

**At a Meeting of the COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE held at DUBMIRE  
PRIMARY SCHOOL, Houghton-le-Spring on WEDNESDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2013  
at 6.00 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor D. Richardson in the Chair

Councillors, Blackburn, Lawson, Scott, D. Smith, Speding, and Tate

**Also in Attendance:-**

Jen Anderson	Youth Worker	SNCBC
Ron Barrass	Member of the Public	
Melanie Caldwell	Head of Operations, Houghton and Hetton	Gentoo
Les Clark	Head of Street Scene	Sunderland City Council
Wendy Cook	Youth and Community Co-ordinator	SNCBC
Stephen Dodds	Network Planning Officer	Nexus
Dave Ellison	Area Response Manager	Sunderland City Council
Claire Fisher	Community Relations Officer	Nexus
Pauline Hopper	Area Officer, Coalfield	Sunderland City Council
A. Laverick	Member of the Public	
Malcolm Page	Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services & Area Lead Executive	Sunderland City Council
Lisa Musgrove	Neighbourhood Inspector	Northumbria Police
Rachel Putz	Coalfields Locality Manager, Children's Services	Sunderland City Council
Kay Rowham	Member of the Public	
G. Taylor	Member of the Public	
Christine Tilley	Governance Services Team Leader	Sunderland City Council

**Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He invited all those present to introduce themselves. The Chairman advised that a note providing details of the contributions made and issues raised at the recent State of the Area Debate would be submitted to the next meeting of the Area Committee for consideration.

## **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Anderson, Ellis, Heron and Wakefield, together with Councillor Julianna Heron, Hetton Town Council and Glen Wilson.

## **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Tate made an open declaration in respect the 'Real Aid Project' included in item 5 on the agenda as he is a Local Authority appointed Member of the Board of Easington Lane Community Access Point and he took no part in any consideration of the project.

## **Minutes of the Last Meetings**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last Ordinary meeting of the Committee held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January together with those of the Extraordinary meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2013 be confirmed and signed as correct records.

## **Annual Report 2012 – 2013**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which sought approval for the inclusion of the Coalfield Area Committee's Annual Report 2012 – 2013 in the combined Area Committees' report to be submitted to full Council.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman presented the Annual Report and highlighted the key achievements delivered in conjunction with partners, local groups and Officers with regard to the Committee's agreed local priorities which included organising events in local shopping centres to encourage people to shop locally, influencing services for children and young people and providing funding to make sure there were activities for young people of all ages, making improvements to allotments and neglected land as well as providing support for older people, vulnerable adults and their carers.

Members welcomed the Annual Report and thanked the Chairman for leading on the Committee's priorities, and it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the Coalfield Area Committee's Annual Report 2012 – 2013 be approved for inclusion in the combined Area Committees' Annual Report to Council.

## **Place Board Progress Report**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with an end of year performance update on the 2012/13 Place Board Work Plan and requested the Area Committee's approval of the Board's proposed refresh of the Work Plan priorities for 2013/14.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chair of the Place Board, Councillor John Scott briefed the Committee on the work undertaken by the Place Board during the course of the year highlighting the achievements in respect of the work done on neglected land, the support provided to Local Traders in the local shopping centres of Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row and the improvements made to allotment sites.

Ms Pauline Hopper, Area Community Officer, added in respect of the local shopping centres project that a number of independent traders had now signed up to become members of a traders' association which would mean they were able to apply for funding from various sources to support their businesses.

Full consideration having been given to the report it was:-

3. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the Annual Performance Update with regard to the Coalfield Area Place Board's Work Plan for 2012/13 be received and noted; and
- (ii) the Coalfield Area Place Board Work Plan for 2013/14 be approved.

## **People Board Progress Report**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with an end of year performance update on the 2012/13 People Board Work Plan and requested the Area Committee's approval of the Board's proposed refresh of the Work Plan priorities for 2013/14.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Anne Lawson briefed the Committee on the work undertaken by the People Board during the course of the year referring the Committee to the Annex to the report. She highlighted the work carried out in influencing the contract specification and provision of activities for young people in the area and the awards made to small scale projects to support older and vulnerable people.

Councillor Lawson thanked all partners and Officers involved in helping the Board achieve what it had done so far and referred the Committee to the proposed work plan for the Board detailed on Annex 2 to the report.

Full consideration having been given to the report it was:-

4. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the Annual Performance Update with regard to the Coalfield Area People Board's Work Plan for 2012/13 be received and noted; and
- (ii) the Coalfield Area People Board Work Plan for 2013/14 be approved.

**Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) Financial Statement and Proposals for Further Allocation of Resources**

The Chief Executive submitted a report requesting the Area Committee's consideration of proposals for the allocation of Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) to support initiatives that will benefit the area.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Pauline Hopper, Area Community Officer briefed the Committee on the up to date position in respect of the Committee's allocation of SIB following the extraordinary meeting held in March, as detailed in paragraph 2.1 of the report, advising that a balance of £46,173 remained to be allocated from the 2012/13 budget.

Ms Hopper highlighted the projects detailed at paragraphs 2.2 and 2.3 which were detailed more fully in Annex 1, together with the project detailed at paragraph 2.4 in Annex 2 and those being submitted for approval from the SIP budget detailed at paragraph 4.2.

Full consideration having being given to the reports, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the financial information set out in sections 2,3,4 and 5 and details of the Community Chest applications which have been approved as detailed at Annex 3 of the report of the Chief Executive, be received and noted;
- (ii) the SIB project applications listed in Annex 1 and as detailed below be approved:-

• Learn to play flat green bowls - New Herrington WM Bowling Club	£3,300
• Last of the Summer Wine on the Allotment – HRCAP	£5,040
• HOPE Social - Houghton Older People's Enterprise (HOPE)	£1,000
• Real Aid Project - Easington Lane Community Access Point (ELCAP)	£3,500
• New Dawn@Central Point - Hetton New Dawn Group	£5,000
• Houghton Feast Opening Ceremony	£9,000
• Kirklee Field – Access to Mobile Youth Activities (part funding)	£7,009
• Love Where You Live (LWYL)	£10,000

- (iii) the change of lead agent to the Area Community Officer, on the Houghton Feast project, working in partnership with Sunderland Live and the Houghton Feast Steering Group be approved;

(iv) approval be given to support the request for SIB funding of £4,231 from the Junior LDD Youth Club as detailed in paragraph 2.4 of the report and on Annex 2, subject to the project being fully appraised and consulted upon before the award is made; and

(v) approval be given to the SIP project applications listed in paragraph 4.2 (subject to final designs being agreed with ward Councillors) as follows:-

- Pedestrian Refuge on Hetton Road, Houghton le Spring £7,000
- Kirklee Field – Access to Mobile Youth Activities (part funding) £6,221
- Traffic calming at Fencehouses (Sedgeleth Rd/Station Ave North area). £14,000

The Chairman having thanked everyone for their attendance, then closed the meeting.

(Signed) D. RICHARDSON,  
Chairman.