

Darfield Ward Alliance
Notes of meeting held Thursday 16th July 2015 @ 5.00pm
At Darfield Community Centre

Present: Cllr Caroline Saunders, Cllr Dorothy Coates, Cllr Pauline Markham, Colin Ward, David Hildred and Tanya Dickinson (Community Development Officer).

Observers: Barbara Tindle and Kevan Hirst

1. Introductions and apologies

A round of introductions was given to welcome both Barbara and Kevan who had come along to observe the meeting with a view of becoming members.

Apologies: Brian Moore, Geoff Hutchinson, Lee Parkinson and Margaret Barlow

Unfortunately, Don Bishop has decided to resign as a member of the Ward Alliance due to other commitments.

Action – Tanya to draft a letter which is to be sent to Don thanking him for his work and commitment over the past number of years.

2. Minutes of the last meeting 14th May and Matters arising

There were no matters arising which were not covered by the agenda.

Outstanding actions:

- Houghton Main to be invited to September meeting to provide feedback on all of their Ward Alliance funded projects – **Tanya**
- The 2 week deadline for receiving Ward Alliance Funding applications to be promoted amongst the community - **Tanya**

3. Training and development

To help address some of the development needs highlighted through the interactive voting session held in March, the South Area Team are in the process of producing a brief handbook which will contain information on things such as the role of the Alliance, the role of its members and the Ward Alliance Fund. This will be a quick reference book for members to refer back to. It is hoped that it will be ready for the September meeting.

4. Ward Alliance Fund

An up-to-date Ward Alliance Fund balance sheet was circulated.

Netherwood Action Group £300 – After discussion, the Alliance agreed to fund the full amount.

Barnsley Schools Basketball Club £200 – There was a discussion around the make-up of children attending these sessions as the application form mentions 'the wider community'. Historically, the Club applies to both Darfield and Wombwell Ward Alliances for joint funding as children from both areas attend the session. The Alliance agreed to fund this application providing the Club has also applied to Wombwell.

Action: Tanya to confirm that an application has also been submitted to Wombwell WA before taking steps to get the application authorised for payment.

Houghton Main Miners Welfare Sports and Social Club Ltd £659.98 – A discussion took place over the high specification of the laptop and whether or not something cheaper could be purchased. It was decided that the Club were best placed to source something which suited their needs. This application will attract a new volunteer to the Club who will be helping with the Club's administration. It was agreed that this application be funded.

Tuesday Sequence Dance Group £439.18 – Tanya Dickinson raised the question how this application would help bring in new volunteers? The Alliance was in agreement that better facilities help make the group more attractive to potential new volunteers. Their involvement with work carried out to-date is evidence of this and improvements funded over the years have resulted in more volunteers for groups. It was agreed for this application to be funded.

Community Notice Boards Project £3,600 – Cllr Dorothy Coates has pulled together an application form for funding of 6 community notice boards which are to be updated with information by community volunteers/groups. The application is currently with the South Area Team for circulation but in principle, the Alliance was in agreement to fund up to £3,600 for this project.

Action: Tanya to circulate the application for further comments and arrange for it to be ratified at the next Alliance meeting.

Darfield Summer Gala £59 – The decision of was made to support and fund this application.

5. Progress report on the South Area Council & its projects

Cllr Caroline Saunders gave an overview of the Area Council and its work. Existing projects include the Tidy Team, Enforcement Project, One-Stop Shop, a Summer Internship Programme and a range of training courses for local businesses. Future projects include the development of a community magazine.

Performance figures produced for the Area Council's meeting in May show that the projects are going really well. The Area Council is now considering further project ideas to absorb the remainder of its devolved budget.

6. Ward Alliance Projects

Training Project – Cllr Caroline Saunders is aware of some food hygiene training being delivered by VAB on the 22nd September at a cost of £40 per person and wondered about putting in a Ward Alliance Fund application to fund some places for community groups? David Hildred added that Geoffrey Hutchinson has expressed an interest to host a food hygiene course at the Museum on behalf of the Alliance. Funding would be needed to cover the cost of a tutor only.

Action: Both options to be explored further.

Health Month – Tanya offered an update on the various events organised as part of this during the month of June. The Walking Football event went well with approx. 10 people taking part. Houghton Main is looking to run a 2nd event. The Health Fayre held at the Cricket Club was attended by 9 organisations. The number of visitors to the fayre wasn't huge with approx. 15 people signing in but the event was a useful networking opportunity for those organisations attending. The free bowling at Darfield Bowls Club unfortunately had to be cancelled due to the weather.

The Ring – Colin informed the Alliance that a resident has donated a large number of plants to plant up the ring. Colin will contact the Tidy Team and co-ordinate a date for the ring to be planted up.

Action: South Area Team to help promote.

Grow Project – Cllr Dorothy Coates would like to explore some kind of growing project, working with Groundwork at Darfield Allotments.

7. Community Buildings Audit

This agenda item was requested by Lee Thompson. To be deferred until the next meeting.

8. Any Other Business

Cllr Dorothy Coates requested that the Alliance schedule an agenda item to discuss simplifying the process for pulling down Ward Alliance Funding for Alliance specific projects.

Action: Tanya to seek advice regarding the possibility of simplifying the process.

The Tidy Team Steering Group are looking into funding to purchase some signs which inform the public that 'this area' has been cleared by volunteers to try and deter people from undoing all of their good work. Kevan Hirst was thanked for taking the time recently to show Martyn from the Tidy Team around local footpaths.

9. Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 17th Sept 5pm – Illsley Road Community Centre

Thursday 12th Nov 5pm – Illsley Road Community Centre