

**Hoyland Milton & Rockingham Joint Ward Alliance
Notes of meeting held Tuesday, 20th August, 2013.
The Hoyland Centre**

Present: Cllrs Stowe, Andrews, Dures & Franklin, Joan Whittaker, Andy Hodgkinson, Neil Spencer, Ian Warhurst

Kate Faulkes (Area Council Manager) and Amanda Bradshaw (Locality Support Officer)

Apologies: Cllrs Shepherd & Lamb, Margaret Hague, Rob Farmer

Cllr Stowe chaired the meeting.

1. Welcomes and introductions

Amanda and Ian were welcomed to the meeting.

2. Overview

MS gave the meeting an overview as to why a meeting was being held in August and asked KF to recap.

KF explained that the decision was made to have a joint Ward Alliance between the two wards because the two wards have worked together for years. We have had one other meeting of the Ward Alliance in July. They will normally be held every two months, but because we were quite late starting it was decided that we would put in an extra meeting. One of the key pieces of work in the next couple of months is to put together a Ward Plan which talks about how we can improve the area, how can we use the devolved budgets we have and how can we get more local people involved in making things better locally and turning that into a plan against which the Alliance can then make decisions.

The Ward Plan then goes up to the Area Council, (covering Hoyland/Rockingham, Wombwell and Darfield) which will inform their decision as to what they want to do in the future, and in particular the next financial year where there will be £400K of devolved budget to spend on commissioning activities from local organisations to meet the priorities that we have set.

During the rest of the meeting need to look at some of the priorities we looked at last time and try to prioritise them to ensure that we concentrate on those which we can do really well.

MS informed the meeting that Darfield have completed their plan.

3. Terms of Reference and Officers

A note to be circulated to all members seeking a nomination for the post of Treasurer. Support and training will be available to those who volunteer for this post. **(KF to action)**

Copies of the terms of reference were handed out to those attending and upon the meeting becoming quorate, it was agreed that these would be adopted.

4. Local Ward Priorities

At the meeting held in July we prioritised:

- Health and Local Economy, particularly around issues for young people,
- Community Development
- Health and Well Being
- Caring for the Environment

KF stated that there were two pieces of work that needed to be done. She reminded the meeting that as a Ward Alliance we have to work with our partners to deliver, so any decisions have to be realistic and achievable.

Some of it, because it is not local, will have to be handed to the Area Council, but she felt that as a Ward Alliance, we have to look at those things that we can work on in the next 12 months. Looking at the above list, we need to decide what needs tackling first, and how we want to deal with it, i.e. what kinds of activities do we want to encourage people to become involved in.

AH said that he thought it was pretty much all linked together, but Community Development is something to concentrate on as it would have the effect of involving people in the community, and would “umbrella” everything.

The suggestion was put forward that a web site could be set up to cover both wards. There is available £1K to aid with setting up costs. **KF to investigate and action.**

It was suggested that DWP be invited along to explain how volunteering would impact on benefit payments.

KF asked:

- what realistically can the Ward Alliance do in the next 12 months?
- what do we want to do, but realise that it may take longer?
- what might have to be sent up to the Area Council.?

MS highlighted the fact that it was essential that we knew which authority, i.e. local, water, private landlord, etc., was responsible for carrying out works.

After considerable discussion, the following points were agreed for consideration:

NEXT TWELVE MONTHS	
➤ Engage new people in community	
➤ Lack of awareness of services and the changing levels of service – provide information hubs, i.e. boards and racks	
➤ Mapping of environmental areas and who is responsible	
➤ Asset/Equipment Register	
➤ Celebrate success and bring group together	
➤ Advertise volunteer opportunities.	
➤ Map C/Centre offer, especially re work and learning.	Action: KF & NS

LONGER TERM
➤ Handyman Scheme/Training Programme – possible joint funding with Berneslai Homes

WHAT WE CAN DELIVER AT WARD ALLIANCE LEVEL
➤ Equipment Register
➤ Neighbourhood Network – coming together of all interested groups, such as Wombwell Wheel
➤ Environmental Mapping
➤ Engagement Programme
➤ List of businesses

NEEDS TO BE ACTIONED AT HIGHER LEVEL
➤ Creating better apprenticeship opportunities
➤ Future jobs fund model – area councils club together
➤ Department of Work & Pensions at Area Council re promoting support for employers to take on apprentices, including financial help.

5. Draft Ward Plan.

It was also agreed that a small working party consisting of Emma Dures, Neil Spencer, Andy Hodgkinson and Joan Whittaker would meet together prior to the next meeting to pull together a draft Ward Plan.

6. Date and time of next meeting

Tuesday 1st October 2013 at 5pm at the Hoyland Centre (Community Rooms 1, 2 & 3)

7. Future meeting dates

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

Thursday 21st November 2013, Thursday 16th January 2014 and Tuesday 18th March 2013