

Hoyland Milton & Rockingham Joint Ward Alliance
Notes of meeting held Tuesday 12TH May 2015.
The Hoyland Centre

Present: Cllr. Mick Stowe, Cllr. Chris Lamb, Cllr. Robin Franklin, Cllr. Jimmy Andrews, Fiona Tennyson, Andy Hodgkinson, Neil Spencer, Phil Anderson, John Lang, Anne Sanderson, June Walker.

Dawn Grayton
Amanda Bradshaw
Joan Whittaker (Alliance Secretary)

Apologies: Cllr. Tim Shepherd, Cllr. Emma Dures, Janet Cartwright, Dave Graham

Cllr. Mick Stowe chaired the meeting.

1. Welcomes and Introductions

Dawn Grayton was introduced to the members of the Alliance. She will be filling the position previously occupied by Wendy Slater.

2. Minutes of Meeting held 10th March 2015

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the proceedings.

3. Results from Self-Assessment Workshop

Additional representation.

It was felt that the Alliance still needed representation from the medical profession and from education.

We have the names of three school representatives, Tom Banham, Andrew Ralph and J. Gilmour. Dawn to introduce herself to head teachers.

It was suggested that rather than approach doctors to join the Alliance, we open talks with a view to getting a practice manager to join.

We need to get a list of prospective candidates in order that a letter may be drafted inviting them to join. A name put forward is Kristen McKay, who is preacher at the Methodist Church. It would be useful to have a faith representative and one who also lives in the locality. Cllr. Lamb said that for some time Tankersley, Pilley and Birdwell Neighbourhood Watch had been meeting at the church. Neighbourhood Watch was originally set up under the auspices of the Police, who have recently withdrawn funding. The church, however, has allowed them to have a meeting room free of charge and this has now been going on for a considerable time. The church is very community minded and public spirited and he feels

that it is something that needs to be recognised and if this can be achieved by inviting them to take a seat on this body, then he would be in favour of that.

Meetings not quorate

Ward Alliance Meetings are not always quorate so we need members to register their apologies so that we know whether we are going to be quorate and can make decisions or not. It was felt that we need to reiterate that under the Terms of Governance a member can actually be struck off the Ward Alliance if they do not attend two consecutive meetings without apologies being tendered. We also need to look into whether we need one or two elected members from each ward to be quorate. It was confirmed that we need two.

Development of a Ward Alliance Induction Process.

The need for an induction process was a common theme across all wards, so this is something that will be dealt with on a borough wide level. A buddying system could also be developed.

It was felt that there is a need for a young person to attend the Alliance. Charlotte Agnew from the Youth Support Team informs us that they have now appointed Youth Councillors. There is one at Kirk Balk and South Area Team staff are trying to set up a meeting and give them a brief induction into the work of the Alliance.

Everyone needs an equal say in the decisions made.

It was agreed that ground rules would be set.

Every member of the Ward Alliance understands their role and what they can do to make the action plan work

Part of this is to have a regular agenda item to make sure we are working to priorities.

Attendance at Community Events

A list of local events will be sent out to all members.

Hemingfield	11 th July	13.00
Mates of Milton	26 th July	
Elsecar	5 th September	12.00 – 16.00

Regular Updates at each meeting about Finance

Cllr. Lamb commented that whilst the balance sheet tells us what we have spent, it does not tell us what the outcomes of that funding are.

We are aware of Community Mapping

Cllr. Stowe informed the meeting that the South Area Council have agreed to a newsletter being distributed so that tenants and residents know what is being done in the area.

Neighbourhood Network.

Alliance members have been informed that Forge Community Partnership has been identified as the neighbourhood network host and that a neighbourhood network website has been established (www.hoylandcap.co.uk). The host can be contacted by email (info@hoylandcap.co.uk) or by calling into one of their weekly drop-ins

Promoting the work of the Ward Alliance

Utilise community noticeboards, screen in library, local media. Also suggest using www.streetlife.com

4. Tidy Team Update

The team continues to be stable with a high number of referrals relating to litter picking. Contact with the Tidy Team is through Community Groups who request help and assistance with events and other activities planned.

There appears to be an increased number of environmental projects, some small and some quite large. There was a clean-up at Wombwell which was enormous, but a tremendous success for everyone, not just the individuals involved, but the community at large who benefitted from it. This was replicated by one at the Cloughfields Estate.

We have navigated our way through various funding pots to finally get apprentices to work alongside the Tidy Team and we offered four individuals this opportunity to work with us from 6th April. From the point in time where we offered the four posts, one individual secured another position and declined the offer. Another completed a couple of weeks and decided that it was not the type of work they were anticipating. They have more of a notion to go to Askham Bryan College in September to pursue a horticultural degree rather than the environmental work that the opportunity presented, but the other two individuals have really settled in very well.

5. Ward Alliance Funding

The Alliance have received the following requests for funding:

Old Martha's Yard Community Garden	£399.24
Sparkles	£750.00
West Bank House	£139.00
Rockingham C.I.C.	£6,987.00

A lengthy discussion took place around the Rockingham bid which resulted in offers of support being received from Cllr. Lamb on behalf of Northern College, Andy Hodgkinson of Toc H, Phil Anderson on behalf of Tesco and Dave Graham of Berneslai Homes.

It was agreed that all four bids be recommended for acceptance.

6. Any Other Business

To ensure stability it was felt that the Alliance needed a permanent chair. Cllr. Lamb had been approached and was willing to take on this position. Cllr. Stowe said that he would be happy to deputise for Cllr. Lamb. The meeting thanked Cllr. Lamb.

Date of next meeting

Monday 13th July

All meetings at Hoyland Centre at 17.00 hours.