

Darfield Ward Alliance
Minutes 17th November 2022
4pm Darfield Community Centre

Present – Clare Archer (CDO), Cllr Markham (Chair), Cllr Osborne, Cllr Smith, Colin Ward, Michael Fenner, Brian Moore, Lorna Wilkinson, Christian Whitley Mason

Welcome – Officially welcomed Lorna as a member of the Ward Alliance, welcomed Christian as an observer and potential member

Apologies – Cllr Smith gave apologies for Matthew Smith, it was noted he has not attended the last few meetings as he is struggling to get from work in time, consider this at the next meeting.

Matters Arising – all members were given a copy of the Governance Framework and the groundrules were noted.

Budget Update – all members were given an up to date budget sheet, discussed remainder and potential spend up to end of March 2023

Potential Bids

- CA proposed that the ward alliance consider funding Children / Young People Winter Warmer packs – CA had already been approached by a local school asking for support. Discussion took place around the kind of things that could be included, Snuddies / gloves/ slipper socks/ activities. All members agreed the ward alliance would be keen to support something like this. CA to complete bid and email out to members with exact costs.
- CA had been asked by members to explore the possibility of a large Community Christmas Tree at top of Snape Hill. CA presented costings and permissions required for safety / installation etc. The cost would be in the region of £1500 and had been advised by neighbourhood / street / highway services that due to tight timescales it may not be possible to use the site this year. They advise that planning for this begins with plenty of notice next year, ideally summer 2023. Members agreed that there was not adequate time and that it would be prioritised in plenty of time next year. Christian offered to host a tree in the front garden of Thornhill House so that the community could still enjoy it. The ward alliance agreed to fund a 14 -16ft. Cllr Smith to visit Billingley Christmas Tree farm and discuss a cost reduction. CA to liaise with Christian and Cllr Smith.
- Warm Welcome Wednesday – Lorna proposed that after Christmas members consider supporting a monthly open access drop in at the community centre for any residents who require a warm, welcome space. Food and activities would be on offer after school into early evening. Members agreed to revisit this idea in the new year.
- Cricket Club – CA had attended a meeting at Darfield Cricket Club to discuss funding upgrading / servicing old machinery. CA advised on what would need to be included in the bid and that quotes would need to be sourced. Once members had done so to let CA know and she would arrange to come back and support the club to submit the bid.

More money in your pocket presentation – the presentation was delivered to members and discussion took place around the support available to residents. The ward alliance will continue to support residents through the cost of living crisis by funding projects that meet this criteria.

Updates

- Volunteer Training – numbers trained 22, Health and Safety, Safeguarding, First Aid, Food Hygiene.

- Small Christmas Trees Sponsorship – 30 Christmas trees have been sponsored and allocated, should go up first week in December.
- Benches – Barnsley Better Bonds bid for two memorial benches was declined at panel last week – waiting for feedback from Rachel.
- AGE UK has said she has been waiting for an update about benches and thinks the funding has all been allocated from the take a seat campaign and is checking, but will check this. She thinks there may be some more funding from a different scheme, however there cant be another bench within a certain distance.
- Update on war memorial bench – a bench has been ordered through DPAG for the memorial garden. Jo Birch to update CA once it has arrived.
- Concerns across the ward about the lack of volunteers had been expressed to CA. Local groups may fold due to this, the museum being one of them. Colin agreed to contact the museum and offer to help out where possible. CA suggested members discuss how to attract new volunteers at the next meeting.

Forthcoming events

- Winter Well Being event 21st November (please share flyers)
- Lights switch on at Museum 2nd December (details on flyer)
- Christmas Parade 18th December (Lorna)

Any other business

- Need a meeting with Councillors and Lisa to discuss how to allocate the £10,000 safer streets funding, members were given a paper to consider
- Ward Priorities need to be agreed in January meeting

Date and time of next meeting - 19th January 2023 4pm

Last meeting of financial year - 16th March 2023 4pm