

<b>MEETING:</b>	Penistone Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Thursday, 2 December 2021
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Penistone Town Hall

## AGENDA

- 1 Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

### Minutes and notes

- 2 Minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 7th October, 2021  
(Pac.02.12.2021/2) *(Pages 3 - 8)*
- 3 Notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 11th November, 2021  
(Pac.02.12.2021/3) *(Pages 9 - 10)*

### Performance

- 4 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Pac.02.12.2021/4) *(Pages 11 - 14)*
- 5 Performance Report Q2 (Pac.02.12.2021/5) *(Pages 15 - 30)*

### Items for decision

- 6 Procurement and Financial Update (Pac.02.12.2021/6) *(Pages 31 - 48)*

To: Chair and Members of Penistone Area Council:-

Councillors Barnard (Chair), Greenhough, Hand-Davis, Kitching, Lowe-Flello and Wilson

Area Council Support Officers:

Matt Bell, Penistone Area Council Senior Management Link Officer  
Elaine Equeall, Penistone Area Council Manager  
Rachel Payling, Head of Service, Stronger Communities  
Peter Mirfin, Council Governance Officer  
Cath Bedford, Public Health Principal - Communities

Please contact Lynne Herbert on email [governance@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:governance@barnsley.gov.uk)

Wednesday, 24 November 2021

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<b>MEETING:</b>	Penistone Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Thursday, 7 October 2021
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Council Chamber, Penistone Town Hall

## MINUTES

**Present** Councillors Barnard (Chair), Kitching and Wilson

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

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

### 16 Minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 22nd July, 2021 (Pac.07.10.2021/2)

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2021.

The Area Council Manager made Members aware that figures relating to the Healthy Holidays provision had been received, and around only 25% of places available had been accessed. Members views on this were encouraged to influence future provision.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2021 be approved as a true and correct record.

### 17 Notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 23rd September, 2021 (Pac.07.10.2021/3)

The meeting received the notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2021.

**RESOLVED** that the notes from the Penistone Ward Alliance held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2021 be received.

### 18 Cancer Screening Behavioural Insights - Kaye Mann (Pac.07.10.2021/8)

Kaye Mann, Public Health Specialist Practitioner, BMBC, was welcomed to the meeting.

Members were reminded that 1 in 2 people get Cancer in their lifetime and that potentially 600 new cancers could be postponed or prevented each year in Barnsley. Members heard that the leading causes of death from cancer in Barnsley are lung, prostate, and breast cancer.

It was noted that living a healthy life did make cancer less likely, including being smoke free, keeping a healthy weight, and being more active.

Those present heard of the importance of early diagnosis, which led to an improved chance of surviving cancer. The importance of attending screening was also stressed. It was noted that screening rates in Barnsley were only slightly lower than the national average, but that there were still significant numbers of people not undergoing screening.

Attention was drawn to the signs and symptoms of common cancers. The need for residents to have themselves checked if they experienced these symptoms or experienced any changes in their body was stressed.

An overview of behavioural insights and nudge theory was provided, and examples given of where this could be utilised to increase numbers accessing cancer screening.

Members heard of the behaviour science trial being conducted. Based at the food bank in the Dearne, this would see staff and volunteers speak to clients, and where appropriate offer to refer them to Care Coordinators at GP surgeries. The Care Coordinators would then be able to proactively book appointments. It was noted that promotion of the trial would commence shortly, and, if successful, elements could be rolled out across the borough.

The meeting heard of the support services available for those recently diagnosed with cancer living in a Barnsley postcode or accessing services at a Barnsley Hospital.

Members were asked to promote healthy lifestyle messages, raise awareness of the signs and symptoms of cancer and encourage the uptake of screening. This included sharing positive messages on social media.

The message of consulting a GP if something did not feel right was also emphasised. It was noted that GPs were extremely busy, but it was suggested that awareness could be raised that if residents highlighted that their symptoms may be linked to cancer, this would help prioritise appointments.

Those present discussed the difficulties in securing an appointment with a GP, and it was agreed that these would be fed back to the CCG. However, it was also stressed that it may be more appropriate for residents to see other health professionals. It was noted that discussions were taking place regarding provision within the Glassworks to help increase the uptake of screening.

Members suggested engaging Parish Councils on this agenda, which may include information being placed on their noticeboards, websites and in their magazines.

**RESOLVED** that thanks be given for the presentation, and that Councillors respond to the asks of them.

## **19 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Pac.07.10.2021/4)**

Members received the report, noting its contents. School's Out provision was briefly discussed, and it was suggested that this be put on the agenda of a future Ward Alliance meeting.

Members were made aware of a potential project in the Silkstone Area, which required some support to establish. It suggested that providers engaged through the Working Together Fund Supporting Young People finance may be able to assist.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

## **20 Performance Report - Q1 (Pac.07.10.2021/5)**

The Area Council Manager spoke to the report, previously circulated, drawing attention to the revised format, with feedback being sought from Members.

It was noted that the report included the Area Council priorities, and which commissioned services delivered against these. An overview of performance against recorded indicators was also provided, which usefully compared these to performance in previous years. It was noted that much of the increased performance related to the relaxing of restrictions, enabling more residents to take part in activities.

The Clean, Green and Tidy Commission delivered by Twiggs Grounds Maintenance had supported 189 volunteers, who had pledged 398 volunteer hours. The service had filled 899 rubbish bags and delivered 17 value added projects. Within the quarter, 12 groups had been supported against a target of 10, as well as 16 individual projects. Questions were raised around what happened to the litter, and it was noted that this was processed with household waste arisings, with all but a small proportion of this being diverted from landfill. Members heard that links had been maintained with primary schools, and that work was starting to recommence.

The work to support vulnerable and isolated older people, delivered by Age UK Barnsley, had supported 211 people with 547 interventions. 30 volunteers had been engaged, with assistance being provided for residents to access an estimated additional £18,636.80 in benefits.

Lot 1 concentrated on social action and volunteering and had provided one to one support to 24 existing users and to 5 new users. Information and advice had been provided to 16 individuals, with just 4 community car journeys provided due to the limitations associated with the pandemic. Within the quarter there had been 8 new referrals, one volunteer had received their five-year service award, and two additional volunteers had been recruited. Members heard of the links made with Thurlstone Primary school, as one of Age UK service users had made 48 bug hotels. Also noted was the organisation of a Christmas lunch at Wortley Golf Club which had been booked for 1<sup>st</sup> December.

Lot 2 focused on community activities, and there had been an increase due to the relaxing of restrictions. Pilley Healthy Life group had restarted with a 6-week programme of Tai Chi for Arthritis and Falls Prevention. The social group at Wortley St. Leonard's Church was also planning to restart. The service was planning to conduct a survey around the Dunford Bridge, Crow Edge and Carlecotes area to establish whether there was demand for local group activities. Promotion of the service was also taking place in Cawthorne with the view to start a walking group utilising Cannon Hall grounds.

An outside event for residents in Thurgoland had been planned, and the membership of the Silkstone Walk for Health group had increased significantly.

19 residents had attended the launch of Wentworth Castle Gardens Walk, with more planned. There had also been discussions about the relaunch of Men In Sheds, with concern raised about the lack of space in the current shed.

Lot 3 of the programme concentrated on establishing a network of interested parties who supported older people. Efforts had been made to re-establish this and links made between Age Friendly Penistone and Age Friendly Barnsley. This has resulted in the target to provide more seats in public places.

The service provided by Citizens Advice Bureau had supported 27 individuals within the quarter and had assisted the management of £6,000 of debt and the claiming of £2,000 of additional benefit. 40 hours of volunteering had been pledged within the quarter. Members noted that only 11% of users accessed the service for debt advice, however the potential impact of the impending changes to benefits and on the powers of landlords was noted.

DIAL Barnsley had received 97 enquiries within the quarter and supported £39,492 of benefit claims. 50 hours of volunteer time had been pledged and the project had returned £12 for every £1 invested. Though 44% of users had been provided with assistance related to benefits, it was noted that the service had also been providing support to those socially isolated who had previously accessed the service.

An overview of the projects funded using Young People Grant Fund finance was provided. Ad Astra will provide mental wellbeing at Penistone Grammar School to those pre-16 and had promoted the service during the summer. Penistone Grammar School was providing similar to those post 16, and it was noted this was not due to start until September. Penistone Girl Guiding had commenced their support to young women as part of a 'Challenge' Badge, however this had been limited by restrictions.

Members noted that Angel Voices had delivered a number of singing workshops, and a charity performance had been planned for the autumn.

Activities at Penistone Leisure Centre had commenced, with Teen Boxing proving to be popular. In addition, finance had been provided to the Active Minds project at Penistone FM, with trainees covering some events over the summer, including one at New Royd Community Garden.

Members noted the work of the Penistone Team and discussed how best to further promote the work of the team and of commissioned services. It was suggested that space in Penistone Living be purchased, as previously, with finance already being approved for this.

Comments were provided on the report, with the prevailing view to keep the report as simple as possible, with exception reports where performance levels raised concerns. In addition, it was suggested that the font be larger to aid accessibility.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

## **21 Procurement and Financial Update (Pac.07.10.2021/6)**

The Area Council Manager spoke to the report noting that there had been little change in the financial picture.

Members were reminded that activities funded by the Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People Grant had been extended during the pandemic for six months, and later on due to a further period of six months. A workshop had been convened to discuss the requirements of a future service to support older and vulnerable residents, and the Area Council Manager was in the process of developing a specification. Members noted that finance had already been allocated to this.

Those present heard that there had been no applications received from the Working Together Fund aside from £494 used to supplement the grant for younger people. Therefore, £33,699 of Working Together Fund remained for allocation, and it was agreed that this would be promoted widely.

Members were reminded that the Clean Green and Tidy Service was in the second year of the service, and there was the option of extending the service for a further 12-month period, which would be discussed later in the year.

It was noted that the Ward Alliance had a working budget of £26,925 for the 2021/22 financial year. An additional £10,000 had been ringfenced to encourage applications from groups during the summer holidays. Members noted £8,410 of this remained unallocated. Therefore, a total figure of £18,620.13 remained within the Ward Alliance Fund. It was suggested that the next meeting of the Area Council may wish to consider devolving further finance to the Ward Alliance Fund.

An overview of the budget was provided. For 2021/22 £215,225 was available, which included any underspend carried forward. An additional £10,000 was also provided from financial hardship monies.

Following approvals for the Clean, Green and Tidy contract, Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People Grants, and after devolving £10,000 to the Ward Alliance Fund, £70,225 remained. However, it was noted that £18,880 of Self Isolation Funds had been received and therefore the budget remaining for allocation was £89,105.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

## **22 Feedback from Community Listening (Pac.07.10.2021/7)**

The Area Council Manager spoke to the item providing Members with an update on the community listening exercises held during the summer. The exercise provided an opportunity for the area team to come together, offered an opportunity for reflection, and also was used to promote the Area Council and Ward Alliance.

The exercise was not designed to be a statistically accurate, but more to provide an indication of the views of the community. A number of events were attended, a stall was held on Penistone Market, residents were also engaged on social media and through Age UK. In addition, the team held a number of walks where conversations were had with residents along the route. A number of sessions were held to targeted certain groups of residents as well..

The exercise yielded 81 responses; however, it was noted that the online survey was still open. There had been responses from a varied range of ages, but respondents were largely women. 15% of those responded highlighted they had a disability, with 11% preferring not to say.

In responding to what they loved about the community, people highlighted that they liked the countryside, that the area was friendly with good community spirit, and that there was now more places to eat.

In response to the second question about what was needed now and in the future, people highlighted that there was good access to green spaces, good facilities, lots going on, and that the area was safe and good for families.

However, in relation to what was needed, and would add to quality of life, areas such as provision for young people, affordable housing and improved infrastructure were highlighted. Issues with traffic, signage and streetlights were also highlighted, as was access to a GP and to a dentist. Residents raised issues with parking, but also suggested a growth in the high street was positive.

In responding to a question about what had changed for residents due to the pandemic, people said that they now spent more time with family, enjoying countryside and locally. People were generally more conscious about their health, but some highlighted increased anxiety about going out and crowds.

Overall, the exercise had offered an opportunity to reengage as a team and have conversations with people at events. A number of residents had raised issues and been signposted to resolve these, and services available to residents had been promoted.

Members were asked whether they felt the exercise raised any new issues, and whether the Area Council priorities remained valid.

Road safety was discussed, including recent issues at Hazlehead, and it was noted that this was outside the remit of the Area Council.

In relation to the findings, it was thought that the Area Council was already aware of many of the issues and that the Area Council priorities still remained relevant.

**RESOLVED** that the findings of the Community Listening Exercise be noted, and that the Area Council priorities be reaffirmed.

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Chair



**NOTES OF PENISTONE WARD ALLIANCE MEETING  
Thursday 11 November 2021, 7pm, Penistone Town Hall**

**1. Present:** Cllr Robert Barnard (Chair), Graham Saunders, Allen Pestell, Cllr John Wilson, Jon Cutts, Cllr Paul Hand-Davis, Cllr David Greenhough, Ann Walker, Cllr Mandy Lowe-Flello, Cllr Hannah Kitching, Bob Blythe, Joe Unsworth.

**In Attendance:** Tanya Dickinson, Elaine Equeall

**Apologies:** Pauline Ogden, Barbara Lee, Richard Leech

**2. Penistone Council Update**

Elaine Equeall presented information to update the Ward Alliance on the current work of the Penistone Area Council. (Presentation attached.) The Ward Alliance was asked to support the following:

- Working Together Fund – This fund is a good progression route for smaller groups who may have already received Ward Alliance funding but are now looking to expand. WA members asked to promote amongst groups who they feel may be eligible. Action: WA members.
- Support for young people's health and wellbeing – As part of this the Area Council devolved £10k to the Ward Alliance which is sitting within the 'Schools Out' fund. WA members asked to promote this fund as much as possible amongst groups who may have capacity to deliver young people's activities during the school holidays. Action: WA members.
- Take a seat campaign – As part of Barnsley becoming an age friendly town a campaign is underway to identify local benches which are ideal for older people to take a rest. WA members asked to have a think and let the Area Team know of any suggestions. An age friendly plaque can then be fitted to the identified benches. Action: WA members.
- S106 – The Area Council has recently received an update from S106 colleagues about current schemes and the process involved with this. There is an offer from the project manager to attend a WA meeting to offer the same information. The WA would like to accept this offer. Action: TD to arrange.

**3. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-pecuniary Interest**

Cllr Greenhough declared non-pecuniary interest in the Stainborough Rotary Club application and Cllrs Kitching and Lowe-Flello both declared non-pecuniary interests in the Stainborough Rotary Club and Penistone Christmas Hamper Project applications.

**4. Notes of the Meeting Held on 23 September 2021**

Approved.

## **5. To Consider any Matters Arising from the Notes**

Thurgoland Village Welfare has sent thanks to the WA for supporting their iPad station funding application.

## **6. Ward Alliance Finances**

Cllr Barnard confirmed the Penistone Ward Alliance fund has an allocation of £7,826.13 remaining for the current financial year. There is also an allocation of £8,410 remaining to support school holiday activities under the 'School's Out' programme.

## **7. Applications for Financial Assistance**

### **a) Penistone Xmas Day Hamper Project - £2,000**

The WA were in full support of this project recognising the need to support families this Christmas following another extremely tough year. However, it was decided that this application was best suited to other funding available through the Area Team. A proposal to re-direct this application to the Local Support Grant was made.

### **b) Stainborough Rotary Club, Stottercliffe Children's Memorial - £2,000**

The Rotary Club is providing the financial governance for this project which is being delivered by a small group of individuals. The WA felt this was a very touching project with real warmth. A proposal of £2,000 was recommended for approval.

### **c) Hunshelf Parish Council, Replacement lawn mower - £2,499**

The amount being asked for has reduced to £2,149. A proposal of £2,000 was recommended for approval.

### **d) Thurgoland Bowls Club, Replacement lawn mower - £4,690**

In line with the above decision, a proposal of £2,000 was recommended for approval.

### **e) Ratification of Norcroft Pit Memorial Committee - £208**

The decision to recommend £208 for this project ahead of tonight's meeting was ratified.

## **8. Any other business**

- Penistone has been highlighted as an area with high levels of fuel poverty. Cllr Hand-Davis asked if something was needed to help address this. The WA to remain mindful of this issue.
- Public Health Cancer awareness campaign – it was suggested that parish clerks be contacted to help promote key messages within the villages. Both Oxspring and Penistone Town Council would be interested in receiving more information about this campaign at one of their meetings. Action: TD to liaise with colleagues.

## **9. Date and time of next meeting**

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm at Penistone Town Hall

**2021/22 WARD FUNDING ALLOCATIONS**

For 2021/22 each Ward will have an allocation of £10,000 Ward Alliance Fund.

50% of the funding requires a match-funding element of volunteer time that directly relates to the project in question, or other match funding resources (such as free room hire or donations of goods and equipment). This reflects the fact that the fund is intended to support volunteering and social action in our communities.

50% can be used for initiatives that have no volunteer element – such as the purchase and installation of benches, hanging baskets or other street furniture.

Area Councils have the option to allocate up to £20,000 from the Area Council budget to each of their Ward Alliances. This is discretionary to each Area Council, and Area Council's may also choose not to allocate any funding to ward level.

The carry-forward of remaining balances of the 2020/21 Ward Alliance Fund will be combined and added to the 2021/22 Allocation, to be managed as a single budget with the above conditions.

All decisions on the use of this funding need to be approved through the Ward Alliance.

**2021/22 Final Ward Project Allocations****PENISTONE WARD ALLIANCE**

For the 2021/22 financial year the Ward Alliance have the following available budget.

£20,000.00	base allocation
£6,925.00	carried forward from 2020/21
£10,000	Area Council - Ringfenced <b>Summer Activities Fund</b> underspend to be returned
<b>£36,925.00</b>	<b>total available funding</b>

Project	Allocation	Match funding element of allocation	Non Match funding allocation remaining	Allocation Remaining
			<b>£13,462.50</b>	<b>£36,925.00</b>
Tankersley Bench Renewal	£3,000	£3,000	£13,462.50	£33,925.00
Penistone Camera Club	£1,435.40	£1,435.40	£13,462.50	£32,489.60
Oxspring MUGA	£1,700	£27,566.40	£13,462.50	£30,789.60

Project	Allocation	Match funding element of allocation	Non Match funding allocation remaining	Allocation Remaining
Cawthorne Toddler and Baby Group	£475	£0	£12,987.50	£30,314.60
Thurgoland Welfare Replanting	£1,000	£2,274	£12,987.50	£29,314.60
Tankersley and Pilley Environmental Group (TPEG)	£677.77	£1,370	£12,987.50	£28,636.83
Barnsley Road Club Summer Club	£590	£1,150.80	£12,987.50	£28,046.83
Oxspring United JFC New Goals	£1,020	£1,849	£12,987.50	£27,026.83
Penistone Gala Penistone By The Sea	£1,650	£5,260.80	£12,987.50	£25,376.83
Springvale Community Garden Summer Activities	£1,000	£739.80	£12,987.50	£24,376.83
Penistone Cricket Club drainage	£2,000	£18,000	£12,987.50	£22,376.83
Tankersley Welfare Hall Garden	£750	£1,356.30	£12,987.50	£21,626.83
Conroyd Wood Footpath Project	£2,000	£2,466	£12,987.50	£19,626.83
Hoylandswaine Dog Poo Bags	£350	£123.30	£12,987.50	£19,276.83
Thurgoland iPad Station	£656.70	£2,466	£12,987.50	£18,620.13
Norcroft Pit Memorial	£325	£328.80	£12,987.50	£18,295.13

<b>Project</b>	<b>Allocation</b>	<b>Match funding element of allocation</b>	<b>Non Match funding allocation remaining</b>	<b>Allocation Remaining</b>
Hunshelf Parish Council	£2,000	£712.40	£12,987.50	£16,295.13
Stottercliffe Cemetery Children's Memorial	£2,000	£2,740	£12,987.50	£14,295.13
Thurgoland Bowls Club	£2,000	£3,370.20	£12,987.50	£12,295.13

**Red = Summer Activities Funds**

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July to  
September  
2021







# Penistone Area Council Performance Report



# Area Council Priorities



These services address the priorities and deliver the outcomes and social value objectives for the Penistone Area Council.

Priority	Service	Contract /Grant	Contract end date	Provider
	Clean, Green and Tidy	£100,000 per annum	Funded until end of March 2022 option to extend further 1 year	Twiggs
	Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older people	£70,000 per annum	Funded until December 2021	Age UK Barnsley
	Debt advice service	£12,118	Funded until March 2022	Citizens Advice Barnsley
	Information and Advice service	£10,136	Funded until January 2023	DIAL
	Working Together Grant Supporting Young People	£40,000	July 2022	Various
	Principal Towns		Ongoing	



	Outcome indicator	This Quarter	This year 2021/22	Last year 2020/21	To date
	Clean & tidy activities which involve businesses		12	14	148
	Young people making a positive contribution to the design/maintenance of their local environment		7	2	607
	People who feel they have the opportunity to influence the design and maintenance of their local environment		7	22	319
	Apprentice and placements created and recruited to		1	1	3
	People taking up work experience placements		0	0	31
	People taking up work experience placements		10	13	674
	Activities which involve young people under the age of 18		12	2	230
	Community groups supported		16	86	597
	New community groups supported		0	3	57
	Community car scheme journeys		4	4	854
	Adult volunteers engaged		225	138	2543
	New volunteers		26	40	815
	Residents and young people receiving advice and support		142	761	1788
	Residents referred to health and advice		21	76	93
	FTE jobs created and recruited to		1	3	22.5
	Local spend (average across all contracts)		95%	95%	95.4%
	Volunteer hours contributed (£ value)		£10,850.40	£13,668.52	£298,724.49
	Volunteer opportunities created		111	150	1467
	People achieving a qualification / accreditation		0	0	152
	People receiving training		14	52	1013

# Clean, Green and Tidy Service

## Twiggs



214 volunteers supported

551 volunteer hours supported

134 rubbish bags filled (down from last time due to Great British Spring clean)

Tool Bank supported 30 households

This contract provides a service to help maintain a clean , green and tidy environment in the wards of Penistone East and Penistone West. The emphasis is to work **with** the community; incorporating volunteers, local businesses, parish councils and local schools to empower and enable a sustainable approach. This quarter has seen a return in being able to provide support to many more smaller social action projects as restrictions were lifted and volunteers began again to come out for smaller projects, events and one off clear ups. Entry to schools has still been restricted but work with groups and businesses has continued to see an increase.

## Highlights

- ✓ 13 (Target 10) Groups and parishes supported, slight increase from the last quarter. Groups worked with this quarter included: Hoylandswaine Church events community group, High Hoyland Residents group, Hoylandswaine residents group, TPEG, Marketeers, Water Meadows Park group, Springvale Community gardens, Royd Community gardens, HB+ Hoylandswaine , Team Green Moor. No new groups have been supported.





- ✓ 10 separate businesses worked with on 14 joint working activities, including continuing to work with Penistone Leisure to introduced Oregano and Fennel which had originally grown in the Penistone Incredible Edible beds, and continuing to procure donations from local businesses such as Hacketts florist, Penistone Funeral Care, Spa and Coop to support volunteers and local community group projects with refreshments and plant donations. Also supporting XPO logistics to provide volunteer opportunities for their staff in projects throughout the area. Regular support from McDonald's at Tankersley, Tesco, Bank End Café and the Waggon and Horses at Langsett.

- ✓ 23 additional projects ( target 10) – Twiggs identifying areas for work independently as well as working to support smaller one off project including Bridge well in Penistone, Rockley Furnace reinstating footpaths and steps, clearance of signs at Howbrook and Penistone , clearance to support the Norcroft memorial site, reclaiming benches at Castle Dam, supporting new volunteers at Thurgoland Field and community clean ups in Thurlstone and High Hoyland.



- ✓ 17 individual litter picks undertaken and a total of 68 large black bags of litter removed (significant decrease in amount from 306 in last quarter due to Great British Spring clean in Q1 )

- ✓ Support to 6 groups who now independently take responsibility for specific green areas such as Edible Beds maintained by Water Meadows group, Bank end café, HB+ group, Royd Community Gardens, Saunderson Gardens and Springvale community gardens. A big push on the incredible edible has been made this quarter in general linking in the herbs to specific recipes to encourage people to take from these beds. Further work planned for this initiative in the Spring



- ✓ The Twiggs team continues to support new opportunities having trained one new apprentice in our area ( who has now moved onto another job with recruitment in place currently) and provided quality work placement experience for one young man as part of the Job Ready programme.

- ✓ Further initiatives supported as part of the Twiggs programme in our area include support to restore benches identified as part of the Age Friendly Barnsley 'Take a Seat Campaign' and it is planned to include experience for people referred through the Social Prescribing route as part of the ' Green prescribing' initiative, which will give people an opportunity to volunteer and improve health outcomes.

# Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older people Grants

## Age UK Barnsley



517 interventions

238 people helped

39 volunteers worked with

£35,125.11 estimated gains in benefits

## LOT 1: Social Action and Volunteering

Supporting people one to one through volunteer be-friending, providing specific information and advice for older people, assisting with travel through the community car scheme, and connecting people through small scale activities such as walking for health.

Outcomes from this quarter

Outcomes	Q2	Q1
Number of existing service users 1:1	26	24
Number of new service users 1:1	5	5
Number I&A Service Users	11	16
Community Car Journeys	28	4
Afternoon Outings (subject to cancellation during covid)	3	0
Number Volunteers <i>Existing , active volunteers</i>	22	19



Number of new volunteers; <i>Includes befrienders/good neighbours/car drivers</i>	2		2

### Highlights from this quarter

- ✓ 11 (8) new referrals this quarter coming from the social prescribing adviser, family, self-referrals and social services still getting more complex needs e.g dementia and need to refer to Dementia Alliance
- ✓ Two new volunteers enquiring from last quarter now being processed
- ✓ Existing volunteers are now supporting service users with face-to-face visits following easing of restrictions. Continuing to support with activities such as walking for health groups now also assisting with outings and provided support to the Age Friendly event at Cubley Hall.
- ✓ New outings have been introduced including a canal boat trip and visits for tea and cake at local venues including Cannon Hall café and farm shop.
- ✓ There has been an increase incidence of falls in the home resulting in hospitalisation and severe outcomes. Physical activities are being increased with the offer of Tai Chi, walking groups and a new Healthy bones class at Thurgoland.
- ✓ 11 new service users received information and advice. Face to face work has increased now with fuel poverty discussions taking place with all benefit form completions. The total estimated gains through benefits for the period is £35,125.11( £18,636.80 last quarter) Type of advice given - Benefits 9 and travel 2.
- ✓ The community car scheme has only 2 volunteer drivers although efforts are being made to expand on this but to no avail. The number of journeys has increased significantly to 28 (compared to 4 last quarter) as restrictions have been lifted and more people are going out.



# Lot 2 – Community Activities

The focus of this is to provide group based activities with an emphasis on achieving health outcomes, activities to engage men, activities to promote intergenerational relationships and creating opportunities where there are none in outlying villages.

## Highlights and outcomes for this quarter.

As pandemic restriction started to lift there has been a gradual return to support people to become active again and connect back into groups working within safe covid guidelines.



✓ Pilley Healthy Life group meetings resumed with 11 regular members taking part in a programme of Tai Chi for Arthritis and Falls Prevention.

- ✓ Wortley St. Leonard's Church Afternoon Social group has resumed but membership is down to 4 plus 2 volunteers since the pandemic due to ill health. All members attended the Age Friendly event at Cubley.
- ✓ Crow Edge, Carlecotes, Dunford Bridge is currently conducting a community survey to establish if residents are interested in a local group activities Once the survey has been carried out we will look again at setting up regular walks in the area and we will also consider how to address any other issues that are identified
- ✓ Thurgoland , residents from Churchfields identified as to support establish as a group were taken to the Age Friendly event at Cubley. A new Healthy bones class is being established for this area working with the luncheon club.
- ✓ Silkstone Walk for Health continues to prove popular and it has become a regular social event meeting up in the café afterwards
- ✓ Wentworth Castle Gardens Walk - following the successful launch in May , a second walk was held in August followed by afternoon tea in the conservatory.
- ✓ 2 new groups were established this quarter :  
**St John's singing group** launched in September with 7 people and 2 volunteers proved to be very popular with a second one planned for October. (promoted through the parish magazine) and the **Happy Vibes Café** at Penistone Leisure aimed at service users with Dementia and their carers providing regular activities to engage and support memory.
- ✓ Penistone Men in Sheds – an open meeting was planned for the start of October. Links are being made to the Penistone Theatre group to help build set and props for the Pantomime in January.
- ✓ Tai Chi Penistone group sessions now between 6 and 11 attending regularly at the Penistone group with some positive outcomes for people with arthritis.
- ✓ Intergenerational work continues with the letter writing programme current with Thurlstone Primary but with other schools planned as restrictions lift.



- ✓ Barnsley U3A groups are starting to re-open now including Board Games, Crown green bowling , patchwork and a number of other groups now meeting at the Scout hut, drop-in planned for October and Social history to re-start at the library, Age Uk continues to support and help promote these.
- ✓ 72 new participants were involved this quarter ( significantly higher due to groups opening up and the Age Friendly event at Cubley Hall) and 9 volunteers provided support

## Lot 3- Creating and Managing Responsive Networks

The emphasis on this is to create a sustainable network of people and groups who support older and more vulnerable people in the Penistone area. The Supporting Older People in the Penistone Area (SOPPA) has been created to take this forward. Covid restriction have meant that the group still have had to meet virtually which has had a limited impact but partnerships continue informally through regular contacts to support service users.

### Age Friendly Penistone

The work started in Penistone continues to feed into the Barnsley Age Friendly campaign with 2 Age Friendly awards received in the Penistone area, and previous work undertaken from the survey in Penistone feeding into the Age Friendly Barnsley Action plan. The Age Friendly Penistone event held at Cubley hall was very well attended and a focus on health and falls prevention was given through a demonstration and taster session in Tai Chi.



# Barnsley Citizens Advice

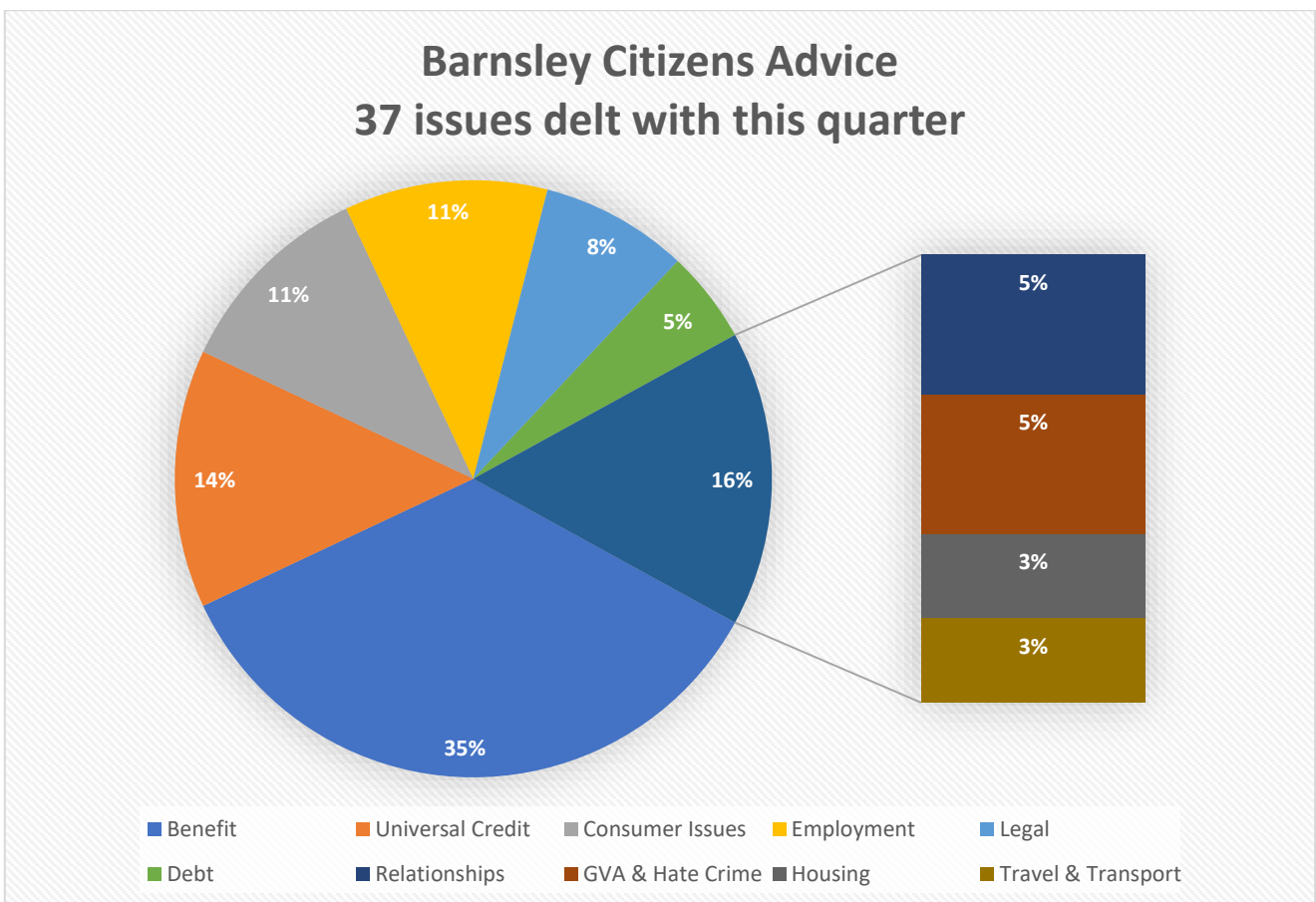
23 people supported (287 since start)

£1m of debt managed (£1,136,084 since start)

£23,629k of benefits claimed (£169k since start)



The 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. As well as improved financial outcomes the support provided by the 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. The number of clients seeking debt advice continues to be low due to County Courts still not processing routine cases it is anticipate that this will change as they open and debt recovery action returns to normal. All advice has been transferred to Adviceline and email services due to the ongoing situation.





# DIAL Barnsley

106 enquires made

£87,39 benefits claims supported

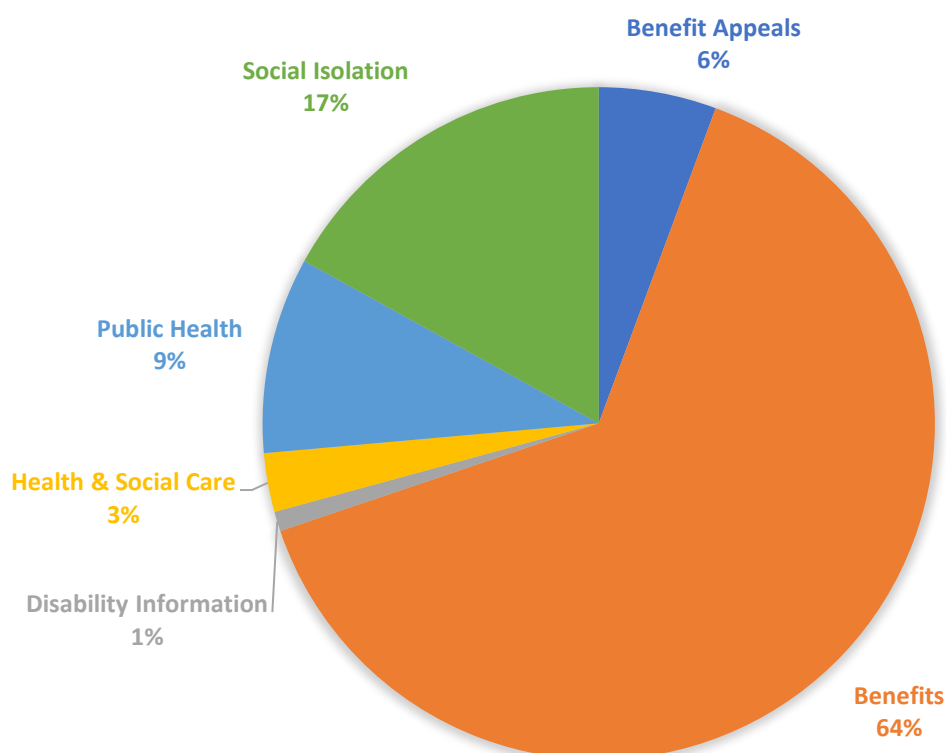
60 hours of volunteer involvement

For every £1 invested in the project £23 returned to the area



The DIAL contract reduces the financial exclusion of residents and works towards lowering anxiety. During the last quarter, the contract continued to rely on telephone appointments for form completion and advice along with Public Health Advice and guidance. Although they have not been meeting people face-to-face people received comprehensive telephone advice. Plans are being made to make a return to a face to face advice in the coming months once risk assessments have been carried out in the Penistone town hall.

## DIAL Barnsley 106 Issues Delt With



# Supporting Young People Grant Fund

This grant fund was set up in May 2021. All projects funded under this were delayed in getting started due to the effects of the Pandemic. Most have now made a start with the exception of Penistone Grammar School which will be reported on at the next quarter.



**Ad  
Astra**

39 people supported in sessions  
8 sessions delivered  
540 leaflets handed out

Ad Astra – providing gender specific mental wellbeing sessions to pre-16 pupils at Penistone Grammar.

## ***Project Highlights***

- ✓ Started in September with the face to face contacts , for safety reasons delivering two lunch time sessions Monday and Thursday with just two staff in each session to protect the staff team and to reach more young people.
- ✓ Spoke to over 600 young people about our work and why we were in school and handed leaflets 540.
- ✓ By the end of September had regular young people coming along to see people in the Dining Hall
- ✓ Space a major issue as the area being used as an area for pupils with suspected covid to sit. So spoke to several young people at their dining table/area.
- ✓ The first group Y11 pupils (although this is not in the remit) desperate for a conversation about their future -their prospects for further education and they wanted a bit of careers support. Provided an opening to see others
- ✓ Issues that have been discussed with the young people currently are around self-esteem and body image. Diet, food issues and healthy lifestyles have been discussed.
- ✓ The other area that has some young people concerned is positive and healthy relationships
- ✓ Will be carrying out baseline survey with young people once approved by staff in school to show impact of support
- ✓ Continuing to work the school to look at ways of improving the delivery space for the young people unfortunately like all schools' space is at a premium and in short supply.
- ✓ Will continue with twice weekly visits in the hope that a fresh space can be found but will continue walking around the dining hall area and speaking to the young people and supporting their needs.

# Angel Voices

28 people attending

13 volunteers

5 workshops

13 people going on to formal training/qualifications



Angel Voices – community based singing workshops, culminating in community performance events to raise funds for charity . £465 raised for local charity so far from one performance event. A number of very positive outcomes demonstrated so far for young people with various needs.

## ***Project highlights this quarter***

The impact on the local community has been extremely noticeable, children have been learning about techniques that help their physical health and mental well-being that they have taken home to their families and friends.

People in shops have said how nice it is to see events in the community which has also allowed for publicity via word of mouth.

Workshops have been moved around surrounding areas of Penistone such as Millhouse Green and Cawthorne. E-mailed plenty of schools and venues to host events and workshops, it can be difficult to get in touch with the right people to make arrangements. Suggestions needed for other places to hire that may need some money after the effects of the pandemic to continue the project in new areas.

To promote the workshops to local and surrounding areas of Penistone have used social media with plenty of posters and photos showing how much the workshops are expanding and how much the children are enjoying them. Also been to Penistone FM multiple times to talk about the workshops and the benefits they are having on young people after the pandemic



Anti-bullying strategies in place for the workshops to ensure that everyone is safe and comfortable to participate. The small groups will never have the same people in each time and they work with different coaches and volunteers to ensure a rounded experience and education during the workshops. This aids with preventing “cliques” and social exclusion. The children and young people are engaged throughout with activities

# Penistone FM



21 people attending

4 people in digital techniques

7 projects produced and ready for distribution

Active Minds project Penistone FM – to train a core group of young people in broadcasting skills who would then engage with other young people to provide their experiences and advise for others via podcasts. Trainees have been covering events over the summer period to learn new skills.



## Project highlights

- ✓ launched the project in July after a delayed start using press contacts and shared the news across all the local newspapers online and in real life and on Penistone FM and BBC Radio Sheffield.
- ✓ Targeted parents and carers of young people
- ✓ Contact made with NHS CAMHS service for referral
- ✓ First series of workshops delivered in spite of some young people needing to have time out due to Covid



Penistone FM  
20 Jul · 🌐

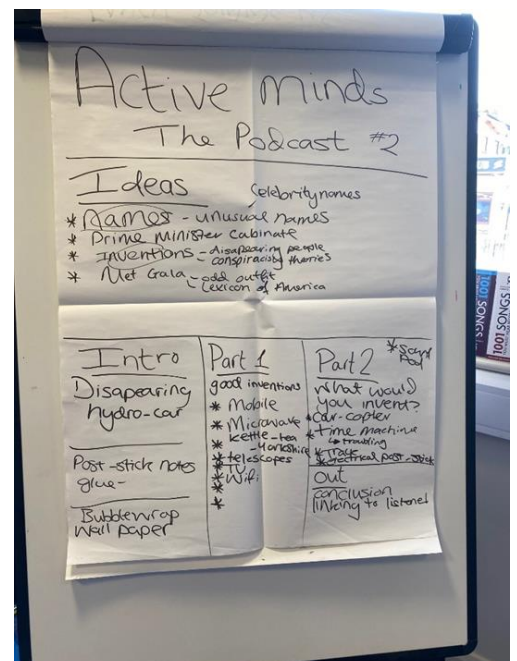
A big thank you to [BBC Radio Sheffield](#) for having us on last night to talk about our brand new project 'Active Minds'. If you missed it you can catch it again.

And if you want to apply then go to <https://www.penistonefm.co.uk/active-minds/>



BBC.CO.UK  
Sile Sibanda - 19/07/2021 - BBC Sounds

- ✓ Work started on podcasts for young people around experience in the Pandemic
- ✓ Links made to other projects for young people to support with publicity



# Penistone Girl Guiding



Project overview to support young women through positive experiences and activities to enhance self esteem and wellbeing as part of a 'Challenge' Badge and local event

## Project Outcomes

Children and young people become aware of 5 Ways to wellbeing	The challenge badge syllabus The activity day themes	300 children and young people over 1-12 months ( some of these will benefit from both the badge and the event so this is single beneficiaries )
Children and young people sharing challenges and adventure to improve their wellbeing	The challenge badge syllabus The activity day themes	300 children and young people over 1-12 months

Covid has led to delays in the project as well as the activity centre being really busy and booked up for the end of summer.

The badge syllabus has been circulated and a number of units are taking part in the challenges, although none have yet completed it as it was launched in August 2021 in time for the start of meetings in September. A competition was held to design the badge with two brownies declared joint winners for the design.

The activity day is booked for the last Saturday in March 2022, with lots of interest already.



## Penistone Leisure Centre

The project aims to provide a number of activities to support young people with their health and well being. A start has been made on some of the sessions but there have been delays due to changes in staffing and the effects of the pandemic. More detailed updates will be available in the next quarter.

### Main activities

#### **Smash Hit**

Teen boxing sessions for 11-14 years. Started in July now has 8 regular attendees but some sessions have had up to 12 attend. The instructor has recently left so once a new instructor has been employed it is intended that the programme will continue with more sessions just before Christmas.

#### **Calm Kids**

Aimed at Children 5-11years providing activities to calm and reduce stress and anxiety. 14 volunteers have come forward and are in training to support this programme which is planned to start November/ December

#### **Sensational**

Aimed at children with additional needs aged 0-5years. The focus will be to provide a stimulating environment using specialised equipment. Volunteers are still in training to support delivery of this which is likely to start late in October/ early November

#### **Boot Camp**

Intensive 2 day resilience training for young people 11-18years. This is still in planning working with partners in TADS and Youth Service

#### **Teen Skate**

Due to start mid December. Open to all age young people but sessions to be split for specific age ranges.

#### **Family Boot camp.**

Still in planning . To take place on Saturday mornings and designed to complement the Boot camp sessions for young people.

**BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Penistone Area Council  
December 2nd 2021**

**Summary report of the  
Penistone Area Council Manager**

**Agenda Item:**

**Penistone Area Council Procurement and Financial updates**

**1.0 Purpose of Report**

1.1 This report provides members with a summary update on the following commissioning and procurement activity:

- Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older people service
- Working Together Fund
- Supporting Young People Fund
- Clean & Tidy Service

1.2 The report outlines the current budget position of the Penistone Ward Alliance

1.3 The report provides members with proposals and options for the procurement of a new Private Sector Housing Support resource for the Penistone Area.

1.4 The report outlines the 2021/2022 financial position for Penistone Area Council and provides a current budget update for the financial year 2021/22.

**2.0 Recommendations**

**2.1 That members note the update of contracts funded by the existing Supporting Isolated and Older People Grant fund and agree a further 3 month extension from January to April 2022 of existing contracts at a cost of £17,500 to accommodate the procurement process for future provision in support of this priority**

**2.2 That members receive the update and current financial position of the Penistone Working Together Fund.**

**2.3 That members receive the update on ringfenced funds within the existing Working Together Fund to establish specific activities that will support young people in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic**

**2.4 That members note the updates on the new Clean and Tidy contract started in April 2020 and agree the recommendation to receive a Year 2 update at PAC in February 2022.**

**2.5 That members note the update on the Ward Alliance budget, and agree the allocation of £10k from within the PAC budget 2021/22 to enhance current Ward Alliance funds.**

2.6 **That members receive the proposed options to procure a Private Sector Housing support officer resource and agree a preferred way forward which can then be presented for approval a later PAC meeting.**

2.7 **That Members note the current financial position for the 2021/22 budget in light of any decisions taken with this meeting.**

### 3.0 **Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People Service**

3.1 The current grant contracts held by Age UK have continued to perform satisfactorily, operating against flexed outcomes during the Covid-19 period which has been reflected in the performance reporting presented at previous meetings of PAC.

3.2 At the PAC meeting 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 members were advised that current contracts to provide the existing service were due to end in January 2021, and it was agreed that £70K is made available from the 2020/21 Area Council budget to set up a further 'Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People Fund' (SVIOP) with devolved responsibility for the formal approval of the grants to the Executive Director for Communities, following recommendations from the grant fund Panel Members.

3.3 In light of the ongoing impacts of the Covid -19 pandemic, and the need to provide continuity of service to vulnerable members of the Penistone Community, members agreed at PAC December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020 to the allocation of £35k from the 2020/21 PAC budget to allow a six month extension for current contracts held by Age Uk to June 2021 and to defer procurement activity for a new service until June 2021

3.4 Members were advised at PAC June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021 that due to further impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, it had become necessary to make a further deferment of the procurement of a new service beyond the original intended date of June 2021. As a result members agreed the allocation of £35k from within the 2021/22 PAC budget to support a further 6 month extension to the current Age Uk Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older people grants contracts.

3.5 Following a Member workshop in August 2020 to review current provision by Age UK, a forward plan was agreed for the new grant specifications. In order to meet current procurement requirements to ensure wider market engagement, it has become necessary to recommend a further 3 month extension to April 2022 for the current contracts at a cost of £17,500 from within the current PAC budget. A further update to the procurement process will be provide to members in February 2022.

3.6 All grant contracts with Age Uk continue to perform satisfactorily, with a quarter two report presented at this meeting



#### 4.0 Penistone Area Council Working Together Fund

- 4.1 At the Area Council meeting of October 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 members agreed that the Working Together Grant should be promoted to accept applications to fund activities which will support covid recovery intentions with a deadline of 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020.
- 4.2 At PAC June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021 Members were advised that two applications have been approved by the Grant Panel to fund a continuation of the debt advice service to be delivered by Citizens Advice Bureau at a cost of £8118 and an information and advice service to be delivered by DIAL at a cost of £10,136. Both contracts have been supplemented by pandemic financial hardship funds, made available to support area council budgets, this has enabled extended provision to support higher demand in the last 12 months.
- 4.3 A further application from Penistone FM to support young people has also been approved as part of this grant this year at a cost of £8583, and £494 has also been taken from this grant to supplement the Supporting Young people ringfenced pot.
- 4.4 The Working Together grant continues to be promoted by the Area Team to encourage further applications and support with the community recovery process post pandemic. Members are reminded of the current total of £33,699 remaining in this pot and may wish to review this at a future meeting.

Total allocations to date (since the grant started in 2014)

4.5

Penistone FM	£ 15,627.00
Penistone Round Table	£ 11,660.00
Penisone Scout Group	£ 8,050.00
Sporting Penistone	£ 16,230.00
DIAL (Information and Advice service 2017)	£ 4,275.00
Barnsley Market – BMBC Market Barn additions lighting and Wi-fi	£ 6,740.00
Penistone Youth Project (TYS)	£ 8,730.00
The People Focussed Group ( Bumping spaces)	£ 19,836.00
Cycle Penistone CIC	£ 5,990.00
Penistone FM Community Radio Older people	£ 19,840.00
South Pennine Community Transport CIC 2017 pilot	£ 5,000.00
Trans Pennine Trail Conservation Volunteers Penistone Station project	£ 6,630.00
Allocation to Ward Alliances	£ 10,000.00
DIAL ( Information and Advice service 2018)	£ 4,395.00

South Pennine Community Transport CIC 2017 Pilot extension	£ 6,538.00
South Pennine Community Transport CIC Service Delivery 2018/19	£ 20,000.00
TPT conservation volunteers Penistone Station project extension	£ 2,890.00
Penistone FM Young Voices	£ 7,644.00
DIAL (Information and Advice service 2019 with option to extend to 2020)	£ 9,700.00
CAB Barnsley (Information and Advice Debt support 6 month Pilot to Sept 2019)	£ 2,115.00
South Pennine Community Transport CIC Service Delivery contribution 2019/20	£ 14,000
Barnsley CAB debt advice service operational costs to September 2020	£ 3566
Barnsley CAB debt advice service operational costs to September 2021	£8118
DIAL (Information and Advice service 2021 with option to extend to 2022)	£10,136
Penistone FM Young Minds project	£8583
<b>Total Allocations to date</b>	<b>£236,293</b>
Additional amount allocated to cover YP grant overspend	£594
<i>Current Amount remaining for allocation</i>	<b>£33,599</b>

## 5.0 Working Together Grant fund – Supporting Young People

- 5.1 At PAC meeting October 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 members agreed to an additional £40k allocated from within the current 2020/21 PAC commissioning budget to be ringfenced within the Working Together Fund and promoted solely for the use of activities which will support the physical and mental wellbeing of young people.
- 5.2 Following grant panel assessment of applications in late April /early May 2021 five project proposals were approved for funding at a total cost of £40,594. The additional £594 outside of the ringfenced grant allocation is recouped from the main Working Together Fund grant pot as show in 4.5 within this report.
- 5.3 The impact of the pandemic has meant that some of the projects funded have been delayed in starting, however four out of the five were able to make a start from July and updates on performance to date are included within this meeting

#### 5.4 Breakdown of allocations for Supporting Young people grant

Ad Astra – supporting young people pre16 in Penistone Grammar school	£8640
Penistone Leisure Centre	£6454
Angel Voices	£10,000
Penistone Girl Guiding	£5,500
Penistone Grammar – supporting Young people post 16	£10,000
<b>Total allocations</b>	<b>£40,594</b>

#### 6.0 Clean, Green and Tidy Service

- 6.1 Following a robust procurement process, in which members participated, Twiggs Ground Maintenance Ltd were successful in being appointed as the preferred provider for the Penistone Clean, Green and Tidy service and started their contract on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 at a cost of £100,000 for the year from within the 2020/21 area council budget allocation.
- 6.2 The current Clean Green and Tidy service contract started during the lock down period for Covid-19 and as a result it was agreed to flex this to meet immediate needs during the crisis period. The contract performed satisfactorily within the flexed terms with performance highlighted at PAC meetings during 2020.
- 6.3 Members at PAC February 11<sup>th</sup> 2021 agreed to the continuation of this service to year two of the contract from April 2021 at a cost of £100k from the 2021/22 PAC budget. A full update of this service, and performance during the pandemic period was received by members at PAC June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021. Performance continues to be satisfactory, and a full quarter two summary is provided to PAC within the performance report presented to this meeting.
- 6.4 It is recommended that a full report of Yr2 of this contract's performance is presented by Twiggs to PAC at its meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022 ahead of any decision to continue with a further years delivery from April 2022.

#### 7.0 Penistone Ward Alliance

- 7.1 A budget allocation of £20k (£10k for each ward within the Penistone area) has been made available to the Ward Alliance outside of Area Council funds for the financial year 2021/22. This, together with underspend of £6,925 from the previous financial year 2020/21 provided the Ward Alliance with a working budget of £26,925 for the 2021/22 financial year.
- 7.2 Applications to the Ward Alliance for funding have continued to increase as community groups start to become active following the Covid-19 pandemic. Projects totalling **£6000** were approved at the last meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021, leaving a budget total of **£12,295.13**.

- 7.3 In light of the growing demand on the Ward Alliance funds it is therefore recommended that PAC agree to allocate an additional sum of £10k to support the Ward Alliance Budget to the end of the current financial year.
- 7.4 At PAC June 3<sup>rd</sup> Members approved £10k from within the PAC budget 2021/22 to be allocated to the Ward Alliance budget to provide a small ring fenced funding pot to encourage applications from groups to provide activities during the school summer holiday period 2021. Projects totalling £1590 were approved leaving a total of **£8410** still within this pot. Members are reminded that any unspent monies may be returned to the PAC budget within the financial year.

#### **8.0 Private Sector Housing support to the Penistone area**

- 8.1 At a briefing workshop held on November 4<sup>th</sup> 2021, PAC members were presented with information from the Housing Stock Modelling and database report commissioned by BMBC and produced in October 2020 to provide a detailed housing stock condition survey for Barnsley. The findings from this report are being used to inform a Private Sector Housing Plan for the borough.
- 8.2 Members were made aware at the briefing that the stock condition survey highlighted that private sector properties in both Penistone East and West wards demonstrated the highest incidence of risk to occupants from excess cold and fuel poverty when compared to the rest of the borough. This accounted for a higher than average number of owner occupiers across the two wards, many of whom are older and have limited means to maintain properties to ensure energy efficiency.
- 8.3 Discussion of the impacts of this revealed the detrimental effects to individual health and wellbeing and individual cases were shared with members where home owners were no longer coping with properties and had allowed them to become a health hazard to themselves and others in the area.
- 8.4 The role of a private sector housing officer was discussed as a means to mitigate this by providing a first point of contact within the community to identify early indications of neglect and an inability to cope. Examples of how this operates in other areas across the borough were shared with members. Additional information can be seen at Appendix B and C within this report.
- 8.5 It was agreed that a range of options for any private sector housing support would be presented for discussion at PAC on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Members are referred to appendix A within this report and asked to agree how they would prefer to take this forward. Once a preferred option is agreed further information will be presented to PAC at its meeting in February 2022 and approval will be sought for any associated costs.

## 9.0 Current Financial Summary Position

- 9.1 A PAC budget allocation of £200k was made available for spend within the financial year 2021/22. This, together with carry forward from the 2020/21 budget of £15,225, gave a total working budget of £215,225 ( plus £10k financial hardship monies) .
- 9.2 A self Isolation fund made available to support the most clinically vulnerable during the pandemic, was successfully drawn down to support people in the Penistone area at a revised value of **£13,845** which has been added to the income giving a total budget of £239,070.
- 9.3 Approved spend currently totals £145,000 and should members approve recommended spend at 3.5 and 7.3 within this report this will leave a remaining budget total of **£66,570**

## 9.4 2021/22 Budget allocations

<b>Approved spend items in operation in 2021/2022</b>	Current approved expenditure from 2021/2022 budget
New Clean Green and Tidy contract Year two	£100,000
Age UK grant contract extensions to December 2021	£35,000
Allocation to WA for ringfenced summer holiday activities	£10,000
<b>Total allocated spend to date</b>	<b>£145,000</b>
<b><i>Proposed recommended spend</i></b>	
Additional monies to Ward alliance budget	£10,000
Age UK grant contract extension to April 2022	£17,500
<b>Budget 2021/22</b>	
<b>Base budget</b>	£200,000
<b>Additional income to base budget</b>	
Underspend from 2020/21 budget	£ 15,225
<b>Financial hardship monies ( earmarked)</b>	<b>£ 10,000</b>
Self Isolation Funds	£13,845
<b>Total budget available for spend 2021/22</b>	<b>£239,070</b>
<b>Current remaining total available for spend if recommended spend approved</b>	<b>£66,570</b>

## PAC Financial summary

PENISTONE AREA COUNCIL - COMMISSIONING BUDGET 2021/22						
Contract Name	Commissioning Budget 2019/20		Commissioning Budget 2020/21		Commissioning Budget 2021/22	
	Budget		Budget		Budget	Spend
Base Expenditure	£200,000.00		£200,000.00		£200,000.00	
Underspend from previous year	£63,358.75		£115,224.75		£15,225.00	
Countryside Skills Training						
Countryside Skills Training Extension						
Clean & Green						
Clean & Green extension						
Working Together Fund	£50,000.00					
Allocation to Ward Alliances/DWB 15-16						
Allocation to Ward Alliances 16-17						
Reducing Isolation in older people						
Public Health Funds	£3,820.00					
Supporting Older People Fund						
Supporting Older People Fund ex	£17,500.00		£52,500.00			
Supporting Older People Fund ex 2			£35,000.00			
Supporting Older People Fund ex 3					£35,000.00	£17,500.00
Supporting Young People Fund			£40,000.00			
Community Magazine distribution costs						
Allocation to Ward Alliances 17-18						
Allocation to Ward Alliances 18-19						
Allocation to Ward Alliance 19-20	£10,000.00					
Clean & Green 2017/18 (Y1)						
Clean & Green 2017/18 - extension Nov 19 (Y2)	£57,171.00					
Clean & Green 2017/18 - extension April 2020 (Y2)	£40,836.00					
Clean & Green April 2020 (Y1)			£100,000.00			
Clean & Green April 2021 (Y2)					£100,000.00	£70,000.00
Penistone Living Inserts	£2,664.00		£3,000.00			£921.60
Supporting Vulnerable & Older People Grant 2021			£70,000.00		£10,000.00	
Allocation to WA for ringfenced summer holiday activities						
<b>Income</b>						
Public Health Monies						
financial hardship monies					£10,000.00	
Practical Support Grant					£18,880.00	£5,035.60
<b>Expenditure Incurred in Year</b>						£93,457.20
<b>What funds are available</b>					£200,000.00	

**Contact Officer:**  
**Elaine Equeall**  
**Penistone Area Council Manager**

**Contact No:**  
**01226 775382**



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## Appendix A

### Private Sector Housing Support to the Penistone area options for discussion

In light of the recent findings from the housing stock condition survey revealing the higher than average incidence of risk to individuals in both the Penistone east and west wards from excess cold and fuel poverty, and the likely impacts to individual health and wellbeing of occupants in private sector housing, members are asked to consider the following options.

	Option	Pros	Cons	Cost
1	Full time Housing Support Officer post 12 month period (review after 6 months)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Provides proactive engagement throughout both wards</li> <li>➤ Enables opportunities for homes to meet basic standards and occupants benefit from support available via grants etc</li> <li>➤ Supports with early interventions taking pressure off other services such as hospital admissions by making connections to local networks such as Age Uk, community groups, GPs, DIAL and CAB, neighbourhood services, warmer homes team etc</li> <li>➤ Dedicated officer for Penistone, faster response</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Most of first 6 months taken up building up networks</li> <li>➤ May not be sufficient demand</li> <li>➤ Wasted resource</li> </ul>	Grade 6 26,073 - 32,714
2	Half time Housing Support Officer 12 month period (review after 6 months)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ As above but with limited time</li> <li>➤ Allows time to see what the demand is without over commitment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ May not be able to cover whole area</li> <li>➤ May not be able to meet demand</li> <li>➤ Could spend more time building up networks and less front facing work</li> </ul>	Half time grade 6 13,037 - 16,357
3	Half time Officer to undertake research and feasibility, report back to Area Council after 6 month period to inform future options/ways forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Provides dedicated time for Penistone to investigate the area and the need in more detail</li> <li>➤ Allows time to building up networks so that any future officer can hit the ground running</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Less proactive on the ground</li> <li>➤ Relies on current existing support whilst research is undertaken</li> </ul>	Half time grade 6 13,037 - 16,357
4	No additional support – continue as now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ No cost to Area Council</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Does not provide dedicated resource to</li> </ul>	No cost

	<p>invite Housing Group leader back on request for up dated information.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Gives additional time to see if the demand is there</li> </ul>	<p>Penistone where needed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Risk of increasing incidence of effects, putting greater pressure of other services such hospital admittance, social service referral</li> </ul>	
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Appendix B Sample job profile for housing support officer role

<b>Profile title</b>	Housing and Cohesion Officer	<b>Grade:</b>	06	<b>Profile Ref:</b>	104885
<b>Purpose of the Post</b>					
To ensure compliance with the legislation and statutory obligations of the Council, ensuring effective regulation with a balanced proactive and reactive approach through the discharging of informal, formal and legal actions. To support the delivery of regeneration projects in targeted areas by providing a visible customer focused service.					
<b>Responsibilities</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide advice, guidance and support in accordance with approved Council relevant policies, procedures and statutory responsibilities.</li> <li>• To support the delivery of outcomes as identified.</li> <li>• To pro-actively engage and liaise with internal and external stakeholders including tenants, landlords, members of the public and partners.</li> <li>• Respond to requests for service, investigate complaints and provide advice on sub-standard housing conditions in the private rented sector.</li> <li>• Carry out housing inspections and resolve issues as necessary, or liaise with the appropriate colleagues regarding resolving issues.</li> <li>• To undertake Housing Health and Safety System housing inspections and to propose and action the necessary improvement works. To include the production of inspection reports, action records, legal documents etc.</li> <li>• Contribute to the development and delivery of a highly visible proactive approach to raising standards of poor quality private sector housing across the Borough.</li> <li>• Assist in the planning, preparation and execution of targeted initiatives as directed including promotional campaigns.</li> <li>• To identify vulnerable households and work with appropriate support providers to deliver support packages.</li> <li>• Maintain awareness and work to the policies and procedures which impact on how the service is delivered. Keep abreast of local and national developments to enhance the service/projects according to internal and external demands</li> <li>• Maintain an up-to-date and accurate manual and electronic data records as necessary to ensure high standards of case recording and effective case management.</li> <li>• Liaise and collaborate with internal and external stakeholders including managers, employees and members of the public to ensure joined up solutions to meet the needs of customers.</li> <li>• Champion the Councils Landlord Accreditation scheme to landlords and tenants in the private sector.</li> <li>• Assist in the continuous review, performance management and evaluation of service provision to ensure it is fit for purpose, drives continuous improvement and is effectively using available resources.</li> <li>• To gather appropriate information to enable the development and implementation of relevant future projects to continue supporting and sustaining the regeneration of targeted areas.</li> </ul>					

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**Housing Management & Environment Officer Quarterly report to Area Council**

**Written report:**

I have seen a change over the past three months as lockdown has eased and people are out and about more, I have also been able to be out and about more in our communities meeting people and I am now back working in XXX Police station which allows good joint working with the neighbourhood team based there. This has resulted in a large increase in workload, predominantly waste in gardens which is in turn leading to information regarding disrepair in properties. As people have been in lockdown, with limited access by tradesmen, I am regularly finding properties that do not have current gas safety certificates or electric checks. Cases are therefore becoming more complex due to the multitude of issues that have developed over lockdown within each property. I have continued to work closely with colleagues in Berneslai Homes and walkabouts are now back on and I have been on 5 so far with Housing officers and elected members, mainly XXX wards . Other ward areas are coming up over the next couple of months . This has resulted in 39 interactions with both private rented and owner occupier properties with issues mainly seen being waste in gardens or advice and support.

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I have continued intensive work on XXX Terrace, and have completed inspections of all 16 properties, with landlords now completing the required works. A day of action is planned in the next couple of weeks where Twigg's and community members will join me to complete the final stages of weeding and cleaning up as well as fitting CCTV. One landlord was issued a notice resulting in the area being fly tipped on now being fenced off and cleared. Tenants are really pleased and support the work I have been doing. That combined with CCTV will hopefully reduce and eliminate the fly tipping problems around these properties. A bin audit allowed me to advise tenants regarding their waste and recycling facilities and to educate them on the use of these and all contaminated bins have now been collected which has made a big improvement to the area. I'm also working on XXRoad/XXX Street area due to waste and fly tipping issues.

The XXX Street and surrounding areas of XXXX is also a regular area I am working in. A bin audit has resulted in advice to residents and tenants and the collection of contaminated bins. Recently a fly tipping case occurred in broad daylight on the footpath in the residential area. A local resident informed me straight away and so I attended and cordoned the area off. I then contacted neighbourhood services who attended straight away and organised collection of the hazardous materials that had been fly tipped. The investigation is ongoing to prosecute the offenders. See attached photo.

Whilst out and about in XXX ward I was approached by a member of the public enquiring about using a piece of land for a community garden. Enquiries are ongoing and hopefully next quarter I will be able to update with news of the garden progressing.

I have recently come across a tenant who I am now working with. An overgrown garden resulted in me speaking with tenants in 3 properties, one empty private rent, one Berneslai Homes and the other occupied private rent. The private sector tenant has issues of disrepair in the property and I am currently getting the landlord involved to ensure that the property is up to standard and supporting the tenant with financial difficulties and mental health issues.

I continue to work closely with CAB and regularly refer cases to them or speak to them for general advice, they also contact me with referrals and clients they are involved with who need support.

I recently met online with Twigg's and we now have a number of projects and clean ups planned over the summer. They have recently attended 2 jobs in XXX and XXX I look forward to working with them regularly.

Being back in the office allows me to liaise closely with the Police and share valuable information regarding tenants, properties and addresses. Without a full picture of agencies involved cases would not have such successful outcomes.

#### CASE STUDY 1:

An elected member contacted me to say they had been contacted by a tenant who was having disrepair issues in the property and didn't know what to do as her landlord lived abroad. He was refusing to answer her emails and she had no other way of contacting him. She had pigeons roosting in her loft and other disrepair issues.

I attended and completed an inspection of the property, the main issue was that there had been no maintenance at the property, in particular the roof was in a very bad condition leading to leaks and pigeons roosting in the loft. The ceiling in the bedroom where the pigeons were roosting had collapsed into the bedroom resulting in the faeces all falling onto the carpet. There was no gas safety certificate, no tenancy agreement and no electrical safety certificate. The house was in a really poor condition and the tenant and her young family didn't know where to turn. My initial contact was with the landlord's grandson, however once the scale of the problems was realised the landlord took over dealing with the issues. Being in Thailand has meant limited contact via email and as a result of no progression in terms of dealing with the pigeons I served an Environmental Protection Notice on the landlord requiring he complete the works within a month. The landlord arranged a plasterer to fix the bedroom ceiling however it was done to such a poor standard that droppings continue to fall through the gap at the edge of the ceiling. As I write,

the notice has expired and the work is nearing completion. Pest control have removed around 300 dead pigeons, loft insulation and bags and bags of waste. The tenant is still living there throughout the works and it has caused a great deal of stress and anxiety for her.

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### **CASE STUDY 2:**

An end terraced property came to my attention as there was an accumulation of waste at the side. On speaking with the tenant it became apparent that she had a vermin problem in the property, specifically downstairs in the kitchen. They were accessing under the sink and through lose skirting board (see pictures below) We discussed the rear garden and she was advised to remove the pile of burnt cans, sofa and to clean up the garden and yard area. The tenant disclosed she was struggling financially as she had lost her job and was unsure how to claim benefits or find another job. I contacted the landlord and completed an inspection of the property and the landlord carried out all required works. I then spoke to CAB and did a referral for support with benefits and income. I also got the tenant a regular food parcel and contacted the Salvation Army who supported the tenant with gas and electricity payments. Twigg's came out and cleared the area around the property, weeding and clearing litter that was onto the highway. This made it look a lot cleaner resulting in less people throwing litter down. All tenants on the row were leaving their bins out after being emptied which

looked unsightly and was resulting in members of the public using the bins and contaminating them. On speaking with one tenant she claimed she could not access her rear garden with the bin. After speaking with all landlords and tenants everyone was aware of the access rights. A letter drop was completed along the row advising tenants of the waste and recycling responsibilities along with my details for any issues either in their properties or with the bins.

As a result of my input the tenant has sorted out Universal Credit payments and is looking for new employment, there is no more vermin getting into the property and it is in much safer condition. The overall well-being of the tenant has massively improved. I have recently been asked to support the tenants' parent who is also struggling with disrepair issues and am in the process of working with them also. After noting the state of this particular garden the other gardens in the row are also now being targeted for improvement and tenants being contacted regarding disrepair. The entire row of tenants are now taking their bins back to their own gardens once emptied allowing them to use them properly.

Other work completed this quarter.

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Fly tipping of contaminated Asbestos sheeting and household waste – cleared within 2 hours of reportin