

<b>MEETING:</b>	North Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Monday, 17 September 2018
<b>TIME:</b>	2.00 pm
<b>VENUE:</b>	Meeting Room 1, Barnsley Town Hall

## MINUTES

**Present** Councillors Leech (Chair), Cave, Charlesworth, Howard, Lofts, Miller, Platts, Spence and Tattersall

### 10 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Howard declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No. 14 on the agenda, as she has family members who are resident in Woolley Colliery Village.

### 11 Minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 16th July 2018

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018 be approved as a true and correct record.

### 12 Housing Migration Officer (Presentation) - Zoe Wardle

Zoe Wardle, Housing Migration Officer, was welcomed to the meeting and delivered a presentation about her role in the Private Sector Housing and Enforcement Service.

It was explained that the service deals with all issues capable of having a detrimental effect on others, including ASB, environmental issues, property/housing conditions, private sector housing, fly-tipping, littering and socio-economic and social issues. The service works closely alongside other agencies such as South Yorkshire Police, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue, Adult and Children's Social Services, landlords/letting agents and other voluntary and community sector agencies, referring clients on where appropriate to other agencies such as Social Care (including Mental Health), Age UK, Berneslai Homes and DWP.

The aim of the service is to empower communities to work towards setting their own standards in terms of behaviour, environmental standards and housing and property standards and thus create and sustain safe and pleasant communities.

A number of case studies drawn from Darton East and Old Town wards were highlighted, together with a breakdown of the number of tasks undertaken across the years. It was noted that the majority of jobs fall into the category of 'waste', followed by 'fly-tipping'. The largest number of referrals were received from St Helens Ward, followed by Old Town.

Members asked a number of questions to which appropriate responses were given. Members were aware of a number of long-standing issues in their local areas such as ASB, gang related issues, drug problems, vulnerable families and younger children at risk which are now on the way to being resolved for the first time in many years. It was felt that this role had provided a much enhanced service, with brilliant outcomes and that if the service were to be decommissioned, would leave a massive gap in service.

**RESOLVED** that Zoe be thanked for the excellent work carried out to date, her attendance and contribution at the meeting.

### **13 Youth Participation Worker - Mark Glymond & Kelly Taylor**

Mark Glymond and Kelly Taylor were welcomed to the meeting and gave Members a brief introduction to their work as Youth Participation Workers.

It was highlighted that building up relationships in communities is a key priority for the service, looking specifically at young people. Young people have been involved in consultations at Darton Park, work has been done with the Youth Council and attempts are being made to get into schools – contact with Horizon has been arranged. Detached youth work with young people who are difficult to engage takes place on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in the community. Mark and Kelly have been to all Ward Alliance meetings (with the exception of St. Helens, which is planned in the near future) and have also attended a number of local meetings/coffee mornings etc. A walkabout in Old Town is being planned.

**RESOLVED** that Mark and Kelly be thanked for their attendance and contribution.

### **14 Social Isolation and Cold Homes Prevention Procurement Update**

The Area Council Manager introduced this item and updated Members of the North Area Council with regard to the current position of development, procurement and implementation of the commissioned service that is intended to address loneliness and isolation and prevent excess winter deaths in the North Area.

It was explained that the proposal suggested in the report would be complementary to the Energy Efficiency Works in Woolley Colliery Village, whereby residents would benefit from installation of first time central heating systems available for private homes made feasible by the monies secured from round one of the National Grid Warm Homes Fund. Many residents of Woolley Colliery Village have coal fired systems and thus experience genuine fuel poverty. Housing and Energy colleagues will also be bidding for Round 3 Funding, which will be for vulnerable and low income tenants which would again benefit some Woolley Colliery residents.

The Area Council Manager pointed out that six organisations who submitted tender responses had been interviewed, with tenders evaluated on a split of 80% quality, 20% cost. The moderation process was completed on 26<sup>th</sup> July. DIAL Barnsley scored 73.1% overall and are the preferred provider. DIAL will be invited to attend the next North Area Council meeting. It was highlighted that DIAL already have a presence in the area and that it will be exciting to get this project off the ground. It is expected that the project will be fully operational from December 2018.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) Members note the outcome of the procurement process;
- (ii) DIAL Barnsley will be invited to attend the North Area Council Meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

## **15 Priority Working Groups**

The North Area Council Manager introduced this item and highlighted the function of the Priority Working Groups, giving appropriate background information. It was reported that the working groups have been invaluable in ensuring that each ward is represented in the planning, development and delivery of Area Council service design and projects designed to benefit the North Area as a whole and that it is now necessary for each ward to adopt at least one priority or project per member.

It was explained that volunteers are being sought for a number of priorities and projects, including:

1. Opportunities for Young People
2. Health and Wellbeing
3. Environment
4. Anti-Poverty
5. Economic Regeneration
6. Community Magazine Editorial Group
7. Stronger communities grants (2019/20)

Members were asked to confirm with their ward colleagues that they are happy to be aligned to a specific priority project.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) The North Area Council Members consult with their Ward colleagues and adopt at least one priority or project per member, and
- (ii) In doing so, the representative agrees to participate in priority working groups to ensure that each ward is represented in planning, development and delivery of projects that benefit the North Area as a whole.

## **16 Commissioning, Project Development and Finance Update**

The Area Council Manager provided Members with a financial position and forecast for expenditure based on the projects that have been proposed, highlighting the forecast underspend of approximately £156,278 for 2018/19 and that the in-year balance exceeds the annual budget by £54,726. This excess is caused by the decisions to stop the Positive Progressions project, the delay in recruiting to the Private Sector Housing Support Officer role and recycled FPN income of £31,073 for 2017/18 which has now been received.

Members were reminded that no further recycled income will be received from environmental enforcement as the service has now ceased. However, it is hoped that the project will have led to behaviour change in communities.

A discussion took place about the Housing Migration Officer contract, which will be due for renewal from 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

Members were provided with the production timescale for the autumn issue of the Community Magazine. The Area Council funds the twice-yearly distribution costs of approximately £3,200 per issue.

Members were asked to alert the Area Council Manager to any proposed commissioning profile variations so that feasibility can be considered at the earliest opportunity.

**RESOLVED** that

- (i) The North Area Council note the existing budget position, current financial position and forecast for the funding commitments.
- (ii) Members renew the contract of the Housing Migration Officer on a fixed term basis for a period of 12 months.
- (iii) Members note the recruitment update for the Youth Participation Support Worker.
- (iv) Members note the update on the Social Inclusion and Fuel Poverty Reduction project proposal

#### **17 Fresh Street St Helen's Extension - vouchers £8,500 for 6 months**

The Area Manager provided Members with an update on Sheffield University's FRESH Street Project which has been active in Athersley North since March 2018.

It is proposed that due to the positive impact observed to date that the project should be extended by a further 6 months, as agreed in principle at the July North Area Council meeting. The extension to the project requires a further investment of £8,500 and all funding allocated must be spent within the designated time period.

**RESOLVED** that Members approve the further 6 months funding, valued at £8,500 as per the in-principle agreement at the July 2018.

#### **18 Performance Management Report - Commissioned Projects & Grant Funded Project Summary**

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager. Part A of the Performance Management Report provides North Area Council members with an aggregate picture of how all the North Council contracted services contribute to achievement of agreed outcomes and social value objectives; Part B provides a summary performance management report for each of the contracted services for the 2018/19 Quarter 1 (April – June 2018) and Part C provides a summary of performance information from the Strong Communities Grants Projects.

Members discussed a number of issues arising out of the report:

It was felt that more flexibility is required in the Twiggs contract so that goodwill is not lost. There seems to be some confusion around the community interface, specific aims and objectives, types of work undertaken, volunteer split, and involvement in activities such as litter picking and removal of green waste.

Members were reassured that no funding had been lost due to the collapse of Homestart, It is unfortunate that this service has been lost altogether.

The success of the DIAL project was highlighted. The service has generated over £900,000 in overall benefit gain. Word of mouth continues to generate new customers. DIAL recently attended an 'hourbank' event at the Church Hall and continues to go from strength to strength.

Members were reminded that the Town Hall Open Day is on 6<sup>th</sup> December and that they should contact Nicola Grierson in the first instance, should they wish to book a stall.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that Members note the content of the report; and
- (ii) that the Area Council Manager meet with Twiggs to discuss issues raised and identify a way forward

**19 Report of the Ward Alliance Fund**

The North Area Council Manager updated Members with regard to the financial position of the individual Ward Alliance budgets. Members were encouraged to identify projects for funding which could meet a recognised need for the Ward, which meet the wider public interest and which represent value for money.

**RESOLVED** that:

- (i) Each Ward in the North Area notes the update on the financial position of individual Ward Alliance budgets, and;
- (ii) Prioritises the efficient expenditure of the Ward Alliance Funds 2017/18, in line with the guidance on spend.

**20 Notes from the Ward Alliance Fund**

The meeting received the notes from the Darton East Ward Alliance held on 10<sup>th</sup> July, Darton West Ward Alliance held on 9<sup>th</sup> July; Old Town Ward Alliance held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July and St Helen's Ward Alliance held on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

The following updates were received:

*Darton East* – Funds have been allocated to spring bulbs and Christmas and there are other projects in the pipeline – more details will be provided at a later date. The Rotary Club have donated a memorial bench which will be installed in the Memorial Garden. In terms of the village centre improvements, pavements have been replaced and kerbs heightened to ensure pedestrians are protected at all times.

Road work is to be completed shortly. It was reported that all the plants in the planter at Eastfield Arms have been stolen.

*Darton West* – The dog bin at Harry Road Recreational Ground is to be moved. The defibrillator which was funded by the Ward Alliance is being monitored, as it needs checking every two weeks – this is currently done by volunteers. The bug hotel ‘Buggingham Palace’ at Harry Road had been destroyed, which caused upset to children. Other projects are in the pipeline with Horizon school. A Christmas tree is to be erected at Redbrook, which means there will be 3 in the area.

*Old Town* – Cllr Lofts has spoken to the Emmanuel Church to seek clarification before signing the application for the Community Volunteer Co-ordination project as there is a need to get more volunteers. There was no gala this year due to a lack of volunteers. There will be 5 real Christmas trees in the Ward this year and the whole area will be lit up with solar powered lights. There is lots of potential for developing parkland in the ward and in the Pogmoor area particularly.

*St Helens* – The artnership meeting had developed and compiled a ‘what’s on’ leaflet, which is being delivered to residents. 100 metres of crocuses are to be machine planted on greenspaces across the estates. There are to be 3 Christmas trees this year, plus a memory tree at the chapel. The gala in July was well attended and improves year on year. There is new legislation regarding health and safety which need to be complied with. Community events will be used to host Christmas events this year. David and Ruth have resigned from volunteering and will be sadly missed. They were thanked for their input and dedication.

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

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Chair