

Dearne Ward Alliance

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTES

Meeting Title:	Dearne North Ward Alliance
Date & Time:	17 th September 2020, 11:00 AM

Attendees	Apologies
Cllr Alan Gardiner, Cllr Pauline Phillips, Jackie Kenning, Charlotte Williams, Peter Shields, Derek Bramham	Cllr Annette Gollick, David Jane, Wendy Cain

1. Welcomes & introductions.

2. No Minutes of last meeting in June as it was a catch up and meeting the new members meeting.

3. Area Council update

Cllr Noble had previously given information to the Dearne South Ward Alliance in which wanted to pass onto the Dearne North Ward Alliance members – she gave an update about the current covid situation and highlighted that to no surprise there was a spike at the end of July/August in the Wombwell area of Barnsley, there is a testing station at county way in which anyone showing signs or symptoms can easily now get a testing by going online and booking one. She also stated that the NHS track & trace app is available, and everyone is encouraged to download it, however she did state we all need to be more vigilant and responsible in following the local governments recommended guidelines on wearing masks, washing hands and keeping a safe space.

Cllr Noble wanted to say a BIG thank you to all the local volunteers who have been working tirelessly throughout the pandemic helping all the vulnerable and shielding individuals and families in the Dearne area, she was immensely proud of each and everyone, she went on to thank individuals that had assisted the area team and BMBC with the making of the face masks, delivery of them to also to both Big Locals who have been handing our food hampers and financial COVID19 relief funds to the local community groups too. She also thanked Befriend, Station House, Project 14, Dearne & District FC and the community responders she stated the list could go on but thank you to everyone who has helped in this difficult period.

4. Finance update & Funding application

Marie gave an update on the balance in the bank for the Dearne North Ward Alliance on committed spend 2020/21

- £1,412.48 – The school uniform project (postponed due to social distancing)
- £4,500- Healthy holidays for both Dearne North & Dearne South 2020/2021
- £1,500 – Thurnscoe Library for afterschool and holiday activities for 2020/2021

Due to the COVID19 monies been re-credited back to the Alliance as part of Barnsley Councils response to COVID19 and supporting the local community the current balance with Dearne South Ward Alliance for projects/initiatives against the area criteria - £10,257.12

2 applications had been submitted –

Application 1 – DEFIB at Goldthorpe Library in which was £500.00 + installation/electrics and new pads estimated up to £1500 which would be split with Dearne North if approved. – After a very brief discussion all agreed to fund the DEFIB and Marie would let everyone know the final costings once assets/FM had given their final quote on the works on the exterior wall to Goldthorpe Library. – **unanimous YES**

Application number 2 – Big Local Thurnscoe Community Plaza garden space for all £5000.00 match funded against many other funding streams Sport England, DDF. Big Local Thurnscoe will invest themselves too. (All members of the Big Local Thurnscoe declared an interest and left their virtual room space) after a brief discussion on the application and what benefits it would add to the community and the legacy once BLT have dispensed the group agreed to fund this application (Marie to send out to all other members who are not present at the meeting today) – **unanimous YES**

Dearne North Ward Alliance members were reminded that due to COVID19 and the restrictions of running group activities in 2020 would it be at all necessary to use their half of the monies for remaining online/virtual Healthy Holidays projects and CF any monies remaining to next financial year when hopefully things may get back to normality. – All agreed to carry any monies remaining over to 2021.

Thurnscoe library have also requested to carry the monies (£1500.00) forward as due to COVID19 no children can go in for any sessions apart from picking up / dropping off books. **All agreed this would be ok.**

5. Potential future projects

Marie gave an insight into future potential projects for the school holidays starting with the half term holidays which are approaching in end October, the Dearne area team still have £2200 left over from the Healthy Holidays programme 2020 throughout the 6 weeks holidays in which fruit & veg boxes were given out to our families that needed it the most. She asked if the Ward Alliance would like to run a further one with the remaining monies for half term starting 26th October 2020 and the ward alliance are giving out free pumpkin veg boxes to families in need. Families can learn from an online tuition from Tuesday 27th Soup & Stew making, weds 28th Fruit kebabs/apples & finally Thursday 29th pumpkin carving in which all the children will receive half term activity packs – Marie asked for any more ideas, all members stated this was a great idea to try FB live. **All in favor to this suggestion.**

Marie had another potential project that Cllr Noble had asked for in Dearne South at yesterday's meeting that maybe the Dearne North Ward Alliance members could do this winter too; was volunteers from the Ward Alliance taking out individual care packages to the residents who reside in residential homes and cannot access the outdoors. Brief conversation took place in which several members stated it would be ideal for these to have a nice hamper or winter warmth packs if they are solely isolated. A further discussion took place on maybe funding residential homes with jigsaw/puzzles/games/magazines/books or asking the homes if they would like some inside activities/booklets for their residents over winter to enjoy whilst they are housebound. **Deferred until next meeting**

A suggestion came up around Christmas trees in the shopping area of Goldthorpe as Thurnscoe have already committed to this via donations and Big Local Thurnscoe Goldthorpe was the only shopping centre that would require Christmas trees above the shops as in previous years Goldthorpe Town Centre Group have always done this self-sustained through the shops each contributing £20 to have their own tree up and decorated by the local volunteers, as with most things COVID19 does not allow large groups to gather and this has now put a stop to the decorating in the one day they used to with 30 volunteers on hand. So the idea was to see if the group would like a donation from both Ward alliances to help cover the costs of the trees for Christmas 2020– all agreed this would be a great idea, regeneration of the shops and highlighting the lovely businesses we have around the Dearne imparticular. Marie to speak to Dearne North & GTT group to highlight more and submit WA application if agreed by all members after the meeting. **All in favor to this suggestion.**

Bulky rubbish - Marie informed the group that the Bulky rubbish current balance is at £900 and asked them to review in a few months as to whether they wanted to repeat the application for 2020/21. **Deferred until next meeting**

Marie stated there had been an idea from a Dearne South ward alliance member who wasn't present at the meeting yesterday but her suggestion for a future project was a Santa sleigh to go around the roads of Bolton on Dearne, Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe. This would give the kids a boost and make them happy. Albeit practicalities may be the issue on this one. Marie asked if anyone knew of any sleighs if they could source any information and come back at the next meeting. **Deferred until next meeting**

A discussion around Winter warmth packs being on the list of projects this year and potentially going out to any older persons that have been referred through groups/nurses, individuals or any agencies that know of any older person who are isolated over the winter months – when asked what they would consist of maybe a bit like Christmas hampers with health products but also items to eat too. **All in favor to this suggestion.**

6. Group updates:

Salvation Army

Alison has stated that the churches together meeting was today and as they usually do an activity in the half term holidays, they cannot do this this time so they are putting together family boxes on Wednesday the 28th of October and giving them out for family's they will include craft packs and some lunch. This will be at Goldthorpe Pentecostal church and Thurnscoe church. They are planning to box about 100 boxes for families, families will have to book in to receive a box.

The salvation army will also be giving out advent boxes nearer to Christmas.

The salvation army is open from Monday to Friday, there has been an increase with the amount of homeless people coming into the church. Alison mentions they have been paying for clothes, accommodation and food and some of the places Barnsley council are putting them aren't suitable like placing them somewhere that has a bar but no kitchen it isn't ideal at all. Cllr noble responds the council are out talking to people trying to help the homeless but some of them don't want any help.

Alison Sykes says that fair share has been amazing and are providing a lot of food.

Fly tipping has been a big problem at the salvation army with people dumping their rubbish outside the grounds – Marie informed Alison to refer any into the safer neighborhood team email address. Cllr Noble mentions it's not just in our area it is a UK wide problem, no matter what we provide it's a nightmare of a problem. The brick ponds near the doctors in Goldthorpe is still an ongoing problem

Big Local Thurnscoe

BLT have had 9 applications so far for the Thurnscoe Enterprise Fund, the fund was set up to give grants up to £500 to help people in Thurnscoe who have set up a new business or are having problems during the Covid19 to cover costs in their business. The Plaza continues to make slow progress, 2 surveys have now been completed and the results along with the designs sent to Assets ready for approval at the next cabinet meeting. BLT are looking at doing something different for Christmas as we can't go ahead with an event.

Station House Community Association

Station House was delighted to open during the summer holiday to enable working parents to return to work. Number were very reduced compared to normal, but additional funding was found to make up the difference. 15 children from 12 different families attended over the 6 weeks, the feedback from working parents was that without our service they would not have returned to work, and they also appreciated the importance of play and comradeship that their children had access too. For 4 Mondays we hosted a Holiday Hamper project, 96 families received a food/activity hamper. This was a joint project with Fare share, Thurnscoe Big Local, The Hill academy, Public health Healthy holidays and work alongside the Daren Area Team fruit box project.

September: Playgroup and Afterschool club has restarted and both sessions are as full as we are allowed to be.

The staff all received extra uniform thanks to funding from Area team and would like to pass their thanks on for this ☺

Thurnscoe Park

Pauline stated a few issues around the anti-social behavior but as the dark nights are drawing in this may help with the lowering of kids coming out in the dark. The events have all been postponed now until further notice. Volunteers are still helping on Weds (weather permitting)

Dearne Memorial Group

The updates for the Barnsley Cemeteries and Cremations up to 2019 have now been put on the Old Website and the New one, at the moment the maps for burial locations, these are the detailed grave location with grave numbers are being put on the new site, things are a bit slow due to social distancing of staff.

We do not have meetings due to all our members being in the vulnerable area, but I contact them by other means, The Baby section is being maintained by Eric Cooper who is working to the Covid rules. Otherwise all is well.

7. AOB

Vicky Cuming is sadly resigning as secretary from the ward alliance, a member from the ward alliance will take her place or maybe you will each take a turn at doing the minutes and the agenda.

8. Date and time of the next meeting

Thursday 15th October 2020, 14:00pm