

MEETING:	North East Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 27 July 2017
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Meeting Room 1 - Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Hayward (Chair), Cheetham, Clements, S. Green, Hampson, Higginbottom, Houghton CBE, Makinson, Richardson, Sheard and C. Wraith MBE

12 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

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

13 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of North East Area Council held on Thursday 1st June 2017

The meeting considered the minutes from the previous meeting of the North East Area Council held on 1st June 2017.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North East Area Council held on 1st June 2017 be approved as a true and correct record.

14 Notes of the Following Ward Alliances with Feedback from each Ward Alliance Chair

The meeting received notes from the Cudworth, Monk Bretton, North East and Royston Ward Alliances held throughout May and June 2017. The following updates were noted:-

Cudworth – A very successful achievement award evening was held on 14th June. Biodiversity events have taken place in Cudworth Park and Carlton Marsh. Yorkshire in Bloom judging has taken place and a good result is anticipated. Tea in the Park was a great success and was attended by Dickie Bird and over 2000 members of the public. Thanks were expressed to the Area Team for their help and involvement.

Monk Bretton - First Aid and Food Hygiene courses have now been completed, certificates are awaited. The table tennis club is now meeting regularly but there is still space for new members. The Ward Alliance booklet is being finalised. Carlton gala will take place on 5th August and a Christmas event is planned for 1st December 2017. On 21st June the war memorial was planted up with summer bedding plants to attract bees and butterflies with the help of volunteers and children from local primary schools. and bird nuts to attract birds. Yorks in bloom judge seemed impressed. An application is being submitted to 'Awards for All' for a defibrillator and an expression of interest has been submitted for the Principal Towns project.

North East - Virgin media recently gave a presentation regarding the broadband expansion programme. One of the Principal Towns officers spoke about the project,

which is looking to invest £5m over the next 3 years to encourage regeneration. A number of funding applications have been agreed. Recent events included the Great Houghton tidy village day on 5th June, the Brierley Residents Group meeting on 13th June and the Great Houghton family fund day on 15th July.

Royston - The Gala was a great success, the Proms event is to take place on Sunday 30th July and again on 3rd September. Initial feedback has been received regarding the Principal Towns expression of interest. Summer activities are underway at various location. The Achievement awards evening is planned for 18th March 2018. The Albert Shepherd commemorative stone service will take place at Barnsley Town Hall on 20th November at 2 p.m. It was reported that 40 tons of road planings had been spread across local bridleways to cover up the pot holes.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received.

15 Live Well - My Best Life Barnsley

Natalie Dunn, Team Leader, and Todd Micklethwaite, Social Prescribing Advisor, delivered a presentation regarding the 'My Best Life' initiative, which is a new social prescribing service for Barnsley, funded by NHS Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

It was explained that the six advisors and their manager visit people in their own homes to connect them with local non-medical support to improve mental and physical wellbeing through promoting a healthier lifestyle and improving their home environment. Home health checks are carried out and smoke and carbon monoxide alarms fitted when necessary. Advisors can identify safeguarding concerns and other problems such as social isolation, hoarding, and anxiety and depression.

Examples of successful case studies were provided. It was highlighted that there is no 'typical' customer and the service deals with people across the whole spectrum of need, from age 18 with no upper limit. Referrals are made by any healthcare professional, including GPs and social workers. Sometimes an immediate response is possible. Confidentiality is paramount and the GP must always obtain consent from the customer before sharing information. There is a need to encourage GPs to promote the service widely.

A Member raised concern regarding possible duplication with other services such as the Fire Service. Reassurance was given that the service works closely with other organisations such as the Fire Service, RVS and Age UK, identifying gaps in service and feeding back to the CCG

RESOLVED that Natalie and Todd be thanked for their attendance and contribution and that Members help to promote the service widely.

16 Private Sector Housing and Enforcement Initiative

Chris Platts, the new Private Sector Housing Officer, was welcomed to the meeting and provided Members with an overview of his role. He will work with vulnerable people such as those with depression and mental health issues, signposting them to other services where appropriate and also with landlords in the private rented sector,

issuing enforcement notices as a last resort. Part of his role will also be to champion the Landlord accreditation scheme. A number of Members were aware of problems in their areas and were provided with Chris's contact details.

RESOLVED that Chris be thanked for his attendance and contribution and that Members undertake to contact him with local information where appropriate.

17 Undergraduate Apprenticeship

Jake Finney, Undergraduate Apprentice, gave a presentation outlining the tasks that he has worked on during his internship for the North East Area Council, which included supporting many projects and initiatives; helping to organise volunteering; promoting social action; monitoring and evaluation of projects and developing neighbourhood networks and the communication toolkit. During his internship Jake has gained skills in community development, project management, communication, team work and negotiation. Jake was thanked for his contribution to the work of the North East Area Council and was presented with a small gift of appreciation from the Members of the North East Area Council.

A discussion took place regarding the recruitment for Jake's successor. Five applications have been received, three of whom have just finished their degrees. Members felt that it was appropriate to offer the opportunity to both undergraduates and recent graduates as an internship opportunity, subject to Human Resources (HR) clearance.

RESOLVED that Jake be thanked for his hard work and commitment and that the post be re-evaluated with HR to include both recent graduates as an internship opportunity and undergraduates.

18 The North East Area Council Project Performance Report

The North East Area Council Manager introduced this item and provided Members with an update regarding performance of the North East Area Council's commissioned projects, including case studies for many of the projects.

Key points to note include: initial positive feedback has been received in terms of the Foster Care review - the project will be formally reviewed after 12 months; over 2000 volunteers have contributed a total of 7975 hours, which equates to a cash equivalent of £94,105; four apprentices on the BCB 'Apprentice and Employability' contract have successfully gained employment since April. Two enforcement officers are employed under the Kingdom Security contract and have achieved 100% of the contract hours, issuing 151 FPNs (147 for littering and 4 for dog fouling) together with 52 PCNs for parking. Around 70-75% of the enforcement income will be added to the North East Area Council budget.

It was explained that the Employability for under-16s (Summer Holiday Internship) contract is shortly finishing and that a final report will be submitted to the October meeting.

RESOLVED that Members note the performance update.

19 Report on the Use of Area Council Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds

The North East Area Council Manager introduced this item and updated Members regarding progress in respect of the North East Area Council budget and progress in each Ward in expending the Ward Alliance Fund in line with priorities. It was highlighted that £18,881 is left to spend in the North East Area Council commissioning budget.

RESOLVED that the report be noted and that Members be encouraged to identify projects which would benefit from funding, in line with the North East Area Council's agreed priorities.

20 The North East Area Council Wildlife Corridor

The North East Area Council Manager introduced this item and highlighted the significant number of wildlife projects that have taken place across the area, involving all sections of the community. It was explained that good working links have been formed with several organisations, including the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, Groundworks at Rabbit Ings, Carlton Marsh Volunteers, Hogwarts Hedgehog Hospital, the Parks Service and the Countryside Team. There is now a proposal to develop a 'Wildlife Corridor' which will run across the North East Area Council, north to south from Rabbit Ings to Priory Campus and West Haigh Wood and west to east from Athersley Memorial Fields to West Haigh Wood. The proposed Wildlife Corridor will help to create a connected landscape to encourage and support wildlife living in these areas

RESOLVED that

- (i) the North East Area Council support the proposal for a Wildlife Corridor;
- (ii) the North East Area Council forms a Steering Group to take this initiative forward, working together with partner agencies, and
- (iii) The North East Area Council explores additional funding streams to help finance the proposal.

Chair