

NORTH AREA COUNCIL

27th July, 2015

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

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11. **Present:** Councillors Burgess (Chair), Cave, Cherryholme, Davies, Grundy, Howard, Leech, Miller, Platts, Spence, and Tattersall

12. **Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests.**

No Members declared an interest in any item on the agenda.

13. **Minutes from the North Area Council meeting held on 1st June, 2015.**

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 1st June, 2015.

With regards to the editorial group for the community magazine, the following names were put forward: St. Helens – Cllr Leech; Old Town – Cllr Cherryholme; Darton East – Cllr Duerden and Darton West – Cllr Burgess.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the minutes of the North Area Council meeting, held on 1st June, 2015 be approved as a true and correct record and
- (ii) That members of the editorial group be noted.

14. **RVS – Barnsley North Looking Out for Older People**

Representatives from the RVS were welcomed to the meeting and gave an overview of the service they are commissioned to provide. The RVS is a national charity comprising over 34,000 volunteers. Isolated older people are identified and provided with a service using a social prescribing model with the aim of reducing social isolation and improving integration within the community. They may need help with sorting bills out, shopping or other activities which may impact on their health. Referrals are received from social workers, neighbours, health workers and even self referrals. It is anticipated that GPs will also come on board with the service, referring older people on by email, telephone etc. The role of the inclusion officer is to be visible within the community, visiting other projects, community centres, health centres and recruiting volunteers to help older people locally. Representatives were thanked for their attendance and contribution.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That members will be provided with the RVS contact details and will promote the organisation within their wards

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15. SWYPT – Healthy Eating, Healthy Lifestyles

Representatives from SWYPT were welcomed to the meeting to talk about the 'Now You're Cooking' project commissioned by Barnsley North Area Council. The aim of the project is to raise awareness of the benefits of eating a healthy, balanced diet through a range of activities, including cooking courses, healthy eating activities, one to one advice and support sessions and staff training. SWYPT are halfway through an 18 month contract and are meeting all milestones and targets. Specific details of performance, along with case studies, were provided within the performance report. SWYPT aim to engage with at least one supermarket in each area. A dedicated Facebook page has proved very popular, with over 220 'likes' and which is updated every 2/3 days. The Facebook page is also used to signpost people to other health-related activities.

RESOLVED:-

(i) That members note the SWYPT 'Now You're Cooking' update.

16. Commissioning and procurement update including financial position and project performance update

The Area Council Manager presented this report, which provided members with an updated financial position for all North Area Council spend; the unallocated amount remaining for 2015/16; a performance report for the current commissioned projects and an update on the procurement of a clean and green service and a financial inclusion service. The procurement report for the clean and green contract was tabled. This recommended that The Forge (Anvil CIC) as the most economically advantageous provider to tender for the contract and successfully complete the procurement process. Contract value £150,192.00.

Members were asked to give consideration to the unallocated budget and potential services to be procured for 2016/17 delivery. A comprehensive performance management report was provided for each commissioned service. The C & K Careers project commissioned as a joint venture along with the North East Area Council is live at the moment and is taking place all week at The Core, Barnsley. It was pointed out that Kingdom Security's Quarter 4 report is due very soon and that the project is achieving and indeed exceeding its targets and milestones in some areas.

Members were made aware that the Pogmoor Area Residents Association (PARA) project for the Hollingworth Park Sensory Garden Project was no longer going ahead due to the requirement for them to maintain the sensory garden after completion, concerns over the number of volunteers this would require on an on-going basis and the need to obtain public liability and employers liability insurance.

The Area Council Manager gave a verbal update in respect of the financial inclusion project, which is to become operational from mid-September and stressed that as this is a new way of working for the Citizens' Advice Bureau it is important that it is located in the right area.

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RESOLVED:-

- (i) That North Area Council members note the updated financial position for all North Area Council spend and the unallocated amounts remaining for 2015/2016 and 2016/2017.
- (ii) That members note the Project Performance Report
- (iii) That members note the progress made regarding procurement of a clean and green service and a financial inclusion service and approve the recommendations included in the Clean and Green tender report to award the contract.
- (iv) That members note the performance report of the commissioned services and use this information together with the information provided by the Research and Business Intelligence Unit to help inform decision making with regards to future projects for commissioning based on the priority workshop held on Thursday 16th July, 2015.

17. Environmental Enforcement Contract

The Area Council Manager presented this report, which provided members with an opportunity to reach a decision about whether the North Area Council will continue to commission an Environmental Enforcement Service together with options regarding the scale of a future commissioned service. A workshop took place on 16th July to discuss this in detail. Currently Kingdom Security provide enforcement activity around littering, dog fouling and parking. It was felt that there is a need to ensure sustainability and to look at communications, particularly how to share the message that it is NOT okay to drop litter. Fines received will be used to offset the cost of service provision. A question was asked about court costs and a response was given that BMBC process court actions. A query was raised about staff turnover and uniforms as there seems to be a lot of new faces at the moment and every time a new officer is appointed a new uniform is also issued, which may be expensive if staff turnover is high. The Area Council Manager will raise these issues at contract management meetings with the provider.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That North Area Council members agree to continue to commission an environmental enforcement service to help address the Area Environment priority;
- (ii) That the contract be advertised for a minimum of 2 years at a value of £125,000 for 4 Enforcement Officers on the understanding that it is 'let' one year at a time with 'break' clauses included, should funding be discontinued.
- (iii) That appropriate performance management information will be provided to coincide with Area Council meetings; and

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- (iv) That the Area Council Manager will investigate the cost of uniforms and also staff turnover

18. North Area Council Celebration Event

The Area Council Manager presented a report, which provided members with an opportunity to discuss hosting a North Area Council Celebration Event. The report outlined how such an event could be planned and organised with the full involvement of North Area Council members together with outlining options about how the event could be funded.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That North Area Council will host a Celebration Event in the Autumn of 2015;
- (ii) That a Celebration Event Planning Working will be established to progress the planning and organisation of the event, with at least one member from each ward on the group and
- (iii) That the event will be funded through the North Area Council budget to a maximum amount of £3000 and the Town Hall is being considered as the venue for the event.

19. Update from the North Area Council Priorities Workshop held on 16th July 2015

The Area Council Manager presented this report, which provided members with a summary of the workshop held on the 16th July to discuss area priorities, financial position and projection for the area budget based on existing commissioned projects together with projects for commissioning in 2016/17. Two items require further development, namely the Parks Contingency Fund and devolving funds to Ward Alliances, for which more information is required.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That North Area Council members note the current financial position statement of the Area Council in relation to live projects and associated spend.
- (ii) That the Environmental Enforcement project and Community Magazine distribution costs will be taken forward;
- (iii) That a decision will be reached in respect of the Summer Internships project and Stronger Communities Grant in September once further information has been received; and

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- (iv) That the Area Council Manager will work up the proposals in respect of the Parks Contingency Fund and devolved funds to Ward Alliances in more detail to enable a decision to be made.

20. **Report on the use of Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds**

The report was introduced by the Area Council Manager, and attention drawn to the progress made in each ward in expending the Devolved Ward Budget, Ward Alliance Fund and Public Health financial contribution. Members were urged to give thought to which projects they would like to see progressed as there is the possibility that funding not allocated may not be carried forward and will be withdrawn.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the report be noted and;
- (ii) 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.

21. **Notes from the Ward Alliances**

The meeting received the notes from the Darton East Ward Alliance held on 14th May 2015; Darton West Ward Alliance held on 1st June, 2015; Old Town Ward Alliance held on 3rd June, 2015; and St. Helen's Ward Alliance held on 14th May, 11th June and 9th July 2015.

Members noted that new ways of community networking are being explored in Darton West ward. A workshop meeting has also been held with Julie Mitchell and Cath Fairweather to improve reporting on community safety activity.

It was reported that the St. Helen's Ward Gala had been a great success. Businesses on Carlton Industrial Estate had contributed towards funding for hanging baskets in the area.

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

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Chair