

<b>MEETING:</b>	North Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Monday 16 January 2023
<b>TIME:</b>	2.00 pm
<b>VENUE:</b>	Meeting Room 1 - Barnsley Town Hall

## AGENDA

- 1 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

### Minutes

- 2 Minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 14 November 2022  
(Nac.16.01.2023/2) *(Pages 3 - 8)*

### Items for Information

- 3 Age UK - Grant Delivery Update - Natalie Stokes (Nac.16.01.2023/3)

### Items for Discussion

- 4 10 Year Celebration - Area Governance Model (Nac.16.01.2023/4) *(Pages 9 - 10)*

### Items for Decision

- 5 Environmental Workshop - Future Direction (Nac.16.01.2023/5) *(Pages 11 - 30)*
- 6 Commissioning, Project Development and Financial Update (Nac.16.01.2023/6)  
*(Pages 31 - 38)*

### Ward Alliances

- 7 Report on the use of Ward Alliance Funds (Nac.16.01.2023/7) *(Pages 39 - 46)*
- 8 Notes from the Ward Alliances (Nac.16.01.2023/8) *(Pages 47 - 58)*  
Darton East – held on 8 November 2022  
Darton West – held on 7 November 2022  
Old Town – held on 7 November 2022  
St Helen's – held on 3 November 2022

To: Chair and Members of North Area Council:-

Councillors Leech (Chair), A. Cave, T. Cave, Crisp, Denton, Howard, Hunt, Lofts, Newing, Pickering, Platts and Tattersall

Area Council Support Officers:

Tom Smith, North Area Council Senior Management Link Officer  
Rosie Adams, North Area Council Manager  
Rachel Payling, Head of Service, Stronger Communities  
Cath Bedford, Public Health Principal - Communities

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

Friday 6 January 2023



<b>MEETING:</b>	North Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Monday 14 November 2022
<b>TIME:</b>	2.00 pm
<b>VENUE:</b>	Meeting Room 11, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

**Present** Councillors Leech (Chair), T. Cave, Crisp, Denton, Hunt, Lofts, Newing, Platts and Tattersall

### 23 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

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

### 24 Minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 12 September 2022 (Nac.14.11.2022/2)

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 September 2022.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on the 12 September be approved as a true and correct record.

### 25 Housing and Cohesion - Bradley Beatson (Nac.14.11.2022/3)

Bradley Beatson, Housing and Cohesion Officer; announced he had been selected as the successful candidate for the role of Housing and Environment Officer, departing the Housing and Cohesion position in December 2022. Assurance was given that open cases would be completed or carried over into the new role. An overlap (subject to successful recruitment) was forecast which would provide an opportunity for handover.

Members gave thanks for the support Bradley had provided to the Area Council with the Chair expressing thanks on behalf of the entire North Area membership.

### 26 Future Commissioning - Cost of Living Workshop Feedback (Nac.14.11.2022/4)

The Area Manager provided an update on the two workshops which were held at Barnsley Town Hall, particularly on the positive situation to have the room full of partners on a scale echoing that pre the Covid-19 pandemic. It was acknowledged that it was however disappointing that this conversation was on the Cost-of-Living crisis. Key discussion points at the workshops included, but weren't limited to:

- One-to-one casework
- Working with children and families
- Celebrating existing assets
- Partnership working, including DIAL, Romero, and CAB
- Social welfare support
- Voluntary sector
- Healthy Holidays

- Health & wellbeing work

At the workshops there was an ask to look at gaps in provision and how to address these. It was stated it was clear that opportunities to bring people together for group working was highly prized and that there was a desire for partnership working with schools and local libraries. Suggestions at the workshops included:

- Money saving hacks.
- An exercise to get people into a problem-solving frame of mind.
- Community champions and partnership working.
- Maximising existing services and buildings, with low cost/no cost suggestions.
- Community connector role, being a peer-led role on 18-month contracts delivering in the communities in which they live.
- An empowering and signposting role looking at helping people with food and fuel poverty.
- Working with young people with provision such a Healthy Holidays, Sunday breakfast clubs, free school meals, hygiene poverty and period poverty.
- Reinstatement of the Mi Card.
- A community bus, with acknowledgment ASDA were collaborating with Yorkshire Rose buses to get shoppers to their store.

The Area Manager looked to Members for their experience on how the cost-of-living workstream should progress.

Members praised the effectiveness of the workshops and their usefulness for information sharing and identifying problems and gaps. Presentations given from various groups were noted as powerful with a desire to take the energy from the room and conversation and turning it into something meaningful. The number of providers and partners in attendance was noted as striking. Opinion was stated that engagement work with those hard-to-reach that have an obvious need was essential. It was additionally acknowledged that it was clear that the Council was doing a lot already to help people with the cost-of-living crisis.

A consensus was reached that a further meeting should be held with members to progress the ideas presented at the workshops further. The Area Manager would strive to deliver solutions that made best use of existing resources with consideration for budget constraints. The focus would be on giving residents a hand up rather than a handout.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the detail extracted from stakeholder discussions at the two workshops held on the 6th and 13th October 2022 be noted;
- (ii) that Members agreed to hold a further workshop to develop the North Area response.

**27 Environmental Workshop - Future Direction (Nac.14.11.2022/5)**

The Area Manager advised that a 1.5-hour workshop had taken place on 8 November 2022 to look at the environment priority and explore the frustrations around the existing service delivering against the priority. Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges had been discussed and it was acknowledged that the

process was currently viewed as quite clunky and overly bureaucratic. The outcome of this workshop was a recommendation to move away from the existing offer to a schedule of works defined by each ward. One of the recommendations to Members delivered in the report was to explore the aims and objectives of the service the North Area Council wished to deliver and a direction of travel to be agreed. The 2-year contract signed with the current provider was coming to an end with the opportunity to extend for a third year or the deadline to give notice being late 2022.

During Member discussion it was communicated that there was a clear consensus on the way forward, moving away from a volunteer-dependent approach to a schedule of works. It was suggested this could be an extension to the work of Neighbourhood Services or a new model with an external provider, focussing on: public spaces and parks, clearing pathways, fly tipping and problem litter areas. It was suggested a list of jobs be drawn up to ensure even distribution of level of delivery between wards, given funding was limited. It was stated any future contract should be weighted towards this schedule of works, rather than being too reactive to day-to-day asks from the public or volunteers. The option to request a variation in contract with the current provider was also made as a suggestion to Members.

Members commented on the importance of continuing to support volunteers, with a distinction made that work would be directed by the Ward Alliances rather than being requested by individual residents. The model will enable residents to participate where there is a desire to do so. Enabling and engaging communities was deemed a priority to enable residents to love where they live. Consideration was given to the potential loss of educational opportunities with an opinion stated that the current provider worked very well with schools, however a counterargument was made that this work had been inconsistent. It was acknowledged that educational opportunities would be a challenge to incorporate in the contract of any future provider.

The Area Manager was advised in advance of a scheduled meeting that the current provider was also dissatisfied with the current process for managing service requests. It was communicated that the Steering Group was hindering some of the community work associated with the current contract and additionally that current delivery left them running at a deficit. Concerns were raised by members that there had been a breach of confidentiality. Clarity was given that discussions at Steering Group are required to be presented to North Area Council for a decision, and that the agenda and reports were published ahead of the meeting at which point the information entered the public domain. Members of the public were also entitled to attend North Area Council.

In informing a steer on how to implement discussions from the workshop, Members suggested a scheduled-led specification be developed in order to be put to tender, with an ask that volunteers could work with the provider and encouraged to do so. A proposed split was 80% schedule-based to 20% community participation. It was agreed to draw up a tender of works by the end of November 2022. In the meantime the tasks allocated to the current provider will be determined at the Steering Group.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the current position, section 4 be noted;
- (ii) that the opportunity to reflect on the discussion that took place at the workshop 8th November 2022 be acknowledged;

- (iii) that contract with Twiggs Grounds Maintenance be ended at the end of term, 31st March 2023. Reference Section 6.
- (iv) that a task-based schedule of works service and offer the opportunity for tender. Section 5.3 be pursued;
- (v) that Members work towards a “wish list” for this schedule of works in cooperation with the Area Manager by the end of November 2022.

## **28 Performance Report Q2 2022/23 (Nac.14.11.2022/6)**

The report gave an overview of commissioned services and grant providers with particularly good feedback having been received. There had been a significant amount of additional benefit gain from the work under anti-poverty and work was being undertaken on how to maximise delivery from CAB and DIAL colleagues. The Reds in the Community project had started slowly, and this was due to delays with a DBS check for a member of staff, with a relaunch being looked at to deliver until April 2024.

Members commented on the gap in provision for Economic Regeneration. Previous experience was reflected upon that small businesses had not taken up the offer of support due to them tapping into existing provision. A previous focus on developing small businesses hadn't been fruitful, with many being content to remain a small business. It was suggested that work in Economic Regeneration had been vast in the past and was taken out of the hands of ward alliances and the area council as it could not be delivered effectively at this level.

The Area Manager fed back that it had been quite some time since the priorities for North area were reviewed. Economic Regeneration was an area of work that the work of North Area Council struggled to have an impact given core Council services were already delivering this provision. Work was however ongoing despite a lack of any funding allocation, maximising resources, and working with partners. Pop-up sessions facilitated opportunities for training and development whilst residents were waiting for other provision.

Members commented that the first annual report of area councils and ward alliances had been to cabinet. An ask was for the report to be disseminated to area councils and ward alliances as it gave very good examples of work being undertaken around the borough. The Area Manager agreed to determine how far the report had been shared.

**RESOLVED** that members noted the contents of the Performance Management Report.

## **29 Commissioning, Project Development and Finance (Nac.14.11.2022/7)**

The report was received by Members.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the existing budget position and existing funding commitments be noted;

- (ii) that update regarding the Clean and Green Steering Group and the process for requesting work be noted with the next Steering Group to take place on 15 November 2022;
- (iii) that recruitment be undertaken for the Housing and Cohesion Officer post that was to become vacant;
- (iv) that the updated projected spend at appendix 1 be noted.

### **30 Report on the use of Ward Alliance Funds (Nac.14.11.2022/8)**

The report on Ward Alliance Funds was received. Ward Alliances were encouraged to work with Community Development Officers and volunteers to make plans for the use of remaining funds.

**RESOLVED** that each Ward in the North Area Council prioritises the efficient expenditure of the Ward Alliance Funds 2022/23, in line with the guidance on spend.

### **31 Notes from the Ward Alliances (Nac.14.11.2022/9)**

The meeting received the notes from the Darton East Ward Alliance held on 13 September and 11 October 2022; Darton West Ward Alliance held on 20 September and 18 October 2022; Old Town Ward Alliance held on 13 September and 11 October 2022; and St Helen's Ward Alliance held on 8 September 2022.

Councillor Hunt provided an update regarding the work in Darton East. Mapplewell Park was subjected to ASB during the month of October, with wheelie bins set on fire. A recommendation was received from Safer Neighbourhoods to install CCTV and a £900 budget was identified to cover this. It was hoped the CCTV installation would help deter ASB and also identify suspects. A Health Event had taken place and was very successful. The first ever Darton East Making a Difference Awards took place, recognising volunteering and community groups, with thanks given to the Mayor for her attendance.

Councillor T. Cave provided an update regarding the work in Darton West. The Ward Alliance had managed to spend its budget well on appropriate projects. Remembrance decorations in Darton Village were particularly impressive thanks to the hard work of volunteers. Initiatives were taking place in the ward around community development. Work was being undertaken to get a Christmas tree for Kexbrough working with the Community Centre and also at Wood View, Gawber working with local schools. A third tree was to be located at Wilthorpe & Redbrook Community Centre. Councillor Cave commented that the community spirit lost for some time during the Covid-19 pandemic was slowly being built back.

Councillor Newing provided an update regarding the work in Old Town. There was an issue with hanging baskets with the firm procured unable to complete the works. Works were rescheduled to 2023, which Councillor Newing acknowledged could have been disappointing for those who had paid for plaques. The Ward Alliance budget was being spent on projects such as a Halloween event, bulbs for planting and six Christmas trees. Events were being planned to celebrate the festive period around the trees.

Councillor Platts provided an update regarding the work in St Helen's. The Ward Alliance budget was being spent well. Three Christmas trees were purchased – it was noted that one memorial tree at the chapel, being a blue spruce that cannot be relocated, therefore a tree for St Helen's Church was being considered for Christmas 2023. On Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022 a Santa Sleigh was to travel around the ward with a New Lodge event to coincide. A Cost-of-Living Event was to take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 at Laithes Primary School. A memorial bench had been fitted in the ward, with the unveiling event and confirmation of armed forces participation to be determined.

**RESOLVED** that the notes and feedback from the respective Ward Alliances be noted.

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Chair



**BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**North Area Council Meeting:  
16<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**Agenda Item: 4**

**Report of North Area Council  
Manager**

**Area Governance – 10 Year Celebration**

**1. Purpose of Report**

1.1 To ensure that Members are aware of the intention to hold a North Area 10 Year Celebration event and the opportunity to participate in the planning.

**2. Recommendation**

2.1. **Members note the report.**

2.2. **Members take the opportunity to identify a Ward representative for the event planning group, 5.1.**

2.3. **Members are requested to identify Ward Alliance funded projects to showcase.**

**3. Background**

3.1. The current Area Governance arrangements were introduced in 2013.

3.2. Following the Covid Pandemic as part of the recovery steps the Stronger Communities have been working through a plan to re-connect with communities and promote the contributions of everyone involved in the local area arrangements.

3.3. 10 years is a significant milestone and an excellent opportunity to reflect on the significant contributions of the Ward Alliances and the wider voluntary and community sector.

3.4. Objectives

- To celebrate and inform residents about our unique structure of Area Councils and Ward Alliances and to celebrate the last 10 years, when the model was first introduced. Showcasing the great work that has taken place in the last ten years.
- Raise awareness of Area Councils and Ward Alliances and the positive work they have done over the last 10 years to contribute to the Barnsley 2030 priorities

- Encourage more people to get involved in their local community and promote how they can do that

- 3.5. There will be a series of centralised events and engagement opportunities.
- 3.6. There is also a requirement to deliver an area-based Volunteer Celebration Event. With a focus on recognition of significant contributions.

#### **4. Proposals for the North Area's Celebration**

- 4.1. The North Area has a history of celebrating success and community contribution at Ward level but it is many years since the last North Area Commissioning and Ward Alliance networking event was held.
- 4.2. Councillors have been consulted on potential dates. Dates being considered are:
  - Thursday 8th June
  - Friday 9th June
  - Thursday 15th June
  - Friday 16th June
- 4.3. A date is required to ensure that a venue can be identified. It is recommended that this is a community venue, rather than a town centre venue.

#### **5. Shaping the Celebration**

- 5.1. The North Area Team has been tasked with arranging the event. To ensure that Members are empowered to contribute in their Community Leadership role the Area Manager has requested that a representative from each ward joins work with the Area Team to shape the event.
- 5.2. Ward Alliances are also requested to identify projects they have funded to be showcased.

#### **6. Cost Implications**

- 6.1. There are no budget implications to the North Area Council at this time. A budget of £1,500 has been allocated to each locality to host an event.
- 6.2. Event shaping may lead to increased costs.

#### **7. Recommended Next Steps**

- 7.1. The Area Manager will arrange to meet with the working group monthly to work through the planning and preparation of the event. An update will be provided at Area Council meetings.

**Officer Contact:**  
**RosemarieAdans@barnsley.gov.uk**

**Date:**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023**

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

North Area Council Meeting:  
16<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Agenda Item: 5

Report of North Area Council  
Manager

**Environmental Priority - Future Direction**

**1. Purpose of Report**

1.1 To apprise Members of the discussions that took place at a recent workshop which reflected on the current Environmental commissioning and considered options available.

**2. Recommendation**

2.1. **Members note the current position, section 4.**

2.2. **Members take the opportunity to reflect on the discussion that took place at the workshop 20<sup>th</sup> December 2022, section 6.**

2.3. **Members review the draft specification, Appendix 2.**

2.4. **Members confirm their commitment to develop robust Clean and Green Agreements with their respective Ward Alliances, to mitigate duplication risk, section 7.**

2.5. **Members review and agree the Environmental Priority and how value will be added to BMBC's core offer, section 8.**

2.6. **Members consider BMBC Neighbourhood Service's Community Caretaker model.**

2.7. **Members agreed which of the procurement options they wish to pursue, section 10. Delegating authority to the Area Manager to carry out required actions.**

2.8. **Members agree a maximum contract value for the new service provision, as per recommendation, section 11. A value of £125,000p.a. for a two year duration.**

### **3. Background**

- 3.1. The North Area currently has 5 priorities: Anti-Poverty, Environment, Health and Wellbeing, Economic Regeneration, Young People; plus an overarching priority of Enabling Barnsley.
- 3.2. To address the Environment priority the North Area has historically commissioned a provider to work with the community. “Working in Partnership with Local People to Deliver a Cleaner, Greener North Area” and more latterly “Environmental Education Service”.
- 3.3. Contract one was delivered by Forge Community Partnership commenced on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015. This had a two year duration.
- 3.4. The second environmental contract commenced on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2017 at a value of £85,000 per annum. The provider, Twiggs Grounds Maintenance Ltd, commenced service delivery on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2017. On the 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019 the Area Council took the decision to utilise the contract extension clause and extend the contract until the end of September 2020.
- 3.5. The current contract was tendered in autumn 2020. Twiggs Grounds Maintenance Ltd secured a two-year contract with the opportunity for a final one-year extension. The contract commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 and is now in it’s second year of delivery.

### **4. Current Position (In brief)**

- 4.1. Both parties (Twiggs GM Ltd and North Area Council) have agreed that the current contract will conclude on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.
- 4.2. Councillors requested an opportunity to discuss the future options available.
- 4.3. A new specification has been drafted.
- 4.4. The Area Manager has been requested to liaise with BMBCs Neighbourhood Services in the first instance to establish if an SLA is practicable.

### **5. Workshop Discussion – 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

- 5.1. The workshop was attended by: Cllrs Crisp, Denton, Hunt, T. Cave, Lofts and Leech.
- 5.2. Reflections  
Members were asked what they had appreciated most about the current service:
  - Ability to deal with problem areas
  - Solutions to problems

- Access to resources
- Expertise and Equipment - that volunteers can't bring e.g. hedge cutting
- Horticultural Knowledge
- Support to plant more trees and supporting volunteers to do so
- Cleaning up litter
- Valuable work with SEND learners

5.3. Members stated that they wished to move away from a volunteer led model, favouring a defined schedule of works. They wish to define the schedules to add value to the work delivered by BMBC's core offer, delivered by Neighbourhood Services.

5.4. SWOC of Identified Future Direction

A discussion took place that assisted to populate a Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Challenges template for moving away from volunteer led to a scheduled programme of work.

Please refer to Appendix 1.

## **6. Workshop Discussion – 20<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

6.1. The workshop was held at the time scheduled for the Environmental Steering Group. It was attended by: Cllrs Crisp, Hunt, Howard, and Leech. The meeting was supported by the North Area Team and Procurement Colleagues Yvette Everitt and Kerry Dalby-Wyatt.

6.2. At the Area Council meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> November the Area Manager was requested to draw up a specification that would be weighted towards a schedule of planned maintenance work with a smaller proportion of community participation.

6.3. The specification was discussed at the workshop on the 20<sup>th</sup> December. Members were in agreement that it met the requirements of the Area Council. The Area Manager stressed that it is vital that each Ward take responsibility for populating a comprehensive 'Clean and Green Agreements' so that it is clear to a provider what is required in terms of delivery.

6.4. Please refer to Appendix 2 for the draft specification.

6.5. At the workshop Members requested that the Area Manager consult Neighbourhood Services to establish if there was appetite to deliver the services specified. This may mean that an internal service level agreement is the most practical solution provided that clear added value can be ensured. If this proves impractical then the preferred option would be to go out to tender.

## **7. Risks**

7.1. The Area Manager has highlighted that the new model is unlikely to be popular with community groups who worked closely with Twiggs because the deliver model will be directed by the Ward Alliances.

7.2. Due to the current financial climate any new provision is likely to require a larger financial commitment hence the importance of the Ward Alliance 'Clean and Green Agreements' to make sure that added value is clear.

7.3. To ensure that the Clean and Green Agreements are effective it is important for Members to understand what the BMBC Core offer is how value can be added.

## **8. Environmental Priority – Adding Value:**

8.1. Based on the conversations that have taken place at the with the Environmental Working Group, the added value of the new contract/service can be explained by the following points:

- What the Area Council wants to achieve?  
Enhance community greenspaces, public footpaths, and village centres. Ensuring that local people have a sense of pride for where they live and work. Contributing to Barnsley 2030.
- What will change?  
Working with the ward alliances, we aim to deliver a model that encourages community participation in determining the service delivery of localised environmental maintenance and creates volunteering opportunities for residents to actively support improvement of public green spaces.
- Who will the provision benefit?  
Everyone who lives in and works within and visits the North Area.
- How will success be measured?  
Each Ward Alliance will review their Clean and Green Agreements to ensure that the new service is adding value to BMBC's core service provision.
- How will success be reported and celebrated?  
Monthly updates will be required for each ward, accounting for time and demonstrating the outcomes achieved. It is recommended that this is a short narrative document with supplementary photos.

## **9. Neighbourhood Services – Community Caretake Model**

9.1. Following consultation with Neighbourhood Services, it would be possible to introduce a Community Caretaker Model in the North Area. This would deliver an in-house version of the specification detailed in Appendix 2.

9.2. An SLA would be developed by the North Area Council manager and Neighbourhood Services service manager. The Area Manager would aim for the SLA to commence on 1st April 2023 and finish 31st March 2024 as a 12-month trial.

9.3. Neighbourhood services proposal costings = £120,963 to include:

- Team Leader (G6)
- Development and Demand Team (G4)
- Apprentice
- Vehicle, training, fuel, waste license, tools and contingency budget.

9.4. The contingency budget is £21,160 (20% of the resource requirement £100,803.00). The Area Manager recommends that this amount is committed by the Area Council, if this option is selected, but only released when an exceptions report is received by the Service Director Communities, detailing the requirements.

9.5. Members please note that use of herbicide application for weed control is not recommended as part of the SLA due to the increased cost implications. This would require the recruitment of a specialist team member. Herbicide application has not previously been a requirement of the Area Council environmental contracts.

- 9.6. Section 4.2 of the specification has been amended regarding electrical installation for Christmas Trees which is not part of the environmental service that would be procured.
- 9.7. To ensure adequate cover over weekends as per the specification, a five days in seven working pattern has been discussed and identified as the preferred option.

## **10. Options**

- 10.1. Members are requested to approve that the specification (Appendix 2) meets the requirements of the Area Council; delegating responsibility for minor amendments to the Area Council Manager based on Members recommendations within the Area Council meeting.
- 10.2. Members are requested to reach a decision regarding their preferred option:
- 10.3. Option 1, Work with BMBC Neighbourhood Services to develop a Service Level Agreement based upon the costs detailed above.
- 10.4. Option 2, Complete soft market testing with a view to advertising an external tender opportunity.

## **11. Cost Implications**

- 11.1. Historically the North Area have committed £85,000 per annum. This value has not increased since October 2017. At a challenging financial time, it will be necessary to increase the contract value to enable a horticultural team to operate in the North Area.
- 11.2. It is recommended that a budget of £125,000 p.a. is committed to this priority for a period of 2 years from April 2023. Any less than this time period and it will be difficult to recruit staff and embed and effective service.

## **12. Recommended Next Steps**

- 12.1. The Area Manager will arrange to carry out procurement actions based on Members' decision in at the Area Council meeting, reference section 10.

**Officer Contact:**  
RosemarieAdams@barnsley.gov.uk

**Date:**  
23<sup>rd</sup> December 2022

## Appendix 1.

SWOC Analysis of North Area Council's Intention to Move Away from a Volunteer Led Model to a Scheduled Maintenance Programme to address the Area's Environmental priority	
Strengths	Weaknesses
<p>Defined schedule of works</p> <p>Continued improvement of public open spaces and green spaces</p> <p>Outputs are demonstrable, therefore easier to monitor and evaluate performance</p>	<p>Prescriptive offer with reduced flexibility</p> <p>Reduced opportunity for the community to influence delivery</p> <p>Reduced opportunity to contribute to environmental priorities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zero Carbon</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Recycling &amp; Sustainability</li> <li>• Incredible Edible / Food Growing Projects</li> </ul> <p>Detrimental impact of the Area Councils ability to contribute initiatives including Barnsley / Yorkshire in Bloom</p>
Opportunities	Challenges
<p>Identify locations for a prescriptive planned maintenance</p> <p>Include a proportion of reactive work</p> <p>Schedule of works can be developed by Councillors with the support of Ward Alliance representatives</p>	<p>Need for clarity between BMBC core offer and the potential added value of procuring a maintenance service</p> <p>Risk that the new service could be used to fill gaps in the BMBC core service that result from austerity</p> <p>Detrimental Impact to Area Performance Indicators on Social Action (KPIs) – North Area will stand out</p> <p>Does not meet the 2030 priority – Enabling the Community</p> <p>New model will not 'double the money' – original challenge to Area Councils to maximise core budget through needs-based commissioning</p> <p>Erosion of volunteer capacity building</p> <p>Loss of opportunity to influence behaviour change and community guardianship</p> <p>Loss of educational opportunities</p> <p>Loss of input to schools e.g. Eco Council &amp; growing projects</p> <p>Loss of green prescribing opportunities</p>



## Appendix 2.

### 1. PROJECT OVERVIEW

#### 1.1 Introduction

The North Area Council, via Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (The Council) is looking for a provider to supply and manage services that will improve and maintain a clean, green well presented and welcoming physical environment across the North Area: Darton East, Darton West, Old Town and St Helen's Wards. It is essential that all delivery is complementary to the Council's existing "core" offer from Neighbourhood Services to improve the overall environmental appearance of the four wards that make up the North Area Council's locality footprint. It is also important that work undertaken through this contract builds on the positive work already carried out by the current Provider.

Service delivery will focus on a programme devised by the North Area Council and four Ward Alliance's: including proactive maintenance, reactive work, and support for volunteer groups. This work will require the provider to:

- Maintain a clean, green, well-presented, and welcoming physical environment in the North Area. Include proactive approaches to the issues of littering, grass cutting, untidy areas, shrub bed maintenance, cutting back, scraping etc.
- Respond to reactive requests for service in response to local need as directed by the North Area Council and Ward Alliances.
- Undertake environmental improvements alongside Ward Alliances and community groups
- Working with existing community groups, as directed by the Ward Alliances.
- Support the Ward Alliances and North Area Team to develop new environmentally focussed community groups

In developing and delivering this service, the provider should ensure that it is contributing to the Council's corporate priorities and outcome statements. This includes but it not exclusive to Barnsley 2030 and the Borough Litter Strategy (currently in development).

Barnsley 2030 includes: Enabling Barnsley which is our underlying priority to ensure that our council is modern, inclusive, efficient, productive and high-performing. Therefore, engaging with local residents (including those who are "hard to reach"), community groups, volunteers and businesses will therefore be an integral part of this service which should inspire people to *Love Where They Live*.

This contract will also work closely with other North Area Providers.

Sustainability, community support, self-reliance, resilience, and reciprocity should therefore be built into the service design and delivery. Also and where possible, work experience placements, apprentice opportunities and local labour should be used.

## 1.2 Background

Barnsley is a Metropolitan Borough of South Yorkshire, England. The Borough was formed under the Local Government Act 1972. The Borough now forms part of both the Sheffield City Region (SCR) and the Leeds City Region (LCR).

A new Governance Framework was introduced by Barnsley Council in 2013 which incorporates:

- 6 Area Councils- Councillors responding to strategic priorities on an area basis and commissioning services with a strong social value ethos to meet these challenges.
- 19 Ward Alliances-Councillors working alongside community representatives to mobilise and enable community responses to local challenges.
- Our “love Where You Live” campaign-to inspire people to get involved in volunteering locally to make a difference in their community.

The North Area Council comprises of four electoral wards and is made up of the twelve elected members (three from each ward); providing a localised approach to addressing the needs of the North area. The area is supported by the North Area Council Manager.

The North Area Council area is a diverse area that is made up of 4 wards, namely Darton East, Darton West, Old Town and St Helen’s. The population of the area is approximately 44,101 people.

The area, which covers 28km<sup>2</sup>, to the centre and north of the borough of Barnsley, borders onto Wakefield district. The North area has excellent transport links via the railway station located at Darton which leads to Wakefield to the north and Barnsley Central, to the North and via the M1 motorway and the A61 includes a number of high-density suburban areas with a mix of social and owner occupier housing. It also includes a number of green areas, small parks, and local village centres.

Improving the local environment was identified as a North Area Council priority in 2014, and has remained priority from that point. Consequently, the Area Council has commissioned services to improve the area since 2015. Enabling local people to be part of the solution. This area of concern has also been highlighted by local residents across the four wards in a community listening exercise which took place in the summer of 2021 and is supported by the four Ward Alliances in the area. The environment features strongly in all of the Ward Alliance Community Plans. A series of workshops were also held with elected members across the wards who have also re-affirmed the Environment as a priority for local consideration and investment by the Area Council.

The Council's Neighbourhood Services currently provides a service across the Borough that includes litter picking, fly tipping removal, weed killing, grass cutting, hedge cutting, shrub bed maintenance, arboriculture work etc. Cleansing is delivered in the Principal Towns and Locality Centres limited to one visit per week.

A North Area Council Clean and Green service has been delivered by two different providers since 2015. This work has included: support provided to environmental groups; engagement of new volunteers; support to sustained volunteers; delivery of significant added value projects. To compliment this there is also a litter picking toolbank administered by the North Area Team. This was well utilised during Covid lockdowns enabling family units to litter pick as an alternative to group based community volunteering. The take up and the feedback from communities from this was fantastic.

The new service to be procured by North Area Council should therefore complement the Council's Neighbourhood's Service, build on the achievements of the current Provider and proactively engage the local community in taking ownership of areas of green space and/or keeping their neighbourhoods clean, green and tidy.

## 2. THE COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

### Vision

Our vision for 2030 is: 'Barnsley - the place of possibilities'

It's time to believe in the possibilities of Barnsley, to look to the future with excitement and optimism. Our borough is a place that fosters and grows ambition, enabling everyone to be the best they can be.

For more information please refer to the corporate plan:

<https://barnsleymbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s77521/Appendix%201.pdf>

### 2.4 Priorities and Outcome Statements

In developing and delivering this service, the Provider should ensure that it is contributing to the Authority's corporate priorities and outcome statements as outlined below:

### 2.5 LOCAL AREA PRIORITIES AND OUTCOME STATEMENTS

The service is being commissioned by the North Area Council, which is a part of Barnsley Council's Area Governance arrangements, which have devolved significant commissioning budgets to local level since 2013.

The aims of the local Area Governance model are to:

- Establish new models of delivering services, guided by local choice and need.
- Engage local communities in helping to shape the decisions and services in their neighbourhood.

- Ensure people of all ages have a much greater involvement in designing services and actively participating in improving their lives.
- Support the many benefits of volunteering and foster the many and diverse opportunities for residents to gain new skills and experiences through volunteering.
- Ensure customer services, and the citizen experience of access, is improved.
- Ensure the Council operates fairly and demonstrates total commitment to equalities in policy and practice.

When developing and delivering the required service, the Service Provider will be required to demonstrate throughout the life of the contract contribution to the North Area Council's local priorities as outlined below:

- Opportunities for Young People
- Environmental Improvement
- Health and Wellbeing
- Anti-Poverty
- Economic Regeneration

Running through all of these priorities is the golden thread 'Enabling Barnsley' which relates to changing the relationship between the council and the community, reducing dependence and enabling everyone to be the best that they can be.

### 3.0 SCOPE OF SERVICES

#### 3.1 Description of Service to be provided

The North Area Council wishes to procure a Provider to deliver an effective and efficient Clean and Green Service across the four wards that make up the North Area to improve the overall environmental appearance of the area. The service will supply and manage services associated with improving and maintaining a clean, well presented and welcoming physical environment. Tackling issues such as fly tipping, dog fouling, littering, vegetation, weeding, pruning and maintenance of green areas.

Although the service will be expected to be responsive to local need, the key aim of the service will be to work flexibly in partnership with the Darton East, Darton West, Old Town and St Helen's Ward Alliances. The Majority of the work will involve delivery of an annual schedule of works and to a lesser extent the ability to respond to low volumes of reactive work. Clean and Green Agreements will be developed with each Ward Alliance in liaison with the Provider and will be delivered by the Provider on a weekly basis, ensuring that an equal amount of Provider time is spent in each Ward.

Supporting Ward Alliance projects and the North Area Team's community development work will form a significant part of this service. Working with volunteers, community groups, businesses and young people to encourage community ownership and build local resilience. The service should, over time, inspire local people and support and encourage sustainable schemes whilst growing volunteering opportunities, new groups and new volunteers across the North Area. As directed by the Ward Alliances, initiatives may include, but not limited to: 'Love your street' 'Adopt a verge/ Green space / planter/ flower bed' 'incredible edible' and stewardship type schemes in partnership with the community and many of the established groups. Support will also be required to local and national 'social action' events throughout the year including 'The Great British Spring Clean,' 'National Volunteering month' and 'Love Parks' week and 'In Bloom'.

The Provider will also be required to support other North Area Team and Ward Alliance led events and activities.

As Barnsley Council commits to tackle climate change in future years, we will also be looking for providers who can demonstrate an understanding and willingness to deliver services which will seek to reduce our carbon footprint and respect the biodiversity of the unique green spaces found within the North area.

The Provider may be asked to actively participate in an Environmental Steering Group or Clean and Green Partnership at the request of the Area Council. This brings those working to improve the environment together under a shared vision, action plan and supportive partnership network.

The Council requires the service to complement and build upon existing service provision such as the work of BMBC Neighbourhood Services, Public Rights of Way, Parks and Green Spaces team and Highways department, and work in partnership with other groups and agencies who have an interest in maintaining the green environment in and around the North area.

The provider will work with enforcement services and provide intelligence to enforcement services in a timely manner when locations are identified as requiring or benefiting enforcement activity. The provider will empower communities to report local issues which relate to dog fouling, littering, flytipping to the Council in a way which builds community confidence.

Provision of local skills development, work experience placements and Apprenticeship opportunities which strengthen the community's skill base across the North Area remains a feature of this service.

In developing and delivering this service, the provider should ensure that it is contributing to the Council's corporate priorities and outcome statements. Also, and where possible, work experience placements, apprentice opportunities and local labour should be provided.

It is expected that the service will lead by example providing a professional service that respects both the area and those who live and work here.

## 2. Specific Aims and Objectives of the Service

- To improve the physical appearance of the Barnsley North Area
- Contribute to maintaining a clean, safe, well presented and welcoming physical environment through the delivery of proactive work as agreed with Ward Alliances in the Clean and Green Ward Agreements.
- Reduce the amount of littering, dog fouling in the area through embedding education and building community confidence in all delivery
- Complement existing provision provided by BMBC Neighbourhood Services
- Be additional 'eyes and ears' in the area to ensure that environmental crime is addressed efficiently
- Deliver in partnership with local residents and/or local community groups/organisations and businesses where direct by the Ward Alliances.
- Inspire and lead local people and encourage sustainability through engagement with volunteers, residents, local community groups and organisations, including those from BME communities and those who are "hard to reach"
- Support existing groups with specialist advice and supporting them to become independent and self sufficient
- Liaise with other key agencies as part of the Clean and Green Partnership Group/ Steering Group

### 3.3 Social Value Objectives

Under this contract the successful provider will be required to actively contribute to the achievement of specific social value objectives. These reflect the vision and corporate priorities of the Council outlined in Section 2, and include:-

- Provision of local skills development, work experience placements and apprenticeship opportunities
- Employment and training opportunities within the locality
- Use of local Voluntary Community Organisations and community groups
- Support and guidance of volunteers
- Development of strong community networks, community self-help and resilience
- Working with existing "friends of" groups and community groups to encourage local action
- Development of new environmental groups
- Local spend

- Link with other North Area Council commissioned services to support the overarching aims of Area Governance shown previously.

#### 4.0 REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROVIDER

##### 4.1 Service Providers Responsibility

The successful Provider will develop and deliver a service that:

- Complements and builds on existing provision;
- Addresses the needs of each ward in the area;
- Meets the specified objectives; and
- Delivers the outcomes outlined in this document.

The service should also build on work undertaken during the existing contract period.

The key areas of responsibility and delivery are:

In liaison with each of the 4 Ward Alliance's develop 4 Clean and Green Ward Agreements that address the needs in each ward and identify hot spot areas requiring regular attention.

Deliver each of these 4 Clean and Green Ward agreements on a regular weekly basis ensuring that an equal amount of time is spent in each ward.

The interventions/activities to be delivered for each Ward as part of the Clean and Green Ward Agreements may include the following:

##### **Independent delivery (80% Delivery Programme)**

- Strimming Grassed Areas
- Removal and Disposal of Litter
- Removal of Dog Fouling
- Removal of Epicormic Growth
- Hedge Trimming
- Footpath Reinstatement / Scraping back
- Shrub bed maintenance/removal
- Remove fallen leaves- hot spot areas
- Winter Resilience Inc.Snow removal
- Community Christmas Trees – Installation, Dressing and Disposal

- Clear Up of Playing Fields Following (Or Prior To) A Local Event
- Weed control – developing environmentally friendly approaches where possible

### **Partnership Working & Wider Community Support (20% Delivery Programme)**

- Tree planting
- Bulb Planting
- Maintenance of Community Planters
- Working with Local Volunteers on ‘Clean Up Days’ and Litter Picks.
- Working with Safer Communities on ‘Clean Up Days’
- Assisting with improvement work to areas of natural beauty and
- Assisting with improvement work to unique habitats

The above are not exhaustive lists and there may be other activities that are required. The successful provider will, wherever possible, seek to develop eco-friendly methods of working that will respect the environment.

Support the four Ward Alliance’s and North Area Team to deliver community social action initiatives organised by the Area Team. It is essential that the successful provider will maintain a high level of co-operation with the North Area Team.

The successful provider will be responsible for the development of a strong collaborative working relationship with the with the Ward Alliance members in each of the four wards will be key to the success of this service.

The service will need to be delivered equitably across the four wards.

The Provider will be expected to tailor their work to suit seasonal variations in demand and support for community events and/or community clean ups will be an integral part of the work. A flexible approach to the deployment of staff will therefore be required to ensure coverage of evening and weekend working requirements.

#### Split of time:

80% - Delivery of 4x Annual Clean and Green Agreements (one per ward) & Reactive Work - delivered independently

This will equate to an average of 1 day per ward / per week.

20% - Wider Community Support and Partnership Working – delivered with volunteers (as directed by the Ward Alliances and North Area Team)



This approach will require flexibility in the hours worked to cover both evening and weekend working. Ensuring that the provider is able to support volunteering activities and /or community galas as required by the Ward Alliances.

Annualised hours are recommended to enable staff to support:

x8 (minimum) early evenings to attend Wards Alliance meetings, providing a comprehensive update on delivery (twice per annum for each of the four Ward Alliances)

x8 (minimum) early evening (e.g. 5pm-8pm) community engagement activities per annum (two per ward)

x12 (minimum) Saturday working days to support each of the four Ward Alliances on three occasions during the year.

The provider will be expected to act as the “eyes and the ears” in the community and be responsible for reporting other matters not necessarily within their scope of responsibility so that this can be actioned by the respective Council service. This would include reporting:

- Discarded needles
- Graffiti which is racist or homophobic
- Fly Tipping
- Problems with trees
- Asbestos / Plasterboard
- Dog fouling
- Fly posters
- Unsafe parking

Instructions on how these reports should be made will be provided.

It is expected that the set-up, and ongoing costs of materials, tools, equipment will be met by the provider. The provider will ensure that these materials, tools and equipment are well maintained and kept in a secure place.

It is also expected that the successful Provider uses a suitable vehicle which is in good working condition. Details of the vehicle specification will be provided as part of the tender return. The running costs, including fuel, tax, insurance and maintenance will be provided by the successful Provider and updated as and when any changes to the vehicle occurs.

The Provider will be responsible for disposing of all waste (excluding green waste) generated by them, and recycling should be carried out wherever possible. Green waste can be disposed of at the Council's Smithies Depot following confirmation with the Contract Manager.

Any waste generated by the provider as part of community activities or projects instigated by the Area Team will be disposed of by Barnsley Council at no cost. The provider will have their own Waste Carriers License and should provide evidence as part of the procurement process of their waste disposal and recycling arrangements.

Work with local media and through social media channels should be implemented to highlight the work taking place. This information should be shared with the North Area Team and respective Ward Alliance to highlight the work and the improvements being made in order to promote the service and encourage other people to get involved. The successful provider will be expected to support the work of the Area Council in continuing to promote social action through the BMBC 'Love Where you Live' branding.

It will be very important that this service is delivered in close liaison with the Council's Neighbourhood Services to ensure that overall service delivery is co-ordinated and complementary. The provider is also expected to work closely with Environmental Enforcement services.

The Provider will be required to collate information regarding the work that has been undertaken and provide the Area Manager with regular reports, data and case studies.

#### 4.2 Seasonal Work and Community Resilience

The successful provider will be expected to tailor their work to suit seasonal variations in demand. In the main this would include support for Community Events and Community Clean Up days as required.

Seasonal determined by the season may include leaf litter removal in the Autumn to areas of green space as identified by the North Area Team, assisting with snow clearance, gritting during the Winter.

The Ward Alliance Clean and Green Agreements will also include: installation, dressing and disposal of community Christmas trees.

(Installation of electric points to service community Christmas trees and the electrical connection of lights remain the responsibility of BMBC Street Lighting. Works are not part of the core offer and will incur a fee, payable by the respective Ward Alliance)

The provider will also be expected to flex their contract to support the Council if and when community resilience plans are activated. This could include (but is not limited to) support in the event of flooding.

N.B. It is vital that the provider can flex service provision in accordance with government guidelines (e.g. during the COVID-19 pandemic) and equally important that that provider is able to dynamically risk assess and return to business as usual when it is safe to do so.

### 4.3 Equipment

The provider will have access to specialist mechanical equipment is essential to maximise the efficiency and effectiveness of the service.

It is expected that the set up, and ongoing, costs of materials, tools and equipment will be met by the service provider. The service provider will ensure that these materials, tools and equipment are well maintained and kept in a secure place, and where possible provide the most environmentally friendly option.

### 4.4 Vehicles

The successful provider will be required to supply a suitable vehicle which is in good working condition. (3.5 tonne caged pick-up is highly recommended for adequate waste disposal.)

Details of the vehicle specification will be provided by tenderers as part of their tender return. The running costs, including fuel, tax and insurance and maintenance, and storage will be provided by the successful service provider and updated as and when any changes to the vehicles used are made.

### 4.5 Staffing

The successful provider would be responsible for providing all staff required to support the service. The Council would anticipate this as a minimum to include a team of two people, plus an apprentice.

The successful provider will recognise the need to provide flexibility to engage people in both a traditional Monday to Friday working week, and also at evenings and weekends. The successful provider will be required to undertake weekend work. The team will be required to commit to working x12 Saturdays a year. These dates will be determined by the Ward Alliance to enable partnership working with the community.

The provider will be required to demonstrate they would be able to resource the service to provide all key objectives, allowing for provision for sickness and holiday cover.

The successful provider would be responsible for providing all training and development in the team to support the delivery and development of the overall service.

### 4.8 Environmental Requirements

Project sustainability is key. The successful Provider will be expected to give consideration to the whole lifespan of the project, beyond the term of this contract.

The Provider will be required to comply with all legislation and Council policy in relation to the disposal and recycling of waste.

The Provider will be encouraged to develop eco-friendly methods of working that will respect the environment and contribute positively to biodiversity and natural habitat creation.

## 5.0 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

### 5.1 Contract Monitoring and Recording Requirements

Following the award of the contract the Council will hold an inception meeting with the successful Provider to review the following;

- The appointment/assignment of a Contract manager for both parties
- An overview of the staff to be engaged in the service delivery
- A contract management meeting schedule for the duration of the contract (Quarterly as a minimum)

The Provider will need to be able to demonstrate the effectiveness of the service in terms of delivering the agreed outcomes, outcome measures and outputs. Throughout the contract term the successful Provider will provide regular reports to the Area Council in regards to the types of services provided, both reactive and proactive to demonstrate contract delivery against all of the key objectives outlined.

There is a key requirement of the Provider to:

- Meet the Contract Manager for a monthly operational meeting for the first six months of the contract.
- Provide a quarterly report to the Contract Manager against the performance measures. This information will be shared with the four Ward Alliances, the North Area Council and will form part of public documents.
- Collect, collate and report on a range of agreed indicators on a quarterly basis (see milestones) as part of a quarterly report. This should also include the submission of supporting case studies (at least 2 per ward showing groups, individual or illustrating good practice/ innovative work) together with supporting photographs (with evidence of signed permission from those shown)
- Provide relevant evidence of engagement of volunteers which would include securely stored copies of volunteer signing in sheets for activities and events which are DPIA compliant
- Attend quarterly meetings with the contract manager to discuss the quarterly report and request any additional information/provide clarification, if required.
- Attend the Area Council Meeting as requested.
- An end of year report to be submitted (see milestones)

- An end of Project report and lessons learned to be submitted 1month before the contract end date.

## 5.2 Reporting Requirements

Outcome	Key Performance Indicators
<p>Creating a well maintained, clean, safe, well presented and welcoming physical environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of annual Clean and Green Ward Agreements</li> <li>• Added value work</li> </ul>
<p>Increase the number of people engaged in volunteering activities in the community</p> <p>Local communities involved in ensuring areas are kept clean and litter free</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No. of Environment Community Engagement Activities Supported in collaboration with Ward Alliance</li> <li>• No. of Provider supported interventions with North Area Team</li> <li>• No. and nature of Provider supported interventions with emerging local community groups</li> <li>• No. and nature of Provider supported interventions with established groups</li> </ul> <p>The following equality information should be gathered for all volunteer related data: Gender, Age, Nationality, Disability.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No. of new adult volunteers engaged</li> <li>• No. of new young people volunteers engaged</li> <li>• No. of young volunteers engaged</li> <li>• No. of adult volunteers engaged</li> <li>• No. of volunteering hours undertaken - adults and children</li> <li>• No. of new local Businesses engaged</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No. of different local businesses engaged &amp; undertaking community social action</li> </ul>
Residents/community groups taking responsibility for green areas/ shrub beds/planters etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No. of new community groups established</li> <li>No. of stewardship schemes delivered</li> </ul>
Building Sustainability-supporting existing and new groups to become independent and self reliant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No. of existing groups supported and nature of support provided</li> </ul>

**BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**North Area Council Meeting:  
16<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**Agenda Item: 6**

**Report of North Area Council  
Manager**

**Commissioning, Project Development and Financial Update**

**1. Purpose of Report**

1.1 This report provides the Area Council with a financial position and forecast for expenditure based on the projects that have been proposed.

**2. Recommendation**

2.1. **The North Area Council should note the existing budget position the existing the funding commitments.**

2.2. **Councillors note the discussion regarding the Clean and Green Contract, section 3.1. Full details are available in Item 5 of the agenda.**

2.3. **Councillors note the update regarding the recruitment for the Housing and Cohesion Officer role.**

2.4. **Following two workshops in October, the North Area's Cost of Living Crisis response is on hold, sect 5.2.**

2.5. **Councillors are requested to note the updated projected spend, appendix 1.**

**3. Background highlighting all significant financial commitment**

3.0 The Anti-Poverty Community Outreach Project

Contract 1 commenced on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015. This is a one-year (plus one year) contract valued at £149,000 in total. The initial contract has now concluded.

Contract 2 commenced on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2017 for a two-year term at a contract value of approximately £95,000 per annum. On the 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019 the Area Council took the decision to utilise the contract extension clause and extend the contract until the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

The Area Council agreed to continue to fund this project in September 2019. Due to procurement pressures during Covid-19 the decision was taken to submit

a waiver in the summer of 2020 and extend the existing contract by 12 months until 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

*CURRENT POSITION: The Area Manager requested a contract extension to the existing waiver. This has been approved but only for 9 months at this stage until the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023. Value £79,033.*

***Options for how welfare services can be more consistently commissioned, and contract managed, whilst maintaining local provision and oversight of delivery, are still being explored by officers. It is recommended that the North Area Council participate in any development opportunity provided to shape the future Welfare IAG provision in the North Area.***

***N.B. A decision regarding extension / retendering this opportunity will need to be made at the March NAC meeting at the latest.***

### 3.1 The Clean and Green Service

Contract one was delivered by Forge Community Partnership commenced on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015. Prior to the end of the contract the tender opportunity was advertised.

The second environmental contract commenced on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2017 at a value of £85,000 per annum. The provider, Twiggs Grounds Maintenance Ltd, commenced service delivery on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2017. On the 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019 the Area Council took the decision to utilise the contract extension clause and extend the contract until the end of September 2020.

*CURRENT POSITION: The current contract was tendered in autumn 2020. Twiggs Grounds Maintenance Ltd secured a two-year contract with the opportunity for a final one-year extension. The contract commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 and is now in it's second year of delivery.*

*To help manage the expectations of this contract and tailor delivery to the needs of individual wards a steering group will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month to help programme delivery. Each ward prioritise two work streams for delivery:*

- *Working with existing voluntary group*
- *Generating new active volunteers*
- *Aiming to form new community groups*
- *Working with businesses*
- *Working with schools*

The Steering Group has devised a process for requesting work. All Twiggs work is now required to be considered at the Steering Group prior to inclusion in the calendar / work programme. All persons requesting work are requested to submit their request to the North Team for collation: [northteam@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:northteam@barnsley.gov.uk)

***Update: At the November 2022 NAC meeting, Members made the decision to conclude the current contract.***



***N.B. At this time the future direction of the this priority is being reviewed. Based on the rate of inflation the contract value for this provision will need to be increased. Full details are available in Item 5 of the agenda.***

- 3.2 Housing and Cohesion Officer (Private Sector Housing) – At the November meeting 2017 it was agreed that the North Area would fund a private sector housing officer post at Grade 6 for 12 months fixed term. The successful candidate started on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 and proved to be a great asset to the area. The officer left the North Area council at the end of June 2019 for a promotion within BMBC.

The current Housing and Cohesion Officer started in post on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020. The officer now has a permanent contract and the role forms part of the Safer Communities structure.

In addition to the salary fees the Area Council agreed to fund uniform, PPE including IT, phone and bodycam, plus a £5k annual working budget.

***N.B.: Contractually the position is covered by a permanent contract to ensure employment rights for individuals. If the Area Council agreed to cease funding the position a 6-month notice period will be required.***

***UPDATE: The position is currently vacant. Bradley Beatson the previous officer is assisting with urgent enquiries whilst there is a vacancy. The post has been advertised. The interview process conducted on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December proved to be unsatisfactory and the post has been readvertised.***

- 3.3 Health and Wellbeing – Connecting Communities Grant

At a series of workshops in 2021 the Area Council discussed the loneliness and isolation and the impact of Covid-19. In July 2021 it was agreed to fund a grant program for two years with a budget of £100,000 per annum.

The grant opportunity was advertised at the end of September 2021 and the final date for submission was the 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021. A total of 9 applications were received before the deadline totalling £615,710.39.

Stage one moderation took place on the 1<sup>st</sup> November and 4 organisations were invited back to present their projects on the 8<sup>th</sup> November. 3 applications were recommended for funding. The total allocated amount for these 3 projects was £186,766.44.

Successful Projects:

- Age UK Barnsley – North Area Social Inclusion Service - £79,600.20
- DIAL Barnsley – Connection Hubs - £66,450.00
- Reds in the Community – Reds Connect - £40,716.24

***N.B.: £13,233.56 remained unallocated and has been recirculated into the main Area Council budget for forthcoming delivery allocation.***

3.4 Stronger Communities Grant 2022/23

The total funding allocated for 2022/23 is £40,000. Each grant has an upper limit of £10,000. A total of 4 applications were received, totalling £23,716.34.

At the Grant Panel on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022, two projects were recommended for funding. Pending receipt of further information the applications have been approved.

Successful projects:

- Mother Runners – Stronger Mums – £9,950.00
- Mapplewell and Staincross Greenspace and Recreation Group – Mapplewell Park – Children’s Cycle Path – £8,761.00

3.5 Devolved Funding to Ward Alliances

The Area Council has profiled £20,000 to be devolved to Ward Alliances during 2022. This means a £5,000 allocation per ward where the end of year balance is less than £10,000.

**Members are confirmed at the January 2022 meeting that they wish to make this allocation in 2022/23.**

**N.B. The decision was taken in 2020/21 that the funding devolved to Ward Alliances from the North Area Council would cease from 2022/23. This was due to ineffective expenditure within previous years and an accumulated surplus.**

3.6 Health and Wellbeing – focus on Young People

In November 2019 the North Area Council agreed to fund a project for up to three years. The project entitled ‘An Empowerment Programme Enabling Resilient Transitions for Children and Young People Aged 8-14 Years’ was advertised as a competitive grant in early 2020. The process was unsuccessful. It was agreed in on the 16<sup>th</sup> March that the opportunity should be chunked down to allow the VCS to respond.

N.B. This opportunity has been tailored to help address the fall out of COVID-19 lockdown and aid in the delivery of the COVID-19 Recovery Strategy. The grants went live on the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020, delivered by YMCA and Ad Astra.

The Area Council has committed to fund this work for up to three years. Covid-19 Lockdown restrictions caused delays and for a time schools would not permit external partners into schools. The providers are now working within 5 schools.

The grant funding originally ran from November 2020 to October 2022.

**Current Position: At the March 2022 meeting the Area Council agree to fund the project for a further 2 years, until October 2024, at £90,000p.a. Providers received a 3% financial uplift which was feasible within the current financial envelope. This security will enabling the existing providers to support students adversely affected by Covid-19 and support them in their educational transitions, primarily the move to senior school.**

#### 4. Financial Position

- 4.1. At the end of 2021/22 there was a significant **underspend**. **The budget was varied considerably during Covid-19, period 2020/21-2021/22.**
- 4.2. **The forecast for 2022/23 shows that the underspend** (including underspend from previous years) **was profiled to reduce to £76,211**. This is because the in-year balance is projected to exceed the annual budget by approximately £37,000.
- 4.3. Outlined annual commitments from April 2022:

<b>Contract</b>	<b>Proposed Spend 2022/23</b>
Anti- Poverty – Community Outreach	£95,000
Creating a Cleaner, Greener Environment in Partnership with Local People	£85,000
Housing Cohesion Officer – Grade 6 (+laptop and phone)	£35,000
Stronger Communities Grant	£20,000
Children and Youth People Resilience Grant	£90,000
Devolved funds to Ward Alliances (£5k per WA)	£20,000
Connecting Communities Grant 2021-2024 £100,000 per annum for 2 years	£92,000
Summer Sports Van	£2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£439,000</b>

- 4.4. Provided that the Area Council continues to commit funding as outlined in Appendix 1, plus additional activities including the Summer Sports Van and Cost of Living Workshops, the total spend profiled for 2022/23 is predicted to be £434,958.
- 4.5. The underspend at the end of 2022/23 will be approximately £68,954. This will increase the longer the Housing and Cohesion post remains vacant.

## **5. Commissioning Programme from April 2023**

5.1. Appendix 1 lays out the proposed spend. The Area Council is asked to note the proposed spend for 2023/24 and 2024/25. The Area Manager has recommended that these will need to be re-profiled due to the cost of living crisis. Ensuring that allowances are made due to inflation, for the current contracts at the point of renewal / retender.

5.2. Due to current cost of living pressures the Area Council had hoped to provide a tailored response for the North Area following workshops held in October 2022. However due to increase costs of existing provision it is likely that previous underspend will be required to sustain services currently commissioned. Alternatively, the Area Council will need to reprioritise. The funding allocations are constantly under review. In the meantime the Area Council will work with existing service providers to support residents during a challenging financial time.

## **6. Risks**

6.1. The proposed budget would take the Area Council approximately £33,354.00 over budget per annum for 2022/23. However taking into account the current under spend, the investment profiled in Appendix 1 has been feasible.

## **7. Next Steps**

7.1. Ensure that the Area Manager is alerted to any proposed commissioning profile variations so that feasibility considerations can be made at the earliest opportunity.

**Officer Contact:**  
RosemarieAdams@barnsley.gov.uk

**Date:**  
5<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## Appendix 1: North Area Council Proposed expenditure April 2022-March 2024

Project / Service	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Anti- Poverty – Community Outreach <i>Retender Anti- Poverty - Waiver in place Sept 2021 - Sept 2023</i>	95,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
Creating a Cleaner, Greener Environment in Partnership with Local <i>People Contract Start - April 2021 (Retender Sept 2023)</i>	85,000.00	85,000.00	85,000.00
Housing and Cohesion Officer – Grade 6 (+laptop and phone)	35,000.00	35,000.00	35,000.00
Stronger Communities Grant Reduced to £20,000 in 2022/23	20,000.00	-	-
Youth Resilience Fund (November 2020 - October 2022 - YMCA & Ad Astra)	90,000.00	90,000.00	45,000.00
Connecting Communities Social Isolation Grant (£100,000 pa for 2 years)	92,000.00	82,500.00	100,000.00
Devolved funding to Ward Alliances ( <i>where March 2019 balance is less than £10,000</i> )	20,000.00	-	-
2023 - New Project or Grant - £68,954 Alternatively use underspend to address inflation of existing contracts.			
<b>TOTAL</b>	437,000.00	392,500.00	365,000.00

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**BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**North Area Council:  
16<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**Agenda Item: 7**

**Report of the  
North Area Council Manager**

**Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Funds**

**1. Purpose of Report**

1.1 This report updates the North Area Council on financial position the Ward Alliance budget for each ward for the 2022/23 period.

**2. Recommendation**

**2.2 That each Ward in the North Area Council area prioritises the efficient expenditure of the Ward Alliance Funds 2022/23, in line with the guidance on spend.**

**3.0 Introduction**

3.1 As part of the decisions made by the Council's Cabinet in 2013 each Ward was allocated an annual Ward Alliance Fund of £10,000. In addition, the Area Council has devolved £10,000 to the Ward Alliances between 2014/15 and 2019/20; no additional funding was devolved in 2020/21 and a reduced amount of £5,000 was devolved in 2021/22. The £5,000 devolved funding from the Area Council has been agreed for 2022/23.

3.2 All funding decisions must meet with Ward Alliance approval and be allocated with in accordance with the ward Alliance Funding 2016/17 – Briefing Note. This requires half of the fund to be allocated to projects where there is match funding.

3.3 In considering projects for the use of the Devolved Ward Budget, Members will need to be satisfied that:

- it meets a recognised need for the Ward,
- it is in the wider public interest (i.e. the whole community can potentially benefit),
- it represents value for money.

**4.0 2022/23 Financial Position**

4.1 The carry-forward of remaining balances of the 2021/22 Ward Alliance Fund was added to the 2022/23 allocation, to be managed as a single budget with the conditions of the ward alliance budget allocation.

#### 4.2 Budget allocations for 2022/23

Ward	Base Allocation	Carried forward from 2020/21	Additional DWB (Announced 09/2020)	Total available
Darton East	£10,000	£5,863.75	£5,000	£20,863.75
Darton West	£10,000	£966.24	£5,000	£15,966.24
Old Town	£10,000	£8,664.33	£5,000	£24,871.83
St Helen's	£10,000	£6,540.47	£5,000	£22,108.27

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

4.4 Please refer to Appendix 1 for a full breakdown.

#### 5.0 Challenges and Opportunities

5.1 All wards should take an opportunity to consult on their ward plan early during the financial year 2022/23. This will help the Ward Alliances to review the existing plans, reaffirm their ward priorities and plan projects and initiatives that will address the ward centric priorities.

5.2 Any projects requiring a long lead in time will require the involvement of the Area Team as early as possible.

5.3 Proactive promotion of the Ward Alliance Fund to local not for profit groups and organisations is highly recommended to ensure efficient expenditure over the financial year.

Officer Contact:  
RosemarieAdams@barnsley.gov.uk

Date:  
23<sup>rd</sup> December 2022



## Appendix 1:

### 2022-23 Ward Funding Allocations

For 2022/23, each Ward will have an allocation of £10,000 for the Ward Alliance Fund, and an £5,000 has been devolved from the Area Council Budget.

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

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

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.

DARTON EAST WARD ALLIANCE

For the financial year 2022-23, the Ward Alliance has the following available budget.

Income / Return Grant	£0.00
Base Allocation	£10,000.00
Devolved from Area Council (discretionary)	£5,000.00
Carried forward from FY 2021-22	£5,863.75

**Total Available Funding** £20,863.75

	Project Details	Allocation	Match Funding (£) Element of allocation	Non-Match Funding (£) Allocation remaining	Allocation (£) Remaining 'Total Available Funding'
1	Mapplewell & Staincross Village Hall 'Film Club'	£1,890.00	£0.00	£8,541.88	£18,973.75
2	Mapplewell & Staincross Village Hall 'Pop-in' Club	£950.00	£1,507.00	£8,541.88	£18,023.75
3	Environmental Working Budget	£250.00	£0.00	£8,291.88	£17,773.75
4	North Gawber Colliery FC Medical / Football upgrade 2022	£1,274.79	£13,152.00	£8,291.88	£16,498.96
5	Mapplewell Platinum Jubilee Celebration	£383.04	£0.00	£7,908.84	£16,115.92
6	Darton East Community Awards 2022	£2,000.00	£0.00	£5,908.84	£14,115.92
7	Mapplewell Brunch Club	£150.00	£4,808.70	£5,908.84	£13,965.92
8	Secretary Payment Q1 - DE	£125.00	£0.00	£5,908.84	£13,840.92
9	Hanging Baskets - DE	£1,000.00	£0.00	£4,783.84	£12,840.92
10	Refurbished Swing Set for Bluebell Road Playground	£875.00	£0.00	£3,908.84	£11,965.92
11	Mapplewell & Staincross Village Hall 'Pop-in' Club (2)	£700.00	£452.10	£3,908.84	£11,265.92
12	Christmas Lights for Mapplewell - Xmas Celebration	£2,250.00	£274.00	£3,908.84	£9,015.92
13	Beauty & the Beast, Community Pantomime 2023	£454.00	£10,960.00	£3,908.84	£8,561.92
14	Darton East Working Budget	£330.00	£1,479.60	£3,908.84	£8,231.92
15	Grassroots Sports FC	£754.86	£3,205.80	£3,908.84	£7,477.06
16	Secretary Payment Q2	£125.00	£0.00	£3,783.84	£7,352.06
17	Christmas in Darton East 2022	£900.00	£0.00	£2,883.84	£6,452.06
18	DEWA Health Event	£1,500.00	£383.60	£2,883.84	£4,952.06
19	Spring Bulbs 2022 - DE	£817.50	£411.00	£2,883.84	£4,134.56
20	Mapplewell Park CCTV Cameras	£900.00	£0.00	£1,983.84	£3,234.56
21	Darton East Working Budget - Increase	£450.00	£1,315.20	£1,983.84	£2,784.56
22	Secretary Payment Q3 -DE	£125.00	£0.00	£1,858.84	£2,659.56

DARTON WEST WARD ALLIANCE

For the financial year 2022-23, the Ward Alliance has the following available budget.

Income / Return Grant	£0.00
Base Allocation	£10,000.00
Devolved from Area Council (discretionary)	£5,000.00
Carried forward from FY 2021-22	£966.24

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**Total Available Funding** **£15,966.24**

	Project Details	Allocation	Match Funding (£) Element of allocation	Non-Match Funding (£) Allocation remaining	Allocation (£) Remaining 'Total Available Funding'
1	Celebrating Easter & the Queen's Jubilee	£600.00	£328.80	£7,983.12	£15,366.24
2	Darton West Noticeboard Refresh	£1,700.00	£0.00	£6,283.12	£13,666.24
3	Hanging Baskets - DW	£2,000.00	£0.00	£4,283.12	£11,666.24
4	Kexborough Lunch Club	£150.00	£4,808.70	£4,283.12	£11,516.24
5	Secretary Payment Q1 - DW	£125.00	£0.00	£4,158.12	£11,391.24
6	Summer Activities	£1,000.00	£0.00	£3,158.12	£10,391.24
7	Remembrance Project	£726.85	£0.00	£2,431.27	£9,664.39
8	Spring Bulbs 2022 - DW	£935.00	£411.00	£2,431.27	£8,729.39
9	Secretary Payment Q2 -DW	£125.00	£0.00	£2,306.27	£8,604.39
10	Christmas in Kexborough	£358.37	£452.10	£2,306.27	£8,246.02

OLD TOWN WARD ALLIANCE

For the financial year 2022-23, the Ward Alliance has the following available budget.

Income / Return Grant	£1,207.50
Base Allocation	£10,000.00
Devolved from Area Council (discretionary)	£5,000.00
Carried forward from FY 2021-22	£8,664.33

**Total Available Funding** £24,871.83

	Project Details	Allocation	Match Funding (£) Element of allocation	Non-Match Funding (£) Allocation remaining	Allocation (£) Remaining 'Total Available Funding'
1	Gazebos and Tables	£2,111.54	£137.00	£12,435.92	£22,760.29
2	Hanging Baskets Old Town	£2,100.00	£0.00	£10,335.92	£20,660.29
3	St Paul's Afterschool Club	£720.00	£4,110.00	£10,335.92	£19,940.29
4	The 'Completion' Project (Rose Garden)	£468.73	£657.60	£10,335.92	£19,471.56
5	Spring Bulbs 2022	£2,303.34	£0.00	£8,032.58	£17,168.22
6	Christmas Working Budget 2022 - OT	£4,110.00	£0.00	£3,922.58	£13,058.22
7	Halloween Spooktacular	£500.00	£657.60	£3,922.58	£12,558.22
8	Pogmoor Xmas Lights Switch On event	£150.00	£232.90	£3,922.58	£12,408.22
9	Defibrillator for Brettas Park	£999.00	£0.00	£2,923.58	£11,409.22
10	Information Board for Brettas Park	£1,535.00	£0.00	£1,388.58	£9,874.22
11	Change of Use - Halloween Event	£50.00	£0.00	£1,338.58	£9,824.22

ST HELEN'S WARD ALLIANCE

For the financial year 2022-23, the Ward Alliance has the following available budget.

Income / Return Grant	£567.80
Base Allocation	£10,000.00
Devolved from Area Council (discretionary)	£5,000.00
Carried forward from FY 2021-22	£6,540.47

**Total Available Funding** £22,108.27

	Project Details	Allocation	Match Funding (£) Element of allocation	Non-Match Funding (£) Allocation remaining	Allocation (£) Remaining 'Total Available Funding'
1	New Bin Installation at Smithies Rec	£300.00	£0.00	£10,754.14	£21,808.27
2	Jubilee Event Working Budget	£1,500.00	£0.00	£9,254.14	£20,308.27
3	Hanging Baskets	£1,800.00	£0.00	£7,454.14	£18,508.27
4	St Helen's Summer Gala Working Budget	£1,500.00	£493.20	£7,454.14	£17,008.27
5	Personal Safety Items	£1,000.00	£0.00	£6,454.14	£16,008.27
6	Secretary Payment Q1 - StH	£125.00	£0.00	£6,329.14	£15,883.27
7	Training for Community Volunteers	£1,300.00	£3,288.00	£6,329.14	£14,583.27
8	Smithies Rec Youth Shelter re-paint	£210.35	£0.00	£6,118.79	£14,372.92
9	Memorial Bench Unveiling	£500.00	£0.00	£5,618.79	£13,872.92
10	Resolute Women's Support Group	£1,500.00	£3,945.60	£5,618.79	£12,372.92
11	Christmas Working Budget 2022 -StH	£1,200.00	£0.00	£4,418.79	£11,172.92
12	Jolly Boys Group	£600.00	£0.00	£3,818.79	£10,572.92
13	Secretary Payment Q2 -StH	£125.00	£0.00	£3,693.79	£10,447.92
14	Fireworks Display	£1,500.00	£2,137.20	£3,693.79	£8,947.92
15	Cost of Living Event Working Budget	£700.00	£0.00	£2,993.79	£8,247.92

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**BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**North Area Council Meeting:  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**Agenda Item: 8**

**Report of North Area Council  
Manager**

**North Area Ward Alliance – Operational Updates**

**1. Purpose of Report**

1.1 This report appraises the North Area Council of the progress made by each Ward in relation Ward Alliance implementation.

**2. Recommendation**

2.1 That the North Area Council receives an update on the progress of the Darton East, Darton West, Old Town and St Helens Ward Alliances 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 (Cab21.11.2012/6), Devolved Budget arrangements (Cab16.1.2013/10.3), Officer Support (Cab13.2.2013/9) and Communities and Area Governance Documentation (Cab.8.5.2013/7.1). This report is submitted on that basis.

**4.0 Ward Alliance Meetings**

4.1 This report includes all notes of North Area Ward Alliances, received by the North Area Team, that were held during November 2022.

Appendices:

Darton East Ward Alliance Meeting:	Appendix One
Darton West Ward Alliance Meeting:	Appendix Two
Old Town Ward Alliance Meeting:	Appendix Three
St Helens Alliance Meeting:	Appendix Four

The reporting into the North Area Council, of the Ward Alliance notes is in line with the approved Council protocols. The notes are for information only.

**Officer Contact:**  
[RosemarieAdams@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:RosemarieAdams@barnsley.gov.uk)

**Date:**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> December 2022**

## **Appendix One:**

### **Darton East Ward Alliance** Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November– 6 PM Face to face meeting.

#### **Present:**

Cllr Steve Hunt – Darton East Ward Councillor  
Cllr Richard Denton – Darton East Ward Councillor  
Cllr Matthew Crisp - Darton East Ward Councillor  
Rebecca Battye - North Area Team  
Helen Altun – Minutes  
Gerard Morrall- Local Business Man  
Paul Marsh - Local Business Man  
Nick Hibberd - Mapplewell Village Hall Manager  
Teresa Wilcockson – Local resident  
Julia Burrows – Executive Director of Public Health for Barnsley Council

#### **1. Apologies:**

David Lockwood – Local Business Man  
David Hilton – Green space  
Caroline Hague – Village Hall Assistant Manager

Steve welcomed Julia Burrows to the meeting and asked all members to introduce themselves to her.

Steve explained afterwards he had received a letter of resignation from Janine Williams due to work and family commitments and said he would be sending her a letter to thank her for all her hard work and commitment during her time as a member of the Darton East Ward Alliance.

2. **Declarations of Interest** None.

#### **3. Minutes of previous meeting**

Approved with changes to be made:

Thank Steve for hosting the awards night.

To change Rosie Marshall to Rosie Adams.

To change that the North Area council used to have a contract with Kingdom.

To change the spelling of Mugga to Muga.

To change Spark Lane to Fountain's parade, Spark Lane.

#### **4. Matters Arising**

This Sunday is remembrance Sunday. There will be a road closure in Mapplewell between 10.30am – 11.30am. The service will be from 10.45am – 11.15am. Father Tim Stevens will conduct the service alongside another church. Steve explained he had been to Smithies depot and arranged for two road closure signs to be dropped off on Sunday at 8am.

Steve explained it would be nice to see other ward alliance members at the service. Councillor Matthew Crisp gave his apologies.



Steve and Matthew met up with Joe Jenkinson regarding the footpath running from the CO-OP to Fountains parade and asked why it was closed off. Joe Jenkinson is going to investigate this.

Another member stated it was Booker that closed it off.

#### **5. Financial Update**

£1461.60 available with match funding and £1498.96 available with none match funding.

We have had a good spend this year with only four meetings of the financial year left.

A member explained the Perspex in the noticeboard outside the village hall had been damaged and it was £200 for a replacement.

#### **6. Applications for Funding.**

£200 working budget for small projects and small items of equipment.

The group agreed to change this to £400 so the Perspex could be replaced in the noticeboard outside the village hall.

Some racking will also be purchased to store the play equipment in the container in the park. The container is next to the container used for the football club.

#### **7. Ward Action Plan**

**Ears and voice of the community** – Regular Facebook posts are put on to the Ward Alliance Facebook page. Other groups are also sharing the page.

**Young People** – Another disco as been planned for Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November. Tickets may also be offered on the night for the Christmas disco.

**Environment** –The numbers need to be decided for the next batch of hanging baskets. The group will need to decide the number of hanging baskets in our December or January meeting. The payment for the hanging basket will come out of next years funding.

We did have a lot of demand to sponsor the hanging baskets this year with 50 plus hanging baskets being sponsored in our area.

It will go out to tender for the next lot of hanging baskets.

A member asked if there will be any penalty clauses as they were very late going up this year. It was explained there would be some penalty clauses.

The spring bulbs have been delivered and given out to groups in the area. We have also given some bulbs to schools to plant. Darton primary are going to be planting some on the 18<sup>th</sup> of November. Members suggested to focus on Bridge Street, Dearne Street, and the grassed area on Sackup Lane.

We have got daffodils and crocuses to plant.

A member explained they had secured 30 trees and shrubs through the Woodland Trust for Mapplewell and Staincross village hall. £150 has also been secured and a member of the trust at the village hall is donating £200 towards seating for outside.

The village hall is also trying to get a ramp up to the grassed area at the back of the village hall.

**Older people** – The pop in club continues to be successful. The village hall is looking at linking it up with door to door to provide transport for the pop in club.

The Health and Wellbeing event held at Mapplewell and Staincross village hall had a steady flow of visitors. 75 food vouchers were given out. Some really good feedback was received from the stall holders. A letter had been received from the Yorkshire Air Ambulance for the £45 they managed to raise on the day.

The event was good, and it can be built on even further for the next event.

Three organisations didn't turn up and one of them was Bernaslai homes which was very disappointing. A few visitors had come to see them, so they were disappointed. Barnsley council was thankful for the event as they managed to speak to lots of people about the cost-of-living crisis.

The event took a lot of work to put together, but Gerard was happy to put it on again for the benefit of the community.

The next event could possibly be targeted at the cost-of-living crisis in around six months' time.

Most organisations are happy to target the event on what we want but they do normally need around six month's notice, so it would be good to set a date at the next meeting.

The mayor attended and learnt a lot from Resolute.

2 thank you cards had been received from the Mayor and were passed round the group to read, one was about the Health and Wellbeing event and the other one was for The Making a Difference awards night.

## 8. **Twiggs**

A member explained they had seen quite a few posts on Facebook advertising the work Twiggs are doing, but none of them were focused on our area.

Some members had taken some work on themselves to help up near the plantings and to complete some work at Mapplewell and Staincross village hall tomorrow.

Woolley colliery and Dearne Street need to be looked at.

A new process which had been introduced recently which involves filling in a word form and sending it in to be looked at the monthly steering group was causing members frustration. The form is making it harder to get help from Twiggs and taking too long as the meetings are only monthly. This process needs to be stopped or volunteers will be lost.

A volunteer had approached Councillor Steve Hunt to say he couldn't fill in the word document and asked Steve to do it on his behalf. Rebecca and Steve are happy to fill in the forms for anyone who is struggling to complete them.

It was agreed that all feedback would be passed on at the next steering group by Councillor Matthew Crisp and members of the steering group will be asked to review it.

A member said they had asked another councillor on the steering group about why the form had been introduced.

Twiggs used to fill in the form so they could continue to do that.

The communication from Twiggs needs to improve. They have lots of apprentices who are not sure on what they are doing.

Twiggs have been given three priorities:

1. To work with Greenspace
2. Work with the eco council at local schools

3. Help with the planters in the area.

The priorities are looked at quarterly.

Twiggs do help with the Christmas trees as part of their priorities.

It was agreed there needs to be a governance and prioritisation for Twiggs but not in any way to cause a bottle neck in the system and make it harder for residents to get problem areas dealt with.

### 9. **Christmas**

Everything is progressing well for Christmas and members will be told in advance of the Christmas trees going up. Posters will be going up and members requested a timeline to be sent to them from Friends of Mapplewell and Staincross.

### 10. **AOB**

A new website as been launched by Barnsley Council called more money in your pocket. Members were asked to spread the word about this as it is a very good website.

There is a flyer available to post through letterboxes in the area. 4000 flyers have been requested.

There is no phone number on the flyer for people who may not be able to get on the internet so an event may have to be put on to let people use computers to access the internet in this area.

The website as been advertised in the Barnsley Chronicle.

A member explained that the warm space in our area at Alder court had not been advertised yet on the website and it was explained that it had yet to be finalised so that's why it wasn't showing on the website right now.

The website is not just for people who are on benefits it's for everyone.

A member asked if the CCTV cameras had been put up in Mapplewell Park. They were expected to go up within a week and they have not gone up yet, so Councillor Steve Hunt had sent an email to Maz Nicholls. The CCTV cameras are a trial and do not cover the containers.

The police think the cameras would act as a deterrent and identify people. Some home visits have been conducted by the police.

The last incident was approximately two weeks ago in Mapplewell park, when a bin was set on fire on the football pitch.

The issue does seem to have calmed down, and the groups may have moved elsewhere. The youths who have been identified do seem to be from the local area.

A member asked if anyone had heard the Radio Sheffield interview of our local area. Some members said they had, and Nick had done a vey good job. Radio Sheffield focus on different areas. Our area was contacted through our Facebook page. Other residents got involved and it was good publicity for Mapplewell and Staincross.

**Meeting closed.**

11. **Time and date of next meeting** Tuesday 13/12/22 at 6pm.

## **Appendix Two:**

### **Darton West Ward Alliance Minutes of Meeting Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

Attendees: Cllr Alice Cave (Chair), Cllr Trevor Cave, Shelly Jepson, John Ryan, Christina Carroll, Ann Carroll, Richard Haigh.

Apologies: Cllr Sharon Howard, Annabelle Watson.  
North Area Team: Rebecca Battye.

1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 The minutes of the meeting 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022 were reviewed and agreed as a true record.

#### **Matters Arising**

It was agreed by all members that Ann Plants' verbal resignation is accepted.

Rebecca to look at tenders for future hanging baskets and report.

All members to investigate possible companies/ local business who might sponsor future hanging baskets.

Rebecca to follow up Christmas motifs for Barugh Green.

Rebecca to invite Safer Neighbourhood Team to the next meeting.

Annabelle to update of any progress re: issues at Redbrook/ Wilthorpe Community Centre.

Cllr Trevor Cave to inform of date from Amber Colton re: tree planting at Kexbrough Recreational Ground.

Cllr Trevor Cave and Dominic McCall to look at litter bin provision across the Ward (Pending).

Cllr Sharon Howard to contact Michelle Lowe at Norse re: future litter pick at Barugh Green (Pending).

Shelly to involve School Group in discussions re: local parks litter problems and any other associated issues.

Shelly to look at possible History/Geography Students visiting Gawber History Trail for learning purposes.

Richard to send letter on behalf of the Chair and members re: Britain in Bloom Assessment for Darton Academy Students.

Richard to forward to all members, on behalf of Cllr Trevor Cave the Darton Active Travel Consultation Documents.

Christina to update VFD Group re: developments at Longfields car park.

#### **3 Ward Action Plan**

Cllr Trevor Cave presented the Ward Action Plan this was discussed and updated.

#### **4 Active Travel Update**

Cllr Trevor Cave updated the Group of recent events, this was very positive.

Consultation to commence.

Cllr Trevor Cave will update of any progress at future meetings.

#### 5 WAF Budget

This was presented by Rebecca

Remaining Budget £8,354.39

5b WAF applications.

Voice for Darton Christmas at Kexbrough Agreed.

#### 6 Christmas Events Plan

Redbrook/ Wilthorpe Community Centre, Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December

4.30 pm arrival for 5.00 pm Tree lights turn on.

Gawber Wood View, Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 4.00 pm arrival at Gawber Community Church Hall followed by Tree light turn on at Wood View.

Kexbrough Priestley Ave, Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> December (time to be announced).

#### 7 A.O.B.

Remembrance Event at Darton Academy

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November. Visitors to arrive at 10.30. All welcome.

Darton Stars Awards Sub Group Meeting

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 4.00 pm Darton Centre.

Date and time of next meeting.

**Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 5.00 pm, at the Darton Centre.**

## **Appendix Three:**

### **Old Town Ward Alliance**

#### **Communities in Monk Bretton, Smithies, Wilthorpe, Honeywell, Old Town and Pogmoor**

#### **Notes of 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

##### In Attendance

CLlr Phil Lofts (V. Ch), Cllr Jo Newing (Sec), Lee Swift, John Love, Bill Gaunt,

##### Apologies

Clive Pickering, Luke Holmes, Gill Nixon.

Notes of the last meeting were agreed a true record.

##### Matters Arising.

Spring Bulbs have been collected by various groups. Small amount to be planted around the previous planted Christmas trees.

##### Funding Bids

1. Brettas Park Information Board, £1535. – Approved
2. Change of Use re Halloween Event at Wilthorpe - £50 approved.

##### Upcoming Projects

1. Christmas 2022, six Christmas Trees, all ordered with lights.  
3 out of the six will have switch on events, Pogmoor, Huddersfield Rd and Brettas P

##### Stop Smoking Service

Emma Hudson- has been commissioned to roll SSS. Wants to attend a W.A. mtg to discuss, suggested Emma be invited to North Area Council, L.S. to invite.

##### AOB

- a) Rockingham Store, the store has changed hands and now is under new ownership, the Defib has now been installed. Cllr Lofts and Cllr Newing to visit to check whether the installation was successful.
- b) Meeting Times/Dates. A discussion took place regarding concerns that meetings were taking place during the evenings and the potential that this is costing BMBC for heat, light, etc. Agreed next meeting to be at 5pm, see date at bottom of page.
- c) J.L. discussed issues relating to Car Park charges at Barnsley Hospital and the resulting car parking in the area around the hospital, in particular St Paul's Church. Cllr Lofts and Cllr Newing to arrange to meet with someone from the Church.

**Date of Next meeting – 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 5pm in the Town Hall.**

## Appendix Four:



**St. Helen's Ward Alliance**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2022, 4pm, TARA office**

**Present :** Cllr Platts ( Chair), Cllr Leech, Lee Swift, Madge Busby, Dawn Bailey

**Apologies :** Cllr Tattersall, Kath Bostwick, Tony Lowe, John Hallows, Rebecca Leech, Freda Stenton, Neil Wright, Ruth Gammon.

**Welcome and Introductions:** Everyone was thanked for their attendance, and Dawn was welcomed to the group as the newest Ward Alliance member.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** - The minutes were passed as a true record by the members.

**Matters arising:** - The Memorial bench is now installed. Cllr Leech is just sorting a date for an official ceremony with the school and the Yorkshire Regiment

Cllr Leech and Michelle are going to sort a date to go to New Hope Church for benches & equipment

Twiggs have looked at moving the Memory tree, but it's not possible. They are costing up prices for a new one (looking at prices for both fir tree and non-fir tree). This will not be able to be sorted until 2023 however. Cllr Leech agreed to chase this up with them. On a related note, Father Peter is fine with one being planted in the grounds of St Helen's Church

### **Funding Applications:**

***St Helens More Money in Your Pocket Roadshow*** - This bid is for £500 to be used to put on an event aimed at supporting people in the Cost of Living Crisis. Whilst this crisis is affecting everyone, this event is going to be specifically targeted towards families and people who work, but may still end up struggling. The venue was originally at St Helens Church Hall, but because of timings and fear of no attendees, Lee is currently attempting to get approval from Laithes Primary to hold it there. The money will be used to pay for publicity, food (hot dogs & chilli) as well as entertainment and possibly food for stew packs etc. The Ward Alliance approved of this bid, and raised the amount to £700 to cover any unforeseen or additional costs

## **Events:**

### ***Christmas events –***

The trees are booked in to be installed prior to the switch on events

The Sleigh ride route is now worked out. Lee is meeting with Neil next week to ensure all paperwork is signed off.

New Lodge Community Centre will have their event on Sun 4<sup>th</sup> December, St Helens Church is on Mon 5<sup>th</sup>, and Community Shop is on Tues 6<sup>th</sup> December. All events will be around 4.30pm except New Lodge, which will begin around 2pm.

Cllrs to speak to schools to see if the school choirs will be able to attend the events

Lee has the budget approved and will be ordering lights and gathering 150 selection boxes to spread across the events

Cllr Leech confirmed with the Ward Alliance members that we can have hampers for each of the switch on events, purchased from money raised at the Summer Gala.

### ***Summer Gala 2023 –***

Cllr Leech asked if the planning for 2023 gala could start. All agreed. A provisional date for Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023 was agreed.

It was noted that there maybe a possibility that the venue may change for this event as we cannot get larger rides into the area of New Lodge Village Green, but this will be discussed at a sub-group meeting when one is set up for the gala. If the venue moves, it will likely be to Laithes Lane playing fields again as it was there in previous years and has better access.

**Ward Plan:** This was deferred because of lack of time and number of apologies for this meeting. Actions for 2023 will be looked at in January.

**Treasurers Report:** Lee reported that now the recent bid has been approved, there is a total of £5,322.82 as of this meeting date.

Cllr Leech said if Lee goes and sees what needs repairing on the notice boards, he will look at fixing them, rather than going through Totty's.

### **Forthcoming Projects and Bids:**

Michelle discussed the possibility of submitting a new bid for the centre as due to the current rise in the cost of living they are finding it difficult to pay the rent.



**Any other business:**

Madge explained that Pete Goodlad came to the coffee morning and is recovering well.

Lee explained that the hanging baskets are now down and we're invoicing the community for the baskets they had. BMBC are looking at developing a tender process for this as it needs contracting in so that there is accountability. He will explain when he knows more about it

Michelle said Ad Astra have had a huge rise in requests for food parcels, and are doing what they can to meet that need, but there maybe a time when they have to close requests off. She may have to instigate a £1 fee per parcel to help cover staff costs etc.

**Date and Time of Next Meeting:** Meeting closed at 17.20pm

The next meeting is on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 4pm, TARA office.

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