

Appendix 1

Notes from Central Ward Alliance Wednesday 26th July 2017

Attendees: Cllr Margaret Bruff (Chair), Cllr Doug Birkinshaw, Paul Bedford, Ian Newton, Neil Morris, Kathleen Micklethwaite, Dee Cureton

Apologies:

Sara Headley, Noel Cowdell, Cllr Martin Dyson

Visitors:

Vicky-Louise, Liz Farrell-Missa

1. Cllr Bruff welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked all attendees to introduce themselves for the benefit of visitors. Cllr Bruff acknowledged the apologies for the meeting. There were no declarations of pecuniary and none pecuniary interest.
2. The notes from the previous meeting were agreed by the meeting
3. Liz provided a brief update on the Advice and Information Project at the Polish Library which had been funded by the Ward Alliance. Liz reported that her appointments are now booked up in advance and her name has become well known in the community.

Liz reported that her main role has been to assist people in finding their way around the system within the context of a cultural lack of trust in authority in general whether that be the council, or police etc.

Liz also reported that she has been seeing approximately 10 people per day made up of new and repeat cases.

Liz reported that she would draft a report on the 24 weeks of the funded service and send it to Marcia to circulate to the members of the ward alliance.

The service will be considered at the next ward alliance meeting.

4. The meeting then considered the ward alliance application from the Immortals Project for a skate park event in September. Cllr Bruff stated that there needed to be an element of fundraising, including a charge for entry to the competition in order for the group to be more sustainable. Paul queried whether Tom had made the links to Skate England which he had proposed to Tom. The meeting agreed

£500 for the application. The event will be held at the Skate Park on 2nd September.

The meeting then considered an application from Barnsley Main Heritage group for some funding towards a container on the Barnsley Main site. Paul raised an issue about security and insurance on site as there had been a number of reported instances of vandalism on site making a potential container a key target, without group insurance this could mean money wasted. Neil stated that more information is required in order to make an informed decision. The general consensus from the meeting was to refuse the application pending further information. Marcia is to feed that decision back.

5. Member Updates:

Vicky-Louise reported that Allsorts youth club recently had a full coach trip to Cleethorpes with Children aged between 5 and 14 years. The youth club is currently on a summer break.

Dee reported that the playing out session on the 30th June went well with plenty of artistic chalking on the road.

The Barnsley in Bloom judging took place last week and the group are hoping for another award. The memorial for the Somme will be installed at Churchfields and a local historian will be doing a booklet on the area.

Cllr Bruff reported on the playing out at Churchfields that 2 women who were collecting children from the nursery at the time of the session were keen to have a playing out session in their own wards (Darton East and Old Town). Marcia agreed to put them in contact with the appropriate officers.

Kathleen reported that her group met at Maggi's Café, this was a very successful event. Kathleen reported that her group had joined with other groups such as the Baptist Church and the Twilight club on trips which was going well.

Kathleen also reported that the key issues raised at the Tennyson road event were grass cutting, litter and traffic issues.

Neil reported that children's activities will be running across the summer and that 15 children attended the event that day with 13 of these being new faces. Neil said that leafleting had been at the Mayor's Parade but overall it was impossible to gauge what works in terms of attendance at any events or activities.

Paul reported that the Tuesday club had grown massively and was really successful. He also reported that the youth club for 11-16 year olds was now on a Monday night and was going well.

Paul also reported that he was looking to launch a 'functional alcoholics' group as a number of people seem to have gravitated towards the church, this is predominantly in the 40+ age group.

Paul reported that he was looking to re-launch street-feet from September onwards, with a possible link to the functional alcoholics group.

Any Other Business:

Cllr Bruff reported the meeting with Tariq from the Who is Your Neighbour programme. It has been suggested that Tariq be invited to the Crime and Safety meeting held at Church of the Nazarene with a view to speaking at the October meeting with local residents who may have concerns around the changing nature of the local community.

Date and time of next meeting:

The meeting decided to cancel the ward alliance meeting scheduled for August due to the number of members on holiday. The next meeting will be September 27th.

Notes from Central Ward Alliance Meeting
Wednesday 27th September 5:30pm
Church of the Nazarene

Attendees: Cllr Margaret Bruff (Chair), Cllr Doug Birkinshaw, Cllr Martin Dyson, Sara Headley, Paul Bedford, Doreen Cureton, Ian Newton

Apologies: Noel Cowdell, Fr Paul Cartwright, Vicky-Louise

Visitor: Angie Kelly Targeted Youth Support

1. Cllr Bruff welcomed everyone to the meeting, noted any apologies and then introduced Angie Kelly from the Targeted Youth Service to talk to the meeting about the Dearne Valley Waymarkers.
2. Angie explained that the Targeted Youth Service work with vulnerable young people and one project they have undertaken is the re-way marking of the Dearne Ways starting at Bird's Edge to Mexborough in 4 parts. Angie explained that in each area the appropriate Ward Alliance was asked whether they might want to support the Waymarkers Project. Angie produced some leaflets for the ward alliance members to look at which explained about the Dearne Way, this was well received by all.

Angie went on to explain that the location of the Waymarkers is determined by an Ordinance Survey Map as they are the routemarkers for the Dearne Way. Angie then said, she understood that there had been some issues about the waymarkers in Dearne Valley Park which was turned down as a project by Central Ward Alliance on various grounds including the design and longevity of the proposed markers themselves. Angie then said that Mick O'Rourke who was the youth worker most directly involved in the project had offered to re-carve the one sculpture located in Dearne Valley Park which had been highlighted by The Chronicle and ridiculed as a phallic symbol.

Cllr Birkinshaw made the point that one of the concerns raised by the ward alliance had been the potential dangers posed by the waymarkers for people of none or little sight. Angie said she would take this away.

Paul then questioned the point of the discussion as the waymarkers were now in place to mark a 'right of way' so what is the role of the Ward Alliance in terms of area decision making? In addition Paul then asked who had financed the sculptures as the ward alliance had turned down the application.

Angie responded that Rights of Way can satisfy the obligation to mark the route with a post and a disc but that this would not last long and the opportunity to involve local vulnerable young people in an interesting and different project would have been lost.

Sara also questioned the decision making around placing the one particular sculpture which has caused some offence in that location.

Angie summed up by saying that the particular sculpture can be re-sculpted and that the intention was to provide a storyboard to explain what it is about. This was well received by the ward alliance. Cllr Bruff requested that both the current and any future waymarkers can be assessed to ensure that they are not classed as hazards for people with partial sight. Cllr Bruff thanked Angie for attending the meeting to explain the project. Angie left the room.

3. Cllr Bruff then asked for the notes of the previous meeting to be considered an accurate record. This was agreed by the meeting.
4. There were no declarations of pecuniary and none pecuniary interest.
5. Cllr Bruff introduced the Polish Library Report which had been sent out to all ward alliance members over the summer. Cllr Bruff stated it was an excellent report and that she had taken the steps to send it to various senior managers across the council both for awareness of the excellent work and also with a view to seeking alternative and more sustainable funding for the project than ward alliance funds.

Cllr Bruff then explained that a meeting had taken place with several senior officers attended by Marcia to try to identify alternative funding streams and also highlight the project to the library services in particular around possible future co-location in the new central library. Cllr Bruff stated that the meeting had been positive, however alternative funding sources would not be forthcoming immediately and the current ward alliance funding is due to run out at the end of September. Cllr Bruff then explained to the meeting that although Central Ward had funded this previously, this was a ward project which was set up by the ward alliance and due to its' success was too important to cease due to lack of funds.

Cllr Bruff also informed the ward alliance that an approach had been made to Kingstone ward for funding so Central Ward Alliance were being asked on this occasion to underwrite this project until the end of December at which point an alternative funding source should take over. The cost until the end of December is £1200. A discussion then ensued. Ian objected to central Ward alliance being asked to further fund this project as this would be the 3rd element of funding received., something which other groups would not be allowed. Cllr Bruff explained that this project was put in place by the Ward Alliance to meet a perceived need in the ward and was therefore different. Ian voiced his concerns about the project and stated that he thought the ward alliance was discriminating against the white British community.

Cllr Birkinshaw then voiced his concerns, and objected to being called a racist, at this point Cllr Birkinshaw threatened to leave the room. A brief further discussion took place, Cllr Bruff then asked for a vote on the application; there was a clear majority in favour with one against and one abstention. Ian apologised for any offence caused by his words which was not intentional.

6. Marcia then reminded everyone that tomorrow there would be a follow up event at Tennyson road.

7. Cllr Bruff then asked for member updates:

Ian stated that the church had reduced his hours and that he had been told he needed to reduce his workload and as a consequence he had decided to resign from the ward alliance.

Cllr Bruff said the ward alliance would be sad to see Ian go and thanked him for his contributions over the years and gave him a card signed by the members.

Ian said that the meetings could continue at the church as Vicky-Louise had keys to the building.

Dee then reported on the concert in the park which was attended by 30-40 local residents and raised £260 for Barnsley hospice. Dee also reported that the attendees were very enthusiastic and had asked her to do another concert in the park possibly in the spring.

Dee also reported that the group was going well and had been on a recent trip to the Wetherby Whaler in Guiseley Leeds.

Sara reported that her business will be changing and that she will be moving into the upstairs of Temperance House.

Sara reported that she had been having some problems with the Drop In Project, a number of staff and volunteers had been assaulted by clients who had been causing problems in the street. Sara also added that the project may be breaking the terms of their lease.

Paul reported that staff at the Civic had been sending people to Hope House Church for free food which was not something that they provided. Marcia said she would contact Michelle Kaye for her to inform all staff that this was not appropriate.

Paul also reported that the Gay Pride event had gone very well although contrary to the media, Hope House Church had not organised it! Paul then continued that The Project Nightclub staff had done all the work. Paul then went on to say that the group aim to hold a community cohesion event next year which he thought was very positive.

8. Cllr Bruff then informed the meeting about a development which she considers will have detrimental effect on the town centre. Cllr Bruff said that the law had changed so that office blocks can now be converted into accommodation without planning permission a mere notification is all that is required. Joseph Locke House will be converted to 171 Bedsits; Compass House is also going to be

converted. Cllr Bruff expressed concern about the direction of travel for Barnsley at a time when a lot of money is being spent on regeneration.

9. There was no other urgent business therefore the meeting was closed.
10. Next meeting Wednesday 25th October 5:30pm Church of the Nazarene.