

MEETING:	Central Area Council
DATE:	Wednesday, 27 April 2022
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Williams (Chair), Bowser, Bruff, Clarke, K. Dyson, M. Dyson, P. Fielding, Gillis, Lodge, Mitchell, Risebury, Wray and Wright

33 Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute number 35 due to the position of his wife as acting chair of YMCA Barnsley.

34 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Central Area Council held on 30th March, 2022 (Cen.27.04.2022/2)

The meeting received the minutes from the previous meeting of Central Area Council held on 30th March, 2022.

Members noted that with regard to Minute 30 'Procurement and Financial Update' in relation to the income from Fixed Penalty Notices issues of contention went through to a Liverpool office. Members queried why would this happen and were assured this would be looked into

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Central Area Council held on 30th March, 2022 be approved as a true and correct record.

35 The Youth Association and YMCA (Cen.27.04.2022/3)

Dimitri Fedetov and Faye Dolan from The Youth Association were welcomed to the meeting to provide Members with an overview of the performance of the service which has supported young people in a number of wards in the area. They outlined the history and approach of the service which included progressive on street youthwork.

A presentation was delivered which detailed the work they were delivering in each ward. In Worsborough this involved concentrating on supporting young women with a street-based curriculum which empowers young girls by reducing barriers using dance, skateboarding and taster sessions in boxercise and rock climbing. Boys were also included when working on self-defence and also took part in caged steel mixed martial arts to help them feel safer. In relation to Worsborough Park improvements, young people had been involved in decision making and the planning of the project work and had delivered a community day for Halloween

In the Central Ward the focus was on sport and those involved were looking at applying for external funding to support this; in the Stairfoot area they had identified

anti-social behaviour, community relationships and LQBT as issues on which young people wanted to concentrate. In Kingstone the focus was on delivering sporting activities and developing ambassadors for the service.

Additionally, the service had concentrated on exposing young people to positive role models with trips and visits from key people. Furthermore, there had been support for community groups such as Bank End Club, Worsborough Community Group and Care for Kendray, along with deep dive training for grassroots volunteers to help them run their own youth focused projects.

In the ensuing discussion reference was made to the following:

- It was explained that a number of spaces were utilised throughout the area for indoor work including the Ward Green Centre, Libraries and Worsborough Common Community Centre;
- The service stated they were working with other organisations to combat issues such as anti-social behaviour;
- It was agreed that contact details provide could be shared;
- Members passed on their congratulations on the work being done by the Youth Association. However, queries were received in relation to how to address any urgent work needed in a particular area. The service responded that they would always aim to be involved but acknowledged that there were not enough resources to enable them to act as a task force and that acute issues were not part of their remit. More in detail information was also given on how support was provided, as well as agencies involved, in relation to CSE.

Members questioned whether grant funding could enable the Youth Association delivery to be spread across the whole area of need. Councillor Williams clarified that the possibility of the Youth Association Service being available for the whole of the Central Area was being explored

Andrea Battye, Jeff Platts and Joanne King from YMCA were welcomed to the meeting to provide an overview on the Unity Project and work in the Dodworth Ward, both of which aimed to enable young people to thrive, belong and contribute. In the Central area they had been working on a detached youth work environmental project, after school clubs, special educational needs and disability and street projects to provide positive experiences. Examples of their work was provided, such as in the Kingstone area they had after school and holiday clubs at Joseph Locke and Horizon and an allotment at YMCA. At Stairfoot they had after school and holiday provision at Forest Academy and Barnsley Academy. In the Worsborough area they had after school and holiday provision at Ward Green Primary School and a Youth Club at Kendray and Worsborough Family Centre. In Dodworth at Keresforth Primary School they had a holiday and an after-school club, and they also ran two youth clubs from St John's the Baptist Church. Furthermore, in the town centre they ran the YMCA hub alongside Chilypep which supported young people with Social, Emotional and Mental Health. This had been beneficial for the young people involved.

Joanne's role was Unity Project Coordinator, and this project had been commissioned until March 2023. In providing term time, after school, evening and holiday clubs the same staff were involved to help provide consistency. During 21/22 the service had delivered 441 sessions and 5401 youth opportunities.

Members heard of the future plans for the service included continuing to provide young people centred youth work, and creative and engaging opportunities. YMCA youth ambassadors were being established and a youth board developed to ensure young people had a voice. Additionally, they were developing their work with Chilypep and had recently held a 'What Matters to Me' exhibition.

Jeff Platts the 13-19 Coordinator provided an overview of the detached street-based programme in Dodworth and Gilroyd which was funded until June 2022. The service had used bushcraft, sports and arts and crafts, as vehicles to carry out discrete youth work. In 2021/22 46 sessions were delivered. Key areas for support were identified in Gilroyd due to Anti-Social Behaviour and Covid Restrictions - the service had worked on addressing these areas.

In Dodworth due to young men struggling with general academic skills, the service had been concentrating on indoor activity based transferrable skills. Their future plans included consulting with Dodworth Group regarding cross generational involvement.

In ensuing discussion, the following matters were raised:

- Members acknowledged the struggles with engaging young people during covid and asked how they were recruiting young people now. The service clarified they had always been visible and developed a wide range of street based socially distanced games during Covid. Now with the better weather they were going to be out even more, e-mailing people, and carrying out other exercises to promote YMCA such as community events, whilst continuing to focus on established groups.
- Members questioned why the project was only working with one primary school in the Central Ward and asked will the other two schools be involved? They also asked if, in relation to Horizon Community College whether young people from other schools attended? The service identified that they concentrated on the areas of most need but did maintain contact with other schools and carry out some short-term work.
- Members praised the service for their good work but asked the service why the 13-19 work was only undertaken in Dodworth. The service explained that funding dictated where the work was carried out and the Chair acknowledged that the Youth Association was working in other areas.
- Member asked about what support was available for young people 15-16 and whether they worked with those identified as NEET or likely to be. As young people were approaching school leaving age the service had been working with colleagues across Barnsley to be support these young people. It was noted that many did aspire to go to college. The service had also been carrying out some drug prevention work with a few of the older age range.
- Members requested contact details to be circulated as this would assist with collaboration with local groups.

RESOLVED that YMCA and Youth Association be thanked for attending the meeting, for their presentation and for answering Members' questions.

36 Procurement and Financial Update (Cen.27.04.2022/4)

The Area Council Managers introduced the item which provided an up-to-date overview of current priorities as well as an overview of all current contracts, contract extensions, Service Level Agreements and Grant Funded projects together with the associated timescales together with the financial position to date and projections to 2023/24.

It was noted that:

- The financial envelope for the youth work fund had been approved at area council in February;
- The proposed timeline had been implemented with work being carried out with Chilypep and objectives identified which included sourcing volunteers for the grants panel and ensuring young people's voices were heard. It was noted that the timeline highlighted the delivery date of 1st July, 2022 with existing contracts due to end on 31st June.
- The Environmental Clean and Green Contract had been awarded to Twiggs for lot 1, with options for lot 2 to be agreed. Members heard how Twiggs had commenced delivery and would attend all Ward Alliances quarterly in addition to contract management meetings;
- With reference to lot 2 of the Environmental Clean and Green contract, it was noted that an examination would be undertaken to ascertain why some organisations may have been reluctant to submit tenders;
- Reference was also made to the valuable contribution of volunteers to the success of various projects and initiatives.

RESOLVED:-

- i) That the overview of the Central Area Council's current priorities, and overview of all current contracts, contract extensions, Service Level Agreements and Wellbeing Fund projects, with associated timescales, be noted;
- ii) That the actual financial positions to date for 2022/2023 and the projected expenditures, including future proposals, to 2023/24 as outlined in Appendices 1 & 2 be noted; and
- iii) That the responsibility to approve all necessary paperwork in order to ensure the procurement and approval of Youth Work Grand funded projects (up to a total value of £65,000 per annum) be delegated to the Executive Director Adults and Communities.

37 Notes of the Ward Alliances (Cen.27.04.2022/5)

The meeting received the notes of the meetings following Ward Alliances within the Central Area:-

Central Ward Alliance held on 2nd March 2022
Kingstone Ward Alliance held on 16th March 2022

Councillor Clarke made Members aware of the the success of the Age UK Group in the Worsbrough Ward. It was noted that this had been replicated in the Stairfoot Ward.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received.

38 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Cen.27.04.2022/6)

The report regarding the use of Ward Alliance Funds in the area was received.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

39 Appreciation - Councillor Bruff

The Chair noted that this would be the last meeting of the Area Council attended by Councillor Bruff. He placed on record his thanks for her dedication, contribution and the challenge provided to the Area Council.

This sentiment was echoed by all Members present.

RESOLVED that the Area Council extends to Councillor Bruff their best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Chair