

MEETING:	Penistone Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 7 June 2018
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Penistone Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Barnard (Chair), David Griffin, Kitching and Millner.

1 **Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests**

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

2 **Minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on 5th April, 2018 (PAC.07.06.2018/2)**

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 5th April, 2018.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Penistone Area Council meeting held on the 5th April, 2018 be approved as a true and correct record.

3 **Penistone East and West Ward Alliance held on 5th April, 2018 (PAC.07.06.2018/3)**

The meeting received the notes from the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance held on 5th April, 2018.

With regards to the Tour De Yorkshire, Members gave thanks to all those involved, including staff and volunteers. It was noted that Penistone Town Council had only spend half of their allocated £2,000, so £1,000 would be returned to the Ward Alliance Fund.

Councillor Millner provided a brief update on the Alehouse Project, which is now gathering pace and seeking to become incorporated. The project was considering a variety of options regarding premises, but favoured something in the town centre which could provide a multi-use facility.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Penistone East and West Ward Alliance held on 5th April, 2018 be received.

4 **Procurement and Financial Update (PAC.07.06.2018/4)**

The Area Council Manager drew attention to the information relating to the service supporting isolated and vulnerable older people. Members were reminded of the history of the project, starting in January, 2017, with a recommendation to extend this for a further year. The project, delivered by Age UK was due to finish on 14th January, 2019.

Performance of the service to date was satisfactory, however a discussion was pertinent due to the time required should a service be procured to deliver post 15th January, 2019.

Members were reminded of the recent workshop session, where Age UK presented their performance to date, and advised of future options.

The Area Council Manager highlighted the need for the service as originally procured which included the following:- that the Penistone Area has the highest rate of one person households aged 65+; that 39% of the population of Penistone East and West Wards are known to be aged 60+; the rural nature of the area, and the lack of facilities and amenities, particularly in outlying areas.

Members also noted the aims and objectives of the current service, and how these were being delivered through two Social Inclusion Workers with one focused on supporting individual service users, carers and volunteers and the other concentrating on activities to reach potential service users and development of group support.

The service had provided built a map of groups and activities and held a number of 'eyes on the ground' activities such as the Penistone Big Knit and Keeping Penistone Warm in order to engage service users. The service had worked closely with U3A and had established 10 new sustainable groups and 217 people attend new groups and activities as a result of the service.

733 interventions were made within year one of the contract and individual interventions had highlighted the complexities of social isolation. It was noted that year two of the contract would focus more on the outlying area, with sloppy slippers events being arranged in a number of villages.

The impact of volunteering was noted, including the 27 Good Neighbours currently in place, and volunteer drivers assisting the Community Car Scheme.

Members questioned the awareness of the Community Car Scheme and how this was promoted, and it was noted that this had been carefully managed in order ensure that there were appropriate numbers of drivers available to meet demand.

With regards to the wider promotion of the service, it was noted that that the Eyes On the Ground Events provided part of the promotion, and that the service had regularly been featured on Penistone FM. Social Media had been used, and there had been a number of features in Penistone Matters that gets delivered to every household. In addition a number of Parish Newsletters had promoted the service and information was available from Penistone Library, which also acted as a base for the staff.

The service had measured loneliness and wellbeing, with 81% of people scoring an increase in Wellbeing after 3 months and 63% showing a reduction in loneliness.

Members heard how the project was considered a pioneer and much of the evidence and learning was being used elsewhere in the borough.

Those present were made reminded of the current areas of need identified, which included developing existing provision such as volunteering through the Good

Neighbours Scheme and Community Car Scheme. Also noted was the need to focus on providing a service to men, which were less likely to participate in group activities.

Further to the work done in year two of the commission, it was acknowledged that continued focus on outlying areas needed to be maintained, with Tankersley being suggested as one potential 'hot spot' for isolation.

Members also heard about the need to focus on physical and mental wellbeing; including walking, light exercise and getting people moving. It was suggested that this would also support those living with dementia.

Noted was the suggestion to work more closely with partners such as Community Pharmacy and Social Prescribing to ensure a more coherent service for older people in the area.

The Area Council Manager also alluded to the suggestion of Penistone acting as a pilot in Barnsley becoming an Age Friendly Town. It was suggested that this could be part of the Principal Towns Programme in Penistone.

The final suggested area of development related to intergenerational work, following on from the success that had been seen in this area through Bumping Spaces. It was also acknowledged that this would also help to meet the Area Council's priorities of Health and Wellbeing and Supporting Young People.

After agreeing that need still existed in this area and the momentum that the good work already undertaken had acquired needed to be maintained, Members considered the options presented within the report, discussing the merits of each. Though the option of further commission was discussed in depth, Members felt that a number of smaller scale projects from a range of providers had merit, and suggested that this would be the preferred way forward, inviting submissions to the Working Together Fund. In addition it was also felt useful to establish a Health and Wellbeing network of providers, but that this could be part of one of the submissions.

The Area Council Manager provided an update with regards to the Working Together Fund. Including the initial allocation, and subsequent additions, the Working Together Fund had received £202,038 in total to allocate. Members noted that £33,856 remained for allocation at the time of the report, but subsequently an application had been recommended for approval which would leave £13,856 to allocate. It was suggested the Area Council considers a further allocation to the Working Together Fund at its next meeting, together with the likely level of demand likely placed on the Ward Alliance Fund.

Members were reminded that the contract for the Clean, Green and Tidy service, provided by Twiggs Grounds Maintenance had commenced in November, 2017 and had been invited to present a report on progress later in the agenda. This information would help to inform a discussion regarding the continuation of the service at the next meeting of the Area Council.

An overview of the current financial situation was then provided, and it was noted that £153,157 remained to allocate within the current financial year.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That a proposal to invite bids to the Working Together Fund to address the needs of isolated and vulnerable older people be developed for consideration at the next meeting of the Area Council;
- (ii) That the next meeting of the Area Council considers the financial position of the Ward Alliance Fund and Working Together Fund, and the anticipated demand within the current financial year;
- (iii) That the current financial position of the Area Council be noted.

5 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (PAC.07.06.2018/5)

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager. At the time of publishing the report £5,927.81 remained for allocation, however since this date £1,000 from Penistone Town Council had been returned and £1,000 from Underneath the Stars had also been returned, giving a balance of £7,927.81.

Members noted that the Ward Alliance had also recently met and recommended further applications for approval, which resulted in a balance of £2,467.81 remaining. It was suggested that Members should formally consider allocating further finance to the Ward Alliance at the next meeting of the Area Council.

The review of Ward Alliance arrangements currently taking place was noted and Members discussed a number of ways in which the consideration of Ward Alliance Fund applications could be improved, and the impact of the fund increased. These included working with groups to consider grant finance from elsewhere and moving to quarterly meetings. It was agreed that the Area Council Manager would feed these into the review.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

6 Performance Report Q4 (PAC.07.06.2018/6)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item, making Members aware that data referred to the end of the financial year 2017/18. A number of projects had come to a conclusion at the end of the financial year, including Bumping Spaces, Penistone Round Table, Penistone Youth Project, Cycle Penistone and the TPT Volunteers. It was also noted the South Pennine Community Transport CIC pilot had finished, however a subsequent bid for continuation had been recommended for approval.

Part A of the report provided an overview of performance across all of the investment made by the Area Council. Attention was due to the significantly increased numbers of adults and young people engaged in volunteering, and of community groups supported. These increases were attributed to the performance of the contract with Twiggs Grounds Maintenance.

The attention of Members was drawn to the numbers of people receiving training, which now stood at 369, an increase from 188 in the previous quarter. This was due to the informal training, including the use of equipment, provided to all volunteers when engaging with Twiggs Grounds Maintenance.

Members discussed the performance of DIAL. Numbers of clients being seen had dropped slightly since January, though this was thought to be due to excessively high demand in the early New Year due to sessions cancelled before Christmas.

Demand was now being more effectively managed, and therefore staff were not keen on implementing an appointment system at the moment.

Attention was drawn to the exceptional performance of Cycle Penistone, which now only required 10% grant funding. The project worked with Raleigh Cycles to sell ex-demonstrator bikes, as well as recycling bikes in partnership with Barnsley Council. Members praised its success.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

7 Twiggs 6 month update (PAC.07.06.2018/7)

John Twigg and colleagues were welcomed to the meeting to provide an update on the work Twiggs Grounds Maintenance were undertaking in the area on behalf of the Area Council.

This included improvements in the following areas:-

- Cawthorne – including at Cannon Hall, at Cawthorne Pre-School and in local lay-bys;
- Hoylandswaine – including at the Lord Nelson Pub and Rose and Crown Pub;
- Wortley – to erect Christmas trees, improve footpaths and clear drainage preventing standing water;
- Silkstone – with Silkstone Common Primary School and the Huskar 180 Group;
- Tankersley – working with local businesses including McDonalds to tidy the area;
- Green Moor – creating wildlife habitats, clearing pathways/steps, landscaping, seeding and trimming;
- Oxspring – Cleaning/Picnic session at Old Bower Bridge, litter picks at Castle Dam;
- Ingbirchwork – at the nature reserve entrance;
- Langsett – working with local businesses to tidy the area;
- Thurlstone – with Daisy Chains School building habitats, and Thurlstone/Millhouse Green Women’s Institution to clear litter from the main road;
- Millhouse Green – working with volunteers at Royd Community Garden;
- Water Meadows Park – clearing steps/pathways/seating, and building habitats;
- Thurgoland – working with the school to tidy footpaths and trim trees/hedges and with volunteers to improve footpaths;
- Penistone Town Centre – working with staff at Tesco, History Archive Group, Springvale Community Garden, and Penistone FM. Work with St John’s Primary prior to the Tour De Yorkshire to clear weeds and litter from the street.

Members noted the schedule of regular activities throughout the area, and the future developments planned for the service. The latter included working with groups to ensure their sustainability, working to create more volunteering opportunities and promoting the service.

RESOLVED that the feedback be noted and thanks be given to Twiggs Grounds Maintenance for the work undertaken on behalf of the Area Council.

8 Bumping Spaces (PAC.07.06.2018/8)

Karen Senior, colleagues and service users were welcomed to the meeting to provide an overview of the work of Bumping Spaces.

Approximately two years ago the project started with the aim to create peer support to vulnerable people in the Penistone area. Pendon House was identified as a venue as there was a need to make better use of their lounge. The project brought people together, with a mix of old and new people attending, both residents of Pendon House and from the wider area.

Tesco had supported the project with food, which has been used to provide lunches as well as distributed to other people who find it difficult to leave the house, with peer support volunteers involved throughout.

On a weekly basis 60 people are involved, with the luncheon club at Pendon House, a breakfast club and a meet/chat outing to Generation Café. In bringing people together mutual peer support networks had been created, and other groups had been created as a result.

Events such as the Royal Wedding and Christmas Lunches were very well attended, but differed from traditional lunch clubs as all involved contributed, preparing the event together.

Members heard how Bumping Spaces was inclusive and spanned different walks of life, different generations, and individuals required different levels of support. Often support was given without people realising.

Connections had been made with Age UK and other agencies, and the project offered an informal way for organisations to engage with individuals.

Currently many of the existing events only required minimal support in order to run effectively, but to take the project forward discussions were taking place with colleagues at Tesco, for future support. As a group they were involved in the Community Alehouse project, which would be run to generate funding to support community needs.

Service users and Members praised the work of the project and its success, with many other organisations and areas looking towards Bumping Spaces as a successful model for peer support.

RESOLVED that thanks be given to all those in attendance, and their work to make Bumping Spaces such a success.

9 Principal Towns Programme - Update (PAC.07.06.2018/9)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item, and made Members aware of the reasons for the recent delays. The consultants for the programme had just been appointed, and would be mid operational by mid June.

The Area Council Manager made members aware that they would work with the Principal Town Project Manager and the consultant to engage networks in Penistone to build up the feasibility plan. It was suggested that individual consultations could take place with relevant partners to build up the plan which would then feed in the Principal Towns Board in September, with Councillors being briefed through the Area Council prior to this.

RESOLVED that the update be received.

Chair