

MEETING:	North East Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 30 March 2017
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Meeting Room 1, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Hayward (Chair), Clements, Ennis, S. Green, Hampson, Makinson, Richardson, Sheard and C. Wraith MBE

51 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

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

52 Minutes

The meeting considered the minutes from the previous meeting of the North East Area Council held on 2nd February 2017.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North East Area Council held on 2nd February 2017 be approved as a true and correct record.

53 Cudworth Ward Alliance

It was reported that leaflets to promote foster care have been distributed across the Cudworth Ward, with an article in the Barnsley Chronicle. An action plan is in place to recruit local foster carers and a further meeting will take place next week. There was a reasonable turnout for the Great British Spring Clean, with volunteers picking litter all the way from Cudworth Park to Carlton Marsh Nature Reserve.

RESOLVED that the notes of the Cudworth Ward Alliance meeting held on 9th January 2017 and the verbal update be received.

54 Monk Bretton Ward Alliance

It was reported that seventeen people have visited the table tennis club so far. Bedding plants have been ordered for the war memorial, it is hoped that this will be the best display for Yorkshire in Bloom. More than thirty volunteers litter pick 75 bags of rubbish for the Great British Spring Clean. Neighbourhood Services had to be contacted to take some larger items away. There had been no follow up from Neighbourhood Services to say the waste has been removed. There have been problems with large vehicles fly-tipping on land belonging to Railtrack due to areas not being fenced off.

RESOLVED that the notes of the Monk Bretton Ward Alliance meeting held on 20th January 2017 and the verbal update be received.

55 North East Ward Alliance

The Great British Clean up had been a great success. Local residents and parish councillors in Shafton were involved and removed lots of rubbish, including over fifty tyres, three fridges and a large amount of rubble. There were litter picks at Brierley Methodist Church and every street in Great Houghton. The local SYFAB workshop was well received. An event to commemorate Jo Cox MP will be held on 17th and 18th June. Sufficient funds have been raised to purchase two male alpacas for Milefield Community Farm, which will be arriving soon.

RESOLVED that the notes of the North East Ward Alliance meeting held on 18th January 2017 and the verbal update be received.

56 Royston Ward Alliance

It was highlighted that the Primary School Achievement awards evening at the Town Hall was a great success. DIAL sessions now take place four times a week and are very well received by the community. The new Greenspaces Community Group is now properly constituted. Over seventy bags of rubbish had been filled on a recent litter pick, which included Outwood Academy. A skip will be needed in order to clear the Pavilion in the Park. Foster care leaflets have been distributed across the Ward.

RESOLVED that the notes of the Royston Ward Alliance meeting held on 13th February 2017 and verbal update be received.

57 Changes to the Community Representation on the North East Ward Alliance

The Chair of the North East Area Ward Alliance reported that the two new members on the North East Ward Alliance were Mrs Beryl Sargesson and Mr Graham Muiridin.

58 Private Sector Housing and Enforcement Initiative

Jane Brannan, (Case Management Officer, Communities) and Jeanette Millward, (Private Sector Housing and Environment Officer), were welcomed to the meeting to deliver a presentation and update regarding the work done by Jeanette in the North East area for almost nine months as she is now leaving to take up a post as an Enforcement Officer. Using a multi-agency approach with private sector landlords, the community and other agencies, Jeanette has been dealing proactively with any issue which has a detrimental impact on the community including anti-social behaviour, criminal activity, housing conditions, fly-tipping and wellbeing issues. A number of case studies were presented, outlining some of the issues encountered with rogue landlords such as inappropriate behaviours, lack of essential repairs and health and safety concerns.

A number of Councillors highlighted the valuable work that Jeanette had done across the area and agreed that the service should continue to be commissioned going forward.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Jane Brannan and Jeanette Millward be thanked for their work, attendance and contribution at the meeting and that Jeanette be thanked for her work across the North East Area, and that
- (ii) The Private Sector Housing and Enforcement Officer post continue to be commissioned going forward.

59 North East Area Council Project Performance Report - update on the delivery of commissioned projects

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and updated the North East Area Council with regard to performance of commissioned projects across the North East Area Council, including Barnsley Community Build Apprenticeships and Employability, Kingdom Security, Community Safety and Enforcement, Qdos, Fit Reds and Fit Me. It was highlighted that the Outwood Academy at Shafton is setting up its own environmental group to work with the North East Area Council as the young people particularly enjoyed working on environmental improvements in their local community.

RESOLVED that the contents of the North East Area Council Project Performance Report be noted.

60 Report on the use of Area Council Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and updated the North East Area Council with regard to the current position regarding the North East Area Council Budget and progress in each Ward in expending the Ward Alliance Fund in line with priorities. It was highlighted that all Ward Alliances now have less than £200 to spend. Any surplus will be reinvested.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

61 Review of Area Council Priorities for 2017/18 and proposals for future commissions

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and updated the North East Area Council with regard to the discussions held at the North East Area Council workshop on 2nd February 2017 regarding proposals for future commissions, the current and projected financial position with regard to spend and the options available for the future.

Members discussed the respective merits of the options set out in the report, income from fixed penalty notices and parks maintenance.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Love Where You Live, Young People, Healthy Lifestyles and Thriving and Vibrant Economies remain the key priorities and areas of focus for the North East Area Council in 2017/18;
- (ii) Members note the current financial position of the North East Area Council and the funds available for 2017/18;
- (iii) Members agree to devolve £10,000 to each of the four Ward Alliances, with an option to return any underspend at the end of the financial year back to the Area Council;
- (iv) The Undergraduate Apprentice Scheme be funded for a reduced period of 10 months;
- (v) Funding for anti-social behaviour damage to Parks equipment be discontinued, and that
- (vi) The Youth Development Fund be reduced by £12,000

62 The Responsible Dog Owner Pilot Initiative

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and updated the North East Area Council with regard to a Responsible Dog Owner pilot project following concerns raised about dog fouling in the area. The project will involve officers from BMBC and partnership organisations distributing dog bags at events in the community to encourage people to pick up after their dogs. If someone is seen picking up after their dogs in the communities their names will be entered into a quarterly draw and they will receive a small reward to thank them for helping to take care of their environment.

RESOLVED that the project is taken forward and managed through the Biodiversity and Environment fund and overseen by the North East Area Council's Environment Steering Group at a cost of £800.

63 Foster Care Recruitment

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and updated the North East Area Council with regard to the North East Area Council's initiative to recruit foster carers locally. A Member Steering Group has been formed and will take forward the action plan. The initiative has been advertised on Facebook, on GP surgery media loops, and a full colour article was on the front page of the Barnsley Chronicle. Positive feedback has been received and the Fostering Team is delighted with the support from the North East Area Council. Feedback will be sought as to whether the project has led to an increase in new foster carers.

64 Principal Towns

Sian Stanhope, Principal Towns Officer was welcomed to the meeting. She will be leading the Principal Towns Programme along with Fiona O'Brien representing the West of the Borough, with a view to getting to know the Principal Towns and consulting with local members and communities regarding a strategic plan for the area.

A project plan will be drawn up with key dates around funding and delivery and will feed back to the Area Council on a regular basis.

65 Great British Spring Clean

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and updated the North East Area Council with regard to the achievements of the initiative across all the areas of the North East Area Council. The events were a great success and enjoyed by local residents. Following on from this the communities are now working towards 'Love Where You Live' opportunities in June.

Chair