

Dearne Ward Alliance

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTES

Meeting Title:	Dearne North Ward Alliance
Date & Time:	3 rd of December 2020

Attendees	Apologies
Cllr Alan Gardiner, Cllr Pauline Phillips, Charlotte Williams, Peter Shields, Derek Bramham, Cllr Annette Gollick, Wendy Cain, Craig Aubrey, Jenny Yates and Claire Dawson	Marie Sinclair, Jackie Kenning, Alison Sykes

1. Welcomes & introductions.

2. This was a pre Christmas catch up meeting, no minutes or finances were discussed

3. New staff

Jennifer Yates and Craig Aubrey were introduced to the meeting. Craig is the new Neighbourhood engagement officer for the Dearne. His work will primarily be around COVID working with residents, groups, schools and local businesses. If anyone from this meeting would like any assistance or have queries from the wider community, Craig will happily assist in those. CraigAubrey@barnsley.gov.uk

Jenny will be in post from the 14th of December on a part time basis. Jenny will be the community development officer for the Dearne and will work along side Marie. Her workplan is yet to be completed but when it is finalised she will attend the Ward Alliances again to discuss her future projects. JenniferYates@barnsley.gov.uk

4. Amy Calvert – Fareshare Barnsley

AC attending the meeting to share some of the progress with regards the Good Food Partnership. She spoke about all the great work which is currently being undertaken in the Barnsley area in order to ensure that young family's do not go hungry throughout the holidays. She also spoke about the food mapping exercise, which is currently in development, AC will share this with the ward alliance in order to see if there are any addition to the document. AC also acknowledged the great work of Area Councils and Ward Alliances across the Borough in targeting those most at need.

5. Quiz

All members of the Ward Alliance took part in a quiz which Craig had put together for the group. Peter Shields was the WINNER

6. Group Update

Derek Bramham- gave an update regarding Big Local and the work they are doing over the festive period. They have a Santa fly pass arranged which had to be cancelled due to poor visibility last week so hopefully this will commence on the 6th of December. The tree is now in place and Thurnscoe looks very festive with all of the lights in place

Peter Shields- updated the group with regards the Memorial Day event. Although not the same as in previous years it was still a fantastic event.

Charlotte Williams- There is a noticeable difference in the children wellbeing since reopening. They are more likely to be edgy, a bit more tearful and generally not as confident. The youngest children in Playgroup have had a noticeable decline in their skills, both children and their parents need lots of additional support.

One issue that working parents are facing is that if the child is sent home from school for 2 weeks to self-isolate they are not automatically entitled to any money. They can't claim sick pay and most employers do not pay for carers time off. This has a huge impact on family income. We are directing them to discretionary grants (BMBC) but the feedback is that it has not been quick or positive. Christmas parties are a much quieter affair than in previous years: even Santa is doing a video message for the children

7. AOB

Cllr Gardiner discussed the care leavers Christmas project which they had contributed to in previous year. Although they could not come together as they have previously Cllr Gardiner expressed how he would still like to contribute towards their festivities. After the meeting CD contacted the Head of Service and Cllr Caroline Saunders as been leading on this initiative, they have been successful in gaining some COVID resilience funding to assist with their plans for this year.

8. Date and time of the next meeting

TBC