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| <b>MEETING:</b> | North Area Council                 |
| <b>DATE:</b>    | Monday, 23 January 2017            |
| <b>TIME:</b>    | 2.00 pm                            |
| <b>VENUE:</b>   | Meeting Room 1, Barnsley Town Hall |

## MINUTES

### Present

Councillors Leech (Chair), Burgess (Mayor), Cave, Charlesworth, Cherryholme, Grundy, Howard, Lofts, Miller, Platts and Tattersall

### 33 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

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

### 34 Minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 1st December 2016 incorporating the notes of the meeting held on 21st November 2016.

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016 incorporating the notes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016 be approved as a true and correct record.

### 35 Members Charter - Lesley Glanville

Lesley Glanville, Member Development Officer, was welcomed to the meeting to deliver a presentation about the Members Charter following a recent workshop. It was highlighted that the Member Development Charter is due to be renewed shortly and evidence is being collected and a portfolio developed for the assessment. Much of the work done in area councils is relevant for meeting the requirements of the charter – indeed, there is a possibility of applying for ‘Charter Plus’. A discussion took place around potentially offering training to Ward Alliance Members and other interested parties as the Ward Alliances already work closely with the Area Councils on community projects; the use of video diaries and ‘storyboards’ with examples of recent projects; and articles in the Community Magazine, all of which could be used as evidence of shared learning. Ward Alliance minutes can be obtained from the Ward Alliance secretaries.

### RESOLVED

- (i) that Members give thought as to how projects undertaken jointly with Ward Alliances could be used as evidence for the Member Development Charter, and
- (ii) Lesley be thanked for her attendance and contribution.

### 36 Opportunities for Young People - Project Development

The Area Council Manager updated the North Area Council on the progress that has been made by the working group to develop a project to meet the priority 'Opportunities for Young People'.

A project has been developed to target 20 young people at risk of NEET attending Darton College, Holy Trinity, Carlton Community College and Horizon Community College with a view to improving attendance, achieving GCSE targets and progression into Post-16 learning. A tendering process has taken place and 3 providers have been interviewed. It is anticipated that the contract will be let in early February with a contract commencement in April/May 2017.

**RESOLVED** that the North Area Council note the progress to date for this project.

### **37 Economic Regeneration - Small Business Surgeries - development update**

The Area Council Manager updated the North Area Council on the progress of the small business development surgeries pilot.

Councillors queried how success would be measured. The Area Council Manager gave assurances that a number of indicators would be developed and shared with the Area Council. It was felt that a leaflet giving information about the project would be useful for all businesses.

**RESOLVED** that the North Area Council note the progress to date for this project.

### **38 Community Magazine**

The Area Council Manager updated the North Area Council on the development of the North Area Council Community Magazine. It seems that a number of areas have not received copies. Members were informed that the Area Manager has arranged to meet with the distributor. In the meantime there is a box of spare copies in the North Team office and additional copies can be obtained from Printing if required.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) that the North Area Council note the progress to date with regard to the North Area Council Community Magazine, and
- (ii) Members provide the Area Team with information regarding missed properties.

### **39 Financial Position and Forecast**

With reference to the Kingdom Environmental Contract, members were of the view that in some areas officers aren't as visible as they previously were. There is a perceived imbalance between parking enforcement and dog fouling, which is a big issue across all areas. Clarification was sought regarding the terms of the Kingdom contract. The Area Council Manager outlined the terms of contract together with the fact that it is not just about enforcement, there is an education element too. There is a perception that the service is not making a valuable contribution due to lack of

information. Quarterly information is provided but Councillors also need to feed information in to the Area Team via Cath Fairweather either by phone or email. The Area Manager advised that the contract management meeting is imminent and all of the matters raised would be addressed.

Members expressed dissatisfaction regarding the clean and green project in some areas and queried whether it provided value for money. There are also difficulties associated with engagement of volunteers.

Members were asked to be mindful that if all contracts are renewed, the Area Council will be fully committed.

**RESOLVED** that:-

- (i) The North Area Council note the existing budget position and forecast for the funding commitments.
- (ii) The North Area Council note the reduction in North Area Council Budget from April 2017 to £360,000. This is equivalent to £10,000 per ward.
- (iii) Members agreed to continue the Environmental Enforcement contract from April 2017.
- (iv) Members agreed that there will be a facility to devolve funding to the Ward Alliances based on the proviso that the total Ward Alliance budget is less than £10,000 on the 31st March 2017.
- (v) Members agreed which priorities they wish to concentrate for design and procurement of further commissioned projects which will address the Area priorities. (Private Sector Enforcement Officer, Clean and Green and Environmental Enforcement.

#### **40 Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Funds**

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager. The report provided a position statement and updated the Area Council with regard to progress in each Ward in expending the Ward Alliance Fund.

A discussion took place regarding the expense of Christmas lights and Christmas trees (and the great variations in price depending on the supplier) together with the feasibility of providing permanent all-year-round trees.

**RESOLVED** that each Ward in the North Area Council area prioritises the efficient expenditure of the remaining Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance funds in line with the guidance on spend.

#### **41 North Area Ward Alliance Notes**

The North Area Council received an update on the progress of the Darton East, Darton West, Old Town and St Helens Ward Alliances for information.

#### **42 Darton East Ward Alliance**

The notes from the meetings held on 8<sup>th</sup> November and 13<sup>th</sup> December 2016 were noted. It was reported that there is a lot of excellent work taking place across the Darton East Ward and meetings are always very well attended.

#### **43 Darton West Ward Alliance**

The notes from the meetings held on 7<sup>th</sup> November and 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016 were noted. A response to the question regarding road signs remains unanswered. Budget cuts have led to a loss of staff and turnaround times are now much increased. Costs and timescales for speed indicator devices (SIDs), banners regarding littering from cars and signage for Birthwaite Hill are required. Hopefully more information will be available at the February PACT meeting.

#### **44 Old Town Ward Alliance**

The notes from the meetings held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016 and 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017 were noted. The main priority at the moment is the traffic order and a meeting has been arranged with Steve Croft. Other priorities include the issue of fencing at the park to protect vulnerable groups, dog fouling and fly tipping. The Ward Alliance website is up and running and local groups can all feed in to it.

#### **45 St Helens Ward Alliance**

The notes from the meetings held on 24<sup>th</sup> November and 5<sup>th</sup> January 2017. A lot of community events have been taking place, including a Children's cook and eat session run by Madge Busby. It was reported that the information advice and guidance workshop was poorly attended by the public. Derek Bell and Simon Dobby will be attending the next meeting regarding flood resilience.

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Chair