

**Darfield Ward Alliance**  
**Notes of meeting held Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021**  
**4:30pm at Billingley Village Hall**

**Present:** Brian Moore, Mike Fenna, Colin Ward, Cllr Kevin Osborne, Cllr Pauline Markham, Cllr Trevor Smith and Matthew Smith

**1. Welcomes and Introductions**

Cllr Markham welcomed everyone to the meeting and commented how good it was to be able to meet in person following 18 months of virtual gatherings.

**2. Apologies**

John Davies

**3. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising**

The notes from the July meeting were approved. There were no matters arising.

**4. Ward Alliance Fund 20221/2022**

There is currently a balance of £14,846 in the Darfield Ward Alliance fund.

Tanya informed the meeting of a change in procedure for the Ward Alliance fund. We now require a copy of a bank statement in the name of the group which evidences the account details which any successful grant is to be paid into. This needs to be provided at the application stage.

**Funding applications for consideration:**

- **Darfield Museum £150, Christmas Tree 2021** – The Alliance agreed that this is a lovely small scale community event which will be very well received this Christmas. It was agreed to fund the full amount.
- **Darfield Cricket Club £1000, Community Fireworks Display** – The Alliance particularly liked how this would act as a focal point for fireworks, detracting from lots of individual events and felt it would be good for the village. It was agreed to fund the full amount as well as offer the support of the local Neighbourhood Engagement Officer re. covid safety
- **Barnsley Leaders Junior Basketball Club £500, Boosting Basketball** – It was positive to hear that the club was receiving record number of enquiries. The Alliance were in full support of the application.

**\*Update\*** – At the time of the meeting it was thought the Club were requesting 50% of the cost and so £250 was approved. Following the meeting it came to light that the Club were in fact requesting the full £500 from the Ward Alliance. This increase received majority support from members via email.

- **Happy Café / Time to Talk** – Tanya informed the Alliance that she is currently working with a local family who are wanting to set up an informal ‘cuppa and a chat’ session where those who are looking to get out of the house can come along, grab a drink and if they want to have a chat. The sessions are hoped to help improve low level mental health. Talks are

underway with Darfield Museum who has kindly agreed to host these sessions on behalf of the family. Details are yet to be finalised however they are looking to approach the Ward Alliance for any start up costs. The Alliance agreed to consider this application ahead of their next scheduled meeting due to the family being keen to start them as soon as possible.

## 5. Ward Alliance Projects

- **Healthy Holidays – Update on Summer Provision.** The bowling session unfortunately had to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances, but the basketball session went ahead as planned. Numbers for this were low however those that did take part enjoyed it.

Barnsley Council will be offering support to families in receipt of free school meals for the October holidays. In terms of Ward Alliance support, it was felt that we needed to rethink the focus of this project and how it can support families who are not being picked up by the Council scheme recognising particularly that Christmas is going to be a tough time for many families.

- **Hanging Baskets Sponsorship Scheme – Next Steps.** The Alliance agreed that they would like to offer mini-Christmas trees as the next sponsorship scheme. The remainder of the money ringfenced for the summer hanging baskets is to be used to purchase the necessary brackets with sponsors covering the cost of the tree, lights, and plaque. **Action: Tanya to start and promote the scheme asap.**

## 6. Community Listening Update

The South Area Team has held 4 Darfield events to speak to people about their thoughts on what support the community needs moving forward. These have run alongside an online survey. The results are yet to be looked at, but common themes so far include activities for young people, the environment and parking. A general discussion took place around these themes and what role can the Alliance play in these. Once the results have been evaluated, they will be brought to a Ward Alliance meeting so that they can be discussed in detail and inform the Alliance's priorities.

In addition to speaking with members of the public, Tanya has also run 2 drop-ins for community groups to find out what support as a group they need. One of the support needs is around increasing numbers and so work is underway to deliver a 'spotlight' campaign to highlight groups looking for new members.

## 7. Darfield Ward Alliance – Revised Priorities

It was agreed that this should be looked at once the results of the Community Listening survey have been evaluated. If timelines allow it was agreed to look at this at the November meeting with a view of consulting on the revised priorities January to March 2022 allowing them to go live from April 2022 onwards.

## 8. Any other business

Tanya updated the Alliance about some new community activity that has come to light including a sit down and talk session aimed at ex-veterans and a Darfield Christmas parade. The Area Team has been in touch with those involved to offer them support and guidance.

## 9. Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November, 4:30pm at Houghton Main Sports Ground. **Action: Colin Ward to book.**