

Darfield Ward Alliance
Notes of meeting held Thursday 16th January 2020
2:30pm at Barnsley Town Hall

Present: Cllr Caroline Saunders (Chair), Cllr Trevor Smith, Brian Moore, Michael Fenna, David Hildred, John Davies, Tanya Dickinson (Community Development Officer)

Observing: Barbara Moore

1. Introductions and Apologies

Apologies received from Cllr Pauline Markham, Barbara Tindle, Margaret Barlow and Nicola Farrar.

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

The previous minutes were agreed. There were no matters arising.

3. Ward Alliance Fund

Balance – Overall there is a balance of £9,151 of Ward Alliance funding which includes the additional funding awarded to the Ward Alliance back in November 2019.

Applications for ratification:

Volunteer Training Programme 2020 (Darfield Ward Alliance) for £2090 - ratified.

Applications for consideration:

No applications had been received for consideration at this meeting.

4. Additional Ward Alliance Funding

The above amount of £9,151 Ward Alliance funding includes a balance of £7910 from the additional funding awarded to the Alliance in November 2019. A decision needs to be made on what projects this amount should be ring-fenced for.

As a starting point and at the November meeting a number of project ideas were shared to help the Alliance make this decision. Conversations that have since followed indicate there is strong support around the table for a project which helps address social isolation and that the preferred way of doing this is to develop a luncheon club in the area.

Points made around this included looking at transport and ensuring people have the means to get there, seeking advice from Wombwell Luncheon Club which is well established and runs very successfully, ensuring strong volunteer commitment is in place with a minimum of 6 volunteers signed up and that good consultation is a must to determine both the need and desire for such a group.

It was decided for some feasibility to be carried out ahead of the March meeting before making a final decision. If the need and volunteer support is there, then the Alliance will look to pursue this project idea using the additional funding. **Action: Tanya with support from available Ward Alliance members**

It was also decided that approx. £2.5K/£3K be ring fenced for further Healthy Holiday activities to continue to work towards helping support families who struggle to feed their children during the school holidays. It was noted however, that future delivery would need to focus more on reaching those families who would benefit from this activity rather than having the general reach it has in the past.

A number of other project ideas were discussed however, it was decided that the above 2 projects be prioritised.

5. Update on Ward Alliance Projects

Volunteer Training Programme 2020:

Brain Train – online learning package.

Members who are on email will have now received a login to this. Tanya will be arranging to meet with members individually to look at selecting a number of courses to help with their self-development and in line with the skills audit carried out last year. Provision still needs to be arranged for both Margaret and Brian. Full support is available with this online learning at the bi-monthly drop-ins being facilitated by the Digital Champions at the library. In terms of general take up of Brain Train no-one has yet registered and so this is something which we need to push over the coming weeks. **Actions: Caroline and Tanya**

Various training workshops.

Dates / venues are still being finalised for these which include social media, first aid, food safety, safeguarding and funding advice. Once finalised a programme will be drawn up and publicised. The first of these workshops is scheduled to take place in February.

Healthy Holidays:

The next lot of activities will take place during the February half term. Darfield Family Centre will be hosting a closed activity for families registered with them who are financially struggling and the South Area Team is looking at organising some area wide activity in partnership with Barnsley FC. Another Darfield activity is to be explored. **Action: Tanya**

Darfield Summer Gala:

It was agreed for planning to commence for a 2020 summer gala. Planning group to meet and start pulling together the funding application for submission at the March meeting. Volunteer input to be considered with a big push on getting more people involved. **Action: Pauline, John and Tanya**

6. 2020 Meeting Dates

The following dates were agreed for the 2020 meetings:

Thursday 19th March (Action Planning)

Thursday 21st May

Thursday 16th July

Thursday 17th September

Thursday 19th November

All meetings to be held at 4pm at Darfield Community Centre. **Action: Tanya to book the Centre**

7. Any other business

- Tanya asked if the Ward Alliance would be interested in purchasing a presentation cheque which could be used to help promote the Alliance and the funding support it offers to local groups / projects. The Alliance wanted to know how much this would cost before making a decision. **Action: Tanya**
- A community networking event for groups / individuals who look after a community green space is taking place on Wednesday 5th February, 4pm until 6pm at Billingley Village Hall.
- The question was asked when work on the Darfield Ring would be carried out to reduce the need for maintaining it. The latest update from Principle Towns is that work should be completed by the end of the May. Designs are being finalised with Highways.

8. Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 19th March, 4pm at Darfield Community Centre. This meeting will include looking at the Ward Alliance action plan for 2020/2021.