

MEETING:	North Area Council
DATE:	Monday 22 May 2023
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Meeting Room 14, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

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

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

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

51 **Minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 13 March 2023 (Nac. 22.05.2023/2)**

The North Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 March 2023.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on the 13 March 2023 be approved as a true and correct record.

52 **Housing and Cohesion Officer Introduction - Mark Griffiths and Neighbourhood Warden Update - Community Safety Coordinator (Nac. 22.05.2023/3)**

Councillor Leech welcomed Mark Griffiths, the new Housing and Cohesion Officer to the meeting, and introductions were made.

Members noted that the Neighbourhood Warden Update from the Community Safety Coordinator would be deferred to the next North Area Council meeting.

53 **10 Year Celebration - Area Governance Model (Nac. 22.05.2023/4)**

The North Area Manager presented a report to ensure that Members were aware of the intention to hold a North Area 10 Year Celebration event and the opportunity to participate in the planning. The objectives of the event were to inform residents of the unique structure of the Area Councils and Ward Alliances by showcasing and celebrating the work that had taken place over the last 10 years. The event would also raise awareness of the positive work undertaken by the Area Councils and Ward Alliances during this time which contributed to the Barnsley 2030 priorities, whilst promoting and encouraging people to become involved in their local community.

It was noted that the confirmed date for the Mayor's Ball was 15 September 2023. The North Area Manager would canvass Members with a view to holding the North Area 10 Year Celebration event on either 8 or 22 September 2023 commencing at 7.00pm. It had been determined that Staincross WMC would be the best venue to hold the event in terms of best value for money.

Councillor Howard expressed concern at the bus services between Darton and Mapplewell, and also those from the Old Town to Mapplewell. It is hoped that guests will support those in need of assistance with transport.

Members noted that once a final date had been fixed together with the entertainment and catering arrangements, the invitations would be sent out which would deal with transportation and accessibility to the venue. The matter would be discussed further at the next North Area Council meeting.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that Members noted the report;
- (ii) that Members were requested to identify Ward Alliance funded projects to showcase and confirm this at the July 2023 Area Council meeting.

54 Performance Report - 2022/23 Q4 (Nac. 22.05.2023/5)

A report was presented which provided an aggregate picture of how all the North Council contracted services contributed to the achievement of each of the North Area Council's agreed outcomes and social value objectives, which reflected upon the information gathered from each contract for the period January – March 2023. The report provided a summary of the performance management report for each of the contracted services for 2022/23 Quarter 4 (January – March 2023). The report provided a link between the commissioned services and the Public Health Outcomes and a summary of performance information from the 12-month grants – Stronger Communities Grants Projects.

Members were referred to the case studies for each contracted service. A report from M Griffiths, the new Housing and Cohesion Officer would be fed into the next Performance Report regarding the targets and KPIs set and to inform of his time spent within the community to benefit both occupiers and members of the community.

Councillor Cave highlighted that the reference within the Performance Report to an educational bulb-planting session with the Darton Astraea Academy Gardening Club was actually the Delta Academy. The relationship had been built due to the work of the Ward Alliance, its members and the representation from the school.

RESOLVED that Members noted the contents of the Performance Management Report.

55 Outcomes from the Cost of Living Workshop (Nac. 22.05.2023/6)

A report was presented to appraise Members of the discussions that had taken place at a workshop held in May 2023. It was considered that the information may be used to help develop a time limited opportunity funded by the North Area Council.

Members noted a summary of information from the workshops that had been held during 2022 and in May 2023 to look at the cost of living and how the North Area Council could respond together with the profiling for the North Area funds. At the

workshop held on 10 May 2023 Members had been informed of the Household Support Grant to support residents, of which a total of £4.7m had been allocated to BMBC for the period April 2023 – March 2024, with a total of £800,000 to be used to fund community-based services that can support individuals through the continued cost of living crisis. The aim of which was to provide support for food, energy and water costs, and wider essentials. In relation to sports and recreation, an update had been provided on the What's Your Move programme to include Ramp Up (bike confidence, skills and maintenance), the Walking Festival (May 2023), Move More Month (June 2023) and the Summer Cycling and Sports Van Opportunity (July 2023).

The Area Council has identified £10,000 saving from other commissions that has been earmarked for a cost of living project focussed around food access.

RESOLVED that

- (i) Members noted the summary information for workshops held during 2022;
- (ii) Members noted the more recent update from the workshop held in May 2023;
- (iii) Members agreed that the Priority Working Group would develop the North Area project outline to support the cost of living crisis, enabling the Area Manager to make progress.

56 Sports Van - Summer 2023 (Nac. 22.05.2023/7)

A report was presented to make Members aware that there was an opportunity to fund a sports van in the North Area over the summer 2023.

The Sport and Active Recreation Team had commissioned a sports van which had been delivered by Reds in the Community to provide activities for young people in summer 2021. Following the success of the programme, the sports van had been funded again by the Area Council in 2022.

Members were informed that should the Area Council wish to fund the sports van for summer 2023 that a programme of pop-up provisions would be co-ordinated.

The North Area Manager suggested that the sessions be held over a 2 – 3 hour period with a fortnightly provision in the individual wards.

In response to a request made by Councillor Tattersall for the information to be made available online as early as possible, the North Area Manager commented that leaflets would be taken into schools and provided to those families that find the summer holidays to be financially challenging.

The North Area Manager would provide Members with the programme for the events and the leaflet to be produced by Stuart Rogers.

RESOLVED

- (i) that Members considered the opportunity to fund a sports van in the North Area over the summer 2023;

- (ii) that Members discussed the risks associated with funding short term provision;
- (iii) that Members confirmed the decision to fund the sports van, at a cost of £2,100;
- (iv) that Members confirmed a capped budget for refreshments, cost £600.

57 Commissioning, Project Development and Finance (Nac. 22.05.2023/8)

The item was introduced by the North Area Council Manager, which provided the financial position and forecast for expenditure based on the projects that had been proposed.

At the North Area Council meeting held on 13 March 2023, further funding had been agreed for the Anti-Poverty Community Outreach Project for two years July 2023 – June 2025. A waiver had been submitted with the option to extend for a further 12 months to June 2026.

In relation to the Clean and Green Service, Twiggs Ground Maintenance Ltd had provided an environmental education contract in the North Area from 2017 to March 2023. The North Area Council had entered an SLA with BMBC Neighbourhood Services from April 2023 to introduce an Environmental Community Caretaker Model.

Savings from the Housing and Cohesion post being vacant for a period of time, were identified to support a cost of living project. A sum of £10,000 was earmarked. Members agreed that the Area Manager consult the Connecting Communities Grant providers regarding utilising the funding to provide communal eating opportunities for socially isolated residents.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the North Area Council should note the existing budget position and the existing funding commitments;
- (ii) that Members noted the update on the Anti-Poverty Outreach Provision Service;
- (iii) that Members noted the progress on the Environmental Community Caretaker Model;
- (iv) in response to the cost of living crisis the priority working group will work with the Area Manager to identify effective use of the current underspend;
- (v) hold a North Area further priority, budget and commissioning workshop;
- (vi) Councillors noted the updated project spend at Appendix 1 to the report.

58 Report of the Ward Alliance Fund (Nac. 22.05.2023/9)

A report was presented which provided an update on the financial position of the Ward Alliance budget for each ward for the 2023/24 period.

RESOLVED that each Ward in the North Area Council area prioritises the efficient expenditure of the Ward Alliance Funds 2023/24, in line with the guidance on spend.

59 Notes from the Area's Ward Alliances (Nac. 22.05.2023/10)

The meeting received the notes from the Darton East Ward Alliance held on 14 February 2023 and 14 March 2023; Darton West Ward Alliance held on 6 February 2023, 6 March 2023 and 17 April 2023; Old Town Ward Alliance held on 13 April 2023 and 12 March 2023; and St Helen's Ward Alliance held on 23 March 2023 and 20 April 2023.

Councillor Denton referred to the work undertaken by the Darton East Ward which included an action plan in a similar format to last year. In March 2023 the Ward had awarded a grant to the Barnsley Youth Theatre which was now positioned in Mapplewell. Work continued in the village hall following the National Lottery funding which was due to be completed mid to late summer 2023.

Councillor Howard referred to the work undertaken by the Darton West Ward. There had been a successful Stars Awards 2023 event held in the Town Hall in March 2023, which had included a performance from the Darton Community Choir. Work had been undertaken with the neighbourhood wardens regarding the dog fouling problem on the green land across from Vets4Pets, which had now been resolved.

Councillor Lofts referred to the work undertaken by the Old Town Ward. The Ward Plan outlined the visions and goals of the Barnsley 2030 plan for health, learning, growth and sustainable, which would be developed further once there were more Ward Alliance members. A possible event had been discussed at Honeywell Community Centre with the Mental Health Hub. Additional membership to the Ward Alliance was sought, with a requirement for six members with at least three members attending the meetings.

Councillor Tattersall referred to the work undertaken by the St Helen's Ward. Councillor Leech had hosted the memorial bench unveiling which had been attended by Dan Jarvis MP and various military guests. The bid for the Roundhouse Library health and wellbeing garden had been agreed by members for a community project to create a garden to grow plants/vegetables, and the relaunch celebration had been held on 4 April 2023. A celebratory event had been held for former Councillor Platts to thank her for her commitment and support to the Ward Alliance.

In response to a query raised by Councillor Hunt for guidance on recruitment for new Ward Alliance Members, the North Area Manager commented that every opportunity should be taken to promote the work undertaken by the ward alliances including the 10 year celebration event, displaying information on the community noticeboards and speaking with the families at engagement events. The Darton East Ward Alliance is currently well represented by private businesses. It was hoped to broaden and

diversify the representation on all the ward alliances in the coming months because few new members had joined in the last couple of years.

RESOLVED that the notes of the respective Ward Alliances be noted.

Chair