

Dearne Ward Alliance

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTES

Meeting Title:	Dearne North Ward Alliance
Date & Time:	16 th November 2021

Attendees	Apologies
<p>Cllr Alan Gardiner (Chair) – Elected Member Cllr Wendy Cain – Elected member Charlotte Williams – Station House Community Association – (Treasurer) Derek Bramham – Big Local Thurnscoe Jackie Kenning – Salvation Army Peter Shields – Dearne Memorial Group Pauline Phillips – Thurnscoe Flower Park volunteer Glennis Lingard – resident Sue Bellamy – resident Marie Sinclair – Community Development Officer – Dearne Area Team Jenny Yates - Community Development Officer – Dearne Area Team Guest speaker & update from Twiggs by Adam</p>	<p>Cllr Annette Gollick – Elected Member Sue Miller – The Hill Primary School Gillian Totty – Community Engagement Officer, Berneslai Homes Fiona O Brien BMBC Principal Towns Teresa Williams BMBC Principal Towns Darryl Hand – NEO Neighbourhood Engagement Officer – Dearne Area Team</p>

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Cllr Gardiner welcomed everybody to the meeting

2. **Apologies** - See above.

3. **Update from Twiggs**

Adam gave a brief update from Twiggs schedule of works and how the Ward Alliance members could assist in volunteering or highlight any hotspots in their areas.

4. **Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising**

MS thanked WC, GL, PP and CW for all their help at the Autumn Fair on the Embankment. The event was a huge success with between 600 – 800 people attending. All those that had stalls did well and commented on what an excellent and well organised event it was.

5. **Finances – no applications submitted**

Dearne North Ward Alliance – MS

The Shaw Alliance no longer need the money awarded to them as Darryl and Jack now both have other full-time jobs. They have therefore given back the funding awarded to them to be used for other projects in the area. It was commented on how kind this was of them and what a great job their foundation had done for the past 12/18 months.

Thurnscoe East community Notice board on Hanover Street play park has now been installed and updated at a cost of £1380.00 leaving a balance of £3,308.92 to be spent up until 31st March 2022.

Dearne North working funds – CW

Mental Health & Wellbeing - £1500 allocated 2021 so far £1110.55 spent - balance £389.45

Healthy Holidays - £1400 allocated 2019 so far £164.00 spent - balance £1236.00

Community Assets & green space £1500 allocated 2019 so far £740 spent - balance £760.00

As Dearne South Ward Alliance don't have online banking and CW is on leave from 9th Dec it was agreed that DNWA would pay the full invoice for The Toilet company and then invoice DSWA for £42.00 in the New Year.

It was mentioned that Catherine Slingsby who had made the poppies for the Embankment was wanting an industrial stapler to attach poppies onto an artificial grass carpet for next year. It was suggested that Wickes, B&Q or locally Lloyds or Terry's might do one for around £10 - £20. JK suggested that she borrow theirs first to make sure it does the job she wants.

6. Group Updates

6.1 Big Local Thurnscoe (Derek Bramham)

There is a meeting on Thursday morning with Freestyle and the contractors. The build is due to start on Monday 22nd Nov. There has been a slight delay as there has been an issue with the water and drainage. This has meant that it is now not possible for there to be a café on site as it was going to cost £100,000s to install the correct drainage for this. The proposal therefore is for a chemical toilet on site and solar panels to provide electricity for the container. Mobile food units will be able to use the site for events. DB could not understand why Freestyle hadn't foreseen this being an issue.

The Christmas tree and street Christmas lights are being delivered next week with the switch on taking place on Saturday 27th November at 4.00pm.

6.2 Thurnscoe Park (Pauline Phillips)

There was a lovely memorial service in the park on Remembrance Sunday. There are concerns that we might be losing the local Branch of the British Legion.

There has been lots of anti-social behaviour in the park recently.

£200 has been spent on a memorial planter from Markham Grange garden centre.

Every Thursday Twiggs helps with maintenance in the park. The composting of autumn leaves has been the concentration of everybody's work recently.

The group received £2k from the Covid Support Fund. £1.6k has been spent on new tools for the group and some roses are arriving and will be planted late Nov/early Dec.

6.3 Station House (Charlotte Williams)

The playgroup and after school clubs are running as usual. The numbers are increasing, especially at the after-school club, as parents are coming off furlough and finding new jobs, which is good news.

Vicky ran a Uniform Fairy event at the centre which went down well.

There was a Healthy Holidays programme on 3 full days in half term for ages 5 – 11. This was full and there was even a waiting list.

6.4 Salvation Army (Jackie Kenning)

Jackie and Alison are very busy, and they are currently working on the following:

- the Victory Programme has started back up face to face. Two ladies under the age of 21 are coming and they are being taught cooking skills.
- currently offering debt advice to two clients and there is an increase in those wanting budgeting advice. They offer budgeting advice as part of the Victory Programme, but some budgeting training courses would be good. It was suggested that the Rainbow Centre might have capacity to run some training courses and debt advice as they have recently lost the History Group who used to meet there. Rotherham College are also looking at some training courses.
- helping people to put in applications for Community Shop.
- they have found some people are selling on food given out in food parcels. It is predominantly single males so now these are being given the lower value food, so they don't make so much from it and making it less worth their while.
- Supporting families this Christmas, but they are waiting for families to come to them or referrals from other agencies, rather than going out to families themselves. They will be giving out presents on 15th Dec.
- have received funding from BMBC for fuel poverty and funding for white goods for those in crisis. They have helped about 15 families in the last 3 -4 months with white good and furniture. They order these directly and they are delivered and need to be signed for. If families are given the money, they would spend it on other things.
- hoping that their outdoor furniture will arrive next week so that people can sit outside in the garden area if they prefer.
- holding tabletop sales for both men and women in the coming weeks and a jumble sale tomorrow for new or nearly new presents for Christmas and selling cakes for Children in Need and the Salvation Army.
- working with Centre Point to help young people in crisis.

- working with carer support and Darryl to signpost people for help with mental health issues. They have seen an increase in 20–40-year-olds suffering from mental health issues often because of family issues.
- this year saw the biggest harvest donation they have ever received.
- When working with families they are ever mindful of the fact many families don't want others to know they are struggling financially so they are always discreet.
- They are looking at somewhere they can give food out from in Thurnscoe and Bolton-upon-Deerne as some families struggle to get to Goldthorpe. Again, the Rainbow Centre was mentioned, and they would also be room at the Family Centre.
- Finally, instead of giving out Christmas cards this year, how about considering a donation to the Salvation Army.

6.5 Dearne Memorial Group (Peter Shields)

There were 250 plus people at the Remembrance Day Service at the Park and £67.07 was raised for the Poppy Appeal. Peter gave a brief update regarding the issue of cars turning around mid-road near the Astrea school, the Police are aware of this, but little been done to support the dangers of stopping cars doing uturns in the middle of the street. The memorial for the babies in unmarked communal graves in Penistone is going ahead.

7. AOB

Marie reminded the WA members about the new area priorities for 2022 was discussed with members all updated on the completion of the action plan to be worked through in the New Year. Marie will send out individual meeting requests to ensure all WA members have the chance to give their input form their group and also them as an individual.

8. Date & Time of next meeting

Due to the Area Teams capacity, MS asked if the Dearne North WA would like to join with the Dearne South WA for a joint online meeting which will be a Christmas quiz. All agreed so the next meeting will be on Thursday 16th December at 11am on Teams. Marie will be handing our goody bags for all members to take part in a quiz and online fun Christmas celebrations.