

Rotherham South Area Assembly
Held at the Town Hall, Council Chamber
Tuesday 3rd June 2008

Present:

Councillor Dodson (Chair), Councillor McNeely (Vice Chair),
Councillor Wootton, Councillor Ali, Councillor Kirk, Councillor Clarke and
Councillor Gilding.

Officers present were:-

Lucy Reader	RMBC Area Assembly Team (Minutes)
Shaun Mirfield	RMBC Area Assembly Team
Kay Bacon	RMBC Area Assembly Team
James Mossman	RMBC Streetpride
Inspector Jim Revitt	South Yorkshire Police
Howard Westoby	2010 Rotherham Ltd
Michelle Hill	RMBC SNT

Public present were:-

Mr Fawcus	Resident
J A Badham	Resident
E Humphries	Resident
D Dobbs	Resident
K Mahmood	Resident
D Waudby	Resident
M J Hoggard	Resident
S Kirk	Resident
M McGrother	Resident
S Di	Resident
D Millns	Clifton Community Partnership
K Millns	Clifton Community Partnership
I Russell	Clifton Community Partnership
L Russell	Clifton Community Partnership
M Beedham	Clifton Community Partnership
M Burgin	Clifton Community Partnership
Kath Reeder	Herringthorpe TARA
Don Straw	Whiston Parish Council
George Skinner	Whiston Parish Council
Eric Shaw	Whiston Parish Council
Chris Purvis	Greystones Action Group / Whiston Parish Council
Stuart Green	Greystones Action Group
T Barker	Rotherham Access Audit Group
P Barker	Rotherham Access Audit Group
R Marriott	Neighbourhood Watch
S Marriott	Neighbourhood Watch
L Maxted	Neighbourhood Watch
N Whyke	Broom Road Action Group
J Whyke	Broom Road Action Group

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair Councillor Barry Dodson introduced himself and colleagues.

The Chair invited Chris Purvis to inform the attendees about the success of the Greystones Action Group in gaining the Queens Award. Chris Purvis said that they will be attending Buckingham Palace for the Queens Garden Party on 8th July 2008. The Chair highlighted how proud the Area Assembly is of the work of Chris Purvis and the Greystones Action Group.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from:-

Officers - Councillor Hussain, Councillor Mannion, Gill Harrison, Jill Jones, Sgt Rupert Chang and Diane Owens

Reidents - Richard Maughan, Mr Copley, Danny Willoughby, Michelle Allsop, Janet White, Chris Eyre and Norman Wright.

3 i. MINUTES OF AREA ASSEMBLY HELD ON TUESDAY 6TH MAY 2008

The minutes were read and approved as a true record by David Dobbs.

3 ii. MATTERS ARISING

a) Source of Area Assembly Funding, (06/05/08) item 3ii b

An update was requested on the source of Area Assembly funding. Shaun Mirfield reported that 65% of the cost of Area Assemblies comes from the Housing Revenue Account and the remainder from the General Fund.

Shaun Mirfield explained that when Area Assemblies were first established (before this last restructure) the funding split was based on an estimated balance of enquiries that would arise from council tenancies. The funding split also reflected 2010's role within the Area Assembly model where they provided support to the neighbourhood management function and administration of the Area Assemblies. Now that the Council has taken on a bigger role in the delivery of the Area Assembly / Neighbourhood Management agenda it may well be time to review the funding split to determine whether it is still appropriate and recommend amendments if appropriate.

b) The Walk, (06/05/08) item 3ii a

Shaun Mirfield reported that the intention is that the CCTV will be installed on Monday 16th June. At the same time, the police and other partners will receive some training on how to operate the system. A flyer regarding the cameras will be sent to all properties surrounding The Walk on Park Road and Chestnut Avenue, encouraging people to report incidents to the SNT providing a date and time of the incident. Secondly, the Community Sports Coaches will be delivering organised provision with the PCSOs. Finally, the first meeting of the community forum was held on Tuesday 13th May. The intention is to build on this by establishing a forum primarily for those who live in the surrounding properties.

c) Stan Crowther, (06/05/08) item 3ii p

Shaun Mirfield reported that the Members of the Honours Working Party are now aware of the Area Assembly request. They met on 29th May and have referred the matter to the full Council.

d) Community Awareness of SNTs, (06/05/08) item 4i

Clarification was made on a point raised at the last meeting that the Rotherham Advertiser should be contacted to see what stories the journalists would like to receive.

Action: Shaun Mirfield to report to SNT Communications Group on 5th June 2008.

e) Middle Lane / Clifton Lane Review, (06/05/08) item 3ii e

Shaun Mirfield reported that the Planning and Transportation Department are scheduled to attend the September Area Assembly meeting to explain the findings of the review.

f) Middle Lane – Hot Food Outlets, (06/05/08) item 3ii f

Shaun Mirfield reported that the recent planning application for a hot food outlet was refused and the applicant has indicated he is to appeal but as yet no appeal has been received. He has 6 months from the decision date to submit his appeal.

g) Mail out Identities, (06/05/08) item 3ii g

Shaun Mirfield reported that there is no reference in the Electoral Register to either East Dene or Clifton. Newton Drive is shown only as being in the Rotherham East Ward. Shaun Mirfield requested details of when and who exactly is writing.

h) Police in Schools, (06/05/08) item 4ii

Clarification was sought as to how many Rotherham schools have signed up to the Safer Schools Partnership.

Action: SNT to update.

Clarification was also sought again as to whether Police Officers can take action against truanting children.

Action: Inspection Jim Revitt to update.

i) Walkabout Dates, (06/05/08) item 5ii a

Howard Westoby said that a more secure notice board is being investigated as the notices are being removed or damaged.

j) Davians Fish and Chip Shop, Middle Lane, Clifton, (06/05/08) item 5i e & g

An attendee updated the Area Assembly that he has had meetings with the Davians staff about litter. It was emphasised that people needed to be fined for littering in the area to address the matter. The seating area adjacent to the playing fields was identified as major hot spot in relation to litter. A request was made for Streetpride to empty the bins in a morning.

Action: James Mossman to investigate the litter bins being emptied in the mornings.

k) Doncaster Road Dropped Kerb, (06/05/08) item 5i a

Concerns were raised regarding the timeframe provided by Streetpride for the completion of the required dropped kerb.

Action: The Chair to contact Leon Gasiorski about the Gateways work in the area to see if this will be included.

l) Middle Lane Zebra Crossing, (06/05/08) item 5iv f

The Chair confirmed that the crossing will form part of the review on Middle Lane.

m) Herringthorpe Leisure Centre, (06/05/08) item 5iv c

A request was made for costings for the running of and restoration cost for the Herringthorpe Leisure Centre. Clarification was sought as to why residents were not asked if they felt the Leisure Centre should be demolished.

Action: Steve Hallsworth to provide the running costs and restoration costs for the Leisure Centre and clarify why residents were not asked if they wished the Leisure Centre to be demolished during consultation.

n) First Avenue Police Box, (06/05/08) item 5iii a

Inspector Jim Revitt confirmed that the police box on First Avenue has been sold. Discussions will therefore take place about the feasibility of using the shop in The Lanes.

Shaun Mirfield added that the matter will be discussed by the Co-ordinating Group as access to the SNT was raised as an issue during community consultation.

o) Sub Letting, (06/05/08) item 3ii o

Clarification was sought as to how many warning letters have been issued in relation to sub letting council houses.

Action: Howard Westoby to update.

Action: The Chair to clarify what 2010's policies are in relation to sub letting with the Board of 2010 and its Directors.

p) Dog Fouling on Herringthorpe Playing Fields, (06/05/08) item 3ii r

Shaun Mirfield reported that 53 dog fouling fines have been issued in the borough. There are two Neighbourhood Wardens for the Town Centre and two for the Rotherham South area. If residents see people arriving via car and allowing their dogs to foul on the fields please report the car registration number or if the name or address of the person is known please report this to the reporting number 01709 336003. A request was made for dog bins to be provided at the side of the footpath through the playing fields rather than just having them on the outskirts.

Action: James Mossman to investigate the provision of dog bins.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

4 i. STREETPRIDE

a) Broadway East

Concerns were raised about vehicles parking on the grass.

Action: SNT to investigate.

b) East Bawtry Road Grass Cutting

A request was made for the grass to be cut where the dead trees have been removed.

Action: James Mossman to request the grass to be cut.

4 ii. 2010

a) Letting Choices

Clarification was sought as to what processes the Neighbourhood Champions undertake to try and place applicants in suitable premises.

Action: Howard Westoby to clarify

Clarification was also sought as to whether the Council or 2010 do the letting of Council houses. The Chair informed attendees that it is the Council that undertake lettings through the Key Choices team.

4iii. SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE

a) Prostitution in Rotherham

Clarification was sought as to what South Yorkshire Police are doing in relation to prostitution in Rotherham. Inspector Revitt informed attendees that prostitution is not as big an issue in Rotherham as it is in other towns although work is being undertaken in Eastwood Village on the matter. It was suggested that there is prostitution activity on High Street and Effingham Square.

b) Vehicle Parking on Middle Lane / Middle Lane South

Concerns were raised that visitors to the playing fields are parking on Middle Lane South rather than in the car park. A request was made for the gate to be opened on Boswell Street at weekends to allow vehicles to park. Concerns were raised about cars parking on dropped pavements on Middle Lane.

Action: Inspector Revitt, Shaun Mirfield and Councillor Hussain to include the area on PCSOs patrols.

c) Vehicle Parking at Badsley Moor Lane School

It was highlighted that vehicle parking is bad outside the Badsley Moor Lane school at school start and finish times.

Action: Inspector Revitt to discuss with the Head Teacher a warning letter been sent to parents.

d) Vehicle Parking on Herringthorpe Valley Road

Concerns were raised about vehicles parking on pavements on Herringthorpe Valley Road. Inspector Revitt informed that this road will be covered by a Traffic Regulation Order in the near future so will be enforceable if people park on the pavements.

4 iv. ANY OTHER

a) West Bawtry Road (Dunlem Mill Section)

A request was made for a pedestrian crossing or footbridge be provided on the West Bawtry Road dual carriage way to enable children to get to school safely. A request was also made for the speed limit to be reduced.

Action: Matthew Lowe to clarify if a pedestrian crossing or footbridge can be provided and if the speed limit can be lowered.

b) Waiting Restrictions on Pleasley Road, Whiston

An update was requested for Whiston Parish Council and the Sitwell Ward Councillors on the amendments to the proposed waiting restrictions on Pleasley Road at Whiston.

Action: Matthew Lowe to provide an update to the Area Assembly, Whiston Parish Council and Sitwell Ward Members.

d) Recycling

Clarification was sought as to why if Rotherham is working with Barnsley and Doncaster plastic recycling can not be provided as Doncaster offers this service. An idea was proposed for recycling equipment to be shared by the three councils.

Action: Hugh Long to update.

e) Effingham Street Demolition

Concerns were raised regarding a rumour which has been heard regarding the demolition of the businesses on Effingham Street.

Action: The Chair to seek clarification with Councillor Gerald Smith on the future of Effingham Street.

f) Sheltered Housing Communal Centre Hire

Concerns were raised regarding the intention to charge £10 per hour for the hire of the communal spaces in sheltered housing complexes.

Action: Councillor Kirk to take up the matter at a meeting on 23rd June 2008.

5. AREA PARTNERSHIP MANAGERS REPORT

a) Streetpride Devolved Budget

Shaun Mirfield updated attendees that the Streetpride Devolved Budget decision making meeting had taken place earlier in the day. The meeting was a great success with 20 residents deciding which projects should be undertaken this year. Attendees were praised for looking at all the projects and giving up projects in their own area to fund projects in other areas.

b) Area Assembly Meeting Attendance

Shaun Mirfield reported that Area Assembly attendance rates have increased by 20%. Attendees were thanked for their continued attendance at meetings.

c) Future Area Assembly Themes

A discussion took place on the future themes of Area Assembly meetings and the following were chosen:

Doncaster Gate Hospital – July 2008
Clifton Park – July 2008
Transport – September
Young People – October 2008
Mowbray Gardens Library
Councillor Call for Action
Town Centre SNT
Recycling
Budget 2009/2010
2010 Rotherham Ltd

6. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 1st July 2008, 6.30pm at the Town Hall