

MEETING:	North East Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 27 May 2021
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Cheetham, Hayward (Chair), Cherryholme, Ennis OBE, Green, McCarthy, Richardson and Wraith MBE

1 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

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

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of North East Area Council held on 25th March 2021

The meeting considered the minutes from the previous meeting of the North East Area Council held on 25th March 2021.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North East Area Council held on 25th March 2021 be approved as a true and correct record.

3 Notes of the Following Ward Alliances with Feedback from each Ward Alliance Chair

The meeting received notes of the Ward Alliances with feedback from each Ward Alliance Chair. The following further updates were noted:

Cudworth – Two defibrillators are to be installed soon and the St Johns Garden is virtually finished. The local business community group has expressed interest in installing a Heritage stone in this area. It is hoped that people will volunteer for the Great British Clean-up in the Pocket Park. Assistance has been given to Exodus for children's activities and new IT equipment provided for the History group.

Monk Bretton – Members are in the process of getting dates for the Great British Clean-up, which it is hoped will be well attended. Volunteers and Members did a very good job litter picking in the Monk Bretton area.

North East – The two Ward Alliance vacancies are to be readvertised. Grimethorpe planters on Brierley Road have now been sorted out and a lot of hard work has been done by Volunteers to clear and plant them up. Priorities for the year ahead have been set. There have been lots of litter picks by Volunteers across the area and it is looking very tidy. Hanging baskets sponsored by businesses have been installed in Grimethorpe. It is hoped that Christmas events will be able to take place this year.

Royston – Yorkshire in Bloom entries are being planned and there have been flowers planted in the park. The Healthy Hearts Groups have been involved in deciding

locations for the new defibrillators and defibrillator training is being rolled out across the area. Section 106 meetings continue and are always well attended. Green spaces are currently being assessed and linked to the Council's tree planting programme. Work at Rabbit Ings is progressing nicely. The Achievement Awards for schools are to be done individually in the current circumstances. Summer activities with young people are also being planned.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received.

4 Superfast South Yorkshire and Accelerating Digital Barnsley - Julie Tattershall, Projects and Contracts Manager

Julie Tattershall, Projects and Contracts Manager, delivered a presentation regarding Superfast South Yorkshire (SFSY) and Accelerating Digital Barnsley. It was highlighted that SFSY is a partnership team part funded by the four South Yorkshire authorities, BDUK, Openreach and the SCR LEP. Availability of superfast broadband has been boosted to over 98% and has brought 119,916 new connections to South Yorkshire. Support has been provided to SMEs across the Region in terms of connectivity and advice. In the North East Area Council Area, 3178 homes are now 'ready for service'. The Accelerating Digital Barnsley project provides connections to properties which are not commercially viable by increasing gigabit capable broadband from commercial infrastructure providers. In 2025 any copper telephone cables will be turned off. In terms of the 'Internet of Things' (IoT), sensors can be installed on council assets to collect data which will help with decision making - for example air quality sensors in the town centre - and this could save money. Planning for 5g mobile network is underway. Work is also progressing regarding combatting digital exclusion - which came to the fore during Covid-19 restrictions - for example working closely with care homes and schools around connectivity/digital exclusion and delivering skills training. The project has also been involved with the 'laptops for children' scheme, with a donated devices scheme based at DMC and in partnership with Horizon Community College.

RESOLVED that Julie be thanked for her attendance and contribution and the presentation be noted

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

The Area Manager introduced this item and gave a detailed update on the delivery of commissioned projects. An update was provided about the work of the Private Sector Housing Management and Enforcement Officer, Chris Platts, for the period 1st January to 31st March 2021. It was reported that the BCB Traineeship - Barnsley Community Build in the North East Area programme is doing well. For the period from 12th April to 9th May 2021, 212 bags of rubbish were removed, 163 of which were filled by Volunteers.

RESOLVED that the update be noted and thanks expressed to the many volunteers who had helped with litter picking.

6 NEAC Financial Position and Procurement Update

The Area Council Manager introduced this item, reporting that the North East Area Council is on target for spend. Ward Alliance spending in all four areas is also on track, which has been difficult to achieve in the circumstances.

RESOLVED that Members note the report.

7 Report on the use of Area Council Budgets, Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and updated Members with regard to Area Council Budgets, Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds.

RESOLVED that Members note the report

8 Area Council update about the about the Covid 19 pandemic from Public Health

A Covid-19 report and update was circulated as Public Health are unable to attend the meeting. The report provided information about case rates, testing and vaccination. Any questions should be directed to the Area Council Manager who will seek responses from Public Health.

RESOLVED that the update be noted and any questions directed to the Area Council Manager.

9 Finance Report

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and asked members to consider the Private Sector Housing Management Officer's Service Level Agreement and the Social isolation and Dementia Service Level Agreement. The Private Sector Housing Management Officer's Service Level Agreement is now up for renewal at a cost of £31,460 if it is extended until 1st April 2022. The second year of the Social isolation and Dementia Service Level Agreement with Age UK Barnsley is due to complete at the end of June 2021. The cost of extending the agreement for a further twelve months is £25,000 with a contribution of £5000 from Age UK Barnsley.

RESOLVED that

- (i) The Private Sector Housing Management Officer service level agreement with Enforcement Services is now is extended until April 1st, 2022 at a cost of £31,460, and
- (ii) The Social Isolation and Dementia service level agreement is extended for a further 12 months at a cost of £25,000 with a contribution of £5,000 from Age UK Barnsley.

Chair