

MEETING:	North East Area Council
DATE:	Thursday 25 May 2023
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Meeting Room 1 - Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Hayward (Chair), Booker, Cherryholme, Ennis OBE, Green, Houghton CBE, McCarthy, Peace, Richardson, Sheard and Webster

1 **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

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

2 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting of North East Area Council held on 23 March 2023 (Neac.25.5.2023/2)**

The meeting considered the minutes from the previous meeting of the North East Area Council held on 23 March 2023.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North East Area Council held on 23 March 2023 be approved as a true and correct record.

3 **Presentation from the Youth Association on the StreetSmart Programme**

Dmitry Fedotov and Faye Dolan from the Youth Association were both welcomed to the meeting.

Members were provided with a presentation on the Youth Association's StreetSmart detached youth work Programme which had commenced in the North East Area from 1 April 2023. The Programme consisted of two different types of workshops. Firstly, 'StreetSafe – an interactive street-based workshop which promotes positive attitudes and reduces crime and violence. And secondly, 'StreetVoice' – a street level youth empowerment work for young people to influence local decision making and take collective action.

From 1 April 2023, the Youth Association had been working with groups and young people in all of the Wards across the North East area. A summary of the most common themes identified when speaking to young people in each Ward was noted as anti-social behaviour, drugs, sexual health and mental health.

The presentation went on to provide Members with an overview of the Street-based curriculum and details of the young men's and young women's programmes which were delivered through sports, arts and voice and creative media work.

The outcome aims of the StreetSmart Programme were as follows:

1. Young people improve understanding of crime and violence
2. Young people are empowered to be capable activists, skilled in self-organisation, problem solving and critical thinking

3. Young people become less likely to adopt attitudes that contribute towards violence against women and girls
4. Young people improve mental wellbeing and self-awareness

Members noted that a package of support was available to community groups, which included a level 2 and level 3 Youth Work course, mentoring for each group or organisation, peer support group and quarterly deep dives training.

Members asked if the Youth Association received referrals for children who were self-harming. In response, Members were informed that there was currently no specialist programme provided the Youth Association in Barnsley. If a young person was identified by the Association to be self-harming or suicidal, then they would signpost them to other organisations.

Members asked how the Youth Association would be measuring the success of the programme. In response, it was highlighted that the Association would firstly use tangible qualitative evidence. For example, by asking a young person to provide a testimony (either written or verbally). Secondly, the Association would look at qualitative outcomes and assign proxy measures. For example, when a young person takes a sense of pride in an achievement during the programme. And thirdly, receiving feedback from others, for example, from schools, community teams and the police.

Members noted that the Youth Association had been invited to attend future Ward Alliance meetings to provide Members with updates in relation to the work taking place in their Wards.

RESOLVED that the Youth Association be thanked for their presentation.

4 Quarter 3 (October to December 2022) Performance Report (Neac.25.5.2023/3)

Lisa Phelan, Area Council Manager, submitted the North East Area Council Project Performance Report, which gave an oversight and update on the delivery of the commissioned projects for Quarter 3 - 2022/23 (October to December 2022).

The report outlined, amongst other things, how the projects within the Area Council area were meeting the Council's Corporate Priorities and the 2030 Ambitions. It also gave details of how projects were being delivered together with performance data against targets where appropriate.

RESOLVED that the Project Performance Report for Quarter 3 – 2022/23 (October to December 2022) be noted.

5 Quarter 4 (January to March 2023) Performance Report (Neac.25.5.2023/4)

Lisa Phelan, Area Council Manager, submitted the North East Area Council Project Performance Report, which gave an oversight and update on the delivery of the commissioned projects for Quarter 4 - 2022/23 (January to March 2023).

The report outlined, amongst other things, how the projects within the Area Council area were meeting the Council's Corporate Priorities and the 2030 Ambitions. It also

gave details of how projects were being delivered together with performance data against targets where appropriate.

Lisa Phelan provided assurances that all projects funded by the Area Council had regular contract management meetings with her to ensure that projects were on track to deliver their funding targets. There were currently no concerns in relation to any of the funded projects to bring to the Area Council's attention.

It was noted that work was now taking place to strengthen relationships with project providers. A local network had been created to discuss operational responsibility and to also look at the potential for future collaborative funding bids.

RESOLVED that the Project Performance Report for Quarter 4 – 2022/23 (January to March 2023) be noted.

6 Procurement and Financial Update (Neac.25.5.2023/5)

The Area Council Manager submitted a report providing Members with an up-to-date overview of the Area Council's current priorities. It provided an overview of all current contracts, contract extensions, Service Level Agreements and Grant Funded Projects together with the associated timescales.

The report outlined the financial position to date for the 2022/23 financial year and provided details of the future proposals and projected spend for the 2023/24 financial year as outlined in the appendices attached to the report.

The report indicated that, at the Area Council meeting on 14 March 2022, the Area Council had made the decision to fund an Age UK Social Isolation project. It was recommended that an extension be offered to the Age UK Social Isolation project for a further 2-years.

Members considered the recommendation and agreed that an extension be offered to the Age UK Social Isolation project via a variation to grant agreement for a further one-year delivery from 1 June 2023 to 1 June 2024 at a cost of £39,995.

Prior to the expiry of the one-year extension, Members asked that the Area Council Manager presents future options for the delivery of a Social Isolation Service to the Area Council.

RESOLVED:-

- i) That the current priorities and overview of all current contracts, contract extensions, Service Level Agreements and Grant fund projects, together with the associated timescales, be noted.
- ii) That the actual financial position to date for 2022-23 and the projected expenditure, including future proposals to 2023-24 as outlined in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report be noted.
- iii) That an extension to the Age UK Social Isolation project via a variation to grant agreement for a further one-year delivery from 1 June 2023 to 1 June 2024 at a cost of £39,995 be approved.

7 Updates from Community Development Officers on Annual Ward Performance (Neac.25.5.2023/6)

Michelle Toone (Community Development Officer) provided an update on the Cudworth Ward Alliance Performance report for 2022/23.

The following key highlights were noted:

- The key priorities for the Cudworth area did feed into the Ward Alliance Action Plan. All projects did meet the Ward Alliance priorities and did add value.
- The Coffee and Conversation Group had been reinstated by the Ward Alliance working alongside Age UK. Volunteers were currently being identified who could help move the project forward.
- During 2022/23, a mixture of grants had been given to local community groups with community empowerment projects accounting for 49.7% of the funding available.
- The main spend during 2022/23 was in relation to Christmas provision to promote the Ward Alliance and to recreate community events pre-pandemic. It has also been a good opportunity to engage with three local primary schools and to support the high street.

Christie McFarlane (Community Development Officer) provided an update on the Monk Bretton Ward Alliance Performance report for 2022/23.

The following key highlights were noted:

- To restore community spirit and bring people together, five Christmas community events had been supported across the Ward.
- Remembrance Sunday events in the Monk Bretton Ward had been supported by the Ward Alliance with the local churches and other organisations.
- The Monk Bretton Ward Alliance Achievement Awards had been hosted with 3 local primary schools engaged. 27 pupils had been recognised for their academic achievements.
- As part of the 12th Barnsley Monk Bretton Air Scouts Group's 90th birthday year, the Ward Alliance had allocated funding towards new flooring at the Group's Rotherham Road centre.
- To assist residents with the cost-of-living crisis, More Money in Your Pocket events had been funded by the Ward Alliance.
- An Action Plan had been developed for the In Bloom award entries with assistance from the Friends of Monk Bretton Park.
- The Ward Alliance had commissioned Reds in The Community Sports Van to deliver a number of outdoor sports-based sessions across the Ward during the 2022 school summer holidays.

Christie McFarlane (Community Development Officer) provided an update on the Royston Ward Alliance Performance report for 2022/23.

The following key highlights were noted:

- 2022/23 had been a busy year for the Royston Ward Alliance, there had been a large focus on environmental projects.
- The Achievement Awards had been hosted with the 4 local primary schools. 36 awards had been presented to the young people.

- The Ward Alliance had supported a Jubilee small grants fund with 11 activities funded across the Ward.
- A grant had been provided to the Royston Canal Club to replace a community noticeboard and contribute to the fish restock programme.
- The Ward Alliance had supported volunteers across Royston as part of the Adopt a Planter Scheme to strengthen the In Bloom competition entry.
- The Royston Christmas Carol Service had also been supported.
- The Ward Alliance's priorities for 2023/24 (in line with Barnsley 2030 objectives) included developing an Action Plan to support the In Bloom entries, supporting the Royston Summer Gala on 1 July 2023. Work and planning was also taking place around the Achievement Awards and a summer programme which would offer free swimming and fishing.

Daryl Hand (Community Development Officer) provided an update on the North East Ward Alliance Performance report for 2022/23.

The following key highlights were noted:

- The 2022/23 North East Ward Alliance priorities had been the Cost of Living crisis, Social Isolation, Environment and Youth Provision.
- The Ward Alliance had supported 5 projects in Great Houghton.
- The Ward Alliance had supported 5 projects in Brierley.
- The Ward Alliance had supported 4 projects in Shafton.
- All four Ward Alliance priorities had been met in projects taking place in Grimethorpe.
- All four Ward Alliances in the North East area had supported a 'Jubilee Fund' with £2,325 grant awarded to individuals, groups and organisations/businesses.
- During 2022/23, the North East Ward Alliance had contributed towards 27 projects in total spending £15,979.88.
- The North East Ward Alliance's priorities for 2023/24 would be Social Isolation, Environment, Youth Provision, Information Support and Community Engagement.

On behalf of the Area Council, Councillor Hayward thanked Michelle Toone, Christie McFarlane and Daryl Hand for their updates.

RESOLVED that the updates be noted.

8 Notes of the Following Ward Alliances with Feedback from each Ward Alliance Chair (Neac.25.5.2023/7)

The meeting received notes from the Cudworth, Monk Bretton and Royston Ward Alliances: Cudworth – 6 March 2023, Monk Bretton – 24 February 2023, Royston – 27 February 2023 and 17 April 2023.

The following updates were noted:-

Cudworth – It was reported that work continues on the Principal Towns project. Tea in the Park would be held on Saturday 22 July 2023 with regular planning meetings taking place in the run-up to the event. A new young member had been welcomed to the Ward Alliance who had been assisting with litter picks and gardening in the area.

New costs for putting up hanging baskets around the area had now been provided to those interested in sponsoring a hanging basket.

Councillor Cherryholme had attended her first Ward Alliance meeting and had been introduced to Members of the Ward Alliance.

A discussion took place in relation to the purchase of four new gazebos. It was suggested that other Ward Alliances may wish to contribute toward the purchase of these gazebos for future use at events in their Wards. On behalf of the North East Ward Alliance, Councillor Peace stated that the Ward Alliance would be interested in making a contribution.

Monk Bretton – It was reported that the Ward was now back up to full strength with three Labour Councillors, following the Local Elections. Father Darren Percival from St Paul's Church in Monk Bretton was now a member of the Ward Alliance.

Members were informed that a small number of funded litter picks had been undertaken in the area.

The Medieval Mayhem festival had taken place at Monk Bretton Priory over the weekend of Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 May 2023. The festival had been extremely successful with over 2,500 visitors attending on Saturday 20 May 2023. The Mayor and Mayoress of Barnsley had visited the festival on Saturday 20 May 2023.

Members wished to place on record their sincere thanks to the festival event organiser, Victoria Agnew, to all the volunteers, and to the Friends of Monk Bretton Priory Group who had helped to support the festival.

Jon Finch reported that Members of Barnsley MBC's Culture and Visitor Economy Team had been present at the festival and would be working closely with Victoria Agnew regarding future events at Monk Bretton Priory.

North East – It was reported that the North East Ward Alliance had met once following the Local Elections held on 4 May 2023, where Councillor Ruth Booker had been welcomed to Ward Alliance.

The Brierly Residents Group Fete would be held on Saturday 27 May 2023, between 11am - 4pm. The Fete had been part-funded by the Ward Alliance.

Royston – The Achievement Awards had taken place in the Town Hall, which had been a fantastic event for all that attended and something which parents and pupils will always remember.

The Ward Alliance was currently focusing its attention on the In Bloom entries. There had been lots of interested received regarding hanging baskets.

The Ward Alliance were looking to invest in a project on the Royston Canal which would encourage and teach children and young people how to fish.

The Royston Gala would be held on 1 July 2023. Development was currently taking place at the Rabbit Ings country park.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received.

9 Report on the use of Ward Alliance Funds (Neac.25.5.2023/8)

Lisa Phelan, Area Council Manager, submitted a report which outlined the agreed spend to date from the 2023/24 Ward Alliance Fund budget within the North East Area. The appendices attached to the report outlined the spend for each Ward Alliance together with the remaining allocations carried forward from the 2022/23 financial year.

RESOLVED that the report on the use of Ward Alliance Funds be noted.

Chair