

<b>MEETING:</b>	Penistone Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Thursday, 3 October 2019
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Penistone Town Hall

## MINUTES

**Present** Councillors Barnard (Chair), Greenhough,  
David Griffin, Hand-Davis, Kitching and Wilson

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

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

### **16 Minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 1st August, 2019 (Pac.03.10.2019/2)**

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2019.

Members noted that the official opening of the TransPennine Trail station project had been postponed due to family bereavement.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2019 be approved as a true and correct record.

### **17 Notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 12th September, 2019 (Pac.03.10.2019/3)**

The meeting received the notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2019.

Members gave praise to officers for the organisation of the recent Ward Alliance celebration event, which recognised the efforts of volunteers. It was noted that this was likely to be replicated in future years.

**RESOLVED** that the notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 be received.

### **18 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Pac.03.10.2019/4)**

The Area Council Manager introduced the item, making Members aware that from the starting budget of £26,015, £7,016.10 remained.

**RESOLVED** That the report be received.

### **19 Interim Performance Report (Pac.03.10.2019/5)**

The Area Council Manager introduced the item making Members aware that statistical performance information related only to quarter 1. A full performance report containing quarter 2 performance information would be considered at the December meeting of the Area Council.

The report included a narrative relating to the performance of every service funded through the Area Council.

Twiggs Grounds Maintenance had been working all around the Penistone Area. A new link had been formed with residents in High Hoyland and also in Hoylandswaine.

Members noted the support given to a new Silkstone Common Recreation Group during the summer and also to help Age UK to established Men in Sheds in Penistone.

Acknowledged was the support provided to Team Green Moor during Britain in Bloom, the bench renovation programme throughout the area, and the positive work around the Wentworth Business Park area.

Members heard of the work of the Twiggs team to drive forward Incredible Edible in the area, including securing finance to create a bed around the noticeboard detailing the incredible edible sites. Most recently the Girl Guides had expressed an interest in establishing more edible beds in the church yard.

Those present also noted that the apprentice employed by Twiggs had successfully completed year 1 of his apprenticeship, and also that the team had taken a different approach within the quarter, advertising action days to stimulate volunteering. This approach would be monitored carefully.

In relation to the three contracts held by Age UK, members heard that all continued to make good progress. A successful recruitment evening had been held at the White Heart pub, with existing volunteers highlighting why they gave their time. The event resulted in interest from around 10 people in becoming a volunteer.

The Men In Sheds project was launched on 20<sup>th</sup> September, with 15 men attending. The first project for the group would be building a disabled access ramp.

Some of the work of Age UK included supporting groups, including the Healthy Life, Healthy Mind group in Tankersley, the Wortley Social Group and tea and chat at Weaver's Court.

Members noted the feature in Penistone Living, and the increased visibility in general of the services delivered in the area.

The SOPPA network was working well, having representation from a number of different organisations. Members heard that there were plans to replicate a forthcoming 'Love later life' event in Penistone in late November. Also noted were plans to develop 'Age Friendly Penistone' as part of wider Age Friendly developments in Barnsley. Consultation had started, and it was hoped that the findings could be used to influence change, though some of these had already been taken into account as part of the Principal Towns programme in Penistone. It was noted that any learning could be utilised by other Principal Towns in the borough. Those present also heard of a Winter Warmth event planned on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2019.

Members heard that the contract with DIAL continued to be delivered successfully, even though the main advisor had been unavailable. Anecdotally numbers had

thought to be lower than previously during the summer though the project still had a significant impact on those in receipt of advice.

Penistone Young Voices had finished on 30<sup>th</sup> September, with a final report to be considered at the Area Council meeting in December. Though the project had only had a small number of people participating, those taking part had received a wealth of experience.

Members noted plans to hold a youth summit, which would include young people involved in Penistone FM. Penistone Grammar School had offered to hold the summit.

The service provided by CAB had been used throughout the summer, but numbers accessing were not as high as those seen previously. Members noted that the pilot had now finished, and there had been around £23,000 additional benefit gained in total. An application had been submitted to the Working Together Fund to extend this.

Members considered the performance of South Pennine Community Transport, which continued to be well used. Members praised the addition of route 25a which assisted the communities of Crowedge and Dunford.

Those present heard that the Barnsley Transport Strategy was being consulted on, and it was suggested that Members encouraged people to respond. In addition, it was suggested that responses were also encouraged on the Sheffield City Region Transport Strategy which was also out to consultation. The position of Penistone near the Sheffield border and issues with cross border travel were noted.

Whilst Barnsley Transport Strategy emphasised the use of active travel and public transport, Members discussed the need for appropriate community transport solutions in rural areas.

Members also discussed the Barnsley Bus Partnership, with Cllr Lamb being lead member. It appeared some meetings were open to all Members to comment directly, but Members were encouraged to forward any queries or comments on buses to Cllr Lamb for this to be considered by the bus partnership.

Members noted Penistone's unique position in relation to the Transpennine Trail and on the rail network. Though rail travel use appeared to be diminishing, Members support the notion that an increase in investment to improve stock and the frequency of trains could have a significant impact on usage, and corresponding positive impacts such as the reduction of emissions when compared to car use.

**RESOLVED** that the report be received.

## **20 Procurement and Financial Update (Pac.03.10.2019/6)**

The Area Council Manager reminded Members of the presentation by Age UK at the last meeting of the Area Council, which highlighted progress being made in all three areas funded by the Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People's Grant Fund. At that meeting consensus was that the impact of the investment was only just being

seen and that the projects ought to continue. Therefore Members pledged a further £70,000 in order to extend all three of the services for a further year.

Members were reminded of how the Working Together Fund was established and the projects funded to date. At the time of the report being published £64,596 remained for allocation; however it was noted that two applications had been received and if these were fully funded £51,822 would remain.

Members noted that the contract with Twiggs Grounds Maintenance had been extended to finish 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2020, and arrangements were underway to procure a similar Clean, Green and Tidy Service from April 2020 onwards.

Those present noted that £7,016.09 remained for allocation in the Ward Alliance Fund, with approximately 6 months left in the financial year. Based on current levels of demand, it was suggested that further finance be devolved from the Area Council.

Members acknowledged the coverage in Penistone Living of the Area Council. Feedback had been positive, with it being professionally produced and reaching a wide target audience. It was suggested that the next meeting of the Area Council discusses which future edition should feature further information, noting the need to avoid purdah.

The Area Council Manager provided an overview of the current financial situation of the Area Council and it was noted that £57,495 remained in the current financial year, though if recommendations were to be approved this would reduce to £29,995.

Also noted was the income from Public Health of £3,280 which had been allocated to the projects supporting isolated and vulnerable older people.

Members discussed work undertaken in other Area Councils which sought to address emotional wellbeing and mental health issues in young people, and the Area Council Manager agreed to gather further information on these.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) That the update on procurement activity be received;
- (ii) That the update and progress of contracts funded by the Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated and Older People Grant fund be noted;
- (iii) That the Executive Director Communities be authorised to complete any necessary paperwork in order to extend each of the services delivered through the Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People Grant Fund at a total cost of £70,000 from 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 to 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2021;
- (iv) That the update and financial position of the Penistone Working Together Fund be noted;
- (v) That the update on the Clean and Tidy Contract delivered by Twiggs Grounds Maintenance be noted;
- (vi) That £10,000 (£5,000 per ward) be allocated to the Penistone Ward Alliance Funds to be allocated through previous agreed procedures;
- (vii) That the Area Council Manager gathers information on the interventions by other Area Councils to address emotional wellbeing and mental health issues in young people;
- (viii) That the financial position for the 2019/20 be noted.

The Area Council Manager spoke to a presentation, detailing the consultation undertaken as part of the review of Area Council Priorities.

Members had previously agreed that the current priorities remained valid, but that further consultation ought to be undertaken in order to inform a review of priorities for 2020 onwards.

Those presented were reminded of the current priorities; Health and Wellbeing, Supporting Young People, Environment, Helping People to Connect Better; and The Local Economy including tourism. It was noted how these connected to the corporate priorities. Also acknowledged were the guiding principles adopted by the Area Council.

Members were reminded of the survey and of the methodology adopted, which included the ability to complete the survey online and with paper versions circulated in key locations throughout the Penistone Area.

The survey had received 219 responses, which were from addresses quite evenly spread throughout the area. Residents were asked to highlight their top three priorities. 43% of respondents highlighted Greenspaces as a priority, 40% Health and Wellbeing, 37% highlighted Older people, 34% young people, and 30% the Local Economy. Also of note was Getting Around which a quarter of people selected and Love Where You Live which nearly 20% of people selected.

It was noted that the sample size was rather low, especially given the efforts made to undertake the survey. However, the findings reflected the current priorities of the Area Council. Members discussed whether people were aware of the Area Council and Ward Alliance and whether residents were satisfied or disengaged.

When considering the next steps, it was suggested that the current priorities be maintained going forward and an open and ongoing questionnaire be launched with feedback invited throughout the year. This could be featured in Penistone Living and included on the email signature of Members and officers.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) That the current priorities be approved as the Area Council Priorities from April 2020 onwards;
- (ii) That an opportunity be established for residents to comment on priorities throughout the year.

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Chair