

## **Darfield Ward Alliance**

### **Notes of meeting held Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July, 4pm at Darfield Community Centre**

**Present:** Cllr Pauline Markham, Cllr Brian Key, Cllr Caroline Saunders, Geoff Hutchinson, Brian Moore, Lee Parkinson, Margaret Barlow, Kate Faulkes (Area Council Manager) and Tanya Dickinson (Locality Support Officer)

**Chair of the Alliance:** Cllr Pauline Markham

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from David Hildred and Donald Bishop.

*Cllr Markham welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Darfield Ward Alliance and thanked the community representatives for putting themselves forward.*

#### **2. Update – the role of the new Ward Alliance**

Kate Faulkes gave a brief update on the role of the Ward Alliance:

- The Alliance consists of both elected members and community representatives.
- It is responsible for pulling together a ward plan outlining the ward's priorities, and for consulting with the local community on these.
- Has a £10k Ward Alliance Fund which is to be spent in line with the ward priorities and to promote residents to become more involved with their community.

#### **3. Confirmation of Membership of Ward Alliance**

The Councillors felt that the membership of the Alliance was fully representative of the area.

#### **4. Selection of Secretary and Treasurer**

**Treasurer** – Geoffrey Hutchinson volunteered himself to be Treasurer of the Alliance. Geoff will look into opening a bank account for the Alliance at a later date once the Alliance is in a position to apply for other funding grants.

**Secretary** – It was felt that this role be offered to someone who is looking to gain some administration experience. Lee Parkinson suggested the potential to tie in with the modern apprenticeship scheme run by BMBC. **Action:** **Kate Faulkes to contact Gary Leach of BMBC**

In addition, the role of the secretary is to be advertised locally with the advert worded in such a way as not to 'scare off' any potential volunteers. Advert to be drawn up and forwarded to Cllrs Markham and Saunders to distribute across all areas of the Ward. **Action:** **South Area Team**

#### **5. Review of draft Darfield Ward Plan – does it still represent local priorities?**

The draft Ward Plan was circulated and the priorities discussed. It was felt that these priorities are still representative of the area. Particular issues discussed were:

- Snow blowers / grit spreaders – Kate Faulkes has located the whereabouts of this equipment.
- Grit bins – Brian Moore would like to arrange for a grit bin on behalf of the Billingley community. Brian is happy to take responsibility for storing the grit in his garden and topping up the grit bin when needed. **Action:** **Cllrs to collate the detail and forward to Kate Faulkes**

- Litter bins – Due to Neighbourhood Pride having to make more cuts, Councillors have been informed that no new litter bins can be funded out of the ward budgets due to the service not having the manpower to have the bins emptied. Margaret Barlow asked if it could be arranged for existing bins to be relocated. There is still a litter bin located outside of the old Foulstone School – could this not be moved to the top of Coronation Street where litter is becoming an increasing issue? **Action: Kate Faulkes to investigate with Neil, Neighbourhood Pride Supervisor.**
- Neil to be invited to the next Alliance meeting to look at litter bins in general across the area and the possibility of moving them around. **Action: Kate Faulkes.**
- Kate suggested that 2 out of the 5 priorities are discussed in more detail at the next meeting and what can be done to help address them. **Action: Ward Alliance Members**

## 6. Further consultation of the Plan?

Cllr Saunders is disappointed that there hasn't been a community event in Darfield this year. Possible late summer events were discussed however, there were concerns over the timescales and whether or not there is enough time to organise anything worthwhile. It was decided not to go ahead and organise something for this year. The Alliance is to start discussing potential events for next summer in September. **Action: Ward Alliance Members.**

## 7. Darfield Neighbourhood Network

Tanya Dickinson is carrying out a community mapping exercise of all of the different community groups operating within Darfield. From this, it is hoped that a 'host' group can be identified to pull together all of the groups to share communications, skills, experience etc. Cllr Saunders suggested that all of the groups could be invited to an event organised to celebrate the work of the groups and their volunteers and ask for interest in becoming the host for the neighbourhood network. **Action: Tanya Dickinson to explore the possibility of such an event once the community mapping exercise is completed.**

A number of contacts for the community mapping exercise were passed to Tanya. The Councillors offered to meet with Tanya for half an hour to pass on more contacts for known community groups within Darfield. **Action: Tanya Dickinson to arrange a meeting with the Councillors.**

## 8. Future meetings

Future meetings to be held as follows at 4:30pm at Illsley Road Community Centre:  
**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September and Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November.**

**Action: Margaret Barlow to book the community centre.**

## 9. Any other business

Employee Volunteering Support Scheme – This is a scheme which allows BMBC employees to take up to 4 days per year to participate in volunteering. BMBC is looking for activities which volunteers could become involved with.

- Geoff put forward the exterior painting of the Darfield Museum (approx. 4 days work which can be done anytime)
- Parkhill Nature Reserve – Needs volunteers to help with species spotting, litter picks, cutting back (work can be carried out anytime)

**Action: South Area Team to forward the above information to the appropriate person.**