

MEETING:	South Area Council
DATE:	Friday, 26 October 2018
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Meeting Room, The Hoyland Centre

MINUTES

Present Councillors Stowe (Chair), Coates, Daniel Griffin, Lamb, Markham, Saunders, Shepherd, Sumner and R. Wraith.

16 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillors Shepherd and Lamb each declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to minutes 20 and 21 and their positions as directors of Forge Community Partnership.

Councillor Markham declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to her position on Age UK Barnsley board and minute number 22.

17 Minutes of the Meeting of South Area Council held on 31st August, 2018 (Sac.26.10.2018/2)

The meeting considered the minutes of South Area Council held on 31st August, 2018.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the minutes of the South Area Council held on 31st August be approved as a true and correct record;
- (ii) that the report on the use of Ward Alliance Funds be noted;
- (iii) that the Performance Report for quarter 1 be noted;
- (iv) that a letter of thanks be given to Zoe Ellis- Georgiou in recognition of her commitment whilst employed as part of the Advice Service in the South Area;
- (v) that details of the next Tidy Team steering group be circulated to all Members;
- (vi) that a group be convened to consider the issue of litter from food outlets near Junction 36 in more detail;
- (vii) that thanks be given for the presentation on fostering recruitment and Members pledge to support the drive to recruit foster carers in the South Area wherever possible.

18 Notes of the Ward Alliances (Sac.26.10.2018/3)

The meeting received the notes from the following Ward Alliances Hoyland Milton and Rockingham held on 5th September and Darfield Ward Alliance held on 20th September, 2018.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received.

19 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Sac.26.10.2018/4)

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager and the following was noted:-

Darfield Ward Alliance had £6,018.13 remaining from an opening balance of £10,975;

Hoyland Milton and Rockingham Ward Alliance had an opening balance of £20,086.25, of which £13,071.00 remained.

Wombwell Ward Alliance had £10,448.04 remaining from an initial starting balance of £11,308.04, however it was noted that since publishing the papers an additional £4,357 of finance had been allocated.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

20 Performance Report (Sac.26.10.2018/5)

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager, who made Members aware that the performance against the SLA to work with those in private rented sector housing was significantly lower than target; however this was due to the officer delivering the service being absent from work due to illness. It was noted that since their return to work a meeting had taken place with the Area Council Manager in order to prioritise outstanding cases, dealing with those deemed most urgent.

In relation to the contract held by Kingdom Security, performance against all targets was positive. Members noted work undertaken around J36 of the M1 and in Darfield, with fixed penalty notices issued in both cases. Members heard that a case study was available for the work undertaken in Darfield and would be circulated.

With reference to the Tidy Team, it was noted that much more work was now being undertaken with business. Members acknowledged that the work was time intensive, with many business contacted, but only small numbers engaged. It was therefore noted that whilst most performance targets would be achieved, those related to engaging businesses may not, though progress was now being made.

Members were reminded of a Tidy Team litter pick arranged in Elsecar, which was hoped would engage businesses.

Members heard of discussion at the Tidy Team Steering Group regarding the winter programme and establishing an early warning system to identify problem areas, and support those most vulnerable in need of assistance.

Those present noted that the performance against the contract to deliver advice services was positive, with the session in Darfield now at capacity, and others at capacity or oversubscribed.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

21 Procurement and Financial Update (Sac.26.10.2018/6)

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager who provided an update in relation to procurement.

The notice inviting tenders to deliver Tidy Team provision had been advertised with a closing date of 5th November, 2018, with an evaluation panel being convened on 3rd December. It was expected that the revised service would commence 1st April, 2019.

In relation to the current Tidy Team and their preparing for winter, a suggestion was made that finance be made available for the purchase of grit for use by the Tidy Team. A figure of up to £1,000 was proposed, with further detail to be submitted to the Area Council in due course.

In relation to procuring parking enforcement services, the OJEU notice of procurement had been issued and officers were awaiting details of the TUPE implications. An evaluation panel was expected to convene at the end of November, 2018. Members noted that the provision in the South Area had been added to that in Central and North East Areas, to be managed in three separate lots, in order to make the procurement more attractive.

In response to queries from Members, it was confirmed that the officers in question would have the powers to issue fixed penalty notices for dog fouling and littering should they come across these issues in their patrolling, though the focus would be on parking enforcement.

Members heard how the revised specification of requirements for advice services provision was still being drafted, but would be circulated to Members for comment in due course. The additional advice sessions funded through the Area Council were now operational, with appointments being scheduled for the most complex cases. A report on performance would be considered at the December meeting of the Area Council.

Members discussed the funding of potential revisions to a Traffic Regulation Order in relation to Blythe Street. After some debate it was suggested that further investigation be undertaken prior to this being considered by the Area Council.

A suggestion was made that traffic management could be the subject of an exercise to consider boroughwide services delivered locally, which met with support of the Area Council. It was suggested that, if possible, this be undertaken prior to the service to deliver parking enforcement becoming operational.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That the current financial position as detailed in the report be noted;
- (ii) That up to £1,000 be allocated to the purchase of grit to be used by the Tidy Team, with further detail of the expected amounts and costs to be submitted to the December meeting of the Area Council;
- (iii) That the timescales for commissioning associated with the Environmental Tidy Team and for Parking Enforcement be noted;
- (iv) That the length of Environmental Tidy Team, Parking Enforcement, and Advice Services contracts be noted;
- (v) That further discussion around the revision of a Traffic Regulation Order in relation to Blythe Street take place prior to its reconsideration by the Area Council;
- (vi) That traffic management in the South Area forms the basis of an exercise to consider boroughwide services delivered locally.

22 Age UK pilot - presentation on progress (Sac.26.10.2018/7)

Jane Holliday, Chief Executive Officer Age UK Barnsley was welcomed to the meeting. Members were reminded of the work of Age UK Barnsley, noting its autonomy in the borough and links with the national charity.

The health impact of loneliness and isolation was noted, both physical impacts such as high blood pressure and coronary heart disease, and impacts on mental health such as depression.

Members noted the scope of the pilot, to provide a worker in the areas of Cudworth and Wombwell to show what can be achieved with a small amount of finance, working in partnership, with a view to impacts being sustainable.

A worker has been operational for 25 hours per week in Wombwell, with the first part of their role being to establish the issues faced by residents. It was noted that there are a range of groups operating, however many of these have low numbers of users, which continue to dwindle. There is little in the way of coordination or communication between groups, which leads to users being unaware of other opportunities in the area.

Transport had also been highlighted as an issue, with areas other than Wombwell often easier to access than the town centre itself. Transport also added a further financial burden.

The worker had been working one-to-one with individuals, with 20 supported to date. Referrals had largely been made from medical services, and were from Wombwell and also from the surrounding areas. Each individual was assessed, with a range of interventions used to support.

Using the South Area Council's information, a directory of groups available had been further developed and the pilot had looked to recruit local volunteers. Five were now volunteering formally, with a further 3 undertaking the role informally. The difficulty in attracting volunteers was noted.

Members noted the provision of an Information and Advice Worker available for one day a week, with eight people supported so far.

To respond to the findings to date a 'Community Connector Service' was recommended, with support provided to existing groups, with individuals signposted via events such as a 'Pop up tea parties'. Members noted the efforts being made to recruit more volunteers in the hope that good neighbouring would remain once support from Age UK Barnsley was withdrawn.

Those present heard of the proposals to continue the provision of information and advice, the work with individuals, and also to hold events/roadshows focusing on issues faced by older people.

Members noted the pilot was funded until April 2019, and agreed for a further report on progress to be submitted to the Area Council in early 2019. Funding had been sought post April, with a submission to the Building Connections Fund through to the second round. If successful this would fund a worker for two years, working 30

hours a week, with additional support for a researcher at the beginning of the programme. If unsuccessful the pilot would provide a wealth of information for the South Area Council to consider how to address, with the support of Age UK Barnsley going forward.

Members noted the improvements being made in referrals from health professionals, and it was acknowledged that Age UK was a well known organisation, which assisted this.

Those present discussed the numbers of residents volunteering for family and friends in the area. Whilst these networks were largely positive, they could also lead to isolation for those without this support.

Members noted the interface between Age UK Barnsley, and LiveWellBarnsley, with all events and service on the site.

The meeting discussed the innovative approaches taken by Age UK Barnsley, including the Men In Sheds initiative which had engaged this often underrepresented group.

Those present discussed the interface between the Information and Advice given by Age UK Barnsley, and that provided through the Advice Services contract, with referrals being made to and from each service.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That thanks be given for the presentation and update on findings;
- (ii) That the work of Age UK In the South Area be supported; and
- (iii) That a further update be considered by the Area Council in early 2019.

23 Public Health in the South Area (Sac.26.10.2018/8)

Kaye Mann, Public Health Senior Practitioner, was welcomed to the meeting. Members were made aware that, following on from discussion at the previous meeting, every school in the borough now had resources for Smoke Free Schools. Generally this has been received positively, and an evaluation will take place in due course.

At the previous meeting interest had been expressed in pursuing 'Smoke Free Areas' within the South Area, with the aim of contributing to making smoking invisible to children and reducing prevalence.

Following attendance at a business forum in Hoyland it was felt that a more systematic approach should be pursued. In order to further develop the approach, finance was available from the central Invest to Grow fund, and it was suggested that Magpie, an ethical marketing agency, be engaged. Magpie are experts in this field, who work in innovative and exciting ways with the community.

It was proposed that a social norms approach would be taken, fully involving the community, with positive rather than negative messages, and residents encouraged to act positively rather than using enforcement. It was suggested that Hoyland be utilised as a pilot area, with Wombwell used as a control in order to more fully

understand the impact. The approach would be fully evaluated and if successful could be rolled out wider.

Members noted the time taken to measure public health outcomes, therefore outputs such as perceptions of the area, and observational behaviour change would be measured. It was suggested that the adoption of smoke free areas was ground breaking and was likely to show the area positively in the regional and national press.

Those present were given assurances that, if the initiative was supported, they would be involved at each stage of its development.

Members were supportive of the proposals and acknowledged the need to carefully consider the size of the area to be smoke free, with too large being potentially unworkable and too small potentially lacking impact. The links with the Principal Towns Initiative were noted, as was the desire to extend the scope of the Smoke Free Play Area in Elsecar Park to cover the whole park.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That thanks be given for the presentation; and
- (ii) That the development of an approach to the adoption of Smoke Free Areas in the South Area be supported.

Chair