

Dearne Ward Alliance

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTES

Meeting Title:	Dearne North Ward Alliance
Date & Time:	18 th May 2021 2.00pm

Attendees	Apologies
Cllr Alan Gardiner (Chair) – Elected Member Craig Aubrey – Neighbourhood Engagement Officer – Dearne Area Team Claire Barnes – Lead Officer for Beat the Streets Derek Bramham – Big Local Thurnscoe Cllr Wendy Cain - resident Cllr Annette Gollick – Elected Member Jackie Kenning – Salvation Army Peter Shields – Dearne Memorial Group Marie Sinclair – Community Development Officer – Dearne Area Team Gillian Totty – Community Engagement Officer, Berneslai Homes Charlotte Williams – Station House Community Association Jenny Yates - Community Development Officer – Dearne Area Team	Pauline Phillips –Thurnscoe Flower Park volunteer

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Cllr Gardiner welcomed everybody to the meeting and in particular the newly elected member Cllr Wendy Cain. Claire Barnes gave her presentation on Beat the Streets. This initiative is about getting people active by encouraging them to visit as many Beat Boxes in the borough as possible. There are over 250 boxes and when found participants simply put their fob or card up against it to record that they have been there. Pupils from all 80 primary schools in the borough will be given fobs and the general public can pick them up cards from 20 distribution sites all being leisure centres and libraries. It is hoped that there will be 31,000 players this year and last year the players travelled 5 times around the world. The event is running from 10th June – 22nd July. Claire oversees community engagement and Nat from Totally Runable is leading on the schools. There will be prizes of Decathlon or Waterstones vouchers for the schools that travel the furthest – 1st Prize £150, 2nd £100 and 3rd £75. People can also sign up to other teams such as Scout or Girlguiding groups, walking groups, sports clubs etc. There will also be a Community Group week with the same prizes as schools and a workplace league with the highest average points (this allows for companies of different sizes to take part) receiving £500 for their chosen charity. There will also be leagues for running and cycling groups as these will travel further. The boxes have been set up so that they can tell if somebody is likely to have driven from one box to another as this was a potential issue last year. Help in advertising this to groups is required. It was asked about stats and Claire confirmed that once the game had started, they will be able to pull of various stats about uptake from different areas. The age range is for everybody, although the concentration is on primary schools. There are boxes close to every school and then they work their way out from there. The Beat Box sites have been risk assessed, but if anybody sees any problems/issues please do report these. Everything has been put in place to make everything as safe as possible.

The website for more information and to register is www.beatthestreet.me/barnsley

CB left the meeting.

2. Apologies

See above.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising

CW's action from the last meeting has been done and the account has been changed to an online one. JK and WC will go into the bank next week to do the necessary paperwork to be signatures.

4. Finances

4.1 Current Accounts

Marie reported that £10,000 has been made available for this year so the WA has a starting balance of £10,182.92. The group were very good at spending the money last year.

CW is now the Treasurer with Jackie Kenning & Wendy Cain agreeing to be on as signatures top help with easy access to the working funds, both agreed to take the relevant paperwork to the Bank, CW has already sent the information required to both, Marie to chase up before next month.

£1,400 is earmarked for the Healthy Holidays programme which will help young people with their mental health and well-being post Covid.

£1,400 is also earmarked for the libraries project for them to put on some after school session when Covid restrictions allow this.

£2000 for assisting with projects/events to help with mental and physical health and well-being to aid the Covid recovery.

£967 of sundries to pay for any emergency items (inc. Bank charges)

4.2 Applications for funding

Two applications have been received.

Bulky Rubbish Collection

The Dearne Area Team have submitted an application for £2,000 for the collection of bulky rubbish items outside people's properties. The scheme for BMBC to collect bulky items use to be free for everybody, but now it's only the most vulnerable and is done on a referral system. Elected members and the Housing Enforcement Officer can make referrals. However, there are lots of low-income households who don't qualify for a free collection, but can't afford to pay for the items to be collected so many items are gathering outside people's homes. This scheme will help and £2k is being asked for as last year £1k was given to the scheme and it was all used in 6 months.

All were in favour and this application was passed.

Hanging Baskets

The Dearne Area Team have submitted an application for £300 for hanging baskets in Goldthorpe. They are also asking for £300 from the Dearne South WA as this covers some of Goldthorpe. This was discussed at the last meeting as a way of cheering up Goldthorpe High Street to encourage people back into the towns and to shop local to help local businesses recover for the Covid-19 pandemic. Some brackets have already gone up. It is hoped that local businesses will sponsor a basket outside their business in future years.

All were in favour and this application was passed.

5. Group Updates and Future Projects

5.1 Dearne Memorial Group – PS reported that he has helped to bring the ashes of a 96 year old lady living in France to Bolton-upon-Deerne to be with the graves of other family members. The lady had served in the RAF. All other reports are in the

minutes of the latest group meeting.

- 5.2 **Big Local** – DB reported that the Let it Shine event went well. During half term they gave out 60 packs of bird feed etc in one day and 30-40 packs the next day for a Feed the Birds event. The group are now turning their attention to the floral displays in Thurnscoe. The planters on Houghton Road and 3 in the village have been weeded and re-planted and the hanging baskets will be done soon by a contract company. It was decided at the last meeting to now close the Enterprise fund and the Covid-relief fund. DB was congratulated in particular on his help in getting people to set up their own businesses. The money now will be put towards a legacy project including the Plaza as there is only 2 years of Big Local funding left. The Plaza is progressing and there have been no objections so far to the handing over the land for a 25 year lease. The group are still hopeful for a late September/early October opening. The Big Local are also involved with the planning and putting on of the Dearne Churches Together Summer Event at Phoenix Park on Wednesday 28th July. The Dearne Area Team and other local groups and organisations are also involved with this, which should be fun day for everybody.
- 5.3 **Station House** - CW updated that due to Covid regulations they have needed more staff but less children so it's been hard to stay open financially, but they have and a whole load of restrictions have been lifted this week which should make things a little easier. They are currently re-building their services for working parents and this hadn't been needed so much before with many parents on furlough and others being made redundant. Their holiday care changed as well as not so many parents were working and requiring full day care. They therefore offered more places for 2-3 hour session of quality play and food to help the children recover from the pandemic.
- 5.4 **Salvation Army** – JK reported that they are still taking bookings for food parcels on Mondays for appointments only and Tuesdays – Fridays are helping people in crisis situations. They are seeing more professionals coming in for food parcels as a result of the pandemic. Wednesdays they are offering debt advice as JK is trained in this area and are also running the Victory Programme which is running virtually. Families are being supplied with a tablets and internet to access the sessions as well at cooking equipment and food. No food is wasted as the idea of the project comes from the Dig for Victory in the war. They have started to work with Twiggs to create a Community Garden using planters to sow seeds in the Salvation Army grounds. They are also linking in with Incredible Edible. Any donations of equipment or seeds will be gratefully received. They are teaching the clients that they don't need a garden to grow some of their own produce and they can have planters on windowsills etc with herbs in etc. Any surplus food from the Community Garden will go to the clients. The Salvation Army too are involved with the Churches Together Event at Phoenix Park and one at the Embankment on Wednesday 2nd June and other Embankment events.
- 5.5 **Berneslai Homes** – GT works jointly as a Community Engagement Officer in the Deane. They have a small budget for projects. The TARA in Thurnscoe has lost numbers due to Covid. They have been able to provide tablets to most members so they can attend meetings still. The Dearne Housing Team have a Twitter account and GT is currently trying to get them a Facebook account so they can link in better with other groups in the Dearne area. GT also reported on some horrendous racial abuse. The Salvation Army are working with them and the family about this.
- 5.6 **Covid Update** – Craig Aubrey was unable to attend the meeting so JY gave the update he gave to the Dearne North WA meeting. As licensed premises are now opening up the Team are looking at these to make sure they comply with the Covid regulations. It has mainly been outside venues, but are now starting to look at inside venues as these are opening up as well as Betting Shops and indoor venues such as trampoline parks. There have been no serious breaches of the regulations in the Dearne area. The Dearne is one of the areas on Barnsley where the uptake of the vaccine isn't as high. They are looking into why this is, but it is hard to find the people who haven't yet taken up the offer. Those under 50 are now able to get their vaccine. The mobile testing unit is still at the Queen's Street Car Park. It will be there until at least 23rd May, but is assessed weekly and may well be there longer as it is being well used. It is for those people showing symptoms or who have had a positive lateral flow test. Lateral flow tests can now be picked up from most pharmacies, such as Weldricks as well as the Health Centre and they can be picked up ordered online for home delivery. 30 people are now allowed to meet in outdoor spaces. A question was asked if those playing bowls needed to wear a mask. There is no legal requirement for this, but the club can advise to wear where possible, along with keeping 2m apart.
- 5.7 **Future Projects** – the question was asked about how safe it is to put events on now. The road map indicates that hopefully we will have restrictions lifted by 21st June if everything goes to plan. Therefore, we can start to put events on and the aim is to do things that will help people with their mental and physical health and well-being as part of the Covid recovery plan. There will be a focus on getting people out of their homes, socialising and feeling safe again. GT said that the TARA plans to start meeting in person again after 21st June.

The Dearne Area Team are publicising and helping at a variety of events for Volunteer Week (1st – 7th June) and the Great British Spring Clean (28th May – 13th June). If anybody else is running events the Team can provide support and advertise these on social media.

A Transition Day for all Year 6 pupils moving up to Astrea Dearne Academy is being held on Thursday 1st July from 9.30am – 2.30pm at the Embankment in Goldthorpe. There will be 8 classes of 25 – 30 pupils so each class will move around 8 stations doing activities for around 25mins. Although teaching staff will be present and the school are providing some older peer mentors, we need plenty of volunteers to assist at each station. GT will see if she can provide some helpers for the day. **Action GT**

The event on Phoenix Park on Wednesday 28th July had already been mentioned earlier in the meeting. Again, volunteers to help will be gratefully received.

6. A.O.B.

There was no other business.

7. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held virtually over Teams on Tuesday 15th June at 2.00pm.