

Dearne Ward Alliance

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTES

Meeting Title:	Dearne North Ward Alliance
Date & Time:	Tuesday 11 th October 2022 – 2pm-3.30pm

Attendees	Apologies
Cllr Alan Gardiner (Chair) – Elected Member Cllr Wendy Cain – Elected member Cllr Sue Bellamy – Elected Member Derek Bramham – Big Local Thurnscoe Glennis Lingard – resident Jackie Kenning – Salvation Army Charlotte Williams – Station House Community Association – (Treasurer) Peter Shields (internet problems) Marie Sinclair – Community Development Officer – Dearne Area Team Nigel Robert – Twiggs Kevin Frisby BMBC Housing Enforcement	Sue Miller – The Hill Primary School (annual leave) Gillian Totty – Community Engagement Officer, Berneslai Homes (annual leave) Pauline Phillips

1. Welcomes & introductions:

- **Welcome Nigel Roberts – Twiggs**

Nigel gave a detailed report on the works they had carried out over past 2 months and the scheduled clean ups coming up this month, he asked for anyone to help on the clean ups and for any hot spots to be passed to him so they could look whether this could be completed by Twiggs team

- **Kevin Frisby – Housing Enforcement Officer BMBC**

Working alongside the Safer neighbourhood's team Kevin Frisby gave a detailed report of his job role and what he brings and helps the community out with. As ex-police officer he knows the struggles people have mentally and physically and likes to treat people with respect and give people the benefit if the doubt if they need help.

This was followed by Q&A session around the issues locally and he discussed at length for what he was able to do within his job role and what it entailed, Kevin also supports homes with the warmer homes team and waste management with regards to their rubbish and recycling especially around hoarding issues also support given to single parents on benefits who are struggling with private rental and cost of living crisis.

Kevin stated in the last Qtr. he had referred 32 bulky rubbish issues but working with the families and individuals to educate them on where to go and what to do for help

WC & JK wanted to say that he has been a massive help in the community and praised his work with the families from the Salvation Army

2. Notes from previous meeting & any matters arising - NONE

3. Finance

AG – Dearne North Ward Alliance **current balance £6978.89** after 5 previous applications been approved 2022/23 with a match fund of £1438.00 against volunteer time

Applications submitted –

- **TADS £3000** to assist in mental health work inside schools in the Dearne – **declined due to logistics around mental health ambassadors within schools and amounts, the WA gave positive feedback on their work and wanted to wish them well**
- **Kronik Warriors £3120.00** to provide accessible boxing and sports in local venues across Goldthorpe – declined due to amount & logistics and sports provision already in the area – **after lengthy discussion application was declined**
- **Rainbow Centre £980.00** – application submitted to replace existing tables with more accessible easy storage ones - **all in favour approved**
- **St Helens mother & toddler group - £510.50** (partial match funding with Churches own funds) – **all agreed**
- **Thurnscoe Library floral activity £400.00** – application submitted to provide after school adults sessions on floral decorating – **all agreed to fund this through working funds Thurnscoe Activity Fund**
- **Memory bench in John Street £1441.80** – Cllr Cain submitted an application for a memorial bench to be located in John Street in Thurnscoe in memory of all those who have lost their lives over the past 20 years, the street has had several deaths including children many years ago in a house fire Cllr Cain approached the area team CDO to help with logistics and prices for this (a brief discussion took place with - **all members in agreement**)

MS – DNWA working funds – balance of £3256.27 MHW £146.32, HH £392.00, ENV £448.00, TA FUNDS £1224, Misc. £1045.95

4. Performance report

AG – asked if everyone had managed to read through the report on the fabulous work the WA and the area team have done over the past 6 months, Darryl was praised for creating the document very well compiled everyone stated – well done!

5. Action Plan & projects outlined

MS – read through the projects that have now been confirmed via the Dearne North WA action plan detailing every project and asking for help where necessary starting with the More money in your pocket the Ward Alliance agreed to fund refreshments and items required to bring the families through the door. Wreath making sessions will be across the Dearne (MS to arrange sessions with individuals, Team to assist in delivering the sessions to ensure sustainability for 2023), education around recycling and littering the 3R's will be starting MS to speak to schools and arrange with WA members who would like to be part of the project. Christmas Market on the main high street was agreed for early December - Other projects were then discussed and will be added to the list for 2023

6. Group updates

Big Local Thurnscoe: DB gave a brief update on the plaza and latest event that BLT held with HEXFLEX doing demonstrations of skateboarding, stating all the families and especially the children enjoyed themselves, the board are looking to be holding further events in the forthcoming months once the weather picks up, Derek informed the WA that the area was waterlogged and surface water wasn't draining but this is being look at with BLT sourcing a drainage company to help with this matter. Derek asked if the Christmas market that cannot be on the high street due to safety on the footpath could be on the plaza, MS to speak to markets and test the ground to see if this could be plausible, she did explain that it may be too much for the team to provide with the projects that have already been started, so suggested an early spring event may be better.

Thurnscoe Flower Park: DB gave update they have been awarded GOLD in the Barnsley in bloom they will be going to the Town Hall to accept the award which is really nice, they are working with anyone who wants to volunteer within the park, usual volunteers are working hard to keep the park looking beautiful, the remembrance will go ahead this year but on a much smaller scale due to the British Legion no longer running in the Dearne. Winter wonderland will be held on Saturday 26th November from 12pm – 6pm all work will be covered by the team who have organised it so no work from the volunteers thankfully this year

Berneslai Homes: The gardening scheme has taken off and gone down well with the tenants, the first tenants' team will be promoting their help with the cost-of-living crisis and how families can access help through BH.

They have a new team leader now in the Dearne David Graham if anyone needs any further help or information regarding what's happening with walkabouts and the team in general.

Salvation Army: Jackie gave an update on the issues that they are having from their families and individuals already feeling the pinch with cost-of-living crisis. They are seeing their food banks increase daily and the issues keep coming more for energy, Jackie & Alison have secured fundings from the Housing Support Grant to help families/individuals on low incomes and on breadline – anyone who needs help they are more than happy to see. More in depth discussions were had around how we can help our local people to get through the next few months – Increase of food parcels now from outside the Dearne so they have had to set up eligibility forms to ensure they can feed the families in the Dearne as a priority

JK stated they are also finding more and more people coming for help ages 16 – 30 which they haven't seen before and not sure why? They have been asked for help with pushchairs and buggies and young people wanting help with costs to get to work

Dearne Memorial Group – Peter has had his laptop cloned and been defrauded out of £2000 from their account from the Credit Union he gave a detailed report into what had happened which has been very upsetting for him and his family. He is trying to keep going but finding no help on tracing his money is making things difficult for him to carry on

Station House – CW reported that they are full to capacity on after school club which is a positive incline, the cost of living has had a massive impact on the community pantry that they have for anyone coming inside the porch area dropping their children off, it's been slow take up at first but they have now seen the basket is emptied every day, JK added they can help provide food if necessary to keep it topped up

The uniform fairy is also going well with many families taking the uniforms regularly it's great to have these local venues, but we possibly need more

7. **AOB** – NONE

8. **Dates & Time of next meeting** - all agreed to have small meetings with xmas fuddle in early December