

<b>MEETING:</b>	Dearne Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Monday, 25 July 2016
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Meeting Room, Goldthorpe Library

## MINUTES

**Present** Councillors Noble (Chair), Gardiner, Gollick, Philips and Sixsmith MBE.

### 10 **Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests**

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

### 11 **Minutes of the previous meeting of Dearne Area Council held on 6th June, 2016 (Dac.25.07.2016/2)**

The meeting received the minutes from the previous meeting of Dearne Area Council, held on 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2016.

It was noted that the Tasking Officer, Allan Sneddon, would be invited to future meetings of the Dearne Area Council to provide feedback and answer questions with regards to enforcement provision.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Dearne Area Council meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2016 be approved as a true and correct record.

### 12 **Presentation from Phoenix Futures (Dac.25.07.2016/3)**

Jennie Hobson was welcomed to give a presentation on the work of Phoenix Futures and activities taking place in 'The Factory'.

Members were reminded that Phoenix Futures started delivering a service in the area in 2012, and in September 2015 purchased the Dearne Enterprise Centre in Goldthorpe. Since this time there had been around 790 people per quarter visiting the centre, and a breakdown of activities they engaged in was noted.

The meeting noted use of the facility by the NUM for support with claims etc; Be Well Barnsley to support health improvement; BMBC for Job Search, Maths and English sessions; and Phoenix offering support for substance misuse. Members noted the fondness many of the residents had expressed about the centre and of accessing courses previously.

It was noted that the centre had recently been redecorated, and an official launch event had been planned for September. The meeting heard how art by Bill Bennett, a local pit artist, would be displayed in order to build a 'memory lane'. It was suggested that Pete Davis be contacted with regards to holding a photographic exhibition of how the area had changed over time. It was acknowledged that the change in name had resulted in residents talking about the building, which had generated interest.

The numbers accessing provision for substance misuse were discussed. It was suggested that many people would not have accessed support if it had not been

provided locally. Members noted that data on the success rate of intervention was currently being compiled and would be circulated when available.

Members were made aware of discussions taking place to establish a café at the centre, which would provide training opportunities and work with groups to establish luncheon clubs. However, it was noted that proposals were still in their infancy.

The meeting gave thanks for the presentation. Praise was given for the collaborative work being undertaken, and the impact this had in the area.

**RESOLVED** that thanks be given for the presentation, and its content noted.

### **13 Performance Report (Dac.25.07.2016/4)**

The Area Council Manager introduced the item, reminding Members that Part A of the report provided an overview of the cumulative impact of Area Council finance to date, with Part B providing a narrative of the performance of each commission or funded project.

With reference to Part A, attention was drawn to the number of jobs created, with six full time posts, eight part time posts, and one apprentice. Through the Dearne Development Fund there had been £130,000 of additional match funding brought into the area as a result of investment by the Area Council.

22 people had received qualifications, and 21 residents had been educated with regards to the environment and littering.

Members noted that 55 people had accessed information and advice through the service provided by DIAL, and 18 young people had been referred to receive support prior to intervention by CAMHS, with six receiving one to one support.

The benefits of supporting young people with mental health issues was stressed, including helping to reduce exclusions, and improving attendance and achievement at school.

The performance of the Environmental Enforcement Contract was considered, and the combined number of notices issued was 80 compared to 112 over the last quarter. The reasons for the reduction were discussed, with the possibilities that figures had decreased due to behaviour changes or due to a temporary change in staff over the past quarter considered.

It was noted that there was a payment rate of 74% for notices issued. It was agreed to request further information as to the reasons behind this, and whether this was merely due to time lags in payment.

With regards to the service level agreement to support private sector housing, it was noted that the performance rating for 'satisfactory quarterly monitoring report and contract monitoring meeting' was now amber. This was due to the monitoring meeting being cancelled and subsequently rescheduled.

However, performance against the contract was positive, with both enforcement and prevention work being undertaken. The team had dealt with 270 complaints in the

previous quarter, giving advice and support to residents, and identifying 30 vulnerable households. Six of these had been referred to a range of support services. It was suggested that in future the support services referred to be monitored and the information be shared with the Area Council.

Members noted that there had been 97 instances of waste at premises. It was agreed that the Area Chair discusses the issue of charging for the delivery of household bins with the Service Director, Environment and Transport to consider how this barrier could be overcome for residents in the area.

The meeting went on to discuss the contract with Twiggs, noting that 302 bags of waste had been collected and six fly tipping incidents had been reported.

Members noted the sessions held with local schools, and the discussions with Dearne Valley College to offer placements for apprentices.

The Area Council Manager provided an update on the performance of the projects funded through the Dearne Development Fund, noting the following points.

The Dearne Allotment Group was engaging, 16-28 children every week on average, and 12 adults with learning difficulties alongside their carers. The group also had established a stall to sell their produce. It was noted that links between the project and the community shop were being made.

Goldthorpe Development Group had hosted 3 additional health events and as a result had engaged 562 people to date. At the recent event, the blood pressure of 50 people had been checked with 9 warranting a referral to their GP.

The advice and guidance service operated by DIAL continued to be delivered, and to date the service had supported 55 individuals with a projected cumulative increase in income of over £100,000 expected.

The Salvation Army Season Hope project had made 90 healthy meals each week, and had four volunteers regularly assisting. It was noted that Tesco was now providing surplus stock to the project. The project had made links with DIAL, and an event focused on reducing fuel poverty had been planned.

The Dearne Electronic Community Village workability project had now enrolled 35 learners, all of which were unemployed or receiving Employment Support Allowance. Support was given in areas such as Job Search and CV writing, and two of those enrolled had already progressed into work.

Members noted that the finance granted to Dearne Valley Bulldogs had led to the granting of a bid from Sport England for £75,000.

DIAL h0urbank had 39 members taking part, and the work being undertaken at Cherry Tree Court was noted.

18 referrals had been made to the TADS project, with 6 young people receiving intensive support. Every child engaged had seen an improvement in their health following support given.

Members noted that Citizen's Advice Bureau had been granted £9,000 to hold a drop in session at Goldthorpe library on a Wednesday, starting in September, 2016.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**14 Dearne Area Council updated financial position (Dac.25.07.2016/5)**

The Area Council Manager provided an updated financial position. Following the decisions taken at the previous meeting of the Area Council, £52,243 remained available for allocation in the 2016/17 financial year.

**RESOLVED** that the financial position be noted.

**15 Clean and Tidy Commission (Dac.25.07.2016/6)**

The Senior Management Link Officer, Paul Castle, left the room for this item due to a potential conflict of interest due to him being Service Director, Environment and Transport.

The Area Council Manager introduced the item, following on from discussion at the previous meeting. Members were reminded of their previous decision to extend the service for six months at a cost of £37,450. This would be done by seeking three quotations.

Discussion with officers in procurement, and taking into account the relatively low cost and short time frame, advice was given that a waiver to contract procedure rules could now be completed in order to allow the existing contract to be extended to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2016, rather than to seek three quotations.

Discussions were then had with the current provider, confirming that to extend until the end of March 2016 was in excess of six months and therefore would cost £43,629.

**RESOLVED** that authority be delegated to the Executive Director, Communities, to complete necessary paperwork to waive the relevant contract procedure rules to extend the Clean and Tidy Commission until 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2016 at a cost of £43,629.

**16 Notes from the Dearne Approach Steering Group held on 9th May, 2016 (Dac.25.07.2016/7)**

Members considered the notes from the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2016.

**RESOLVED** that the notes from the Dearne Approach Steering Group be received.

**17 Notes from the following Ward Alliances (Dac.25.07.2016/8)**

The meeting received the notes from the Dearne North Ward Alliance held on 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2016, and Dearne South Ward Alliance held on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2016.

Members discussed the dates and times of the Ward Alliance meetings, noting that these had recently changed. It was suggested that each Alliance discusses the issue

at their next meeting, so as to be as accommodating as possible to the needs of their membership.

**RESOLVED** that notes from the respective Ward Alliances be received.

**18 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Dac.25.07.2016/9)**

The Area Manager provided an overview of Ward Alliance Fund expenditure from the beginning of the financial year to date.

The Dearne North Ward Alliance had allocated £3,040 of its £10,069 allocation, of which £2,790 had been matched with volunteer time.

The Dearne South Ward Alliance had allocated £4,551 of its £11,160 allocation, of which £4,301 had been matched with volunteer time.

The significant amount of volunteer engagement in the area was mentioned, and it was noted that this was featured in the recently published Community Magazine.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

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Chair