Area Team to chase up with CDF – **Action: South Area Team**
- CDF require a summary of Year 2 spend and how it has helped address the priorities within the Community Plan before releasing Year 3 funds. It is uncertain whether or not this has yet been done. To be chased up by the Area Team – **Action: South Area Team**

5. Winding up of existing Community Board as discussed on 18th April 2013 / 6. Future arrangements for the Community First Panel

- The Board discussed the 2 options available to it - 1) to vote itself out of existence or 2) to transition itself to become the Ward Alliance.
- Kate Faulkes highlighted the main differences between the existing constitution of the Board and the proposed framework of the new Ward Alliance. The Board were happy with these differences.
- The merging of the Community First Panel with the Ward Alliance was discussed. Those present were happy for the Panel to continue separately and have a representative on the Ward Alliance to ensure links between the 2.

- It was proposed by Cllr Key that the Community Darfield Board was dissolved and that the Community First Panel continues in its existing state. This was seconded by Cllr Markham. A vote was carried out and the dissolution carried unanimously.
- Lawrence Sheppard raised the issue of who would be the Panel Partner now that the decision has been taken to dissolve the Darfield Community Board. Kate Faulkes has already sought advice on this matter – the Community First Panel needs to agree for the Ward Alliance to become the new panel partner and then inform CDF.
- Bank Accounts - It was agreed that the name of the Community Board's bank account be changed to Darfield Ward Alliance. This bank account can be used for Community First and to hold any external grants secured by the Ward Alliance itself, although, the 2 pots of money would need to be clearly audited separately. It was also agreed that the account have 4 signatories on it – 2 ward alliance community representatives and 2 elected members.

6. Exploring the future area arrangements

- Ward Alliance membership was discussed. The Alliance needs to ensure that it is inclusive with its membership as it will be challenged on any equality issues. Anyone is able to express an interest in becoming a member on the Ward Alliance if they live or work within that area.
- Membership should consist of a minimum of 6 community representatives - there is no maximum number. Elected members opted to recruit 6 representatives initially with a view to increasing this number at a later date once the Alliance is fully established.
- Copies of the Expression of Interest form, person specification, and job role for Ward Alliance members were circulated. Completed forms should be returned to the South Area Team. Applications received will be scored against a criteria sheet and representatives appointed by elected members.
- The documentation produced for the new arrangements provides a framework for all to follow but does allow for individual adaptation. Each Alliance needs to be 'right' for its own area so that strong ward plans can be produced and fed up to the Area Councils.
- The volunteering carried out by the community representatives appointed to the Alliance can be used as match funding. It was agreed that some kind of 'time bank' would be needed moving forward. Kate Faulkes suggested that this be an agenda item for the first Ward Alliance meeting – **Action: Ward Alliance Members**
- A piece of publicity to raise interest in the new arrangements will appear in the next edition of Open Door and also the Barnsley Chronicle.
- Kate Faulkes pointed out an easy reading, plain English document which has been produced by Communities and Area Governance which explains the new arrangements and can be handed out to those interested in becoming involved with the Ward Alliance.

7. Any other business

- An Expression of Interest form to become a Ward Alliance representative to be posted out to Brian Moore – **Action: South Area Team**

8. Date and time of next meeting

Friday 19th July, 4pm at Darfield Community Centre. Future dates and times to be discussed at this meeting. Apologies received from David Hildred.