

MEETING:	Dearne Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 18 September 2017
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Meeting Room, Goldthorpe Library

MINUTES

Present Councillors Noble (Chair), Gollick and C. Johnson.

8 **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

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

9 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Dearne Area Council held on 24th July, 2017 (Dac.18.09.2017/2)**

The meeting received the minutes from the previous meeting of Dearne Area Council.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Dearne Area Council meeting held on 24th July, 2017 be approved as a true and correct record.

10 **Community Safety in the Dearne (Dac.18.09.2017/3)**

Fiona Tennyson, Community Safety Team Leader, and Rachel Dickinson, Victim and Witness Support Officer, were welcomed to the meeting. Members were made aware that the major issue in the area of late was the use of off- road bikes, with one being seized the previous week. It was noted that this was also an issue in other areas outside of the Dearne.

Members also discussed issues around Low Grange Road, which had been subject to a Community Trigger. Members noted that the number of reports related to St. Andrews Square had reduced, however anecdotally issues still remained, but these were largely low level. The importance of reporting issues was stressed, noting that this could be via 101, Councillors, PACT meetings, through email, or a variety of other means.

Members discussed the siting of the CCTV camera on Straight Lane, and whether this had been moved and it was agreed to seek clarification on this matter.

The work landlords had undertaken around Victoria Street and Coop Street was commended, and the difference seen in the area was noted.

The meeting discussed issues around Frederick Street, and it was noted that these would be investigated further.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

11 **Sport England Submission (Dac.18.09.2017/4)**

Julie Tolhurst, Public Health Principal – Place, Culture, Housing and Regulation was welcomed to the meeting.

Members were made aware of a new funding stream available from Sport England, which aimed to increase physical activity. It was suggested that a bid may be developed with Doncaster and Rotherham to cover the whole of the Dearne Valley.

The deadline of 2nd November, 2017 for submission was noted, as was the need to consult and engage with partners and the community in order to shape the bid.

Initial ideas focused on assisting and motivating those in work, who did less than 30 minutes of exercise per week, to become more active. Members discussed a number of options that could engage individuals with the support of their workplaces, including before and after work, and at lunchtimes. It was noted that healthier and happier employees are often more productive.

Members were supportive of proposals, and it was agreed that they be kept engaged throughout the development of a bid.

RESOLVED that the development of a bid to Sport England be supported.

12 Dearne Area Council Financial Position and Progress of Projects (Dac.18.09.2017/5)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item. Members noted that around £16,000 had been carried forward from 2016/17 to 2017/18, resulting in an opening balance of just over £216,000.

Taking into account finance already committed, the amount of remaining finance still unallocated stood at £2,553. It was noted that this amount would increase slightly with the income from Fixed Penalty Notices.

An update was provided on the Railway Embankment project, and Members noted that applications to the Tesco bags scheme and Barnsley Bonds had been successful for a total of £2,500. In addition Dearne Valley Landscape had agreed £500 towards flowers, and would also consider contributing to other areas of expenditure such as signage. Members also noted that drawings for access had been progressed.

Members noted the outcome of a recent meeting to discuss Dearne Development Fund applications. Though 9 had been recommended for approval, the actual amounts were still to be confirmed as discussions were still ongoing with the groups in question.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

13 Commissioning Intentions (Dac.18.09.2017/6)

Members attention was drawn to the report, which had been compiled following a workshop, where the current contracts had been discussed.

The recommendations from the workshop were considered. With regards to the service to provide Environmental Enforcement, a benchmarking exercise had been

undertaken. This had shown the service in a favourable light in the Dearne area, and it was agreed to extend the contract.

The service provided by Twiggs Grounds Maintenance was then discussed in some depth, noting a number of concerns. It was suggested that the Area Council Manager discusses these concerns at the next contract management meeting, and that a date for improvements to be made be agreed. It was suggested that decisions on the extension of the contract be deferred to a future meeting pending the outcome of discussions and the delivery of the requested improvements.

Members noted that schedules had been requested from Neighbourhood Services in order to ensure services were complementary.

With regards to the Private Sector Housing Officer, Members were happy with the service and agreed that this be extended.

Delivery of services after March 2019 was discussed, noting the significant lead in times required for procurement. It was therefore suggested to hold a workshop in January, 2018 to discuss this in more detail.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the Service Level Agreement to provide a Private Sector Housing Officer be extended to 31st March, 2019 at a cost of £36,081 per annum;
- (ii) That the Environmental Enforcement contract be extended to 31st March, 2019 at a cost of £33,398 per annum;
- (iii) That decisions regarding the contract with Twiggs Grounds Maintenance be deferred to a future meeting;
- (iv) That a workshop be convened in January, 2018 to discuss future Area Council commissions in more detail.

14 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Dac.18.09.2017/7)

The item was introduced by The Area Council Manager. For Dearne North it was noted that, of the £11,050.53 of available Ward Alliance funding, £1,379.80 had been allocated, and for Dearne South £1,697.40 of the £11,729.90 fund had been allocated.

It was acknowledged that a number of organisations that had previously expressed an interest in the Funds, but had yet to apply. It was suggested there could be a number of reasons why this may be the case, including the capacity of organisations to complete the relevant forms. It was suggested that support could be provided by the Area Team, and it was agreed for Members to forward the details of prospective appellants to the Team.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Chair