

**Hoyland Milton & Rockingham Joint Ward Alliance**  
**Notes of meeting held Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July,**  
**The Hoyland Centre**

**Present:** Cllrs Lamb, Stowe & Andrews, Margaret Hague, N Bishop, Joan Whittaker, Robert Farmer, Andy Hodgkinson, Janet Cartwright, Dave Graham (Berneslai Homes), Kate Faulkes (Area Council Manager) and Tanya Dickinson (Locality Support Officer)

**Apologies:** Cllrs Shepherd & Dures, Fiona Tennyson (Tasking Officer), Jane Gilmore

Cllr Andrews chaired the meeting.

### **1. Welcomes and introductions**

A round of introductions was made followed by an icebreaker exercise to settle everyone into the first meeting of the Hoyland Milton & Rockingham Joint Alliance.

### **2. Setting the scene**

Kate Faulkes gave a brief outline of the role of the Ward Alliance and how it fits within the new area governance arrangements.

- **Ward Alliance** – Membership consists of both elected members and community representatives who will come together every 2 months. The Alliance is responsible for producing a ward plan outlining priorities for the area which will feed up to the Area Council to inform the overall area plan. Each Alliance has a Ward Alliance Fund of £10k to help encourage more people to get involved within their communities. As Hoyland Milton and Rockingham have come together, a total of £20k is available to this Alliance.
- **Area Council** – Membership consists of elected members only. The Area Council is responsible for producing an area plan (referencing the individual ward plans) which will determine how future devolved budgets will be spent.
- **Neighbourhood Network** – Work is being undertaken to build up a picture of what community groups already exist within our communities and what support is needed in order to strengthen their network.

A copy of the 'working with you' document was circulated, which outlines the new arrangements in more detail.

### **3. Thinking about local priorities – 'what matters most to us' exercise**

A number of flip charts listing a number of issues for the Hoyland Milton and Rockingham areas were put up around the room. Each Alliance member was given 7 sticky dots to stick against their top priorities. The top 4 priorities were as follows:

1. A healthy local economy, with good opportunities for our young people under 25
2. A community which people feel part of, where they can have a say and feel safe
3. A healthy and happy community
4. An environment which is well cared for

#### 4. Small group discussions to explore local priorities in more detail

Working in small groups, members discussed priorities 1 to 3 in more detail and the issues surrounding them.

#### 5. Feedback from small groups

- A write up of the priorities and what was discussed is attached to these notes (Hoyland Milton & Rockingham Draft Ward Priorities).
- The deadline of mid September was set to have a completed ward plan.
- It was felt that it would be useful to carry out an asset mapping exercise (to include a list of community buildings available and what they can offer e.g. internet provision, room hire etc) to see what the area already has which could help address the priorities.

#### 6. Practicalities for future Ward Alliance meetings

##### Selection of Ward Alliance Secretary & Treasurer

- Joan Whittaker volunteered to be Secretary.
- The remaining members to have a think about the Treasurer role and anyone interested in taking it on to contact the South Area Team. A bank account will be something which needs to be explored in the future to hold any funding drawn down by the Alliance to match fund the £10k Ward Alliance Fund.

##### Convenient dates, times, and venues for future meetings

- It was agreed that future meetings should take place on Tuesdays at 5pm and be held in the downstairs community room at the Hoyland Centre. Kate Faulkes to select some dates and circulate – **Action: Kate Faulkes**

#### 7. Any other business

On behalf of the Alliance, Cllr Lamb thanked Kate for the effort put in to tonight's meeting. Everyone felt that the method used to determine the priorities for the Alliance worked extremely well and proved to be very useful.

#### 8. Date and time of next meeting

##### **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August at 5pm at the Hoyland Centre (Community Rooms 1, 2 & 3)**

(This meeting is a special meeting of the Alliance to allow the group to work further on the priorities for the ward plan)

##### **Future meeting dates**

All meetings to be held on **Tuesdays at 5pm** at the **Hoyland Centre** unless stated otherwise.

**1<sup>st</sup> October 2013, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2013, Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2014 and 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

**Hoyland Milton & Rockingham Ward Alliance**

**Outline Ward Priorities 2013/14**

1. A healthy local economy, with good opportunities for our young people under the age of 25
  - Need to move our spending away from recreational activities and on to employment
  - Creating better apprenticeship opportunities for young people/reduce NEETs
  - Making sure our young people get access to the jobs which exist
  - Transport issues – getting to work
  - Better links between colleges and businesses/community – networking & mentoring to prepare young people for the world of work
  - Selling young people’s skills to businesses better
  - Working with Children’s Centres to help break the vicious circle of family & intergenerational unemployment
  
2. A community which people feel part of, where they can have a say and feel safe
  - Finding new ways to engage new people in their community
  - Working with the Youth Service to find better ways to involve young people in decision making/influencing
  - Getting information out to the community about work & other opportunities
  
3. A healthy and happy community
  - High levels of long term sickness & disability & associated unemployment
  - Impact of welfare reforms
  - Poor levels of educational achievement
  - Rising levels of over 60s & impact on health services
  - Lack of awareness of services
  - Possible duplication of services?
  - Access to health services for those outside urban areas due to transport issues
  - Teenage pregnancy
  - Drug use
  - Making better use of play areas & green spaces to promote health & fitness
  
4. An environment which is well cared for
  - This priority is yet to be explored further.