

MEETING:	North Area Council
DATE:	Monday, 1 February 2016
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Meeting Room 1, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present Councillors Burgess (Chair), Cave, Cherryholme, Howard, Leech, Platts and Spence

44 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest.

45 Minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on 23rd November 2015

The Area Council received the minutes of the previous meeting held on 23rd November 2015.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the North Area Council meeting held on the 23rd November 2015 be approved as a true and correct record.

Minute no. 35 (iv) - It was highlighted that a £13,000 fee is payable to BMBC Enforcement Services, this is pro rata across all Area Councils. A detailed breakdown will be provided.

Minute no. 38 – All Members were asked to keep potential news stories in mind for the next edition of the Community Magazine. Content should be submitted by the end of April for July distribution. A working group will need to be established. Some concerns were expressed regarding advertising placement, as the Area Council did not want to appear to be endorsing particular organisations. Problems were experienced with magazine delivery, as the postcode method didn't seem to have worked. Other delivery options will be explored.

Minute no. 41 – Members were reminded that the closing date for applications for the next round of Stronger Communities Grant funding is 12th February.

46 National Citizen Service

Jo Thornton was welcomed to the meeting to speak about the National Citizen Service (NCS). The NCS is a four week programme for year 11 and 12 students funded by the Government. In Barnsley the NCS is run in conjunction with Barnsley FC. To date over 400 Barnsley young people have taken part. Members were provided with detailed numbers for each area. The aim of the project is to promote independence/life skills and encourage young people to help local communities whilst gaining confidence and a sense of accomplishment. The first week involves a personal challenge for the young people, followed by a week of independent living at Sheffield Hallam halls of residence and finally work on a local community project for weeks 3 and 4. Type of work undertaken includes help at food banks, care homes

and carer gardens. This could be linked to Love Where You Live and include renovation and environmental projects. One project developed per ward would be ideal. All projects are fully staffed to ensure that the young people are supervised. Members were encouraged to identify potential future social action projects in their wards that could benefit from the scheme in the summer period. It was highlighted that the NCS has some similarities to the Area Council-funded Internship Programme.

Jo was thanked for her attendance and contribution.

47 Procurement Update

The Area Council Manager provided Members with a financial position and forecast for expenditure, including updates regarding the procurement of the Summer Holiday Internship 2016 and the Environmental Enforcement project post March 2016. To recommission both of the projects a full procurement process is necessary. At the time of writing a preferred provider has been identified for the Summer Holiday Internship. Kingdom Security Services are the successful providers for the Environmental Enforcement project. Contractual documents are to be finalised for both services. Concerns were expressed that performance information had not been received, as it had fallen between meetings. Questions were also asked about parking enforcement, connectivity problems and deployment of officers in pairs.

North Area Council currently has £66,562 uncommitted from 2014/15 and 2016/17 budgets. Future budget allocations remain unclear.

RESOLVED

- (i) that the North Area Council Members give consideration to how the remaining funding is utilised to meet the needs of the North area, and
- (ii) give consideration to which projects they wish to commission in the future to address the Area priorities by way of a workshop session, to include an Economic Regeneration project and that
- (iii) performance information will be provided between meetings for Member consideration.
- (iv) that the North Area Council Members are satisfied with the results of the procurement process and are in agreement that both contracts be finalised.

48 Commissioned Projects Performance Update

The Area Council Manager updated Members with regard to the performance of the Anti-Poverty Community Outreach, Clean and Green and Now You're Cooking projects. To date, 205 people have accessed the CAB/DIAL service, with 50 clients receiving advice relating to benefit gains, which should bring in an estimated £177,053 of income to the North Area, benefitting both the individual and the economy. It was highlighted that The Forge have needed time to learn about the demographics of the North Area and become familiar with local groups, which has led to a slow start to the project, although milestones have still been achieved. The

Now You're Cooking project has also met and exceeded its targets, although unfortunately two scheduled courses were cancelled for Roundhouse Resource Centre and St John Evangelist Church, Staincross.

RESOLVED that Members note the Project Performance Reports

49 Report on the use of Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds

The report was introduced by the Area Council Manager, and attention drawn to the levels of finance carried forward, and current levels of expenditure in respect of the Devolved Ward Budget, Ward Alliance Fund and Public Health financial contribution. Members were reminded that all project forms must be signed by the end of March and completed by the summer. It has been agreed that £10,000 will be devolved to each Ward Alliance from the Area Council budget, provided the respective ward budget is below £10,000 by 31st March 2016.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

50 Notes of the Ward Alliance Meetings

The meeting received the notes from the Darton East Ward Alliance held on 10th December 2015; Darton West Ward Alliance held on 16th November 2015 and 11th January 2016; Old Town Ward Alliance held on 2nd December 2015; and St Helen's Ward Alliance held on 7th January 2016.

It was reported that the Christmas lights switch-on in Darton East was a great success despite the bad weather. Thanks were expressed to Lee, Rebecca and John Foster for provision of mince pies. There was some confusion regarding an application to fund a schools project commemorating the Battle of the Somme. The total cost of £7050 was to be met by contributions of £300 from each Ward Alliance, not from one Ward Alliance. This will now be reconsidered.

It was highlighted that a Darton West 'Community Stars' event is to be organised for Friday 4th March. The Darton Afternoon Club has now been launched and continues to be well attended. The launch was attended by Millie Johnson, which was very well received. A local history group has produced a booklet about Kexborough and a lottery bid is being developed to continue local history work in the ward.

The Old Town Ward Alliance structure has changed recently and new representatives are required. The Café Coffee choir has been a great success and plans to continue for another year. They hope to secure funding from the Bishops Fund.

It was reported that the Christmas tree events in St Helens ward were very successful and planning is now underway for the summer gala. Thanks were expressed to Rosie, Lee and Rebecca for their fantastic work and commitment over the year.

RESOLVED that the notes of the respective Ward Alliances be noted.

Chair