

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

**North Area Council Meeting:
Monday 22nd May 2023**

Agenda Item: 10

**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 February 2023, March 2023 and April 2023.

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:
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Date:
28th April 2023

Appendix One:

Darton East Ward Alliance
Tuesday 14th February 2023 – 6 PM
Face to face meeting.

Present:

Cllr Steve Hunt – Darton East Ward Councillor
Cllr Richard Denton – Darton East Ward Councillor
Rebecca Batty - North Area Team
Gerard Morrall- Local Business Man
Teresa Wilcockson – Local resident
David Hilton – Green space
Caroline Hague – Village Hall Assistant Manager
David Lockwood – Local Business Man
Paul Marsh - Local Business Man
Rosie Adams - North Area Council Manager

Apologies

Cllr Matthew Crisp - Darton East Ward Councillor,
Nick Hibberd - Mapplewell Village Hall Manager
Helen Altun – Secretary

2. Declarations of Interest

David Hilton for Greenspace application (item 5)

3. Minutes of previous meeting. Approved.

4. Matters Arising. None

5. Financial Update

£2360 remaining.

£1461.60 available with match funding.

£898.96 None match funding.

Query raised by a member will the funds still be available at the end of the financial year. Any funding unspent at March 2023 is likely to be carried forward but this could not be guaranteed. Rosie also commented.

6. Applications for Funding –

Member gave an update on St Johns Church Pantomime which the Ward Alliance supported with a grant fund.

One application came in from Greenspace for bat, bird and bug boxes. Members discussed that the Bat boxes would need maintenance and special considerations due to the legislation of this protected species. Further discussion took place regarding the Greenspace application. At a previous WA meeting a discussion had taken place on application forms for grants being filled in comprehensively.

- On this occasion the form will be returned to Greenspace
- to add more comprehensive information including insurance details.
 - Clarification of the siting and maintenance of the bat boxes. Is there a need to approach experts regarding this scheme. Bat conservation Trust & local bat groups.
 - Risks of avian flu does this need to be considered. Maintenance of boxes on an annual basis (who would do this?)

Outcome – deferred application until questions answered.

7. Ward Action Plan

Ears and voice of the community

Facebook group continuing to increase in follower and viewing numbers.

Young People

Disco's currently postponed due to maintenance and improvements to the Village Hall

Environment –

Greenspace & Volunteers have collected over 86 bags of litter since Christmas.

Members raised the issue that many of the litter bins locally are frequently full. Dog fouling discussed and members asked to inform residents to report incidents into BMBC.

Older people –

Gez to meet up with Berneslai Homes staff regarding Alder Court warm spaces & assess if support needed to promote the venue.

Health and wellbeing –

Friends of Mapplewell and Staincross (FOMAS) have a meeting on the 28th February. Summer events being considered. FOMAS members on the DEWA to share information at future WA meeting.

Members discussed today's Cost of Living event held at the village hall. Lower numbers than expected attended. Many areas were leafleted and social media posts advertised the event.

Volunteers were thanked.

Comments people who did attend enjoyed it. Services reported feedback that they had found it useful at least three people were helped. Has the event become saturated as third type of event in twelve months. Vegetable bags not taken were donated to the Community Fridge charity.

7 Twiggs

Twiggs services were discussed at length –

Rosie reported that the North area has different needs to when the contract with Twiggs was initiated. Problems covid detrimental on service and low volunteer numbers, Twiggs contract terminates at the end of March 2023. This is a North

Area Council decision. The South Area Council have also decided to terminate the Twiggs contract.

New service

Will be Ward Alliance directed. A scheduled programme of works will be planned. Work will be 80% scheduled maintenance 20% volunteers. Direction will come from WA staff and the North Area Team. Clean and green service. Contract under discussion with Neighbourhood services. New Caretaker roles x 2 to be advertised within Neighbourhood services if negotiations are successfully concluded.

Rosie reported there will be hiccups – Will Neighbourhood services be able to manage this new workload? What will the core service expectations be set at? Listing of core and additional works will need to be completed. No processes yet. Time for the new ways of working and process to settle. Clean and Green Maintenance Staff might need support & training to be more people orientated. Members asked about Neighbourhood services coming to WA meeting in the future to provide updates. Outcomes and looking where standards have slipped need to be monitored and reported. A frequent run of works to be discussed at WA meetings.

Wednesday was discussed as the favoured day for the Clean and Green team to work in DE & if needed volunteers/ members of WA.

8. AOB

BBC Make a difference awards – nominations can be a group /person and closes on 5th March 2023.

Question asked re Community defibs and maintenance – Member assured processes and regular maintenance of defib completed and medical stock checked. Yorkshire Ambulance service links are maintained.

Darton Arrow is to be a supplement within the Barnsley Chronicle.

Meeting closed.

9. Time and date of next meeting Tuesday 14/03/23 at 6pm.

Darton East Ward Alliance
Tuesday 14th March 2023 – 6 PM
Face to face meeting.

Present:

Cllr Richard Denton – Darton East Ward Councillor
Rebecca Battye - North Area Team
Gerard Morrall- Local Business Man
Teresa Wilcockson – Local resident
David Hilton – Green space
David Lockwood – Local Business Man
Nick Hibberd - Mapplewell Village Hall Manager
Helen Altun – Secretary

Apologies

Cllr Steve Hunt – Darton East Ward Councillor
Cllr Matthew Crisp - Darton East Ward Councillor
Caroline Hague – Village Hall Assistant Manager
Paul Marsh - Local Business Man

1. **Declarations of Interest.** None.
2. **Minutes of previous meeting.** Approved. The secretary thanked Teresa for completing the February minutes.
3. **Matters Arising.** None
4. **Financial Update**
£2360.56 remaining. Any budget left will be carried over into the next financial year.
£10,000 will be the allocation for the next financial year. £5000 for none match funding and £5000 for match funding.

5. Applications for Funding:

Barnsley Youth Theatre £1091.36 – Approved

6. Ward Action Plan

The group discussed the action plan for the next financial year and set the same priority categories.

All funding applications need to fit in to one of the priorities.

Group members said it would be nice to try to do something for isolated or vulnerable members of the community. It would have to involve working with other agencies. The challenge is knowing who these members of the public are.

The group also spoke about a summer event, working with FOMAS (Friends of Mapplewell and Staincross). FOMAS asked their beer festival volunteers what they thought the funds raised from the beer festival (approx. £10,000) should be spent on and asked for ideas on social media.

Examples so far were to earmark some of the money for Ibberson Memorial garden or buy some extra defibrillators for the area or put on first aid training for local businesses.

The money could also be spent on something for the local area that can be used for years to come.

FOMAS also needs to keep some money for new lights, new bulbs and the installation and taking down of the lights. FOMAS have their next meeting in a couple of week's time. At the next meeting there will be feedback available from the public about what they would like to see the money spent on.

The group also discussed doing an event for kids and teens and young adults. It could involve BMBC e.g. a football or basketball coaching weekend. Also, it would be nice to incorporate kid's arts and crafts into the event.

Another idea was an outdoor cinema event.

A themed weekend was also discussed where different places in the village could have a different decade.

It was agreed that to run a summer event it would need a sub group and some members agreed to join a sub group to discuss the idea further.

It would be nice to do a summer event the weekend before the schools break up.

Another Darton East celebration event was discussed for September/October 2023, but the budget would be reduced this year.

On the 15th of September 2023 there is another celebration of 10 years of the ward alliance for the North area.

8 Twiggs

The contract ends for the North area at the end of March.

An action plan had been put in place at the North area council meeting.

Every ward has slightly different requirements.

Rosie and her team will complete a process document. This will then be presented at the ward alliance meeting.

The group discussed that Twiggs had completed some good work in the area.

Twiggs will still be working in some areas but not for the North or South area.

10.AOB

A member asked about the heritage trail for our area. They had noticed some more boards had been put up in Darton West. A member stated they had an update that had been passed to them to say 6 local history boards will be going up in the Darton East area.

The camera in the park was also discussed this included the location of the cameras and when they are up for renewal. Some of our allocated funding may need to go towards keeping the camera's up in the park. Some individuals have been spoken to about the wheelie bin fires in the park since the cameras were put up.

A proportion of section 106 money from a local development should be allocated to the park, although a member stated all section 106 money goes into one pot of funding then applications can be put in for it.

The group also spoke about the PACT meeting and that normally there is very little attendance from our area. This meeting is open to all of the general public.

FOMAS are looking into potentially buying a noticeboard for the village and are looking for the right place to locate it.

Litter is still a problem in the area and lots of litter is still being picked on regular litter picks. Can mobile signs be put in the area reminding people not to drop litter.

A member raised concerns about the state of the car park where the one stop is on Spark Lane. The member was asked to email the owner.

The hanging baskets will go up once all the lamp posts have been checked in the area. This shouldn't take too much time to complete.

Speeding is also a huge concern in the area and members would like more speed checks to be carried out, but they have to be at the right time of day.

Rewilding – Two areas have been identified as potential areas for rewilding one is between 63-65 Darton Lane and the other on Montrose Drive. Rewilding is a process to develop the eco system.

The Ward Alliance have been invited by Mapplewell library to come up with any projects they would like to see in the library. It was agreed that Nicola could be invited to the next meeting to discuss any potential projects.

The Yorkshire regiment are looking to put a bench in each area of Barnsley. It needs to be on private land.

The Mapplewell and Staincross village hall would be happy to have one.

Meeting closed.

11. Time and date of next meeting Tuesday 11/04/23 at 6pm.

Appendix Two:

Darton West Ward Alliance

Minutes of Meeting

Monday 6th February 2023

Attendees: Cllr Alice Cave (Chair), Cllr Trevor Cave, Cllr Sharon Howard, Annabelle Watson, Shelly Jepson, Christina Carroll,

Ann Carroll, John Ryan, Richard Haigh

Apologies: None to report.

North Area Team: Rebecca Battye.

1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 The minutes of the meeting 9th January 2023 were reviewed and agreed as a true record.

Matters Arising

Rebecca to update progress being made with summer hanging baskets.

Rebecca to follow up installation of litter bin at BBIC bus stop and larger litter bin at Wilthorpe Rd/ Ripley Grove bus stop with relevant costings.

Rebecca to contact Wardens and ask them to monitor area opposite Vets for Pets and report.

Rebecca to ask Wardens to supply an update of any concern regarding: misuse of motorbikes in local parks, antisocial behaviour and possible drugs issues across the Ward.

Cllr A Cave, Cllr T Cave, Cllr S Howard to attend meeting of Redbrook/ Wilthorpe Centre and update. (Pending).

Cllr A Cave, Cllr T Cave, Cllr S Howard to alert concerns of litter bins in Kexbrough to relevant BMBC Officer.

Shelly and Richard to liaise re: possible History/ Geography students visiting Gawber History Trail. (Pending).

3 Ward Action Plan

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

4 Active Travel Update

Cllr Trevor Cave presented to members progress being made with the Active Travel Plan across the Ward.

5 WAF Budget

This was presented by Rebecca

Remaining Budget £ 6,796.02

£ 500.00 was agreed for a larger litter bin at Ripley Grove bus stop and installation of small bin at BBIC bus stop.

5b WAF applications.

Darton Afternoon Club. **Approved**

Rebecca to highlight in support of the application a thank you to the Club for their hard work and donations to both charities and the food bank.

6 Stars Awards 2023 Update

Rebecca updated arrangements and categories for this year's awards.

7 Safer Neighbourhood Team Update

A written statement to be supplied from the Team for an update of any aspects of antisocial behaviour, misuse of motorbikes across Ward Parks and any drug dealing concerns within the Darton West Ward area.

8 A.O.B.

Nothing to report.

Date and Time of next meeting

Monday 6th March 2023, at 5.00 pm, venue The Darton Centre.

Darton West Ward Alliance

Minutes of Meeting

Monday 6th March 2023

Attendees: Cllr Alice Cave (Chair), Cllr Trevor Cave, Cllr Sharon Howard, Shelly Jepson, Christina Carroll, John Ryan.

North Area Team: Rebecca Battye, Rosie Adams.

Apologies: Richard Haigh, Annabelle Watson, Ann Carroll.

1. Welcome & Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was noted that this meeting was inquorate.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting 6th February 2023 were reviewed and agreed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Summer Hanging Baskets

Rebecca Battye and Rosie Adams gave an update on arrangements for the summer hanging baskets, indicating that there was currently no progress due to an urgent review of site suitability by the street lighting team.

3.2 Litter Bin – BBIC/Vets4Pets

Rebecca Battye reported that the larger litter bin for Wilthorpe Rd/ Ripley Grove bus stop was about to be ordered and the current bin would be re-sited at the BBIC bus stop. The Wardens had been asked to monitor the area opposite Vets4Pets and they had been to visit the surgery.

3.3 Safer Neighbourhood Team Report

Rebecca Battye also reported that she had asked the Wardens to supply a written update of concerns regarding misuse of motorbikes in local parks, antisocial behaviour, and possible drugs issues across the Ward. Their report indicated there were few issues in the ward with the concerns raised. Members questioned this analysis and indicated that police were monitoring Harry Rd Rec regarding motorbikes and that the issues raised previously about Darton Park were still on-going, including misuse of motorbikes, drugs and inappropriate use of the MUGAs.

3.4 Kexborough Bin Survey

It was noted that the report on improvements to bins in Kexborough was not yet available.

4. Ward Action Plan

Cllr Trevor Cave presented the Ward Action Plan which was discussed and updated. This included progress with Active Travel initiatives.

5. Ward Alliance Fund

5.1 WAF Budget

Rebecca Battye presented a report indicating that the allocation remaining in March 2023 is as follows: Match Fund – £5,459.75, Non-Match Fund - £356.27,

Total - £5,816.02. The remaining allocation would be carried over to the new financial year.

5.2 WAF Applications

a) An application was received from Darton Bowling Club, John Ryan, Club Secretary, left the meeting for this item of business. The Club applied for £354.00 towards the cost of new signage.

The grant was **Approved**.

The Chair indicated that due to the meeting being inquorate Rebecca Battye would contact absent members and seek their consent to the decision.

b) Correspondence was received from Darton Afternoon Club thanking the Ward Alliance for their recent grant.

6. Stars Awards 2023 Update

Rebecca Battye provided an update on final arrangements for the 2023 Awards at the Town Hall.

7. Clean and Green Service

Rosie Adams, North Area Manager presented a report on forthcoming changes in the North Area Clean and Green Service, including service provider, maintenance priorities (additionality to core services), and future working on priorities through Ward Alliances. Local groups would be consulted regarding their views, and this would be fed back in due course. Her presentation was followed by questions and discussion and Rosie Adams was thanked for her contribution.

8. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

9. Date and Time of next meeting

The next meeting would take place on Monday 17th April 2023, at 5.00 pm, in the Darton Centre.

Darton West Ward Alliance

Minutes of Meeting

Monday 17th April 2023

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

Apologies: Shelly Jepson, Annabell Watson.

North Area Team: Rebecca Battye.

1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 The minutes of the meeting 6th March 2023 were reviewed and agreed as a true record.

Matters Arising

Rebecca to keep group updated about any further arrangements for summer hanging baskets across the Ward.

Rebecca to look at all Notice Boards across the Ward, update Boards as required and complete for next Ward meeting.

Rebecca to update of any progress regarding litter bins at Vets for Pets and Ripley Grove bus stop.

Rebecca to invite Rosie Adams to the next meeting to discuss Darton West Asset List/ key locations and events document.

3 Ward Action Plan

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

4 Active Travel Update

Nothing to report.

5 WAF Budget

This was presented by Rebecca

Remaining Budget £16,240.02

5b WAF applications.

None

6 Stars Awards 2023 Update

Cllr Sharon Howard and Cllr Alice Cave updated the Group of the Event, this was a very successful event.

Cllr Alice Cave, Cllr Trevor Cave and Cllr Sharon Howard would like to thank everyone who was involved in making this a special and successful evening.

7 A.O.B.

Rebecca alerted all members to the Darton West Ward Asset list/ Key locations and events (Agenda item next meeting).

Christina informed of Kings Coronation Event, organised by the Ladies group at:

Darton Church Hall, Monday, 8th May 2023 at 2.30 pm.

Date and Time of next meeting

Wednesday, 24th May 2023, 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 13th April 2023

In Attendance

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

Apologies

CLlr Pickering, Luke Holmes, Gill Nixon.

Notes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record, except that J.Love and B. Gaunt were in attendance and not gave apologies.

Matters Arising.

None

1. Funding Bids

- a. Willowbank Community Partnership, event insurance £342.39. -Approved.

2. W.A. Fund

Currently stands at £18,664.33.

There has been a delay in approving some bids, due to the requirement to have six members in attendance.

4. Membership

Discussed who we might approach to join the W.A. J.L. and B.G. to ask some residents they know from the allotments.

Need to approach Community Organisations.

L.S. to leaflet local businesses in the Ward.

5. Environmental contract

L.S. updated the meeting regarding Twiggs, the contract is now ended, and Neighbourhood services will provide the service although under a very different model. 80% direct work 20% voluntary/community work.

6 a&b Ward Plan

L.S outlined visions and goals of Barnsley 2030 plan, (health, Learning, Growing and Sustainable) however unable to develop further until the Ward Alliance has more members. Discussed possible event at Honeywell Community Centre with the Mental Health Hub.

7. 10 year celebration

Possibly mid-September, 7pm venue to be confirmed.

I group from each ward in North area to present a project, Green Corridor from Penny Pie Park to the Canal project.

Meeting to plan further on 22nd May 11.00

8. AOB

Discussion re assets, key locations etc.

Next meeting 11th May 5pm at the Town Hall.

Old Town Ward Alliance
Communities in Monk Bretton, Smithies, Wilthorpe, Honeywell, Old Town & Pogmoor
Notes of 12th March 2023

In Attendance

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

Apologies

Cllr Clive Pickering, Luke Holmes, Gillian Nixon

Notes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record.

Cllr Lofts is on a phased return to work.

Cllr Pickering remains off sick.

- Membership requirement is six, with at least three attending meetings
- Some interest from P.B. ? Vicar at Emmanuel Church
- Ward funding £10,000 split between matched and non-matched
- Hanging baskets. To wait until highways have checked lampposts
- Ward Plan. Need to look at this once we have more members
- Twiggs. Contract finishes at end of March. List of regular jobs to Rosie

AOB

Cllr Newing to speak to resident re: membership of WA

Date of next meeting - 13th April 2023, 5pm at the Town Hall

Appendix Four:



**St. Helen's Ward Alliance
Minutes of Meeting
Thursday 23rd March 2023, 4.30pm, Roundhouse Library**

Present : Cllr Leech (Chair), Cllr Platts, Cllr Tattersall, Rebecca Leech, Lee Swift, Madge Busby, Tony Lowe, Neil Wright, Ruth Gammon, Dawn Bailey, Sally Goodier.

Apologies : Kath Bostwick, Michelle Cooper, John Hallows, Freda Stenton.

Welcome and Introductions: Everyone was thanked for their attendance.

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

The memorial bench unveiling was well attended, Dan Jarvis MP attended. Father Peter blessed the bench followed by refreshments in the Church hall. Photographs were featured in the Barnsley Chronicle.

Cllr Platts said she had a fabulous time at the Stars of St Helens Awards. It was very well attended and amazing people received their awards.

Funding Applications:

Roundhouse Library - Health and Wellbeing Garden. The bid was for £785. Dawn Bailey presented this funding bid. She explained that it was for a community project to create a garden to grow plants/vegetables in. It will be used to purchase all the materials and equipment needed. Neil offered his help with obtaining herbs, etc for the garden and Sally also has spare seeds and sand to donate. It was discussed between the members and it was asked if the Library were in agreement with this project. Lee and Dawn both confirmed that they had the Libraries permission.

All members agreed to the full amount.

Events:

St Helens Gala - All the planning is coming together. Forms have been submitted to Berneslai Homes for permission and they have been accepted. To arrange to pick up key nearer to the time. *To complete working budget before next meeting*

Great British Spring Clean - This event has already started and will run into the middle of April. No activities have been booked with the Ward Alliance but members are free

to help local groups with their activities if needed. New Lodge Community Centre will be planning litter picks on the estate.

10 year Ward Alliance celebration - this is a local celebration for all of the 4 ward alliances within the North Area. The venue is to be confirmed, depending on costings. It will hopefully be held on Friday 15th September, from 7pm. There will be music, food, a bar and entertainment. Lee will pass on more information as he receives it.

Environmental contract - As discussed in previous meetings, the Twiggs contract will be ending at the end of March. Cllr Leech gave an update from the Environmental Steering group that there will be a delay in the new provider (Neighbourhood services) taking over due to an issue with Legal and TUPE. There will be a short lapse in the provision and Neighbourhood services will hopefully take over in late June. They are currently recruiting at the minute for new staff members. Environmental services will work differently to Twiggs and any work needing doing will come to the Wrd Alliance via members then Cllr Leech will take it to the Environmental Steering group.

Ward Plan: A separate meeting is needed to discuss the Ward Plan, Lee to look at dates/times for this meeting.

Roundhouse Library will be having their relaunch celebration on Tuesday 4th April from 10.30am. All welcome to attend. Members discussed that more activities are needed for the children in the community, e.g. Lego club, reading club, etc. Members also agreed that the library needed a cafe

Hanging Baskets - there are currently issues with installing the hanging baskets. The council have a list of lamp posts that are unsafe. we are awaiting the council agreement that all lamp posts are safe before the hanging baskets can be installed.

There are currently 12 baskets that have been sponsored. Cllr Leech will chase up with local businesses to see if there are anymore. Lee to keep everyone updated with any information.

Treasurers Report: Due to the current crisis the Ward Alliance budget has been decreased, we are looking at a total of £18, 000 for the year. Due to this decrease the members discussed how we would go forward with funding different community events / bids that came in. We discussed decreasing the amount of funding that people can apply for. We also discussed reducing the amount of events we provide in a year. We will look at these decisions at the next meeting.

We are also looking at cheaper trees for the Christmas events to keep in budget.

Forthcoming Projects and Bids: There are notice boards in the ward that need repair. Lee will send out the report to members as to costngs and what repairs need doing. Cllr Leech and Neil Wright offered to do the repairs if needed.

The working budget for the Gala will be submitted at the next meeting.

Any other business: Madge asked about the replacement Memorial tree. Lee explained that this had been passed onto Twiggs and they were looking at a cost of between £500 - £1,000.

He said he was still awaiting more information from them but as they are due to finish their contract he wasn't sure what would happen. Cllr Leech said that when Neighbourhood Services take over the contract he will speak to them about getting costings for a new tree. Father Peter has already given permission for the tree to be placed on the church grounds.

Neil Wright said he had information about possible new members, he was asked to pass on their information to the Secretary so she could send out application forms.

Ruth has her moving day which will take place at the beginning of April. She was thanked for her years of service and wished well in her new adventures. She in turn thanked everyone for their friendship and kindness.

Cllr Tattersall gave an update on John Hallows. She said he was home from hospital and that she had passed on his awards from Stars of St Helens. He thanked everyone for their nominations.

Madge had also passed on Freda's award from the event.

Madge also reported that she had been asked about the possibility of putting a Defib on the side of the TARA office but she said she was scared of it getting damaged as there has been a lot of damage done to the office in recent months (shutters broken, key safe broken, etc) She asked if it could be placed elsewhere ?NISA, Lindhurst Lodge instead. Cllr Leech offered to speak to the relevant people to see if they would be happy with a Defib on their premises.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: Meeting closed at 17.50pm

The next meeting is on Thursday 20th April, 4pm, Roundhouse Library.



**St. Helen's Ward Alliance
Minutes of Meeting
Thursday 20th April 2023, 4pm, Roundhouse Library**

Present : Cllr Platts (Chair), Cllr Leech, Cllr Tattersall, Lee Swift, Madge Busby, Tony Lowe, Neil Wright, Dawn Bailey, Kath Bostwick, Andrea Spencer (NHS), Annie Moody, Rosie Adams

Apologies : Michelle Cooper, John Hallows, Freda Stenton, Rebecca Leech

Welcome and Introductions: Everyone was thanked for their attendance.

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

Hospital Governors: Annie Moody and Andrea Spencer gave a brief presentation on the purpose and benefits of becoming a hospital governor.

The governors are a requirement for the hospital and Andrea wants to get a wide scope of them to ensure fair representation. It is completely free to sign up and it is for a term of 3 years. You can serve a total of 3 terms.

The purpose of the governors is to scrutinise and quality check decisions made by the Executive Directors of the Hospital. They analyse rising trends and help suggest improvements or delve into why things haven't improved.

Those who sign up get access to newsletters updating on upcoming decisions and topics, and are able to attend executive meetings should they wish. There are 6 meetings a year which are required to attend although these can be online which is easier. There are also optional "insight" meetings which delve into specific topics

Members asked how much their views are taken into consideration and Annie and Andrea both said they are taken seriously. There is a chance to influence decisions on the running of the hospital, but not make them outright. You can however have the right to make your views clear.

Another question was raised about medical jargon – Andrea said that every governor is provided with training and support. All training is online so there's not as much imposing feeling of being scrutinised yourself.

Andrea and Annie were thanked for their time and those who want to join as a governor can go to <https://www.barnsleyhospital.nhs.uk/about/theboard/our-governing-council/meet-the-governors/>

Treasurers Report: Due to replacing funding back into the pot from working budgets and taking totals directly from the financial spreadsheet, the amount of funding to allocate in this new financial year is £18,020 a significantly larger amount that previously thought.

Funding Applications:

St Helens Gala - The bid was for £1,200 to help run the gala this year. Updates on the status are in the section below. All members agreed to the full amount.

St Helens Hanging Baskets - The bid was for £2,000 to help pay for 31 baskets. It was noted that this is an initial outlay and that 12 of the baskets are sponsored, so that money will be returned to the ward alliance, making the final total much smaller.

Hanging Baskets – BMBC have come back to us, and there is only one lamppost deemed unsafe, and it's an unsponsored one, so we are not anticipating any further problems this year. Lee is now working with the other Wards to coordinate creation of sponsor plaques and providing lists of brackets to be moved and installed. All being well, notifications on plaques will go out to sponsors at the beginning of May. Basket numbers were provided to First Impressions, so they should be grown in time.

Events:

St Helens Gala - All the planning is coming together. The birds of prey stall has cancelled, but it was agreed to see if Chris Corker at Berneslai Homes is that provider, and if not, to contact him. Other possibilities are being looked at. Wigfield Farm was considered but they don't bring animals outside anymore. They did provide a voucher however.

Cllr Tattersall suggested holding a fancy dress for the coronation. It was felt to be a great idea, but seeing as the coronation will be over with by a couple of months, it was agreed to either look at a more appropriate theme or have a general fancy dress as part of it. It will require prize support, but the organising sub-group will need to look at this.

Kath suggested that due to the cost of living, we should do something similar to the jubilee event last summer and provide packed lunches. It was a big draw in previous gala's, but concerns were raised about the raising of expectations and the amount of work it will take to

source food supplies for this. It was agreed to limit the number to the first 100 children (especially to try and avoid angering the food vendors) and that the £200 working budget could be used. Kath offered to help source these items (sandwiches, drinks etc.)

In terms of food vans, Neil requested that the site plans be modified to move the burger van to the other side of the park, as people were complaining about exhaust fumes from the van last time. Lee agreed to work with Rebecca to look at this, but did say that often times the vendors ignore our instructions and put themselves where they want.

Environmental contract – Rosie provided an update on the environmental contract. Twiggs are now out of contract and Neighbourhood Services will now be taking it over. There will be three workers, but won't likely be in post until August. The contract will be different with a lot more directed work, and less community partnership work. They are contracted to work one day per week in the Ward, but Rosie still envisages a flexible approach to how that day is split up. In addition, she has built in three evenings / Saturday workings in the year per Ward. These should be targeted to community activities.

Rosie provided a list of current tasks she envisages the group to do in the area without direction (cleaning ginnels etc.) and asked people to let her know if there's anything she's missed.

It was asked if they will be working bank holidays? Rosie said yes, provided it's needed and planned in good time.

Ward Plan: A separate meeting is needed to discuss the Ward Plan, Lee to look at dates/times for this meeting.

Roundhouse Library will be having their relaunch celebration on Tuesday 4th April from 10.30am. All welcome to attend. Members discussed that more activities are needed for the children in the community, e.g. Lego club, reading club, etc. Members also agreed that the library needed a cafe

Forthcoming Projects and Bids:

Notice Boards - Because of the length of the meeting, notice boards were deferred to the next meeting.

Caterpillar Club- the Caterpillar Club are intending to submit a bid to the Ward Alliance to look for funding to support the group. They are currently setting up a community bank account and will submit the bid to the next meeting.

Library - there was an open day at the library recently and it went very well. Following this, Libraries, the North Team, and other organisations are keen to establish groups in the building for people to use. Top of this list is the inclusion of a coffee morning / café using the kitchen. Cllr Tattersall said her and Cllr Platts had been to New Hope Church to gather the pots and pans with Michelle, but everything beyond a few bits of crockery and some fridges were gone. Because of the number of people interested, a coordinated meeting needs to take place to explain all of this and work through the best way forward. Rosie suggested taking this conversation to the St Helens Together meeting also to gather the names of all interested parties. Lee agreed to do this.

Any other business:

John Hallows - Cllr Tattersall said John Hallows is currently in hospital and isn't very well at the minute. She did take him his certificates and award and he was very happy with them. Unfortunately, his trophy has been broken, and Cllr Tattersall asked if a new one could be purchased. It was agreed to order a new one and it could be paid for out of petty cash.

Great British Spring Clean – Cllr Tattersall asked if we could look at organising a couple of litter picks for the spring clean, around the ginnel at Laxton Rd to Beeston Sq and Laxton Rd park. There is also the New Lodge play area. It was agreed for Cllr Tattersall to suggest a date after the election and to see if the Ward Alliance members could support this.

PACT Meeting- Dawn asked when the next PACT meeting was – it was confirmed to be Tues 16th May, 2pm at New Lodge Community Centre

Halloween Event – Neil suggested that because of last years success, could the Ward Alliance look at doing a Halloween event this year? It was suggested that it could possibly be done at the Library. It was agreed to raise it at the next meeting.

Athersley South – Kath said Athersley South residents are complaining that there's little community activity on the South area. This is clearly because of the lack of community venues. It was suggested that some kind of Ward Alliance stall could be placed at the Spar on a day with some activities. It was agreed to look at this at the next meeting.

Jenny's Retirement – As Cllr Platts will be retiring from her term as Cllr this year, it was announced there will be a small leaving party taking place on Tuesday 2nd May at 10.30am at Roundhouse Library. All are welcome and invited. Madge said it clashes with the coffee morning, but nothing has been announced just yet, so there's a chance to combine it.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: Meeting closed at 18.10pm

The next meeting is on Thursday 1st June, 4pm, Roundhouse Library.