

MEETING:	North East Area Council
DATE:	Thursday, 30 January 2020
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Meeting Room 1 - Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Hayward (Chair), Cherryholme, Felton, Green, Houghton CBE, Makinson, McCarthy, Richardson and Wraith MBE

38 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillor Hayward declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No. 44 and left the meeting whilst this item was being discussed. Councillor Sir Steve Houghton took the Chair for this item only.

39 Minutes of the Previous Meeting of North East Area Council held on 28th November 2019

The meeting considered the minutes from the previous meeting of the North East Area Council held on 28th November 2019.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North East Area Council held on 28th November 2019 be approved as a true and correct record.

40 Notes of the Following Ward Alliances with Feedback from each Ward Alliance Chair

The meeting received notes from the Cudworth, Monk Bretton, North East and Royston Ward Alliances held throughout October, November and December 2019. The following updates were noted:-

Cudworth – The new artwork commemorating the battle of the Somme has now been installed in Cudworth Pocket Park, paid for by the Cudworth Environmental Group and the Cudworth Ward Alliance. The Christmas Panto ‘Puss in Boots’ at the Methodist Church was a great success. Recent funding applications include the installation of defibrillators at Age UK, Age UK Dementia Friendly Café for a trial period of 6 months. The Spring Health Fayre is planned for Saturday 21st March, 10.30 to 12 at the Methodist church. The Great British Spring Clean will take place on 28th March, with volunteers meeting at 10 a.m. at Cudworth Park. The view down the valley is wonderful now that the shrubs have been cleared. The BMX site at Dorothy Hyman is being moved down the valley, having extended the car park, this is a large scale project and will take 2 years to complete.

Monk Bretton – A key project in the Monk Bretton area has been working on the provision of 5 defibrillators, part funded through the Heathy Heart Group. All defibrillators will have ‘guardians’ and training courses will be provided regarding their use. The community is looking forward to another ‘Great British Spring Clean’ in

March. A raised bed has been installed on the entrance to Lundwood and this will be planted up.

North East – The Christmas pantomimes held at Great Houghton, Shafton and Grimethorpe were a great success. A ‘Tidy Day’ was held on Wednesday 22nd January, supported by volunteers from ASOS who collected 56 bags of waste from the area. The Grimethorpe Residents Group is now up and running and are also doing litter picks. Recent successful funding bids were outlined, including provision of planters at Great Houghton Village Hall and catering equipment at the Methodist church. Bulb planting has taken place across all 4 villages. The Great British Spring Clean will take place between 20th March and 13th April, with the Ward Alliance encouraging all 4 villages to take part. The new ‘What’s On’ booklet has now been completed and the Ward Alliance has agreed to joint fund 2 defibrillators in the community. Each village now has a defibrillator.

Royston – It was reported that the Ward Alliance has been busy working on many projects covering a myriad of issues. Of the 84 community projects across the area, 26,811 volunteer hours have been contributed which equates to a monetary value of over £300,000. Defibrillators have been fitted outside stores on the High Street, at the Pavillion, the Police Station, the Pack Horse Public House and the centre at Meadow Crescent. Plans are in place to kickstart funding for next year’s Christmas lights with funding provided for 10 with a view to businesses funding others. CCTV cameras for the Neighbourhood Watch have also been funded. The Achievement Awards will take place at the Town Hall on 10th March and a Health Fayre is planned for 3rd March. The Ward Alliance and the S106 Steering Group continue to meet. Principal Towns have funded the refurbishment of 9 shop fronts to date, with 14 to go. The Greenspaces group continues to meet, working on the park and the shrub beds and collecting 30 bags of green waste. There will be 5 or 6 events during the Great British Spring Clean period, with a Ward Alliance member leading each area. The 2nd edition of the ‘What’s On’ guide is currently being proofread prior to distribution.

The Area Council Manager reported that she will be visiting each Ward Alliance twice a year from now on.

RESOLVED that the notes from the Ward Alliances be received.

41 Lisa Blackburn and Rachel Lancaster will update the Area Council with regard to the Blue Badge Scheme

Lisa Blackburn and Rachel Lancaster were welcomed to the meeting to talk about the Blue Badge Scheme, explaining in detail the process for applying for a badge and the scoring criteria which is issued by Central Government to determine eligibility. It was highlighted that with regard to a non-visible or hidden disability, supporting medical evidence is required and the assessment is tailored to take account of this. If an application is refused, the applicant has the right to appeal to the Board. There is no definitive criteria for armed forces personnel, as all assessments are based around mobility.

A discussion took place around the potential misuse of the Blue Badge Scheme. It was explained by the Officers that they work closely with Civil Enforcement Officers

to ensure that badges are used correctly. Two prosecutions have been made, with another four in the pipeline.

RESOLVED that Members note the information provided and that Lisa and Rachel be thanked for their attendance and contribution.

42 Stop Smoking commissioned project

Amanda Longdon, Stop Smoking Service Manager and Sarah Sverdloff, Healthy Lifestyle Advisor, were welcomed to the meeting to give an overview of the North East Stop Smoking Project. Smoking prevalence in the North East area is reducing but is one of the highest rates in the country, with just over 1 in 4 adults in the area smoking. It is higher than the Barnsley average. Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death, is linked to long term health conditions and comes at great financial cost to society.

It was highlighted that Level 2 advisors working in the community have exceeded the annual target for supporting people to quit. Four week and twelve week quit rates continue to improve year on year, with 51% of people quitting in Year 1 and 58% quitting in Year 2 of the project. Sarah now runs 7 clinics across the area at a variety of locations, including GP practices and family/community centres. All of the sessions are well attended and positive client feedback has been received. An additional clinic has just been set up at ASOS, which is doing really well. A clinic has also been set up at Outwood Academy, Shafton, with 15 children attending on the first day and attendance increasing week on week.

A discussion took place around the use of e-cigs and potential health risks. This is being closely monitored as the use of e-cigs is not licensed by the NHS as yet. However, this is supported as use of e-cigs is 95% safer than smoking.

CCW: results fantastic, intergenerational.

RESOLVED that

- (i) Members note the update, and
- (ii) Amanda and Sarah be thanked for the fantastic work they are doing in the community and for their attendance and contribution to the meeting.

43 North East Area Council Project Performance Report

The North East Area Council Manager introduced this item, highlighting progress in regard to the delivery of a number of projects aligned to the agreed outcomes and social value objectives of the North East Area Council.

Members considered a summary performance management report for each service commissioned to provide services in the North East Area Council area, together with detailed case studies outlining the valuable work taking place which also contributes to these objectives.

Specific items to note included the Social Isolation and Dementia Project; the work of the Private Sector Housing and Enforcement Officer; District Enforcement (including

car parking, litter and dog fouling) and reparation litter picking work which had been done in conjunction with 15 young people, 7 of whom were from the North East Area.

The North East area team has been involved in planting 7,000 daffodils bulbs at Cudworth park, encouraging volunteers, community groups, businesses, individual and families to brighten up the park in time for spring 2020, also supported by Henry Boot.

The North East Ward Alliance helped low-income families cope with the extra costs of feeding children over the six-week school break through the 'Fit and Fed' family based project, providing open spaces around the holidays for children and families to come together to play, learn new skills, and share a meal together.

During the festive period a number of community Christmas events across the North East Area were supported with the aim of addressing social isolation by bringing people out of their homes and interacting with others. Examples of these projects include – village Christmas trees, Christmas lights on the High Street and other key focal points, pantomimes and Christmas Carol Concerts with the school choirs.

In November 44 homes in Lundwood around the Lang Avenue area were flooded, causing loss, damage and distress to residents and their properties, with some residents rehomed due to the damage caused. The Ward Alliance created crisis hampers made up of all the essential items a family would need to live on, to help them through the flooding period and alleviate some of the financial pressures during this difficult time. A Christmas party was also held at Burton Grange Community Centre for the flood victims. The party was designed to bring the community together after the difficult time, allow them to socialise and get back to sense of normality. It was also an opportunity to say thank you to all those that had volunteered and helped out during that time.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) The update be noted
- (ii) That the Area Team be thanked for their hard work, and
- (iii) Members let the Area Manager know about any problem with private landlord properties, vulnerable tenants/families and 'hot spots' in their areas.

44 NEAC Financial Position and Procurement Update

The North East Area Council Manager introduced this item, updating Members regarding the commissioning budget and financial analysis for the period 2017/18 to 2020/21.

Members were then reminded that the North East Area Council had agreed the specification for the Apprentices and Employability Commission and that it should go out to tender at the meeting on 30th November 2019. However, BMBC's Category Manager, Strategic Procurement & Commissioning Support, and Post 16 Partnership Manager has now been advised that all framework apprenticeships will no longer be funded by the Government after July 31st 2020, and will be replaced by new 'standard' frameworks. It is therefore necessary to withdraw the Apprentices and Employability tender in order to be able to assess the impact this will have on the

commission. A waiver will be required until the end of July 2020, at a cost of £70,866 to ensure there is no break in service until a revised commission is completed.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Members note the commissioning budget and financial analysis update report;
- (ii) withdraw the Apprentices and Employability tender in order to be able to assess the impact this will have on the commission;
- (iii) the Executive Director Communities be authorised to complete all necessary paperwork in order to waive contract procedure rules and extend the commission until the end of July 2020, at a cost of £70,866 to ensure there is no break in service until a revised commission is completed.

45 Report on the Use of Area Council Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds

The North East Area Council Manager introduced this item, updating Members regarding the North East Area Council Budget and Ward Alliance Funds.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

46 Interim Finance Report

Members were asked to approve the continuation of the Stop Smoking Community Outreach Service commission with SWYFT for a further year from April 2020 until the end of April 2021 at a cost of £30,000 per annum, with an additional plus 1 year to be funded subject to further funding being available and satisfactory outputs and outcomes being realised. Members were reminded of the smoking statistics for the North East area, the successful delivery of the project to date

The North East Area Council Manager then updated Members regarding the procurement of an Environmental Enforcement Service with a focus on littering, dog fouling and parking. This contract was awarded to District Enforcement and the service started in April 2019. The project was successfully delivered, and the positive outputs and outcomes realised have been reported in the Area Manager's Performance Reports. Members were asked to approve the continuation of the Enforcement commission with District Enforcement for a further year from April 2020 until April 2021 at a cost of £65,000 per annum.

In order to ensure that the Environmental Enforcement Service operates as part of the Council's broader approach and operates within the same degree of integrity as the primary enforcement agent in the North East Council Area, a service level agreement with BMBC's Safer Neighbourhoods Service is in place. This enables the electronic processing of tickets to be implemented and delivered using hand held devices. Members were asked to approve the continuation of this service level agreement with the Safer Neighbourhood Service for a further year from April 2020 until April 2021 at a cost of £14,840 per annum.

RESOLVED that

- (i) the continuation of the Stop Smoking Community Outreach Service commission with SWYFT be approved for a further year from April 2020 until the end on April 2021 at a cost of £30,000 per annum, with an additional plus 1 year subject to further funding and satisfactory performance;
- (ii) the continuation of the Enforcement commission with District Enforcement be approved for a further year from April 2020 until April 2021 at a cost of £65,000 per annum; and
- (iii) the continuation of the service level agreement with the Safer Neighbourhood Services be approved for a further year from April 2020 until April 2021 at a cost of £14,840 per annum.

Chair