

<b>MEETING:</b>	Dearne Area Council
<b>DATE:</b>	Monday, 26 November 2018
<b>TIME:</b>	10.00 am
<b>VENUE:</b>	Meeting Room, Goldthorpe Library

## MINUTES

**Present** Councillors Noble (Chair), Gardiner, Gollick, C. Johnson and Phillips

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

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

### 20 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Dearne Area Council held on 1st October, 2018 (Dac.26.11.2018/2)

The meeting received the minutes from the previous meeting of Dearne Area Council.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Dearne Area Council meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2018 be approved as a true and correct record.

### 21 Performance Report (Dac.26.11.2018/3)

The Area Council Manager introduced the item, stating that all commissions had performed well during quarter 2 with no concerns about targets being met. Many had exceeded the targets set, despite them being increased during the previous year.

With regards to the Environmental Enforcement contract, Members were made aware that the provider had been made aware that the contract would not be renewed. It was acknowledged that performance would still be monitored and the same level of service was expected. In quarter 2 there had been 115 Fixed Penalty Notices, 11 of which were for dog fouling together with and 17 Parking Charge Notices.

The Housing and Migration Officer had now embedded themselves well into the community, dealing with 172 contacts within the quarter, giving positive feedback to those reporting issues. Proactive work had been undertaken, including letter drops to target specific areas. Members discussed fly tipping in the area, noting small numbers of prosecutions but high levels of fly tipping. It was suggested that those responsible may be increasingly careful not to get caught.

Twiggs Grounds Maintenance had achieved most of their targets, with only those associated with engaging businesses, and working with those involved in restorative justice below target. Assurances were given that these would be addressed in the following quarter.

Members agreed that Twiggs were proactive in the area, with the current team assisting the growth of volunteering.

It was noted that, due to the contract being in the final year, and apprenticeships being completed over two years, Twiggs had chosen not to recruit to an apprenticeship position, but had filled this with a fully trained employee.

Questions were raised as to what arrangements were in place if volunteers did not attend any arranged engagement sessions, and it was suggested that this may depend on whether it was a Twiggs led, or community led session, but the Area Council Manager agreed to seek clarity.

B:Friend had not yet completed a full quarter, and therefore performance information would be available at the next meeting of the Area Council. However, the Area Council Manager confirmed that a social club had been established in Thurnscoe, with a further one established in Bolton-Upon-Dearne. Each had approximately 10 regular attendees. The organisation had been applying for external finance and had been successful in gaining £3,000 to undertake additional social isolation activity in Thurnscoe.

Feedback from users of the service had been positive, and users had been signposted to other groups for support.

Members were made aware of the recruitment of Caseworkers to assist with fuel poverty in the area, which would also help support many isolated in the area.

The Area Council Manager provided an update regarding the performance of projects funded through the Dearne Development Fund.

CAB had held 23 advice sessions, with £71,000 of benefit gained during the quarter, with a total benefit gain of £175,619 to date.

DIAL had held 12 sessions with a benefit gained of £144,912 in total, and sessions had been oversubscribed. It was noted that demand would be monitored and clients accessing the service be encouraged to fill as much of the relevant forms as possible themselves.

Between 70 and 100 residents continued to attend events held by Goldthorpe Development Group, with 12-14 volunteers active at each session.

Fused Imagination had held 25 sessions, with 30 young people engaged. The sessions had now ceased and consideration was being given to the future, with a potential application to the Arts Council.

Reds in the community had been funded to run in the summer, and had engaged 271 young people since March 2017, with 6 volunteers regularly assisting in the running of sessions.

Dearne Electronic Community Village had engaged 8 new learners, with 2 of those already re-joining the workforce. A calendar of support available in the area for those out of work had been developed, but it was noted that face to face support is often preferred.

The TADS service funded through the Dearne Development Fund had worked with 4 young people from the ALC and 8 from primary schools within the previous quarter.

Members noted that three quotes had now been sourced for the defibrillator to be placed at Bolton Ex Serviceman Club and training was now being organised.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

## **22 Dearne Area Council Community Magazine (Dac.26.11.2018/4)**

The most recent edition had now been circulated, the first being provided through the new provider.

Members noted the delays in distributing the magazine, and it was felt the design could also be improved. Discussions were ongoing with communications to improve the situation.

It was noted that feedback in general regarding the production and distribution of a community magazine was positive, but it was noted that consensus was that the publication ought to focus on local issues. It was suggested that two further issues be produced and distributed.

### **RESOLVED:-**

- (i) That Members note the production and distribution of the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the Community Magazine;
- (ii) That £3,040.76 be approved for the distribution of two further editions of the Community Magazine.

## **23 Dearne Area Council Update on Financial Position (Dac.26.11.2018/5)**

An overview of the financial position of the Area Council was given. From a starting balance of £208,476.98 in 2018/19, £210,579.76 had been spent. However, this was offset by income from Fixed Penalty Notices, leading to an expected balance of £6,706.20, though it was noted that this could increase with the income from notice issued up to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019.

Members noted that £100,523 had also been allocated from the 2019/20 budget, not taking into account that approved for the Community Magazine.

With regards to the Dearne Development Fund £32,425.10 remained.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

## **24 Dearne Area Council Education, Environment and Volunteer Service (Dac.26.11.2018/6)**

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager, who reminded Members of previous approvals to procure an Education, Environment and Volunteer Service, with an approved cost of £75,000 per annum initially for one year with the opportunity to extend for two further periods of a year.

On reflection, the Area Manager had brought to the attention of Members that costs in providing the service had likely increased since its inception five years ago. Therefore, in order to ensure the same quality of service, it was suggested that the

guide price be increased to £85,000 per annum to ensure the commission remained attractive to potential contractors.

**RESOLVED** that the value of the commission to provide and Education, Environment and Volunteer Service be increased to £85,000 per annum for up to three years.

**25 Notes from the Dearne Approach Steering Group held on 17th September, 2018 (Dac.26.11.2018/7)**

Members considered the notes from the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.

The discussion around the old school site was referenced and it was noted that its future use is under consideration, but is currently confidential.

**RESOLVED** that the notes from the Dearne Approach Steering Group be received.

**26 Notes from the Dearne Ward Alliance held on 18th October, 2018 (Dac.26.11.2018/8)**

The meeting received the notes from the Dearne Ward Alliance held on 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2018.

**RESOLVED** that notes from the respective Ward Alliances be received.

**27 Ward Alliance Performance Reports (Dac.26.11.2018/9)**

The performance reports related to the use of Ward Alliance Funds in the Dearne North and Dearne South areas were received.

**RESOLVED** that the reports be noted.

**28 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Dac.26.11.2018/10)**

The meeting noted the current financial position for Dearne North and Dearne South Wards.

At the time of publication, Dearne North had £4,164.97 remaining from an opening balance of £9,506.69 and Dearne South had £6,516.64 from and opening balance of £11,021.36.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

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Chair