

Ward Alliance meeting notes

1st March 2021

Present: Cllr Frost, Cllr Eastwood, Carmel Seston, Keith Seston, Karen Whiting, Sabeena Chavan, Chelsey Rigby. Leanne Cook Berneslai Homes, Amanda Bradshaw (BMBC)

Guest Kay Tinkler (BMBC Neighbourhood Engagement Officer)

Apologies: Steve Whittingham, Margaret Morgan

Notes last meeting: Accepted as a true record CS

Matters arising Cllr Frost informed the meeting that a few local businesses had made enquiries to the Post Office. Closing date for applications 21st June.

Cllr Frost informed the meeting that the Tidy Team had lost the contract and that Twiggs will be taking over the South Area Council Environment contract as from 1st April 2021. Thanks, were noted for the Tidy Team and members agreed that they had done a tremendous job over the past 7 years.

Kay Tinkler Neighbourhood Engagement Officer. Kay updated the meeting on current COVID situation across Barnsley. Still spreading the message of hands, face, space and staying safe. There had been no specific spikes in Wombwell, the High St was quite but there had been some incidents of individuals not wearing masks. Kay informed the meeting of the testing programme to which will be introduced in the High schools once they open and the people who are asystematic can get tested at the Metrodome.

Kay informed the group of planned reopening of community centres from the 12th April and her team were currently in process of pulling together a package of resources to ensure the centres operate safely. The group were asked to forward onto her any requests for resources. The packs should be ready to hand out by the end of March. The Alliance members suggested funding items out of WA funds if need be, hand sanitising stations were mentioned. - Action AB to liaise with Kay regarding this

Question raised about groups gathering in Wombwell park. Kay informed the group to pass on any intelligence of any such gatherings and the COVID Marshalls can offer support and it can also be passed onto SYP if it is an issue of anti-social behaviour.

Question raised re outside seating area for licenced venues this issue again needs to be passed onto Kay for investigating. Action AB to share Kay's contact details

Budget Update £9758.29 WA funds remaining. The application from Lundhill Community Group has been withdrawn.

Healthy Holidays Activities - £2754 remaining in the HH budget.

Easter holiday activities 150 activity bags (containing craft activities and a planting activity). These will be openly distributed via Friends of Wombwell Park and Via Wombwell Cemetery Community Hub. Wombwell TARA have been supporting families on the estate over the past month and 50 bags will be given to this group for distribution.

The WA again stressed the need to support families who are still on furlough and /or struggling as a result of the restrictions. AB had been in discussion with parent support advisors in the 3 primary schools re the support they are offering families in crisis which is often a bag of store cupboard items. This incident of crisis can come at any time. AB shared the idea of providing the local schools with Potters meat vouchers and Smith Fruit vouchers for the parent support advisors to issue to families at times of crisis. The group supported this initiative as a way of supporting those families as well as supporting local businesses in Wombwell. Action AB to purchase vouchers out of HH budget and work with parent support advisors to monitor the initiative ensuring that additional information (debt advice, fuel poverty advice and BMBC Covid support) is provided alongside this offer.

AB informed the group of the offer of support for children on free school meals in Barnsley during the school holidays. This will run for 6 weeks across the rest of the school year (1-week Easter, 3 weeks summer holidays, October break and 1 week at Christmas. The offer will include a good food lunch box and opportunity for the youngsters to engage in free activities. Letters are to be sent out to all eligible children for the Easter holidays. Activities for Easter will not be face to face due to current restrictions.

Project updates- Age Uk Men in Sheds project. The pandemic and problem with finding a suitable venue have affected this project. AB and Age Uk project workers have had a meeting to discuss progression once groups are able to meet up again. It was agreed that the South Area Team would purchase a large gazebo so that the project can temporarily operate from the Park Pavilion. Age Uk are very happy with this temporary solution and fingers crossed the project should be back up and running very soon.

Carmel from FOWP updated the meeting with a project they are working on with Horticultural society. This connecting communities project is in its early stages, but key areas of development are improving the planting at the entrance on Wrights crescent. There is going to be a community consultation to engage residents and children and young people in the decision making and hopefully implementation of the project.

South Area Council update – District Enforcement contract is to be extended for 1 year from April 1st. There will be extended patrols beyond the end of Wombwell High St. Dog fouling there is 4 hours per week across the whole of the South Area. Residents/WA members need to pass on intelligence to enable the team to catch culprits. The CAB contract finishes on the 30th June. It will be going out to tender for a 3yr contract. In addition to face to face meetings the spec will include increased telephone and digital support. The spec will also include the need to increase take up for support from BME communities. AGE UK contract finishes end of September. Currently in discussion to re-continue the funding for the social isolation project. The Tidy Team contract will go to

Twiggs from the 1st April. It will be a similar contract “doing with more than doing for”. There will be 30% of reactive work.

A.O.B Principal towns proposals will be going to White cabinet next week.

AB informed the group that the defib on the High St had already been used twice in an emergency.

Date of next meeting

Monday 17th May 6pm via Microsoft teams.