

Darfield Ward Alliance
Notes of meeting held Thursday 12th November 2015 @ 5.00pm
At Darfield Community Centre

Present: Kevin Osborne, Lee Parkinson, Cllr Pauline Markham, Cllr Caroline Saunders, Geoff Hutchinson, Michael Fenner, Brian Moore, Colin Ward, David Hildred, Cllr Dorothy Coates, Margaret Barlow, Tanya Dickinson (Community Development Officer), Barbara Tindle (Secretary), In Attendance: Alan Hayes

1. Introductions and apologies

Alan Hayes was introduced from Houghton Main Sports & Miners Welfare. There were no apologies

2. Ward Alliance Fund

An up-to-date Ward Alliance Fund Balance Sheet was viewed by members and Tanya explained how much funding was still available to spend on relevant projects.

Applications

West Melton WMC (£788) – Tanya gave a brief outline having met with the club and the Alliance agreed that the application be funded. The Alliance also requested that the club be asked to double check that their home insurance will cover any equipment being stored at their properties.

Billingley Parish Council (£800) – Michael and Brian declared an interest in the application and Michael gave a brief outline on how the funding would be used, the Alliance agreed that the application be funded.

3. Houghton Main Sports & Miners Welfare

The Ward Alliance invited the group to come along to this meeting to offer an update on various projects funded out of Ward Alliance Funding.

Alan explained his role within the club and gave a brief outline on how they have refurbished the changing rooms and bought football equipment with their funding from the Ward Alliance and expressed how grateful everyone from the club were and would like to thank the Ward Alliance for their help and continued support.

Kevin also explained how the funding for the WW1 Commemorate Event 2 years ago had been a huge success and learnt the importance of social media and taking offers of help to put on a great event. It is hoped that future events could be arranged.

Lee gave a brief explanation on what the cricket club had bought with their funding and again thanked the group for all its continued support.

Pauline thanked Alan for coming to the meeting.

4. Minutes of the last meeting 17th September 2015 and matters arising

The minutes were agreed.

- Notice boards – Dorothy waiting for the Billingley wooden design to be finalised
- Food Hygiene Course – Dates and times being organised for end of November.
Action – Caroline to inform people time and date

5. Update from South Area Council

Pauline and Caroline gave a summary from the South Area Council:

- the summer internship programme was really successful this year and hoped that more children will get involved next year
- CAB/Welfare Rights – well attended and working well
- Enforcement/Tidy Team were working well within the area

Tanya explained that there were still a few places left on the free courses in IT/Web Design as uptake from business' had been poor

Cllr Mick Stowe from the South Area Council would visit all Ward Alliances within the borough on a rota basis to form better relationships between Ward Alliance and the South Area Council. He will also be offering updates on the work of the area council.

6. Training and Development

Tanya explained that the *handbooks* are now ready and will be contacting all Ward Alliance members for a one-to-one meeting during December 2015 to revisit their role as a Ward Alliance member.

7. Ward Alliance Projects

Dorothy explained that they were ongoing and needed developing to move them all forward.

- *Love where you live/Get Together Events* – Geoff and Colin agreed to work with Tanya and will schedule a meeting to move this forward
- *Community Galas* – A discussion about applying for funding now and as a group (Darfield, Billingley, Broomhill and Middlecliffe) was agreed. Tanya to approach community groups where possible to lead on the individual galas.

Lee asked if we could have a Ward Alliance Calendar so that all members would be aware of when events were taking place and could therefore support and attend all events.

- *Park Hill Clean Up* – Caroline and a group of volunteers spent the day cleaning up Park Hill the event went well.
- *Darfield Ring* – Colin, Paul and the Tidy Team have planted over 700 bulbs. The Ward Alliance expressed their thanks to Colin, Paul and the Tidy Team
- *Community Garden* – Dorothy explained that she had met with Groundworks regarding a vacant allotment on East Street, Darfield with a view of it being used as a Community Garden for volunteer groups to use within the area. Volunteers would be needed and a sub group needs to be formed to take it further. Dorothy was still waiting for a decision from Groundworks.

8. Community Buildings Audit

Lee distributed an information sheet with local buildings and green spaces within the Ward Alliance areas. The Alliance discussed and agreed that further investigation was needed to find out ownership of certain areas and that the Alliance needs to prioritize areas that are in need of improvements.

Action – Pauline, Dorothy and Caroline

9. Any other business

Tanya explained that there was a National Citizen Service Event next Thursday 18th November 2025 and asked if anyone from the Alliance would like to attend as a representative from Darfield Ward. Margaret Barlow expressed an interest.

Tanya met with BMBC Events Team with regards to Public Art – to be discussed at a later date.

Michael showed an article regarding fracking in the Dearne Valley Area and wondered what the Alliance views were on the topic. All councillors agreed that they cannot discuss anything regarding this matter as it would jeopardize their vote on the council.

10. Date of next meeting –
Thursday 21st January 2016, 5 pm at Illsley Road Community Centre
Thursday 17th March 2016, 5 pm at Illsley Road Community Centre

Cllr Pauline Markham thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.