

**Darfield Ward Alliance**  
**Minutes of meeting held Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021, Microsoft Teams**

**Present:** John Davies, Cllr Pauline Markham, Cllr Trevor Smith and Mike Fenna

**In attendance:** Tanya Dickinson, Community Development Officer

**Apologies:** Cllr Caroline Saunders and Barbara Tindle.

**Apologies with matters discussed by phone:** Apologies recorded for Brian Moore, Margaret Barlow and Colin Ward who are unable to access Microsoft Teams. Members consulted via telephone prior to the meeting to allow them to have an input and to meet quoracy for decision making.

### **1. Welcomes and Introductions**

Cllr Markham welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **2. Previous minutes of meeting and matters arising.**

The previous minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.

#### Matters Arising:

- **WAF Applications – Greenspace Volunteers.** Tanya informed the WA that she had been notified that not all members of the group were aware that this application was being submitted. It has been explained that there was no intelligence to suggest that this was the case at the time, hence the application was considered and approved. The group members have discussed the matter between themselves and so hopefully moving forward this issue won't arise again however, the Alliance to remain mindful of the incident when considering future applications from the group to avoid any ill feeling.
- **Principal Towns** – Following some public consultation the preferred design option for the Ring was to have wildflowers. Talks are to take place with the South Area Tidy Team to look at arrangements for this. This design option has freed up some funding to explore 3 live CCTV cameras for the village to help combat some of the antisocial behaviour taking place by the Library and at the top of Snape Hill.

### **3. Ward Alliance Funding**

The current balance of Ward Alliance funding stands at £8,966

#### Funding Applications:

**Friends of Darfield Churchyard - £860.** Due to the group not being able to fundraise throughout 2020 they are asking for financial help with their annual insurance premium, servicing of equipment and to repair a footpath. The Ward Alliance agreed to support this application in full.

This application sparked a conversation around how many groups will have financially suffered due to Covid 19. It was agreed that the Ward Alliance Fund be promoted around the Community Network to remind groups that funding is available to support them. **Action: Tanya**

**DWA Community Defibrillator** – In principle agreement to fund a maximum of **£2000** towards this project. Tanya has managed to speak to both Thornhill House and Smartdoor Solutions – both are on board for the Ward Alliance to pursue this as they haven't been able to progress any fund raising

as planned due to Covid. Smartdoor Solutions has very kindly agreed to contribute £500 towards the costs and Darfield Library has agreed to both house it on their external front wall and act as guardians. Tanya is awaiting a quote from Facilities Management before the funding application can be finalised. The Ward Alliance were happy to agree this amount as a maximum.

A discussion took place around the proposed location of the defibrillator and whether it would be better situated on a building where someone is available 24hrs a day to take responsibility for it. Tanya will seek clarification on this with the Yorkshire Ambulance Trust, but her understanding is that it isn't a requirement. **Action: Tanya**

**Thornhill House - £500.** An application has been received asking for funding to purchase flowers, planters and other garden items. More detail is needed on the application form before a firm decision can be made. The Alliance agreed to consider the application ahead of the next meeting via email / post once more detail had been added to allow for the suggested timescale of the project. **Action: Tanya to liaise with Thornhill**

#### **4. Ward Alliance Projects**

**Healthy Holidays** – 60 targeted family support packs were issued to families via Berneslai Homes, Darfield Family Centre and primary schools ahead of Christmas. These packs included information and advice, a £15 shopping voucher along with festive crafts for the children. General activity packs were also offered via collection points just before Christmas. Unfortunately take up of these wasn't as good as we would like with just over half of the packs being issued. Thank you to both John and Mike for helping with making up and distributing the packs. Berneslai Homes was also thanked for contributing £300 towards this provision.

Ideas for February were discussed along with how we continue to work towards reaching the right families. Tanya to price up and cost the provision of a slow cooker or soup maker with ingredients for families and continue to build on relationships built with organisations to ensure these are issued to those who most need them. **Action: Tanya**

**Winter Wellbeing Packs** – These are now with Tracy who is the Age UK Social Inclusion Worker for Darfield. Several packs were issued prior to Christmas – thank you to both John and Colin for helping to deliver these. The rest are being stored with Age UK Barnsley for distributing to new service users over the coming months living in the Darfield ward.

**Hanging Baskets** – An initial meeting has taken place with a small working group. Looking at focussing on clusters of businesses and exploring possible sponsorship as a way forward. Cllr Smith has a meeting with the provider on Monday to look at options re. brackets.

**Covid 19 support Packs** - This is a piece of work still to be started. It is hoped that progress will have been made on this prior to the next meeting. **Action: Tanya**

#### **5. Any other business**

None.

#### **6. Date and time of next meeting**

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> march, 4pm via Teams and telephone.**