



STRONGER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP

Stronger Communities Partnership Board Meeting

Friday 18th February 2022

12:30 – 14:30

Virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams

MINUTES

Members		
Name	Role	Organisation
Councillor Jenny Platts (JP)	Elected Member – Chair	BMBC
Councillor Brenda Eastwood (BE)	Elected Member	BMBC
Phil Hollingsworth (PH)	Service Director – Communities	BMBC – Adults & Communities
Jayne Hellowell (JH)	EHA Lead – Head of Commissioning & Healthier Communities	BMBC – Healthier Communities
Kathy McArdle (KM)	Service Director – Place	BMBC – Place
Julie Chapman (JC)	Service Director – Adult Social Care & Wellbeing	BMBC – People (Adults)
Jamie Wike (JW)	Chief Operating Officer	Barnsley CCG
John Marshall (JM)	Chief Executive	Barnsley CVS
Gill Stansfield (GS)	Community Health Services	SWYT (Operations)
Mike Anthony (MA)	Temp Group Manager	SYFR
Jane Holliday (JHo)	CEO, Age UK Barnsley	Barnsley Age Friendly Communities
Linda Pattison (LP)	Chief Officer, BIADS	Barnsley Dementia Alliance
Niall O'Reilly (NO)	HWBB Provider Forum	SYHA
Shiv Bhurtun (SB)	Strategic Partnership Governance & Transfer Manager	BMBC – Healthier Communities
Claire Hogley (CH)	Business Support Officer – Minutes	BMBC – Healthier Communities
Attendees		
Rachel Payling (RP)	Head of Stronger Communities – Presenting	BMBC – Adults & Communities
Cath Bedford (CB)	Public Health Principal – Presenting	BMBC – Healthier Communities
Jo Ekin (JE)	Senior Commissioning Manager – Presenting	BMBC – Healthier Communities
Anne Asquith (AA)	Senior Commissioning Manager – Presenting	BMBC – Healthier Communities
Chris Crookes	Business Support Officer – Shadowing	BMBC
Rosie Adams	North Area Council Manager – Shadowing	BMBC



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Apologies		
Name	Role / Organisation	Deputy Attending
Jacqui Atkinson	Better Lives, Service Manager for Improvement, Programmes and Assurance, BMBC	N/A
Dave Fullen	Executive Director – Customer & Estate Services, Berneslai Homes	Kat Allott-Stephens
Carrie Abbott	Service Director – Public Health, BMBC – Public Health	Garreth Robinson – Public Health Practitioner
Julie Chapman	Service Director – Adult Social Care & Wellbeing, BMBC	N/A – attended for the first hour

	Action	Responsible
3	RP to share link with KM for Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) refresher training.	Rachel Payling and Kathy McArdle
4.1	CB to circulate Barnsley FLNE Community Champions document.	Cath Bedford
4.2	CB to link with MA on SYFR engagement with equality groups to invite MA to the relevant / appropriate engagement group(s).	Cath Bedford and Mike Anthony
9	JE to discuss with JHo as to the uptake of carers assessments formally undertaken as per the legislative requirements.	Jo Ekin and Jane Holliday

1	Welcome and Introductions – Cllr Platts			
	JP welcomed everyone to the meeting, apologies noted as above.			
2	Minutes and Actions from Previous Meeting – Cllr Platts			
	7	CB to make contact with Emma White to discuss links into the Stride project.	Cath Bedford	Complete.
	10	JH and DF to meet to discuss BMBC's relationship with Homeless Veterans further.	Jayne Hellowell and Dave Fullen	Complete.
3	Community Capacity Building – Rachel Payling			
	RP provided update as per the slides shared: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with volunteers to direct people to the right places for litter picking. • Support to voluntary community sector – allocated funds from COVID resilience fund. • Sustainability and business planning. • Supporting communities to recover from COVID. 			



- Area governance teams achieved significant work with the community in response to COVID pandemic over the last two years.
- Restrictions are easing – Teams reflecting on good work to date and planning the future.
- 10 point plan shared as per slides and RP discussed.

Questions / Discussion

- KM – Engagement to celebrate should be wide. Case study for LGA could be considered. Systematic in planning ahead to support work in ‘Place Directorate’. Training refresh for ‘Place’ directorate would be beneficial.
- PH – Activities during the week of the Queen’s Jubilee are being considered to celebrate the national occasion.

ACTION – RP to share link with KM for Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) refresher training.

4 Customer Engagement – Cath Bedford

A deep dive into new customer engagement model was presented:

- This focuses on people with protected characteristics. A targeted approach to engagement, whilst also working with RP’s team on general engagement.
- CB shared principles of engagement and information of each theme as per slides.
- Model involves: Local focus – equality – diversity – accessibility – collaborating.
- Three broad themes: Disability, Race equality, Other
- Re-establishing communication and being proactive is key.
- Concept is to reduce duplication of partnership arrangements.
- New model helps to establish key links with local providers who work with existing groups.
- Disabilities engagement service provided by Cloverleaf is continuing.
- Race equality work – This is being followed up on from COVID champion work & building on it further.
- Provider network also supporting area engagement.
- Discussed the case study provided in the slides. Positive outcomes from work being done.

ACTION – CB to circulate Barnsley FLNE Community Champions document from Joanna.

Questions / Observations

- KM – How are we resourcing people to be community champions? Tying into ward alliances, area councils, governance structures.
- CB responded – Financial recompense for the champions is important. Discussions will take place around what the future champion role will look like. Also strengthening links with ward alliances etc.
- KM – Assets and strengths-based approach to ensure / highlight positivity around the champions.
- JW – CCG highly involved in vaccination programme. Impact of champions’ work and support made a big difference to the rollout. Not as many challenges for second and third



	<p>doses as people understand the system and are more willing to take part. Really important that to resource the champions appropriately.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MA – Fire Service perspective, SYFR involvement with engagement with equality groups. • CB – Invited MA to the engagement group. <p>ACTION – CB to link with MA on SYFR engagement with equality groups to invite MA to the relevant / appropriate engagement group(s).</p>
5	Supporting our Armed Forces Community – Jayne Hellowell
	<p>JH provided overview of progress for Armed Forces work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Armed Forces Community Hub roll out progressing as planned. • Armed Forces Commemorative Walkway application criteria now extended to allow people with a connection to Barnsley to purchase a commemorative stone. • Armed Forces Day set for 25th June 2022 (ticket link shared via slides). • Statutory Duty Guidance – Armed Forces Act 2021 coming into force July 2022. Large growth area for local authorities and partners. • Next quarter plans shared as per slides. <p><u>Issues / Challenges</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BMBC supporting Armed Forces Day due to lack of resources within the Veterans Tri-Services CIC – building relationship with the CIC as a result. • Updated statutory duties involve a significant role in coordinating the delivery with no additional resource. The Statutory Guidance will be published in late 2022. Notifications will go out to Chief Executives. <p><u>Questions / Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JP queried Hub location. JH informed that it is a physical building on Prospect Street – community centre. This also offers the opportunities to lease out the space within it and indeed operate broader activities from it. • KM queried ownership of the building and the involvement of Berneslai Homes. • JH informed that BMBC do own the building under the HRA (Housing Revenue Account) and Berneslai Homes are managing the building. • KM suggested integration into the wider Town Centre Action Plan.
6	Financial Resilience – Jayne Hellowell
	<p>JH provided an overview of progress as per the slides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administering the household support grant. • Managing allocation of vouchers under the food agenda responsibilities for Healthier Communities. • Focussing on the idea of a hand up, not a handout.



- Approx. 3.2 m total spend committed to date – slides are slightly behind as figures constantly change.
- Welfare advice service to be commissioned.
- Gaps for services for white goods and furniture are noted.
- Household support grant will continue to be administered.
- Longer term plans to be assessed.
- Outcome of Cabinet action on welfare review.
- Gaps being met.

Questions / Discussion

- PH – Credit to JH and the team for making sure the funding is allocated quickly and goes out to those who need it.
- PH – Cost of living crisis being discussed and long-term plans on council agenda.
- JP recognised the excellent work done.
- JH to pass on well done message to the team.

7 Digital Inclusion – Jayne Hellowell

JH provided an update as per the slides.

Overview of progress

- Assessing communities' capabilities to become digitally inclusive.
- Unknown as to the level of digital exclusion in the community. Not just about resources, whether someone has the equipment, do they have the financial ability, skills and desire to be digitally inclusive.
- Working alongside South Yorkshire Combined Authority.
- Working with KM and RP to raise this item in other areas.
- Need an evidence base to assess where the focus should be.
- Looking at best practice elsewhere – Liverpool has some useful criteria for what a person needs to be digital inclusive, especially skill set needed to be more efficient.

Questions / Discussion

- KM – Challenges in adopting a strategy / approach that works for everyone. Everyone is at different skill level or wants to know / learn different things. Set of competencies that can be used and applied in the digital world. Chief digital officer for the borough could be an option. Working with lots of different areas to embed digital skills and work with digital hubs to create bespoke training. Innovative models needed. Loads of free training online that can be utilised.
- JH thanked KM for her support on this agenda. Expressed that the digital inclusion steering group has great links and a strong membership.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JH and KM agreed that the item needs to be included in higher boards / agenda to tackle at a high level. E.g. Barnsley 2030 Board.
8	Wellbeing Support – Cath Bedford
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CB provided an overview of progress as per the slides on BPL Adult Weight Management Programme – more referrals and improved mental wellbeing. CB to share case studies, if members would wish to see them. Focussing on uptake in minority groups’ involvement, including BAME, and those at higher risk of health problems. BOPPAA – falls prevention agenda to promote strength and balance activities. Joining up various elements / related areas. Longer term commissioning and procurement. <p><u>Challenges</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finding more ways to improve engagement and retention, building engagement with minority communities. Short term funding and tight deadlines. To combat these challenges, there is strong council support on engagement, especially on weight management. <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JW – Raised the importance of this type of work. Health service have a huge ask to tackle long waiting lists and wellbeing support provides support whilst people are awaiting health treatment. CB – Wellbeing coaches have strong links with healthcare services.
9	Support to Carers – Jo Ekin
	<p>JE provided a brief update on the progress of the carers strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation sessions – gathering views to influence refresh of strategy. Steering group collated the responses / feedback and will issue the proposed priorities. Refreshed strategy will go through the appropriate governance arrangements and then to cabinet May 2022. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care closer to home board linking to health & social care and voluntary organisations. Next step to establish key deliverables to measure progress and ensure priorities reached. SWOT analysis of priorities from organisational perspective. <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JW – links with carers and the people who they care for. Carers may also need links to other areas arising out of their situation. Working through this with the health service, GP’s to support carers, providing full range of support.



- JHo – Assessments for carers needs to be worked on. Carers assessments are not being formally undertaken as per the legislative requirements.
- JE has discussed with JHo outside of the meeting around the approach to carers including assessments. More needs to be done regarding uptake.
- **ACTION – JE to discuss with JHo as to the uptake of carers assessments formally undertaken as per the legislative requirements.**
- GR – Strategy – suggested linking with MECC (making every contact count). Suggested linking with Carrie Abbott for public health interventions.
- JE has discussed with Emma White and others in Public Health.
- JP – Funding available – COVID funding for carers to support them in their caring roles.
- JE – Links to Making Space to direct carers to access a grant payment for funding support.

10 Good Food Barnsley – Anne Asquith

AA provided an overview as per slides:

- Successful Healthy Holidays campaign over Christmas.
- Food HAF programme being extended for the next few years.
- Only allowed to use this funding over Christmas, Easter and summer holidays, no funding for half term holidays.
- Storehouse and Field project ongoing – first site identified and progressing.
- Development worker has been recruited.
- Members club for engagement in support. Ability to provide fresh produce as well as dried and tinned food.
- Linked closely with Fair Share.

Future Plans

HAF 2022

- Developing more staff and IT resources to ensure longer term, more sustainable delivery.
- Poor uptake amongst secondary school children – grant conditions don't currently engage teenagers – offer being reviewed to lend itself for better engagement and inclusion.
- Going back out to tender in the summer to refresh and revise the offer for HAF.
- Set up a framework so new providers can join at any time.
- Regular revision of the offer.

Storehouse and Field

- Developing food clubs.
- Identifying additional sites.

Issues

- Cost of living increases – difference between being able to manage and not manage.

Discussion



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JP expressed that the Storehouse and Field model development seems to be the way forward. Other food pantries and community shops elsewhere such as Shafton and Worsborough etc. • BE – Important to educate parents and children on how cheap and easy fresh healthy food can be, for example, making chicken nuggets from scratch, homemade pizza with fresh vegetables. Building knowledge of different foods, fruit and vegetables. • JH – much wider good work in area councils for good cooking and eating as part of the good food agenda. Webpage being created to direct people to those local services.
<p>11</p>	<p>Barnsley Age Friendly Communities – Jane Holliday</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing more seats around Barnsley to allow older people to take a break whilst out and about, to enable them to get involved. • Creating many more inter-generational activities to provide a wide range of things for older people to get involved with and feel included. • Digital inclusion – perception from older people seems to be that they are reluctant to get online as they are scared of getting scammed. • A local high school is working with Age UK Barnsley to bring older people into the classroom to help teach them how to get online. • Smart Solar – Age UK Barnsley working alongside Berneslai Homes to provide low-cost electricity to households. <p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Price rises – cost of energy – cold homes and excess winter debt – expecting people to come forward through advice services in the next few months. • Community transport challenges is impacting social isolation.
<p>12</p>	<p>Dementia Friendly and Early Support – Linda Pattison</p>
	<p>LP provided update as per the slides on the Third Sector Dementia Alliance work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation exercise taking place to ensure people’s needs are being met. • Dementia guide is being created, which refers to information for people with dementia from pre-diagnosis through to end-of-life care. • Promotional work for the Alliance – building accessibility, raising awareness. • Establishing more support in the Dearne area. <p>Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources and time. <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JH – recognised the Alliance’s hard work and thanked LP for the partnership work on dementia and prevention.



13	All Age Early Help Strategy – Shiv Bhurtun
	<p>PH – Refreshing strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wendy Lowder and Mel John-Ross have reflected that they are considering forming separate strategies, one for children and one for adults, and reflecting the need to draw more information into the Better Lives work.• Further guidance will be provided.
14	Any Other Business – All
	<p>No other items were raised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PH reflected that this is the second time SCP has used this format. Welcomed feedback.• Feedback from the group demonstrated that this format works really well and is very accessible and well presented.
	Future Meetings
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thursday 19th May 1 – 3pm, Teams• Monday 5th September 10am – 12pm, Teams• Tuesday 22nd November 1 – 3pm, Teams