

MEETING:	Dearne Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 16 November 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Held Virtually

AGENDA

- 1 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Minutes

- 2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Dearne Area Council held on 14th September, 2020 (Dac.16.11.2020/2) (*Pages 3 - 6*)

Items for Discussion

- 3 Goldthorpe Investment Plan - Paul Clifford (Dac.16.11.2020/3)

Performance

- 4 Performance Report Q2 (Dac.16.11.2020/4) (*Pages 7 - 28*)

Items for Decision

- 5 Dearne Area Council Commissioning and Financial Update (Dac.16.11.2020/5) (*Pages 29 - 34*)

Ward Alliances

- 6 Notes from the Dearne Ward Alliances (Dac.16.11.2020/6) (*Pages 35 - 50*)
Dearne South Ward Alliance – 16th September and 15th October, 2020
Dearne North Ward Alliance – 17th September and 15th October, 2020
- 7 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Dac.16.11.2020/7) (*Pages 51 - 54*)

Item for Discussion

- 8 Community Safety - Fiona Tennyson (Dac.16.11.2020/8)

To: Chair and Members of Dearne Area Council:-

Councillors Noble (Chair), Danforth, Gardiner, Gollick, C. Johnson and Phillips

Area Council Support Officers:

Paul Castle, Dearne Area Council Senior Management Link Officer
Claire Dawson, Dearne Area Council Manager
Rachel Payling, Head of Service, Stronger Communities
Peter Mirfin, Council Governance Officer
Cath Bedford, Public Health Principal - Communities

Please contact Peter Mirfin on email governance@barnsley.gov.uk

Friday, 6 November 2020



MEETING:	Dearne Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 14 September 2020
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Held Virtually

MINUTES

Present Councillors Noble (Chair), Danforth, Gardiner, C. Johnson and Phillips

57 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

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

58 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Dearne Area Council held on 27th July, 2020 (Dac.14.09.2020/2)

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 27th July, 2020 be approved as a true and correct record.

59 Women's Centre - Jayne Hellowell (Dac.14.09.2020/3)

Jayne Hellowell, Head of Commissioning – Healthier Communities, was welcomed to the meeting to provide an update on the Women's Centre.

Work on the centre had progressed despite the impact of the pandemic. The upstairs was now fully refurbished, with some IDAS staff already working from the centre. Planning permission had been sought, which would enable the extension of the café as part of the ground floor refurbishment. It was hoped that all works would be completed by the end of the financial year, if not sooner.

Services from the centre would continue as before, which included the Snap Tin Café and treatment services. It was noted that there had been some discussion about the name of the centre, but it was decided that 'The Factory' was well known in the area so this would remain with some rebranded signage.

Though data was not available at the meeting about the numbers accessing IDAA, it was agreed that this would be provided to Members. Throughout lockdown IDAS had continued to provide a service, but this had moved to being delivered digitally. Members noted national press about hidden harms including potential rises in domestic abuse during lockdown. Assurances were given that services were well managed in Barnsley and therefore would not necessarily result in any spikes being seen.

A question was raised as to whether sexual health services would be provided in the centre, and it was agreed that this would be considered.

RESOLVED that thanks be given for the update.

60 Private Sector Housing and Flytipping - Kevin Frisby and Rachel Hartley (Dac.14.09.2020/4)

Rachel Hartley, Case Management Officer, was welcomed to the meeting. Members were made aware that she had started on 1st April, 2020 as part of a team to tackle fly-tipping and issues associated with private sector housing such as waste in gardens. The team of three officers covered the whole of Barnsley but had been focusing in the Dearne of late.

The meeting discussed ongoing issues around the Broadwater area. A significant piece of work had been undertaken around 3 years ago, but the problem of fly-tipping had returned. Members were made aware that the area had recently been cleared, with evidence found being used to inform interviews under caution. Discussions were ongoing with the landowner about possible work in order to reduce reoccurrences. It was acknowledged that issues with fly-tipping extended to the Ingsfield Lane area, and work would be undertaken with residents and the community for them to take responsibility for their own waste, but also to ask them to be vigilant and report any incidences of fly-tipping. It was noted that changing culture and the mindset of some residents took time.

It was noted that the team would continue to work in this area to try to resolve issues but would also be working in other hotspots such as Beevor Street, Victoria Street, and Cross Street. It was suggested that an Environment Day may be held. The team would work with residents, housing officers and other officers in the area to reduce litter and fly-tipping and dispose of existing waste.

Members heard how there had been an increase in fly-tipping during lockdown. The Task and Finish group would be reconvened to assess the situation and respond accordingly. A suggestion was made to involve Rachel in the work of the group.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the report be noted and;
- (ii) That thanks be given for the work of the team in the Dearne.

61 Community Safety in the Dearne - Fiona Tennyson (Dac.14.09.2020/5)

Fiona Tennyson, Community Safety Team Leader, was welcomed to the meeting. Members were made aware of the impact of lockdown, with staff primarily working from home and unable to attend such as Police briefings. The Housing and Migration Officer had continued to be proactive, however they had refrained from knocking on doors and discussing issues with residents. Instead, issues had been raised via letter. Given that there were a number of issues with services such as Household Waste Recycling Centres and bin collection, a pragmatic approach was taken, with advice being given to residents.

Members noted changes in shifts of PCs and PCSOs and the currently reduced numbers.

Those present discussed recurring issues around youth nuisance in the park and issues on Poplar Avenue. It was suggested that a multi-agency approach would be

taken in Poplar Avenue, with issues being addressed in private and Berneslai Homes properties, and also from a Police perspective.

Members questioned how social distancing would be enforced and a number of instances were discussed around the area. Members were encouraged to report violations. However, as these changes were very recent, how these would be enforced was not yet clear.

Issues with delays in cases being heard at court were noted, with backlogs being addressed but on a hierarchical basis.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

62 Dearne Area Council Financial Update (Dac.14.09.2020/6)

The Area Council Manager provided an overview of the current financial position. For 2020/21 the Area Council had a starting budget of £204,730.67. From this the Education Environment and Volunteer Service; Housing and Migration Officer; Employability Service; and the Social Connectivity Service had been funded. Members were also reminded that £28,000 had been allocated to the Dearne Development Fund. This left £173.67 unallocated.

The Dearne Development Fund carried forward £3,650.68 to the current financial year. This combined with the £28,000 allocated from the Area Council Budget, and £10,000 from the financial hardship fund to give £41,650.68 in the fund.

It was noted that, subsequent to papers being published, discussions had taken place with regards to funding services from DIAL and CAB from the Dearne Development Fund for a further year. These had very recently been approved.

Members discussed the impending redundancies in the area. It was noted that this would place significant demand on advice services and also on the Employability Service as claims for financial assistance needed to be completed online.

It was suggested that contact be made with employers in the area who had announced redundancies, with a view to distributing packs that gave details of support services. This was supported by Members.

Concern was expressed as to whether services had the capacity and resilience to support the expected numbers, and it was agreed that enquiries be made to confirm what support was available centrally.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

63 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Dac.14.09.2020/7)

The Area Council Manager provided an overview of the financial position of each of the Ward Alliance Funds in the area.

The Dearne North Fund had a starting balance of £10,527.12 for 2020/21. Two projects had been funded and a balance of £8,257.12 remained.

For Dearne South, the fund started the financial year with a balance of £12,866.04. Two projects had been funded and £9,345.64 remained for allocation.

It was noted that all applications for Ward Alliance Funds were required to support Covid-19 recovery. It was suggested that community groups were contacted to make them aware of this, but to highlight that this included such as reengaging young people and supporting their health and wellbeing. It was noted that the Area Council Manager and Community Development Officer were available to assist groups in applying.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Chair

DEARNE AREA COUNCIL
Performance Report

Q2 July 2020- Sept 2020



Introduction

Area Council Priorities

Improving
Health and
well being

Young
People

Local
economy

Skills for
work

Environment

Table one below shows the Providers that have been appointed to deliver a series of services that address the priorities and deliver the outcomes and social value objectives for the Dearne Area Council.

Service	Priority	Provider	Contract Value/length	Contract end date
Employability	Health Skills and training	Dearne electronic community village	£33,000 per annum	Funded until end of March 2021 with option to extend.
Private Sector Housing Enforcement	Health Environment	BMBC	£38,061 per annum	Funded until end of January 2022
Environmental, volunteering and education service	Health Environment Skills and training Young people	Twiggs	£85,000 per annum	Funded until end of March 2021 option to extend further 2 years
Social connectivity	Health Skills and training	B-friend	£27,000 per annum	Funded until July 2022

OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE

The Dearne Area Council commissions also contribute to the Councils overall priorities of thriving vibrant economy, stronger resilient communities and citizens achieving their potential. The overviews of each service that are paid for through commissions and grants process are listed below.

Employability- DECV

(1)DECV

During this quarter the service have offered ICT and Employability Support sessions, over three days each week during lockdown. Also in the last couple of months DECV was open two days per week and all slots have been filled on these days. All learners were signed onto online learning + OCR. Learners have also been able to contact Rory at any time if help was needed. This learning is in partnership with Good Things Foundation using the Learn My Way and Make it Click resources. Those learners without computers or Internet at home have more time with Rory over the phone.

As of Tuesday 18th August, DECV re-opened its doors two days per week. Along with BMBC Library staff the layout of the building has changed. They have:

- installed Covid Advice signs
- Installed 2m floor markers in classrooms and hallway
- Installed a one-way system (learners enter through library and leave through classroom door.
- Large supply of Handwash / Gel / Cleaning products always on hand / Face Masks
- Session moved to the larger classroom

Only two computers per classroom used at any one time. The layout of the room has been changed. Rory was working either one to one with

appointment system in place and have no more than two learners at any one time. Both learners positioned at opposite sides of the room. Computers cleaned after each learner and chairs used on a rotation system. Anyone entering library will be required to use hand gel on entering and leaving

Anyone entering library will be required to wear a face mask and Rory wears a visor + face mask. Learners have been notified and all appointments are fully booked for the two days. Anyone not in session will have dedicated phone/Internet support.

For learners who have health problems and cannot attend in centre, Rory has been offering phone/facetime slots for each learner. This has proved successful for the past four months. The emphasis will be getting back to seeing people face to face, but this tried and tested method will be in place for learners who for health reasons should not attend in person.

Although Rory has not been able to undertake OCR assessments during lockdown he's moderated internally and been allowed to predict 20 learner grades, sent using OCR's system online (a one-time opportunity under lockdown for OCR centres). 20 learners will all receive certificates and can use work they have done with me online as evidence. The remaining learners can now begin submitting again as of September 2020.

During quarter two, 20 learners have been recruited and achieved a qualification, while four gained employment and 23 went on to further training.

*Another aspect of Rory's work has always been Digital Inclusion and the social aspect, and he has kept this going during lockdown. He has been phoning learners regularly, particularly those who live alone and don't have a support network of close family or friends. He is also keeping in contact with some of his older learners from past projects and having a chat with them at least once per week.

Performance Indicator	Q1	Q2	Cumulative
Learners Recruited	23	20	43
Learners into local employment	3	4	7
Learners achieving qualification	10	20	30
Learners into further training	23	23	46



***DECV contribution to Public Health Outcomes**

Improving the wider determinants of health	
Objective 1: improvements against wider factors which affect health and wellbeing and health inequalities.	
1.08a	Gap in the employment rate between long term health conditions and the overall employment rate
1.08v	Percentage of people age 16-64 in employment

Case Study

“Ian first attended with me back in Feb 2020 and walked into the classroom with the words, “I’ve never used a computer in my life!”. Ian was put on my course by the DWP as he had recently left his old position due to ill health and couldn’t physically do the work. He had been in his previous employment 19 years! Ian’s plan was to perhaps learn some computer skills with a view to changing his career to something less physical.

After enrolment we worked on an initial assessment, so I could gauge Ian’s level at ICT (Entry 2) and we began by looking at what the DWP required on his UC profile. First thing was a CV / Cover letter and to register with around 6 jobsites (INDEED etc). I then set up Ian’s email and created his online learning profile and OCR folders. Ian did have some anxiety about using computers, but

I realised this was more to do with being in a classroom environment, rather than the Computers themselves. Ian already had a Facebook which he posted on, so I realised his first statement wasn't altogether true.

By session 2 we started the OCR course and spent around an hour per session on job search. Although Ian's progress was slow his confidence was boosted by how accurate his work was. Also, the lack of a time limit and the advantage of working at his own pace helped his confidence. Working in a small group (no more than 3) also helped as I could spend enough time with him to overcome any difficulties.

Ian's knowledge and confidence of using sites like Indeed and CV library was growing and by March he had his first interview. Unfortunately, lockdown happened, and the interview never took place. DECV closed its door and I began tutoring Ian online once per week for 2 hours, originally over the phone and later using teams. We carried on with the OCR course and the Learn my Way online course and continued to apply for positions. I gave Ian mock assessments online in the hope OCR would accept this as evidence (which they did) and he passed his ICT award easily. DECV opened its doors again in August and we carried on with job search. Ian secured a fulltime position as a yard's person in Goldthorpe. Although physical, not at all like his older position and Ian tells me he will continue to use the skills he has learned, applying for positions less physical "

Environment: Housing and Migration-BMBC

(2) Housing and Migration officer

Quarter two for the Housing officer has been a difficult time for all the staff within in the service. The officer has not able to carry out all his duties such as house inspections or knocking on doors to give face to face advice, he could still carry out street inspections to identify fly-tipping and outside disrepair issues, and to ensure that the referred jobs that needed further investigation or actions to the appropriate departments.

Performance Indicator	Q1	Q2	Cumulative
Initial contacts	88	103	191
Vulnerable households identified	2	2	4

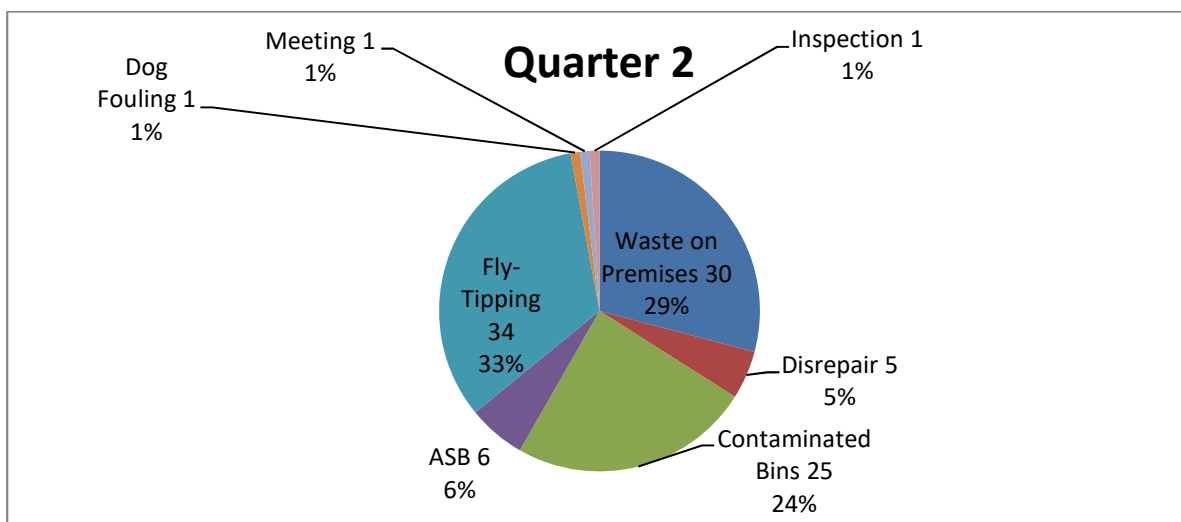
People sign posted to other services	2	2	4
Informal requests to landlords	16	14	30
Improvement to properties	20	32	52

The officer dealt with 30 Waste on Premises within quarter two, 21 first contact letters two CPN Warning Letters and one CPN Notice was sent.



Fly-Tipping

In total 44 cases of fly-tipping were detected during routine proactive visits within the quarter two period. All the fly-tipping cases have been referred to neighbourhood services using the pin mapping system for removal.



***Housing officer’s contribution to Public Health Outcomes.**

Improving the wider determinants of health	
Objective 1: improvements against wider factors which affect health and wellbeing and health inequalities.	
1.01	Children in low income families
1.15	Statutory homelessness
1.17	Fuel poverty
Health improvement	
Objective 2: people are helped to live healthy lifestyles, make healthy choices and reduce health inequalities	
2.08	Emotional wellbeing of looked after children

Case Study

“Over the past couple of months I have continued working on a number of properties on Elizabeth Street Goldthorpe with a number of waste issues in the rear gardens. There are eighteen terraced houses with the rear gardens backing on to King Street which houses some of our most vulnerable residents in purpose-built bungalows.

After carrying out a survey of all eighteen properties ten properties were identified to have waste issues ranging from domestic household and commercial waste. Two of the properties have been empty for a considerable amount of time and have attracted fly-tipping. The garden fences have been vandalised and pulled down leaving the gardens open to more waste being added. After contacting the owner/letting agent it was decided that both properties would be cleared of waste and the gardens would have new fencing installed to try and stop fly-tipping in the future. Unfortunately, at the beginning of August 2020 the fencing from one of the gardens was stolen and the garden has now started to be used again for fly-tipping household waste. The owner and agents of the properties have informed me that they hope to bring both properties back to the rental market once repairs have taken place.

At this present time I am still dealing with four properties on the street, one has been difficult because the tenant is going to be evicted by the courts and he will not answer his door and does not reply to my letters .My concerns with this

property is the garage to the rear garden both doors have been ripped off and left on the pavement and the garage has wood stored in it. The rear gate to the property was set on fire at the end of August 2020 and I have concerns about this happening to the garage. I have recently managed to find the agents responsible for the property and they have informed me that the tenant will not allow them in to carry out repairs. I have sent photographs of the garage and asked that repairs are carried out to it. I revisited the address on the 28th September 2020 and the garage has been secured.

The other three properties on Elizabeth Street that I am dealing with are for domestic waste and dog faeces. I have sent five warning letters two CPN warning letters and one CPN Notice so far to properties at this location. “

Environment, education and volunteering -Twiggs

(3) TWIGGS

As part of the Twiggs contract they would normally engage with groups, individuals’ volunteers and schools. However due to COVID they flexed their services in order to assist neighbourhood services in creating a cleaner and greener environment. Twiggs continued to support the service until mid-July when they were instructed that the service was back up to capacity.

Area	Works
Chapel lane	Reported fly tipping and litter picked
Clayton Lane	Reported fly tipping and litter picked
Dearne Road	Litter picked
Marlborough Close	Litter picked
Fredrick Street	Litter picked
Lidget Lane	Litter picked
Houghton Road	Litter picked
Station Road	Litter picked

During quarter two, 43 areas were independently targeted across the Dearne Area. The work consisted of cutting back hedges, clearing footpaths, weeds, curb hedges, strimming, litter picking, lopping, clearing fly tipping and Trimming shrubbery. 91 bags of litter and 35 bags of green waste were removed this quarter. Seven fly tipping instances were reported in on Chapel Lane, Clayton Lane, Highgate Lane backings and Ingsfield Lane.

Lesley Road Goldthorpe



Barrowfield Road Thurnscoe



Ingsfield Lane



Highgate Lane



Individuals taking responsibility for specific areas

20/07/2020 – Provided one local resident with volunteer waste bags and waste arrangements when needed. This independent volunteer regularly clears litter from the Phoenix Park area, and Twiggs continue to promote her work via Social Media.

03/09/2020 – Delivered two volunteers waste bags they clear litter regularly from the Thurnscoe Bridge Lane area.

06/07/2020 – Volunteer independently cleared two bags of litter from the High Street, Goldthorpe, the team collected the waste.

The team have also continued to support volunteers at Thurnscoe Park, the Salvation Army and the caretaker on the embankment. Twiggs have assisted with clearing pathways, clearing overgrown weeds, strimming, trimming edges and discussing future project.

Barnsley Road entrance



***TWIGGS contribution to Public Health Outcomes**

Improving the wider determinants of health	
Objective 1: improvements against wider factors which affect health and wellbeing and health inequalities.	
1.04	First time entrants to the youth justice system
1.16	Utilising outdoor space for exercise and health reasons
Health Improvement	
Objective 2: people are helped to live healthy lifestyles, make healthy choices and reduce health inequalities	
2.13	Proportion of physically active and inactive adults
2.23	Self-reported well being

B: Friend-Social Connectivity

(4) B-friend

After suspending all community activity in March 2020, the team immediately looked at how they could effectively, meaningfully & safely support isolated older neighbours in the Dearne in such uncertain times.

It's been a challenging, emotional & relentless six-months since then where the team have been needed more than ever before. As well as supporting new beneficiaries, the support for those they already had contact with has completely changed with those, previously quite self-sufficient, facing new & unexpected wellbeing challenges.

As the team continue in these difficult times rest assured, they are constantly innovating, tweaking & collaborating with the community to effectively meet need & reduce isolation as best they can.

*The below table represents the services first quarter of the current contract.

Performance Indicator	Q2	Cumulative
Hours of 1:1 befriending	442	442
New befrienders	7	7
Staff visiting hours	78	78
Bundles of joy delivered	28	28
Regular volunteers	34	34

The social clubs are not able to operate face to face at the moment so their weekly Social Clubs in Thurnscoe & Bolton upon Dearne now take place over the phone. Thurnscoe average attendance: six people, Bolton average attendance: 16 people, however all 35 older neighbours that attended prior to COVID are in regular contact with the service and befriender.



***B:Friend contribution to Public Health Outcomes.**

Improving the wider determinants of health	
Objective 1: improvements against wider factors which affect health and wellbeing and health inequalities.	
1.18a	Adults who have as much social contact as they would like
1.18b	Adult carers who have as much social contact as they would like
Health Improvement	
Objective 2: people are helped to live healthy lifestyles, make healthy choices and reduce health inequalities	
2.13a	Physically active adults
2.23	Self-reported well-being

“I’m over the moon with her. It’s been fantastic. It’s nice having someone to talk to, it just breaks up the week.” – Steven, older neighbour about his befriender, Sue.

“Seeing Nicola [befriender], or hearing her voice, makes you feel like you’re still in this world. That someone cares. I received some cards from children too and they’re on my fireplace. Every time I look at them, I smile to myself” – Kathleen, older neighbour in Thurnscoe

“He told me he is going to Robin Hood's Bay for the day and that is somewhere my family and I used to go a lot so I'm looking forward to our next call because he has promised to take me on a trip down memory lane.” – Sue, befriender

Dearne Development Fund

Dearne Development Fund 2019/20

Some of the projects mentioned below have now finished and those that have been highlighted in purple are still on going, the report will continue to contain the information until all projects are all complete.

Organisation	Duration of funds	Amount	Total allocation remaining
Public Health Grant and Dearne Development Fund Allocation			£88,590.88
TADS	May 2019-April 2020	- £14,944.73	£73,646.15
Dearne Playhouse	June 2019	-£7,126	£66,520.15
Mission Muay Thai	June 2019-September 2019	-£2,500	£64,020.15
B, Friend	June 2019-May 2020	-£7,384	£56,636.15
Dearne Family Centres	June 2019-Sept 2020	-£2,980.69	£53,655.46
CAB	Oct 2019-Oct 2020	-£8,069	£45,586.46
DIAL	Dec 2019-Dec 2020	-£10,151	£35,435.46
GDG	Dec 2019- Dec 2020	-£5,000	£30,435.46
Fit Reds	Jan 2020-Sept 2020	-£5,489.33	£24,946.13
Station House	Jan 2020-Jan 2021	-£13,340	£11,606.13
TADS	July 2020-March 2021	-£7,955.45	£3,650.68

TADS

TADS started working in the Academy on the fifth of October, they are currently seeing ten young people per week for six weeks before they move to another ten. Most issues are school based, but everyone is wanting to talk about COVID, the team are just being there for them. Carol Himsworth is the worker, she is doing 15 hours per week to ensure that the funds are spent by end March 2021.

Dial

Since 16th March 2020, due to the global pandemic DIAL implemented alternative provision which includes pre-arranged telephone appointments with advisors for form completion and telephone and email advice for all other enquiries.

As a result of this during the last quarter, **17** residents received a telephone appointment for form completion and **52** residents received comprehensive telephone advice and **60** residents received Public Health Advice and guidance

From April DIAL introduced safe and well checks to support vulnerable residents who were either shielding or self-isolating. During the last quarter **15** residents who had previously used the service were contacted **73%** of residents reported that they felt less isolated as a result of our safe and well checks

Issue	Specific Issue	No of Enquiries
Benefit Appeals	Case Review	3
	Mandatory Reconsideration DLA	1
	Mandatory Reconsideration PIP	5
	Mandatory Reconsideration Universal Credit	1
	SSCS1 Universal Credit	1
	Ongoing casework	2
	SSCS1 PIP	7
	Appeal Universal Credit	1
Total		21
Benefits	Attendance Allowance	2
	Benefits check	9
	Carers Allowance	3
	Disability Living Allowance Child	1
	Employment and Support Allowance	6
	Medical Assessment Prep	1
	Pension Credit	2
	Personal Independence Payment	9
	Universal Credit	5
Total		38
Disability Information	Bus/Rail Passes	2
	Blue Badge	4
	Equipment	1
Total		7
Housing	Housing repairs	2
Total		2
Legal	Mental Capacity	1
Total		1
Public Health	Public Health Advice - COVID-19	60
Total		60

Social Isolation	Safe and Well Check	15
Total		15
Grand Total		144

Case Study

Before DIAL

Mr B is a middle-aged gentleman who had to give up work to look after his wife and become her main carer. Recently his wife passed away and this had a massive impact on his mental health which meant he was still unfit to go back to work. He phoned the office for benefits advice as he was only claiming Universal Credit and was struggling to pay his bills. He felt depressed which added to his bereavement and was relying on emotional support and assistance from his sister. Due to his mental health issues he had not felt able to go places and the pandemic made him even more worried about leaving the house. Throughout lockdown he was heavily reliant on his sister to help him with shopping and prescriptions.

Advice provided by DIAL

We advised Mr B to make an application for Personal Independence Payment. Mr B rang to let us know his form had arrived and we helped him to complete it over the phone. We explained the PIP process and explained to him that, under normal circumstances, he would need to attend an assessment centre to see if he qualified for PIP. However, because of the pandemic, he would have a telephone assessment instead. We also advised him to include as much supporting medical evidence as possible with his application form. We have spoken to Mr B several times during the pandemic to support him to reduce his isolation and keep him informed of the changes to shielding, social distancing and other public health guidance.

After DIAL

Mr B had an assessment over the phone. He later received a letter stating that he had been awarded the standard daily living rate of Personal Independence Payment.

Mr B said

“I was a bit worried about completing the form over the phone, but the advisor made it so easy and I gained a better understanding of the qualifying criteria. The extra calls I have received have been a godsend and I feel like someone out there cares”

CAB

Due to the COVID19 crisis and following Government guidelines the face to face outreaches were suspended from 24 the March 2020 and advice was transferred to our adviceline and email services. During the fourth quarter of this period of funding (Jul - Sep 2020), the team have supported a total of 63 client contacts through our adviceline and digital services. Full advice has been given to all the client

contacts during this quarter. This advice service has supported clients with a variety of different issues, but as in previous years, the most common are Benefits and Tax Credits, Debt, and Universal Credit. Analysis of our Casebook recording system shows we supported clients with a total of 144 issues. Of these issues 39% related

to Benefits and Tax Credits, 28% related to Universal Credit, 10% related to Debt, 6% related to Employment, 6% Housing, 2% Consumer, 2% Legal, 2% Tax and 5% other issues.

This quarter, the advisers have assisted clients to claim £70,936 of benefits amongst nine clients with an average gain of £7,882 per client. This quarter, the debt specialist has supported three clients with £10,625 of debt, an average of £3,542 per

client. As can be seen by the case studies at the end of this report, providing clients with the information, advice and support they need with the problems they face, ensures they; are better informed, aware of their rights, more knowledgeable about specialist organisations that can help them, aware of what benefits they are entitled to and how to claim them, and offered the opportunity to manage their debt.

As well as improved financial outcomes the support provided by our advice service also helps to improve health and wellbeing, reduces client stress, and improve resilience by increasing the client's ability to cope through self-help.

Issue	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year end
Benefits & Tax Credits	73	17	27	56	173
Benefits Universal Credit	44	13	25	40	122
Consumer	4	3	1	3	11

Goods & Services					
Debt	48	197	1	15	261
Discrimination & Hate &GVA			2	0	2
Employment	4	4	22	9	39
Financial Services & Capability	0	2	3	0	5
Health & Community Care	0	1	3	1	5
Housing	7	6	2	8	23
Immigration & Asylum	1	1	0	0	2
Legal	3	1	5	3	12
Relationship & Family	5	1	8	0	14
Tax	0	0	0	3	3
Travel & Transport	2	0	0	2	4
Utilities & Communications	1	0	0	0	1
Other	0	0	2	4	6

Case study

“Client and partner and dependent child reside in a council property. Client’s partner works on a shift basis. Client works part time 3 days per week but utilises a breakfast club and after school’s club to look after the child, while they are working. Due to the current pandemic and the child’s health deteriorating, necessitating the use of a wheelchair, the client has a problem getting the child to and from school, the breakfast club and after school club. They have also just been informed that although

schools have re-opened, the breakfast club and after school club, due to Government guidance, will not be reopening. Because of this it impacts on the client's ability to work their normal hours, client requested, from their employer following the correct procedure, flexible working to manage both pre and post school childcare. However, the employer has rejected this and asked the client to resign from work due to the childcare issues. Unfortunately, between receiving the client's email and being able to contact the client via telephone, the client had complied with the employer's requirements and submitted the resignation. We fully advised the client on their employment rights with regards to the actions taken by the employer, what was permitted and what was not. We also advised on the implications on any benefit application in relation to their resignation. Furthermore, we carried out a full benefit entitlement assessment, not only on employment benefit, Universal Credit but associated benefits as well along with advising regarding disability benefits for the child. Because of our advice, client is investigating their employment situation further but based on the current circumstances the client would be entitled to an estimated benefit gain of £22,588. This case highlights the implications and unintended consequences for individuals of the Government policy on protecting the population. i.e. restricting after school clubs may mean that some people have employment issues in meeting their contracted hours and working times."

Dearne Development Fund 2020/21

Organisation	Duration of funds	Amount	Total allocation remaining
Carry forward from last year		£3,650.68	
Area Council contribution		+£28,000	£31,650.68
Financial hardship fund		+£10,000	£41,650.68
DIAL	Dec 2020-Dec 2021	-£10,151	£31,499.68
CAB	Oct 2020 -Oct 2021	-£8,072	£23,427.68

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BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

DEARNE AREA COUNCIL 16th November 2020

**Report of the
Dearne Area Council Manager**

Finance and commissioning update

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to update members regarding the 2020/21 financial position, receive an update regarding current commissions and approve the Twiggs and Employability service for a further year.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That members note the current financial position and the impact on future budgets.
- 2.2 That member's note the latest position with regards commissioned services.
- 2.3 That members agree with the recommendation to continue with the education, environment and volunteer service and employability service into their third year from 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 at a cost of £85,000
- 2.4 That members agree with the recommendation to continue with the employability service in their thir year from 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2020 at a cost of £33,000.

3.0 Area Council Financial update

3.1 2020/21

During the 2020/21 financial year the Area Council had a starting budget of £204,720.67. They have agreed to fund the education, environment and volunteer service, housing and migration officer, employability contract and social connectivity service. At the Dearne Area Council on the 27th of July members also agreed to earmark £28,000 to the Dearne Development Fund and had an additional £10k from the hardship fund. This brings the total amount already allocated out of the Dearne Area Council budget for 2020/21 to £214,557, leaving £163.67 unallocated. Further in September the Area Council had the final Nesta payment of £9,500 paid into the account, leaving a total of £9,663.67 unallocated.

3.2 Dearne Development Fund

Eleven projects were successful through the Development fund process in the 2019/20 financial year and the amount spent was £84,940.20 leaving £3,650.68 to carry forward spend on Dearne Area priorities in the 2020/21 financial year. At the Dearne Area Council on the 27th of July the Dearne Area Council agreed to earmark £28,000 to the Dearne Development Fund for the 2020/21 financial year leaving £31,650.68 to spend on area priorities.

- 3.3 In addition, the Area Council/team have recently received £10,000 from the financial hardship fund which was allocated to address the needs of the local area for those experiencing hardship brought about by the current pandemic. After discussions it was agreed that this would be added to the Dearne Development Fund in order to continue with services that addressed financial hardship and the needs of Dearne residents. Therefore the total earmarked for applicants to the Dearne Development Fund is £41,650.68.
- 3.4 Dial and CAB have been successful through this process in offering their services for a further year. The total cost of both these services amounts to £18,223 leaving a total of £23,427.68 in the Development Fund.

See Appendix 1 for financial breakdown

Commission update

- 4.0 The Housing and Migration officer will be starting his second and final year in January. He continues to work on a variety of issues, such as waste on premises and contaminated bins. Officers are not allowed in premises due to COVID but are still working proactively across the area.
- 4.1 The B: Friend service are a couple of months into their first year of the new two-year contract. They have been extremely busy during COVID taking their activities and support online. Referrals have seen a slight increase from professionals and volunteers are engaging well with the service. Some face to face support has resumed, albeit outdoors and adhering to social distancing.
- 4.2 The Dearne Electronic Community Village employability service second year will come to an end in March 2021. The service was given the contract on a 1+1+1 basis. Initially due to COVID the officer had to cease all face to face interventions. That said he has been seeing learners in the building, the learners on site at any one time has reduced and obviously the service were adhering to all guidelines in relation to COVID. Now that Barnsley have entered tier three the service will go back to working virtually with their learners. The recommendation would be for members to approve the continuation of this service into its third and final year of delivery, at a cost of £33,000.
- 4.3 The environmental service delivered by Twigg's was commissioned on a 2+1+1 basis. At the end of March 2021 the service will have been operating for two years. During the first few months of COVID they flexed their service to assist the neighbourhood's team in targeting areas of blight. Although they cannot work in schools and with large groups, they are still assisting groups and working with individuals around the area. They have been contacted by

individuals who have requested equipment to go out and clean their area, therefore Twigg's have provided advice and equipment to assist in this process. The recommendation would be for members to approve the continuation of this service into its third year of delivery, at a cost of £85,000.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Financial update

Officer

Claire Dawson

Dearne Area Council Manager

Tel:

01226 775106

Date: 16th of November 2020

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Appendix One: Financial Update

Area Council Spend	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Base allocation	£200,000	£200,000	
Carry forward	+£16,886.17	+£4,720.67	
Total allocation for year	£216,886.17	£214,720.67 (additional 10k from hardship fund)	
Community Newsletter	-£2,598.50		
Training for Employment	-£33,000	-£33,000	-33,000
Housing and Migration Officer	-£31,557	-£31,557	
Dearne Clean & Tidy	-£85,000	-£85,000	-£85,000
Dearne Development Fund	-£60,000	-£38,000	
Social connectivity		-£27,000	-£27,000
Total spend (actual)	£212,155.50	£214,557	£145,000
Total allocation from main budget remaining		£163.67	
Nesta income		£9,500	
Overall allocation remaining	+£4,720.67	+£9,663.67	

Dearne Development Fund

The projects below were paid for out of the 2019/20 allocation, however due to COVID some of the delivery will be extended into the 2020/21 financial year.

2019/20 Organisation	Duration of funds	Amount	Total allocation remaining
Public Health Grant and Dearne Development Fund Allocation 2019/20			£88,590.88
TADS	May 2019-April 2020	£14,944.73	£73,646.15
Dearne Playhouse	June 2019	£7,126	£66,520.15
Mission Muay Thai	June 2019-September 2019	£2,500	£64,020.15
B:Friend	June 2019-May 2020	£7,384	£56,636.15
Dearne Family Centres	June 2019-Sept 2020	£2,980.69	£53,655.46
CAB	Oct 2019-Oct 2020	£8,069	£45,586.46
DIAL	Dec 2019-Dec 2020	£10,151	£35,435.46
GDG	Dec 2019- Dec 2020	£5,000	£30,435.46
Fit Reds	Jan 2020-Sept 2020	£5,489.33	£24,946.13
Station House	Jan 2020-Jan 2021	£13,340	£11,606.13
TADS	July2020-March2021	£7,955.45	£3,650.68

Carry over from the last financial year		£3,650.68	
Approved at the Area Council on the 27 th of July 2020		£28,000	£31,650.68
Additional financial hardship grant		£10,000	£41,650.68
2020/21 Organisation	Duration of funds	Amount	Total allocation remaining
DIAL	December 2020-2021	£10,151	£31,499.68
CAB	October 2020-2021	£8,072	£23,427.68

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Dearne Area Council Meeting

**Report of Dearne Area
Council Manager**

Dearne Area Ward Alliance Notes

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report appries the Dearne Area Council of the progress made by each Ward in relation Ward Alliance action plans and meeting the ward priorities.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Dearne Area Council receives an update on the progress of the Dearne Ward Alliance for information purposes. Members are reminded of requirement for Ward Alliance minutes to the received by the Area Council.

3.0 Introduction

- 3.1 This report is set within the context of decisions made on the way the Council is structured to conduct business at Area, Ward and Neighbourhood levels (Cab.21.11.2012/6), Devolved Budget arrangements (Cab16.1.2013/10.3), Officer Support (Cab.13.2.2013/9) and Communities and Area Governance Documentation (Cab.8.5.2013/7.1). This report is submitted on that basis.

4.0 Ward Alliance

- 4.1 Two meetings for the Dearne South Ward Alliance have taken place both virtually on the 16th of September & 15th October 2020. In total four applications were submitted and approved for a DEFIB at Goldthorpe Library, set up a new Self-defence class in Bolton on Dearne, extension to the bulky rubbish scheme & match funding to an outdoor area at Highgate Primary Academy.

The WA also discussed future projects confirming the running of Healthy holidays for half term (Fruit & Veg boxes) in which families will be able to access a free box with tutorials via FB on soup making, pumpkin carving and fruit kebab/apple decorating all supplied with a free activity pack for the children.

A winter warmth pack project was discussed around how they could help the elderly & most vulnerable older persons with isolation and fuel poverty – discussions around individuals been referred to the WA for a free pack with some products that will help them through the winter period – discussions to take place with PH Barnsley team.

The Ward Alliance agreed to fund partial Christmas trees on Goldthorpe high street the shopping split with Dearne North WA and Christmas trees for St Andrews Square in Bolton on Dearne – volunteers will decorate and install the

trees on both areas. The meeting also held group updates and discussed potential future projects for 2020/21.

- 4.2** Two meetings for the Dearne North Ward Alliance have taken place both virtually on the 17th of September & 15th October 2020. Four applications were submitted and approved at the meeting for a DEFIB at Goldthorpe Library, Community space match funding for Thurnscoe Big Local on the plaza complex. One more application was sent round via email from Station House Community Association to help with banners on the property. At the October meeting the bulky rubbish scheme was extended and a contribution to the match funding for Highgate Primary Academy for an outdoor area.

The WA also discussed future projects confirming the running of Healthy holidays for half term (Fruit & Veg boxes) in which families will be able to access a free box with tutorials via FB on soup making, pumpkin carving and fruit kebab/apple decorating all supplied with a free activity pack for the children. A winter warmth pack project was discussed around how they could help the elderly & most vulnerable older persons with isolation and fuel poverty – discussions around individuals been referred to the WA for a free pack with some products that will help them through the winter period not only stay warm but also help with isolation with things to do. Further discussions on this will be at the next meeting after a meeting with PH team at Barnsley.

The Ward Alliance agreed to fund partial Christmas trees on Goldthorpe high street the shopping area if they could split the costs with Dearne North – volunteers will decorate and install the trees. The meeting also held group updates and discussed potential future projects for 2020/21.

- 4.3** The reporting into the Dearne Area Council for information, of the Ward Alliance, is in line with the approved Council protocols. Notes are for information only.

Appendix One: Dearne South ward Alliance meeting notes
Appendix Two: Dearne North ward Alliance meeting notes

Officer Contact:
Claire Dawson

Tel. No:
01226 775106

Date:
16th November 2020

Dearne Ward Alliance

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTES

Meeting Title:	Dearne South Ward Alliance
Date & Time:	16 th September 2020, 11:00 AM

Attendees	Apologies
Alan George, Marie Sinclair (CDO), Cllr May noble, Cllr Neil Danforth, Vicky Cuming, Alison Sykes, Carol Hoyland	Cllr Charlotte Buck, Pat Hubery, Mick Moore (tech issues) Donna Gregory (tech issues)

1. Welcomes & introductions.

2. No Minutes of last meeting in June as it was a catch up and meeting the new members meeting.

3. Area Council update

Cllr Noble gave an update about the current covid situation and highlighted that to no surprise there was a spike at the end of July/August in the Wombwell area of Barnsley, there is a testing station at county way in which anyone showing signs or symptoms can easily now get a testing by going online and booking one. She also stated that the NHS track & trace app is available, and everyone is encouraged to download it, however she did state we all need to be more vigilant and responsible in following the local governments recommended guidelines on wearing masks, washing hands and keeping a safe space.

Cllr Noble wanted to say a BIG thank you to all the local volunteers who have been working tirelessly throughout the pandemic helping all the vulnerable and shielding individuals and families in the Dearne area, she was immensely proud of each an everyone, she went on to thank individuals that had assisted the area team and BMBC with the making of the face masks, delivery of them to also to big local Goldthorpe who have been handing our food hampers through Alan George and Dorothy Coates who have also been out to care homes delivering the necessary items, Alison Sykes and the Dearne and district football coaches for handing out food parcels, b friend who have been going out to the vulnerable and isolated people and still kept in touch, she stated the list could go on but thankyou to everyone who has helped in this difficult period.

4. Finance update & Funding application

Alan George the treasurer for Dearne South informed the group of the current committed spend and monies available in the Dearne South ward Alliance bank account - **£7,574.96**

- £1,412.48 – The school uniform project (postponed due to social distancing)
- £4,500- Healthy holidays for both Dearne North & Dearne South 2020/2021
- £1,500 – Goldthorpe Library for afterschool and holiday activities for 2020/2021
- £162.56 disposable funds

Due to the COVID19 monies been re-credited back to the Alliance as part of Barnsley Councils response to COVID19 and supporting the local community the current balance with Dearne South Ward Alliance for projects/initiatives against the area criteria - £11,956.12

2 applications had been submitted –

Application 1 – DEFIB at Goldthorpe Library in which was £500.00 + installation/electrics and new pads estimated up to £1500 which would be split with Dearne North if approved. – After a very brief discussion all agreed to fund the DEFIB and Marie would let everyone know the final costings once assets/FM had given their final quote on the works on the exterior wall to Goldthorpe Library. – **unanimous YES**

Application number 2 - Urban Self-defense classes – £1600 to enable the group to purchase new mats for the classes in which will now take place in Prospect Road as the Group no longer had premises at the Carnegie and wished to re-locate. Brief discussion took place on application – **unanimous YES**

Dearne South Ward Alliance members were reminded that due to COVID19 and the restrictions of running group activities in 2020 would it be at all necessary to use their half of the monies for remaining online/virtual Healthy Holidays projects and CF any monies remaining to next financial year when hopefully things may get back to normality. – All agreed to carry any monies remaining over to 2021.

Goldthorpe library have also requested to carry the monies (£1500.00) forward as due to COVID19 no children can go in for any sessions apart from picking up / dropping off books. All agreed this would be ok.

5. Potential future projects

Marie gave an insight into future potential projects for the school holidays starting with the half term holidays which are approaching in end October, the Dearne area team still have £2200 left over from the Healthy Holidays programme 2020 throughout the 6 weeks holidays in which fruit & veg boxes were given out to our families that needed it the most. She asked if the Ward Alliance would like to ruin a further one with the remaining monies for half term starting 26th October 2020 and the ward alliance are giving out free pumpkin veg boxes to families in need. Families can learn from an online tuition from Tuesday 27th Soup & Stew making, weds 28th Fruit kebabs/apples & finally Thursday 29th pumpkin carving in which all the children will receive half term activity packs – Marie asked for any more ideas, all members stated this was a great idea to try FB live. **All in favor to this suggestion.**

Cllr Noble had another potential project that the Ward Alliance could do this winter was volunteers from the Ward Alliance taking out individual care packages to the residents who reside in residential homes and cannot access the outdoors. Brief conversation took place in which several members stated it would be ideal for these to have a nice hamper or winter warmth packs if they are solely isolated. A further discussion took place on maybe funding residential homes with jigsaw/puzzles/games/magazines/books or asking the homes if they would like some inside activities/booklets for their residents over winter to enjoy whilst they are housebound. **Deferred until next meeting**

Marie had a suggestion from Donna who wasn't present at the meeting but her suggestion for a future project was a Santa sleigh to go around the roads of Bolton on Dearne, Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe. This would give the kids a boost and make them happy. Albeit practicalities may be the issue on this one. Marie asked if anyone knew of any sleighs if they could source any information and come back at the next meeting. **Deferred until next meeting**

A suggestion came up that Bolton on Dearne could have some Christmas lights for in St Andrews square to make the Christmas tree more festive and cheer people up, boost morale around the village. There is an electric point in the square. Marie added that she had visited Colin from the Goldthorpe Town Centre Group to see if they needed any help in to which he stated yes financially the shops have taken a huge hit this year as predicted and really could do with an injection of a boost for local people to shop more local, this could be looked more into to see if the Ward Alliance could maybe fund the Christmas Trees on both shopping centers in Goldthorpe & Bolton on Dearne – all agreed this would be a great idea, regeneration of the shops and highlighting the lovely businesses we have around the Dearne imparticular. Marie to speak to Dearne North & GTT group to highlight more and submit WA application if agreed by all members after the meeting.

Bulky rubbish - Marie informed the group that the Bulky rubbish current balance is at £900 and asked them to review in a few months as to whether they wanted to repeat the application for 2020/21.

Winter warmth packs will be on the list of projects this year and potentially going out to any older persons that have been referred through groups/nurses, individuals or any agencies that know of any older person who are isolated over the winter months – when asked what they would consist of maybe a bit like Christmas hampers with health products but also items to eat too.

6. Group updates:

Sadly, in respect to Goldthorpe development group and BODVAG there is no updates as the groups can not do anything in these covid times.

Salvation Army

Alison has stated that the churches together meeting was today and as they usually do an activity in the half term holidays, they cannot do this this time so they are putting together family boxes on Wednesday the 28th of October and giving them out for family's they will include craft packs and some lunch. This will be at Goldthorpe Pentecostal church and Thurnscoe church. They are planning to box about 100 boxes for families, families will have to book in to receive a box.

The salvation army will also be giving out advent boxes nearer to Christmas.

The salvation army is open from Monday to Friday, there has been an increase with the amount of homeless people coming into the church. Alison mentions they have been paying for clothes, accommodation and food and some of the places Barnsley council are putting them aren't suitable like placing them somewhere that has a bar but no kitchen it isn't ideal at all. Cllr noble responds the council are out talking to people trying to help the homeless but some of them don't want any help.

Alison Sykes says that fair share has been amazing and are providing a lot of food.

Fly tipping has been a big problem at the salvation army with people dumping their rubbish outside the grounds – Marie informed Alison to refer any into the safer neighborhood team email address. Cllr Noble mentions it's not just in our area it is a UK wide problem, no matter what we provide it's a nightmare of a problem. The brick ponds near the doctors in Goldthorpe is still an ongoing problem

7. AOB

Vicky Cuming is sadly resigning as secretary from the ward alliance, a member from the ward alliance will take her place or maybe you will each take a turn at doing the minutes and the agenda.

8. Date and time of the next meeting

Thursday 15th October 2020, 11:00

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Dearne Ward Alliance

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTES

Meeting Title:	Dearne South Ward Alliance
Date & Time:	15 th October 2020, 11am

Attendees	Apologies
Cllr May Noble (Chair), Cllr Neil Danforth, Alison Sykes, Carole Hoyland, Pat Hubery, Mick Moore, Alan George & Marie Sinclair	Donna Gregory, Vicky Cuming, Cllr Buck

1. **Welcomes & introductions.**

Cllr May Noble chaired the meeting & welcomes everyone.

2. **Minutes of last meeting & any matters arising**

Marie informed the members that the DEFIB was all agreed and paid for just awaiting installation date from FM in which once confirmed will ask if anyone would like a social distance photo opportunity to show the financial support from the ward Alliances in the Dearne.

3. **Finance update & Funding application**

Marie gave an update on the balance on the Ward Alliance for the Dearne South to £8553.72

As the bulky rubbish scheme was deferred from the last meeting all agreed to match fund this with Dearne South WA £1000 each ward for a further 12 months - **all in favor of committing £1000 to extending the bulky rubbish scheme to 2021**

Monies for the healthy holidays has been under the committed spend so no monies would be required for half term week.

One application was submitted for Highgate Primary School (£2500.00) to create a social distancing space for raised beds, and canopy to ensure the school children can have classroom lessons and after school activities in a COVID19 friendly outdoor space, they have reached out to many funders to ensure that match funding and many organizations can help and support them on this project – **all agreed to fund – decision unanimous YES**

4. **Project Progress**

Marie gave an update on the half term fruit/veg and pumpkin boxes in which the FB post would be going live W/E 17th October where any families that have financial struggles on their children on free school meals could get access to a free box. The video recording sessions have all been planned for next week in which our local community groups and volunteers have been asked to help on this one, but to also showcase their hard work on their own groups and venues. Marie had asked for £700 cash to be drawn down to purchase items inside the boxes that couldn't be purchased by online sources so we can shop local and help the Dearne economy rather than the bigger online companies.

A further discussion around Winter warmth packs being on the list of projects this year and potentially going out to any older persons that have been referred through groups/nurses, individuals or any agencies that know of any older person who are isolated over the winter months – Marie has got a planned meeting in for early November with Public Health workers on how these could be put together and costs of the items that can be included, once quotes have been collated she will return to the ward alliance for financial help or advice.

5. Group updates

Salvation army – Alison updated the WA with many more families are now accessing the food bank with more problems than food & fuel poverty. She has been updated with single individuals whom are homeless or requiring a warm place to stay, people have currently been referred from the homeless team in Barnsley and not having any success with solutions to their housing and financial issues. Marie advised Alison to speak to Claire Dawson or Phil Hollingsworth to help set up a meeting with the relevant teams to see if any solutions can be made or find out more information on the services offered and what their processes are.

6. AOB

None

7. Date and time of the next meeting

Thursday 19th November 2020 (2pm)

Dearne Ward Alliance

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTES

Meeting Title:	Dearne North Ward Alliance
Date & Time:	17 th September 2020, 11:00 AM

Attendees	Apologies
Cllr Alan Gardiner, Cllr Pauline Phillips, Jackie Kenning, Charlotte Williams, Peter Shields, Derek Bramham	Cllr Annette Gollick, David Jane, Wendy Cain

1. Welcomes & introductions.

2. No Minutes of last meeting in June as it was a catch up and meeting the new members meeting.

3. Area Council update

Cllr Noble had previously given information to the Dearne South Ward Alliance in which wanted to pass onto the Dearne North Ward Alliance members – she gave an update about the current covid situation and highlighted that to no surprise there was a spike at the end of July/August in the Wombwell area of Barnsley, there is a testing station at county way in which anyone showing signs or symptoms can easily now get a testing by going online and booking one. She also stated that the NHS track & trace app is available, and everyone is encouraged to download it, however she did state we all need to be more vigilant and responsible in following the local governments recommended guidelines on wearing masks, washing hands and keeping a safe space.

Cllr Noble wanted to say a BIG thank you to all the local volunteers who have been working tirelessly throughout the pandemic helping all the vulnerable and shielding individuals and families in the Dearne area, she was immensely proud of each and everyone, she went on to thank individuals that had assisted the area team and BMBC with the making of the face masks, delivery of them to also to both Big Locals who have been handing our food hampers and financial COVID19 relief funds to the local community groups too. She also thanked Befriend, Station House, Project 14, Dearne & District FC and the community responders she stated the list could go on but thankyou to everyone who has helped in this difficult period.

4. Finance update & Funding application

Marie gave an update on the balance in the bank for the Dearne North Ward Alliance on committed spend 2020/21

- £1,412.48 – The school uniform project (postponed due to social distancing)
- £4,500- Healthy holidays for both Dearne North & Dearne South 2020/2021
- £1,500 – Thurnscoe Library for afterschool and holiday activities for 2020/2021

Due to the COVID19 monies been re-credited back to the Alliance as part of Barnsley Councils response to COVID19 and supporting the local community the current balance with Dearne South Ward Alliance for projects/initiatives against the area criteria - £10,257.12

2 applications had been submitted –

Application 1 – DEFIB at Goldthorpe Library in which was £500.00 + installation/electrics and new pads estimated up to £1500 which would be split with Dearne North if approved. – After a very brief discussion all agreed to fund the DEFIB and Marie would let everyone know the final costings once assets/FM had given their final quote on the works on the exterior wall to Goldthorpe Library. – **unanimous YES**

Application number 2 – Big Local Thurnscoe Community Plaza garden space for all £5000.00 match funded against many other funding streams Sport England, DDF. Big Local Thurnscoe will invest themselves too. (All members of the Big Local Thurnscoe declared an interest and left their virtual room space) after a brief discussion on the application and what benefits it would add to the community and the legacy once BLT have dispended the group agreed to fund this application (Marie to send out to all other members who are not present at the meeting today) – **unanimous YES**

Dearne North Ward Alliance members were reminded that due to COVID19 and the restrictions of running group activities in 2020 would it be at all necessary to use their half of the monies for remaining online/virtual Healthy Holidays projects and CF any monies remaining to next financial year when hopefully things may get back to normality. – All agreed to carry any monies remaining over to 2021.

Thurnscoe library have also requested to carry the monies (£1500.00) forward as due to COVID19 no children can go in for any sessions apart from picking up / dropping off books. **All agreed this would be ok.**

5. Potential future projects

Marie gave an insight into future potential projects for the school holidays starting with the half term holidays which are approaching in end October, the Dearne area team still have £2200 left over from the Healthy Holidays programme 2020 throughout the 6 weeks holidays in which fruit & veg boxes were given out to our families that needed it the most. She asked if the Ward Alliance would like to ruin a further one with the remaining monies for half term starting 26th October 2020 and the ward alliance are giving out free pumpkin veg boxes to families in need. Families can learn from an online tuition from Tuesday 27th Soup & Stew making, weds 28th Fruit kebabs/apples & finally Thursday 29th pumpkin carving in which all the children will receive half term activity packs – Marie asked for any more ideas, all members stated this was a great idea to try FB live. **All in favor to this suggestion.**

Marie had another potential project that Cllr Noble had asked for in Dearne South at yesterday's meeting that maybe the Dearne North Ward Alliance members could do this winter too; was volunteers from the Ward Alliance taking out individual care packages to the residents who reside in residential homes and cannot access the outdoors. Brief conversation took place in which several members stated it would be ideal for these to have a nice hamper or winter warmth packs if they are solely isolated. A further discussion took place on maybe funding residential homes with jigsaw/puzzles/games/magazines/books or asking the homes if they would like some inside activities/booklets for their residents over winter to enjoy whilst they are housebound. **Deferred until next meeting**

A suggestion came up around Christmas trees in the shopping area of Goldthorpe as Thurnscoe have already committed to this via donations and Big Local Thurnscoe Goldthorpe was the only shopping centre that would require Christmas trees above the shops as in previous years Goldthorpe Town Centre Group have always done this self-sustained through the shops each contributing £20 to have their own tree up and decorated by the local volunteers, as with most things COVID19 does not allow large groups to gather and this has now put a stop to the decorating in the one day they used to with 30 volunteers on hand. Sop the idea was to see if the group would like a donation from both Ward alliances to help cover the costs of the trees for Christmas 2020– all agreed this would be a great idea, regeneration of the shops and highlighting the lovely businesses we have around the Dearne imparticular. Marie to speak to Dearne North & GTT group to highlight more and submit WA application if agreed by all members after the meeting. **All in favor to this suggestion.**

Bulky rubbish - Marie informed the group that the Bulky rubbish current balance is at £900 and asked them to review in a few months as to whether they wanted to repeat the application for 2020/21. **Deferred until next meeting**

Marie stated there had been an idea from a Dearne South ward alliance member who wasn't present at the meeting yesterday but her suggestion for a future project was a Santa sleigh to go around the roads of Bolton on Dearne, Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe. This would give the kids a boost and make them happy. Albeit practicalities may be the issue on this one. Marie asked if anyone knew of any sleighs if they could source any information and come back at the next meeting. **Deferred until next meeting**

A discussion around Winter warmth packs being on the list of projects this year and potentially going out to any older persons that have been referred through groups/nurses, individuals or any agencies that know of any older person who are isolated over the winter months – when asked what they would consist of maybe a bit like Christmas hampers with health products but also items to eat too. **All in favor to this suggestion.**

6. Group updates:

Salvation Army

Alison has stated that the churches together meeting was today and as they usually do an activity in the half term holidays, they cannot do this this time so they are putting together family boxes on Wednesday the 28th of October and giving them out for family's they will include craft packs and some lunch. This will be at Goldthorpe Pentecostal church and Thurnscoe church. They are planning to box about 100 boxes for families, families will have to book in to receive a box.

The salvation army will also be giving out advent boxes nearer to Christmas.

The salvation army is open from Monday to Friday, there has been an increase with the amount of homeless people coming into the church. Alison mentions they have been paying for clothes, accommodation and food and some of the places Barnsley council are putting them aren't suitable like placing them somewhere that has a bar but no kitchen it isn't ideal at all. Cllr noble responds the council are out talking to people trying to help the homeless but some of them don't want any help.

Alison Sykes says that fair share has been amazing and are providing a lot of food.

Fly tipping has been a big problem at the salvation army with people dumping their rubbish outside the grounds – Marie informed Alison to refer any into the safer neighborhood team email address. Cllr Noble mentions it's not just in our area it is a UK wide problem, no matter what we provide it's a nightmare of a problem. The brick ponds near the doctors in Goldthorpe is still an ongoing problem

Big Local Thurnscoe

BLT have had 9 applications so far for the Thurnscoe Enterprise Fund, the fund was set up to give grants up to £500 to help people in Thurnscoe who have set up a new business or are having problems during the Covid19 to cover costs in their business. The Plaza continues to make slow progress, 2 surveys have now been completed and the results along with the designs sent to Assets ready for approval at the next cabinet meeting. BLT are looking at doing something different for Christmas as we can't go ahead with an event.

Station House Community Association

Station House was delighted to open during the summer holiday to enable working parents to return to work. Number were very reduced compared to normal, but additional funding was found to make up the difference. 15 children from 12 different families attended over the 6 weeks, the feedback from working parents was that without our service they would not have returned to work, and they also appreciated the importance of play and comradeship that their children had access too. For 4 Mondays we hosted a Holiday Hamper project, 96 families received a food/activity hamper. This was a joint project with Fare share, Thurnscoe Big Local, The Hill academy, Public health Healthy holidays and work alongside the Daren Area Team fruit box project.

September: Playgroup and Afterschool club has restarted and both sessions are as full as we are allowed to be.

The staff all received extra uniform thanks to funding from Area team and would like to pass their thanks on for this ☺

Thurnscoe Park

Pauline stated a few issues around the anti-social behavior but as the dark nights are drawing in this may help with the lowering of kids coming out in the dark. The events have all been postponed now until further notice. Volunteers are still helping on Weds (weather permitting)

Dearne Memorial Group

The updates for the Barnsley Cemeteries and Cremations up to 2019 have now been put on the Old Website and the New one, at the moment the maps for burial locations, these are the detailed grave location with grave numbers are being put on the new site, things are a bit slow due to social distancing of staff.

We do not have meetings due to all our members being in the vulnerable area, but I contact them by other means, The Baby section is being maintained by Eric Cooper who is working to the Covid rules. Otherwise all is well.

7. AOB

Vicky Cuming is sadly resigning as secretary from the ward alliance, a member from the ward alliance will take her place or maybe you will each take a turn at doing the minutes and the agenda.

8. Date and time of the next meeting

Thursday 15th October 2020, 14:00pm

Dearne Ward Alliance

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTES

Meeting Title:	Dearne North Ward Alliance
Date & Time:	15 th October 2020, 2pm

Attendees	Apologies
Cllr Alan Gardiner, Cllr Pauline Phillips, Jackie Kenning, Charlotte Williams, Peter Shields, Derek Bramham Wendy Cain, Cllr Gollick & David Jane were not visible by camera as both had technical issues but could hear the meeting ok	None

1. **Welcomes & introductions.**

As Cllr Gollick no longer wanted to Chair the Dearne North Ward Alliance meetings Cllr Gardiner agreed to Chair this meeting.

2. **Minutes of last meeting & any matters arising**

Marie informed the members that the DEFIB was all agreed and paid for just awaiting installation date from FM in which once confirmed will ask if anyone would like a social distance photo opportunity to show the financial support from the ward Alliances in the Dearne.

3. **Finance update & Funding application**

Marie gave an update on the balance on the Ward Alliance for the Dearne North to £3282.92 and advised the WA that the costings for FM to install the Defib at Goldthorpe library was a further £600.00 out of the WA budget due to the placement and lack of electric points.

As the bulky rubbish scheme was deferred from the last meeting all agreed to match fund this with Dearne South WA £1000 each ward - **all in favor of committing £1000 to extending the bulky rubbish scheme to 2021**

Monies for the healthy holidays has been under the committed spend so no monies would be required for half term week.

Cllr Gardiner asked if monies would be needed to pay for the winter warmth project in which Marie stated no you would need this to come out of your monies available unless external funding could also be sourced for the project.

One application was submitted for Highgate Primary School (£2500.00) to create a social distancing space for raised beds, and canopy to ensure the school children can have classroom lessons and after school activities in a COVID19 friendly outdoor space, they have reached out to many funders to ensure that match funding and many organizations can help and support them on this project – **a discussion took place on this application in which all agreed to reduce the amount to £750.00.**

Balance after all applications up to 31st October 2020 - £932.92

4. Project Progress

Marie gave an update on the half term fruit/veg and pumpkin boxes in which the FB post would be going live W/E 17th October where any families that have financial struggles on their children on free school meals could get access to a free box. The video recording sessions have all been planned for next week in which our local community groups and volunteers have been asked to help on this one, but to also showcase their hard work on their own groups and venues. Marie had asked for £700 cash to be drawn down to purchase items inside the boxes that couldn't be purchased by online sources so we can shop local and help the Dearne economy rather than the bigger online companies.

A further discussion around Winter warmth packs being on the list of projects this year and potentially going out to any older persons that have been referred through groups/nurses, individuals or any agencies that know of any older person who are isolated over the winter months – Marie has got a planned meeting in for early November with Public Health workers on how these could be put together and costs of the items that can be included, once quotes have been collated she will return to the ward alliance for financial help or advice.

5. Group updates:

Salvation Army

Salvation army – Jackie updated the WA with many more families are now accessing the food bank with more problems than food & fuel poverty. She has been undated with single individuals whom are homeless or requiring a warm place to stay, people have currently been referred from the homeless team in Barnsley and not having any success with solutions to their housing and financial issues. Marie advised Alison to speak to Claire Dawson or Phil Hollingsworth to help set up a meeting with the relevant teams to see if any solutions can be made or find out more information on the services offered and what their processes are.

Big Local Thurnscoe

BLT are moving forward with the Community Plaza and we are sorting the correct paperwork for the planning application and lease of the land along Houghton Road for the Plaza. BLT have had a number of applications to the Thurnscoe Enterprise Fund and the Partnership have approved and awarded 9 applications to-date for a total of 4k. As we can't have any events this Christmas BLT have decided to have a fly past with a Christmas banner, this is much cheaper than the cost of our Christmas Cracker event, BLT hope this will remind the community of Thurnscoe that they are not forgotten in these difficult times and give the youngsters something to look out for.

Station House Community Association

Charlotte thanked the group for funding the inspiration Banners in the garden she also reported the children were starting to show signs of distress (particularly 5-11 years) Children were clearly anxious about covid and the effects it is having on family life. All services are now open but running under very strict guidelines, one being no volunteers or students. We have been told to expect that any closures of childcare and/or education would be the very last thing to happen.

The impact of covid is less children allowed in and less demand from working parents (shielding/isolating/just very worried) increased staffing to enable safe working practice, this means less income and more outgoings. We have some additional grants, but they won't last forever.

Thurnscoe Park

Volunteers still working hard and within the guidelines, lots still to be done – no events, no remembrance and no group gatherings.

Dearne Memorial Group

Peter gave a update on the remembrances in the Dearne and highlighted no formal service will be taking place due to the restrictions and tiers that we are currently in. Any wreaths can be laid still.

6. AOB

None

7. Date and time of the next meeting

Thursday 19th November 2020 (2pm)

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**BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
DEARNE AREA COUNCIL**

**Report of the
Dearne Area Council Manager**

Update on Ward Alliance Fund Spend

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 This report seeks to inform Members about spend to date from Ward Alliance Funds within the Dearne Area.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That the Dearne Area Council receives the Ward Alliance Fund Report and notes any spend to date for the Wards of Dearne North and Dearne South.

3.0 Introduction

3.1 This report is set within the context of decisions made with regards to Ward Alliance Fund arrangements (Cab16.1.2013/10.3).

3.2 In considering projects for the use of the Ward Alliance Funds, Members are satisfied that the projects identified meet a recognised need for the Ward, are in the wider public interest, and represent value for money.

4.0 Spend to date

4.1 The Dearne North Ward Alliance starting balance for the 2020/21 financial year is £12,247.12 this includes the underspend of £247.12 from the 2019/20 budget £10,000 Ward Alliance monies 2020/21 + £2000 COVID support funds. To date they have provided funds to 8 projects at a cost of £11,314.20 leaving a balance of £932.92

4.2 The Dearne South Ward Alliance starting balance for the 2020/21 financial year is £16,605.12 this includes the underspend of £4,605.12 from the 2019/20 budget + £10,000 Ward Alliance monies 2020/21 + £2000 COVID support funds. To date they have provided funds to 7 projects at a cost of £12,151.40 leaving a balance of £4453.72

5.0 Appendix

Appendix One: Breakdown of Ward Alliance Spend

Officer:
Claire Dawson
Dearne Area Council Manager

Tel:
07741168798

Date: 16th November 2020

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2020/21 WARD FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

For 2020/21 each Ward will have an allocation of £10,000 Ward Alliance Fund.

The carry-forward and overspend of the 2019/20 Ward Alliance Fund were combined and added to the 2020/21 Allocation and to be managed as a single budget.

Dearne North Ward Alliance budget

For the 2020/21 financial year the Ward Alliance has the following available budget.

£10,000 base allocation + CF £247.12 from 2019/20 + £2000.00 covid funds

£12,247.12 total available funding

<u>App no.</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Project end date</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Allocation remaining</u>
001	WA Healthy Holidays 6 weeks matched with Big Locals/Public Health	September 2020	£2000.00	£10247.12
002	Station House Community Association – COVID19 specific	March 2021	£270.00	£9977.12
003	Defib at Goldthorpe Library	Dec 2020	£750.00*	£9227.12
004	Big Local Thurnscoe – plaza community garden set up	March 2021	£5000.00	£4227.12
005	Station House Community Association – banners	March 2021	£244.20	£3982.92
006	Dearne North Christmas Tree – high street regeneration in Goldthorpe	Jan 2021	£700.00	£3282.92
007	Highgate Primary School – outdoor activity area	April 2021	£750.00	£2532.92
008	Bulky Rubbish scheme	Sept 2021	£1000.00	£1532.92
003	Extension of monies for DEFIB installation	Dec 2020	£600.00*awaiting actual amount from FM	£932.92

Total spend = £11,314.20

Match funded = £5700.00

Dearne South Ward Alliance budget

For the 2020/21 financial year the Ward Alliance has the following available budget.

£10,000 base allocation + CF £4,605.12 from 2019/20 + £2000 Covid funds

£16,605.12 total available funding

<u>App no.</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Project end date</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Allocation remaining</u>
001	WA Healthy Holidays 6 weeks matched with Big Locals/Public Health	September 2020	£2000.00	£14605.12
012	Dearne Community Active Group	May 2020	£1520.40	£13084.72
009	BODY Carnegie Self Defence Classes (2019-2020 previous years payment missed)	March 2021	£1049.00	£12035.72
003	Defib at Goldthorpe Library	Dec 2020	£750.00*	£11285.72
010	Urban Impact self-defence Group	March 2021	£1600.00	£9685.72
011	Dearne South Christmas Tree – high street regeneration in Goldthorpe/Bolton on Dearne	Jan 2021	£1132.00	£8553.72
007	Highgate Primary School – outdoor activity area	April 2021	£2500.00	£6053.72
008	Bulky Rubbish scheme	Sept 2021	£1000.00	£5053.72
003	Extension of monies for DEFIB installation	Dec 2020	£600.00*awaiting actual amount from FM	£4453.72

Total spend= £12,151.40

Match funded = £3781.00