

DODWORTH WARD ALLIANCE

MEETING NOTES

Meeting Title:	Dodworth Ward Alliance Meeting
Date & Time:	Tuesday 18th August 2020 @ 6pm
Location:	Held Via Teams Meeting

Attendees	Apologies
Councillor Phillip Birkinshaw (Chair) Councillor Neil Wright Councillor Peter Fielding Charlotte Moulds – Community Development Officer (CM) Lisa Phelan – Central Area Manager (LP) Lisa Kenny – Dodworth Village Community Group (LK) Notes Richard Riggs – Higham Resident (RR) Ben Scrivens – Dodworth St Johns Church (BS) Malcolm Howarth – Chair of Crime and Safety Partnership and Higham Resident (MH) Fiona O’Brien – Principal Towns Officer (FO) Teresa Williams – Principal Towns Officer (TW)	Rachel Collier – Dodworth Resident (RC) David Lock – Dodworth Business Owner (DL) Charlotte Hollingsworth – Dodworth Resident (CH) Michelle Robertson – Dodworth Resident (MR) Janet Turton – Gilroyd Business Owner and Gilroyd Community Group (JT)

1. Welcome and Introductions		Action/Decision	Action lead
	<p>Councillor Birkinshaw welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>Lisa Phelan (LP) introduced herself as the newly appointed Area Council Manager for the Central Ward. She will be job sharing the role along with Sarah Blunkett. Sarah was unfortunately unable to attend tonight's meeting.</p> <p>Fiona Obrien (FO) and Teresa Williams (TW) introduced themselves as the Principal Towns Officers who were in attendance to give the ward alliance an update on the principal towns project for the Dodworth Ward.</p> <p>For the benefit of Lisa, Fiona and Teresa, Councillor Birkinshaw asked the ward alliance members to individually introduce themselves.</p>		
2. Apologies for Absence		Action/Decision	Action lead
	As detailed on page 1.		
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting		Action/Decision	Action lead
	<p>Minutes of the last meeting held 3rd March 2020 were circulated previously by email.</p> <p>There were no ongoing matters arising to discuss from these minutes, so haven't been included on the agenda for discussion on this occasion.</p>		

4. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non Pecuniary Interest		Action/Decision	Action lead
	No pecuniary interests were declared.		

5. Principal Towns Presentation	Action/Decision	Action lead
<p>FO and TW gave an update to the ward alliance in respect of the Principal Towns Library Frontage Project.</p> <p>FO showed the original Arcadis plan and also presented the latest plan as developed and drawn up by the Councils Highway Design Team. The Arcadis plan has still been used as the basic premise, however, due to the limited budgets for such schemes, the project has had to be revised to something which is both achievable and realistic and in line with funding available.</p> <p>Highways had highlighted issues with the different levels of the site and the current brick built planters which currently also act as a retaining feature. To remove the existing planters would then mean considerable works in order to address the resulting different ground levels across the site as well as retaining works which may still be required.</p> <p>Some ward alliance members expressed some disappointment that the proposed scheme didn't reflect the original Arcadis plans and seemed to have been scaled back. Councillor Burkinshaw stated that although the project had seen changes it still overall reflected the ideas and requirements from the ward alliances initial concept.</p> <p>LK asked if it was possible for the coping stones at the back of the current bench area could also be replaced to match the new stones proposed for the top of the planters so it was consistent throughout. LK also stated the community group had funding and still wished to place a war memorial bench at the library frontage; in place of the current old bench was the original intention.</p> <p>FO stated that the scheme was not yet fully set in stone, however there was now an urgency to get things finalised, and that minor changes may be incorporated if appropriate. FO stated both hers and TW contacts details would be included in the minutes for any further comments to be sent.</p>	<p>FO</p>	

	<p>Emails addresses for FO and TW as below:-</p> <p>fionaObrien@barnsley.gov.uk</p> <p>teresawilliams@barnsley.gov.uk</p>		
6. Central Area Healthy Holidays		Action/Decision	Action lead
	<p>CM gave an update on the Central Area Healthy Holidays initiative which has been held during the summer school holiday period.</p> <p>Because of the ongoing restrictions in response to Covid-19, the usual events and activities held in the school holidays have not been possible. Therefore, this year instead of the packed lunches, the project has been providing families with 2 meals per week. The meals have been healthy, tasty, easy and fun for families to cook together at home.</p> <p>The initiative has been to show the importance of learning how to cook highlighting it is a life skill, and one that all children and adults should learn.</p> <p>Each week the programme has provided all the raw ingredients for 2 meals with accompanying recipe cards and full cooking instructions. Also a live streamed cooking demonstration for one of the recipes has been carried out on the central area teams facebook page every Wednesday.</p> <p>Collection is every Tuesday from Hope House Church, Blucher Street, Barnsley and Worsbrough Community Church. CM reported that families from Dodworth ward have had opportunity to be referred to the scheme, although no such referrals have been received.</p> <p>Councillor Fielding also highlighted another initiative being run to also help with family food budgets this summer.</p> <p>This initiative aimed at all families receiving benefits including child benefit, can claim £15 of free food per week over the school holidays from the Company Shop or Community Shop thanks to a donation by Nestle. Councillor Fielding stated this was not just for families getting free school meals and that you don't have to have a members card for the Company Shop to spend the vouchers there. If you have 3 children you can claim £45 of food shopping per week until the children return to school after the summer holidays.</p>		

	Councillor Fielding asked the ward alliance members to share this information within their networks widely so as many families in our community as possible can benefit from this generous scheme.	ALL	
7. Community Responder Scheme		Action/Decision	Action lead
	<p>CM gave an update on the Community Responder Scheme. The scheme was set up in response to the Covid 19 Pandemic by Barnsley Council where BMBC employees, Barnsley CVS, Berneslai Homes and volunteer members of the public have come together to work in partnership to provide help and support to residents in our communities through the coronavirus emergency.</p> <p>These community responders have been helping those who need extra support with emergency food parcels, collecting medication, help with shopping and phone calls to make sure that people don't get lonely.</p> <p>In the dodworth ward there were 8 volunteers. A total of 15 referral requests were received; 11 for shopping, 4 for telephone/befriending support and 1 requiring both services. The scheme is still running although demand has now dropped somewhat. CM reported there had been no new referrals recently from the Dodworth Ward. CM reported that some cases of residents with mental health issues which had arisen during the height of the crisis were also able to receive the support they required through the sheme.</p> <p>In addition to this the Dodworth Ward saw other volunteers providing support to the more vulnerable residents of our ward. In particular the Honest Dodworth Help A Neighbour Scheme co-ordinated by Natalie at Paynes Shoe Shop saw a good number of residents volunteering to help out. Providing shopping services and also collection of medications by working in partnership with Cohens Chemist the initiative provided a great support mechanism to the dodworth community. A similar smaller service was also seen in other parts of the ward including Higham.</p>		

8. Happy to Chat Benches Update	Action/Decision	Action lead
<p>CM reported that this project, previously agreed by the ward alliance, was all set to be rolled out. Bench plaques had now been purchased and were ready to be installed on the identified benches. However, in line with Covid 19 and respective guidelines, installation of the plaques is unable to be carried out at this time.</p> <p>CM also reported that the new Community Notice Boards previously agreed by the Ward Alliance had all now installed at the identified site locations.</p>		
9. WAF Budget	Action/Decision	Action lead
<p><u>Budget</u></p> <p>CM detailed the latest Dodworth Ward Alliance budget situation as follows:-</p> <p>Current Balance: £19,661.69</p> <p>Engagement Pot: £666.91</p> <p>Environment Pot: £561.26</p> <p>Incredible Edible: £695.00</p> <p>Councillor Birkinshaw said further clarification of what funds would be allowed to be carried over after March 2021 was still unknown and further clarification was needed asap.</p> <p><u>WAF Applications Received</u></p> <p>No applications have currently been received for consideration.</p> <p><u>WAF Applications in the Pipeline</u></p> <p>There are no known applications in the pipeline, however, CM reported that currently any new ward alliance funding applications received must now be covid-19 related projects. This means for example the projects should improve wellbeing issues, fitness, healthy living projects, keeping body and minds active.</p>		

	<p><u>Central Area Resilience Fund</u></p> <p>CM stated she would circulate additional information in respect of the above initiative which has been set up. She will also include the necessary application form which contains 12 questions to answer if a group wishes to apply.</p> <p>Such applications could be in relation to missed fundraising opportunities that would have been held but due to covid-19 have had to be cancelled. This could be summer fetes, galas, street parties, raffles etc or the inability to trade or hold other events. Loss of income from cancelled subscriptions or rent of community buildings could also be considered. Estimates of how much funds such events etc would have normally raised would need to be detailed. The funding however is not for organisations who are financially viable but for those who now find themselves in a precarious financial position. Groups would need to be really clear that the money will be spent to addresses issues that has arose due covid-19.</p> <p><u>Covid-19 Ward Alliance Recovery Plan</u></p> <p>CM circulated the above document for perusal.</p> <p>This recovery plan is intended to show the steps we will take to allow business to continue and how Ward Alliances will be able to operate over the coming months supporting their respective communities.</p> <p>Whilst this plan is being issued to illustrate and inform our direction of travel, it will be necessary to keep this fluid and under review. We will only progress through each step when the government guidance and local data tells us that it is safe to do so.</p>	CM	
10. Upcoming Dates/Events		Action/Decision	Action lead
	There currently no up and coming events to report.		
11. Any Other Business.		Action/Decision	Action lead
	Councillor Birkinshaw expressed his thanks to Richard Riggs for his contribution to the Ward Alliance and for his work in our community. Richard will be leaving us and moving away from the Barnsley area for work purposes. The Ward Alliance wished Richard well for		

	<p>the future and every success in his new job.</p> <p>Councillor Birkinshaw stated he had been asked to provide details of any locations which needed attention in terms of weed killing on the highway/footway. Highways would be carrying out such work and were compiling a programme of works of the worst 50 roads. Councillor Birkinshaw asked ward alliance member to email him any locations they felt were in need of attention and he would collate and forward onto highways.</p> <p>Councillor Birkinshaw reported that, Darren Dickinson a resident of Higham and former member of the ward alliance may be interested in rejoining the ward alliance. Darren resigned due to a change in working circumstances a few years ago, but his situation has now changed and he may be interested in applying to be a member. Darren was a dedicated and active member previously and Councillor Birkinshaw thought he would be a good asset to ward alliance and its work.</p> <p>Councillor Fielding reported that he had recently been in discussion with members of staff at Sanctuary Supported Living based at the former Council Offices building on Dodworth High Street. He stated they may be interested in sitting on the ward alliance and that an application may be received from them as they were keen to explore how they could better integrate into the community. The organisation has experienced some problems with some of its residents over the years and consequently received some negative comments and publicity and were keen to rectify this.</p> <p>Several Ward Alliance Members expressed some concerns about receiving such an application and stated that any application should ensure it fulfills the criteria of what is required to become a member. CM stated she would approach them and brief them on the fundamental purpose of the ward alliance and the role of being a member.</p>		
	12. Date and Time of Next Meeting.		
	Tuesday 22 nd September 2020 at 6.00 pm		