

MEETING:	Penistone Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 14 April 2016
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Penistone Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Barnard (Chair), Hand-Davis, Millner, Unsworth and Wilson.

38 Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

No Members declared an interest in any item on the agenda.

39 Minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 11th February, 2016 (PAC.14.04.2016/2)

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 11th February, 2016.

It was noted that Councillor Hand Davis did not take up the position as Trustee of DIAL, however it was reported that the drop in session was going well.

Members discussed arrangements regarding the commemoration of the centenary of the Battle of the Somme, noting the desire to avoid clashes wherever possible.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 14th February, 2016 be approved as a true and correct record.

40 Minutes from the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance held on 21st January, 2016, and 10th March, 2016 (PAC.14.04.2016/3)

The meeting received the notes from the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance held on 21st January and 10th March, 2016.

Members discussed issues relating to the advertising of the Round Table events. For many years the bridges on the Trans-Pennine Trail had been used to display banners to advertise events, but more recently officers in highways had raised issue with the practice and banners had been removed.

It was suggested that the practice had not historically caused any issues, and Members sought to reinstate this if possible, restricting it to temporary notices for community use.

A Member asked whether there had been progress with the purchase of a community defibrillator. It was agreed that this question be raised at the next meeting of the Ward Alliance.

A brief update was given on the Working Together Fund. It was noted that significant efforts had been made to promote the fund and now 11 applications had been received.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the notes from the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance held on 21st January and 10th March, 2016 be received; and
- (ii) that the Chair discusses the issue of banner advertising on the Trans-Pennine Trail bridges with the Executive Director, Place.

41 Report on the use of Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Fund (PAC.14.04.2016/4)

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager, who provided up to date figures detailing expenditure from the Devolved Ward Budget, Ward Alliance Fund and from funds allocated from Public Health.

Members noted that at the end of the 2015/16 approximately £540 of Devolved Ward Budget funding remained unallocated.

With regards to the Ward Alliance Fund, £53, 232.61 had been allocated and £9,406.53 remained to be carried forward into the 2016/17 financial year.

RESOLVED that the report detailing the use of Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Fund be noted.

42 Presentation from Growforest

Tom Handley from Growforest was welcomed to the meeting to give a presentation on the Countryside Skills commission, also known as Working Walls and Woods.

The presentation provided a reflection on the commission from its inception in September, 2014 to March, 2016. It focused on many of the 'softer' outcomes, which were more difficult to monitor, such as how the project had reengaged people with nature, changing their lives.

It was noted that the project had created a depot, and had rebuilt 100s of metres of walls in high profile public spaces, and had used 1940ft of string!.

The presentation focused on the individuals the project had engaged with, their backgrounds and the impact the project had on their lives. Though the dropout rate was high, those who engaged more fully in the project learned skills in dry stone walling, hedge laying and woodcraft. In addition many had increased their levels of confidence, taken greater responsibility and adopted a work ethic.

Members expressed their thanks for all the work on the project and the worthwhile impact it had made, surpassing expectations.

RESOLVED that Tom Handley be thanked for the presentation and his work on the commission.

43 Social Return On Investment - Countryside Skills Commission (PAC.14.04.2016/6)

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager, referring to recent work undertaken to measure the Social Return On Investment of Area Council projects, with one being selected per area.

The methodology used assigned a monetary value to an activity or impact using any of 120 financial proxies, which had been arrived at through a body of research. Also taken into account were other factors such as leakage, attribution and deadweight.

For Penistone Area Council the methodology had been applied to the Countryskills Skills project, which had shown a Social Return On Investment of £7.47 for every £1 invested. This compared favourably with projects nationally averaging £5-6.

Members heard how the consultants involved in calculating the figures had commented on the high quality of data collected, and it was noted that officers were considering how this methodology could be used in future commissions.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) The content of the report be noted;
- (ii) That the implications of Social Return On Investment be considered when planning future commissions.

44 A Service to Support Isolated and Vulnerable Older People (PAC.14.04.2016/7)

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager, who provided a reminder of the background to the project. In February, 2016, Members had considered data and local intelligence relating to the Economic and Health priorities of the Area Council.

Further discussions took place at a workshop in March, 2016 where it was acknowledged that Penistone Wards had high levels of residents over 60 years of age. Both wards were also rural, with relatively poor transport links, and, in certain areas, few local facilities. It was therefore suggested that a specification be developed regarding a service to address the needs of isolated and vulnerable older people in the Penistone East and West Wards.

Members considered the draft specification of requirements, and noted the detail of the service. The service to be provided would include the provision of neighbourhood inclusion workers, a befriending scheme, the consideration of transport solutions, signposting individuals to available support and also assisting the establishment of new groups to provide support.

It was noted that part of the project would include identifying and supporting volunteers in the delivery of the service.

Members discussed the target group for the project. After some discussion it was agreed that including other vulnerable groups could alter the focus of the project, but that the project should not be age specific with an arbitrary cut off for those under 60.

It was suggested that the tender documentation ought to be more specific about supporting the target group to access the internet as part of the project, linking with

the roll out of superfast broadband in South Yorkshire. This was supported by all Members.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) The specification of requirements be approved and be used to produce a full procurement strategy to procure a service to address the needs of isolated and vulnerable older people in the Penistone East and West area, to a value of £70,000;
- (ii) That the commission be until 31st March, 2017, with the option to extend the commission for a further year subject to funding being available, satisfactory performance of the provider, and the agreement that there is still a need for the service to be provided;
- (iii) That a price quality split of 80/20 in favour of quality be applied to the commission; and
- (iv) That authority be given to the Executive Director Communities to complete necessary paperwork to allow the project to proceed to procurement.

45 Articles for the 2nd Edition of the Community Magazine (PAC.14.04.2016/8)

The meeting considered the report which detailed the articles to be included in the next edition of 'Penistone Matters'.

Members suggested that further articles on the Parks for People project at Cawthorne Park or the work to improve broadband in the area, be included should further articles be required.

RESOLVED that Members noted the articles to be included in the 2nd edition of the community magazine.

46 Penistone Area Review

Members noted the Penistone Area Review, which had recently been published. It was acknowledged that printed copies would be made available in prominent community venues, and distributed to relevant officers and partners. It was noted that the document would be made available on the Barnsley Council website and it was suggested that the traffic to this page be monitored.

RESOLVED that the review be received and its content noted.

Chair