

MEETING:	Dearne Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 25 March 2019
TIME:	10.00 am
VENUE:	Meeting Room, Goldthorpe Library

MINUTES

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

37 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

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

38 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Dearne Area Council held on 21st January, 2019 (Dac.25.03.2019/2)

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 21st January, 2019 be approved as a true and correct record.

39 B:friend performance update (Dac.25.03.2019/3)

Mark was welcomed from b:friend to provide an update. Members were reminded that the commission involved one-to-one befriending and also organising social clubs. All activities were focused on the five ways to wellbeing.

Befrienders visit those unable to leave the house for a drink and a chat. This was said to often improve the mood and wellbeing of those being visited, with them having someone who cared. Eight befrienders had been engaged, with a further six pending.

Two social clubs had been established, one in Thurnscoe and one in Bolton On Dearne. The former had taken longer to become established, but was now well attended. A further social club for the Goldthorpe area was in the process of being established and Members were asked to put forward any suggestions for a suitable venue.

Members heard of the relatively low numbers of referrals, even though those involved in social prescribing, GPs and community nurses had been engaged. Members agreed to assist where possible.

The meeting heard of the intergenerational work being undertaken with nursery settings, and Members suggested that the positive work between Dearne ALC and Goldthorpe Development Group could be built upon.

Those present heard of the donation provided by Keepmoat to provide a social club in Thurnscoe, which was thought positive by all.

RESOLVED that the update be received.

40 Humankind (Dac.25.03.2019/4)

As a representative of Humankind was unable to attend, this item was deferred to a future meeting.

41 Active Dearne (Dac.25.03.2019/5)

Stuart Rogers, from BMBC, and Paul Cummins from Yorkshire Sport Foundation were welcomed to the meeting.

Active Dearne had been over two years in the planning but had resulted in Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham local authorities working together across the Dearne. An application to Sport England had been successful and provided funding to target adults on low incomes, or unemployed, who were not active. In year one, the project would be operational in four areas of the Dearne, which included Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe.

Community Champions were currently being recruited, and it was felt important to engage someone who would know the local area well and had or could develop relationships with local residents. The role would include establishing groups, and reducing any barriers, to encourage local people to get back to physical activity.

Members noted that the project will also commission services, working with such as community groups, sports clubs to target areas of little physical activity.

In addition the project is set to work with businesses and employers in the Dearne area. It was acknowledged that many residents also worked in the area. The focus would be on ages 25-50, but anyone from 16 to over 75 could engage.

Members discussed how Barnsley Premier Leisure could be engaged, and it was noted that meetings had been planned to take place over the next few weeks to consider this.

Members noted that the delivery in years 2 and 3 of the project had yet to be confirmed, but a decision on this was expected in May.

RESOLVED that officers be thanked for their attendance and the feedback be noted.

42 Dearne Area Council Update on Finance and Commissions (Dac.25.03.2019/6)

The Area Council Manager spoke to the report, reminding Members of the decision in January to commission an Employability Service initially for a year with an option to extend this for two further periods of a year. The contract was awarded to Dearne Electronic Community Village.

Members noted that from an opening budget of £208,467.96 for 2018/19, £210,579.76 had been allocated, which had led to a slight overspend. However, this had been offset by income from Fixed Penalty Notices leaving £14,706.20 remaining in the financial year.

This figure would be carried forward to the 2019/20 financial year but taking into account finance already allocated, only £2,108.44 remained for allocation. Members were also reminded that from April, 2019 onwards the Environmental Enforcement contract ceased and therefore there would be no further income from Fixed Penalty Notices.

Six grants had been approved from the Dearne Development Fund and Members noted that £9,572.10 remained to allocate, which would be carried forward and combined with the allocation made for 2019/20.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

43 Community Magazine (Dac.25.03.2019/7)

The Area Council Manager reminded Members of previous agreements to produce a Community Magazine twice a year. This had been produced on a cost neutral basis, with advertising space subsidising Area Council content. The only cost was associated with distribution.

The most recently publication had been produced by a new provider, and there had a number of issues with the process. Therefore the issue had been brought to Members for their opinion.

Those present considered the impact of the production of a magazine, and it was felt to be positive, celebrating the involvement of volunteers in the area. However, the work to produce a publication was noted, as was the inappropriate nature of some adverts in the previous edition. It was noted that no formal feedback had been received on the publication, but the volume of calls to the area team had increased significantly following the distribution of each edition of the magazine. It was suggested that social media could be used to gain feedback on the magazine, and statistics on the numbers downloaded from the Council website could also be gained.

After considering a number of options, it was suggested that costs be considered for the production of a magazine by the area team for distribution throughout the Dearne area. A suggestion was made to consider whether a larger business in the area may wish to provide sponsorship.

RESOLVED that a future meeting of the Area Council considers costings associated with the production and distribution of its own magazine for the Area.

44 Notes from the Dearne Approach Steering Group held on 21st January, 2019 (Dac.25.03.2019/8)

Members considered the notes from the meeting held on 21st January, 2019. Members felt the meeting was very well attended and was very well received. The plan to agree four themes for all agencies to focus on was noted.

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

45 Notes from the Dearne Ward Alliance held on 24th January, 2019 (Dac.25.03.2019/9)

The meeting received the notes from the Dearne Ward Alliance held on 24th January, 2019.

RESOLVED that notes from the Ward Alliance be received.

46 Report on the Use of Ward Alliance Funds (Dac.25.03.2019/10)

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager, who drew attention to the finance remaining for each of the Wards in the area.

At the time of writing the report, Dearne North had allocated £6,142.80 of its starting balance of £9,506.69, leaving £3,363.89. Dearne South had allocated £6,414.74 of its allocation of its opening balance of £11,021.36, with £4,606.62 remaining.

Members noted that some applications had been approved since the report had been published, and therefore finance remaining would be correspondingly reduced.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

Chair