

VOLUNTARY SECTOR PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES OF MEETING Thursday 13th September 2018

PRESENT: Councillor Emsley (in the Chair), Councillor Ann Stott, Councillor Dearnley, Jonathan Yates, Bev Place, Kim Ho, Chris Houston, Claire Allsop, Molly Brown, Carlo Schroeder and Shirley Waller

OFFICERS: Alison James (Governance and Committee Services)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Brett, Sheila Acton, Marenka Vossen, Kerry Edwards, Kathy Thomas, Alistair Sheldrick and Emma Salloway

MINUTES

67 **RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Voluntary Sector Partnership held on 12th July 2018 be approved as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

68 The Chair provided updates on the following:-

- The 'Experiences of Asylum and Welfare Services in Rochdale' project continued and Alistair Sheldrick would provide an update to a future meeting of the Partnership;
- SERCO were now providing more data relating to the Borough;

RESOLVED

That the matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2018 be noted.

VOLUNTARY SECTOR DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

69 Sue Hennessey, the recently appointed Voluntary Sector Development Manager (VDSM) provided some details about the role of the VDSM.

The VSDM role held a wide remit to support local voluntary, community and faith organisations. This included building capacity and skills through joint working, improving income generation, as well as facilitating partnerships and acting as an advocate for the sector. It was hoped that the role would be a cooperative and collaborative function, which would enable the voluntary and community sector to navigate the complex change environment. Whilst the role was strategic in focus it would work closely within the volunteering and health and well-being agendas. The role was independent and sat alongside Link4life, RBC, One Rochdale and within the landscape of integrated commissioning, transformation and devolution agendas. It would also provide support to the Health and Wellbeing Alliance, which was made up of voluntary agencies across the Borough.

Members of the Partnership raised a number of issues including:-

- The longer term plans for the VSDM post;
- Residual funding from CVS;
- The development of the Health and Wellbeing Alliance;
- Membership of the various umbrella organisations and whether this needed to be reviewed;
- The development of the new infrastructure organisation;

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

ARMED FORCES UPDATE

70 Caen Matthews, Key Worker for the Armed Forces provided an update on work being undertaken in relation to the armed forces. This included:-

- The popular Veterans Breakfast Club which as well as a social event also provided practical support to veterans and their families;
- The continued support to the Armed Forces Covenant;
- Supporting events such as WW1 Commemorations and Remembrance Sunday;

Members of the Partnership welcomed the presentation and were encouraged to link in the armed forces work through their organisations.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

71 The following matters were raised:-

a) Community Centres

Reference was made to particular issues at one centre that had come from a recent safety inspection and clarification and assistance on the matters raised was being sought.

b) Town Hall Refurbishment

It was suggested that the Partnership may wish to be part of the consultations on the future use of the Town Hall, especially in relation to community use.

RESOLVED

That the matters raised as part of Any Other Business be noted.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

72 **RESOLVED**

That it be noted that the next meeting of the Voluntary Sector Partnership will be held at 10am on Thursday 15th November 2018 at Number One Riverside.