

Rotherham North Area Assembly
Tuesday 21st October 2008
6:15pm Town Hall, Rotherham

Present:

Cllr Lindsay Johnston (Chair)	RMBC Elected Member
Cllr Jahangir Akhtar	RMBC Elected Member
Cllr Colin Barron	RMBC Elected Member
Cllr Barry Kaye	RMBC Elected Member
Cllr Kath Sims	RMBC Elected Member
Cllr Keith Goulty	RMBC Elected Member
Cllr Sheila Walker	RMBC Elected Member
Mick Greenwood	RMBC Streetpride
Jim Shaw	Living Streets
Mary Jacques	Blackburn Partnership
Ian Jones	Richmond Park TARA
Laura Bell	Rotherham Library Service
Sue Conway	Rotherham Library Service
Helen Ablewhite	Kimberworth Park Resident
Mark Turner	Kimberworth Park Resident
Joanna Jones	Resident
Tanya Stanley	RMBC Area Partnership Manager
Helen Banerjee (Minutes)	RMBC Community Support Officer

Apologies: Pat Michael, Trevor Lilley, Ray Davies, Sally Jenks, Tom Kelly, Brian Beeley, Cllr Terry Sharman

1. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising.

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

2. Living Streets - Jim Shaw

The Pedestrian Association was formed in 1929 and this has now become Living Streets. They promote journeys on foot and form part of the Active Travel Consortium which includes other organisations such as the Ramblers Association.

They are currently delivering a project called Fitter For Walking and this will run for 4 years. Living Streets want to work with communities to encourage more people to walk and ensure the streets are designed to allow people to do that. Jim informed the meeting that he would like to work with individual residents and community groups to look at how the streets can be improved and asked for project ideas to be submitted.

3. Affordable Housing Update

A representative from Affordable Housing was unable to attend the meeting however they provided an update.

There is an Own Home Scheme running which is designed to help people onto the property ladder and is specifically for key workers, those living in social housing and first time buyers earning less than £60,000. It provides an opportunity for people to purchase a home using 40% from Own Home equity loans and the rest from Co-op Bank Mortgages. This is interest free for the first 5 years and then continues at a fixed rate. The Affordable Housing Team are happy to do local surgeries for residents who are interested in this.

It was agreed at the meeting that more information would be useful and so a representative will be invited to a future Area Assembly meeting.

4. Any Other Business

4.1 Rotherham North Community Awards

Nomination forms are now available for the Rotherham North Community Achievement Awards, these can be found at www.rotherhamareaassemblies.gov.uk or you can contact the office on 336951.

4.2 Parking Issues on Byrley Road

A petition has been handed to the Council regarding the lack of off street parking on Byrley Road. Residents are concerned there will be an accident as children play on the street and an ambulance was unable to get through to reach a resident who had gone into labour. The Council have refused the application for off street parking and the residents would like to know if the Area Assembly will support them. Cllrs Gouly and Walker have been involved in this and support the changes however the money is not available and the application was rejected on the grounds of cost. It was agreed that the Area Assembly would arrange a task and finish group to look at the issue in more detail.

The residents would also like to see a zebra crossing installed on Great Park Road as young people are crossing to play football in the field. There are certain criteria that need to be met for a crossing to be considered therefore the Area Assembly will arrange for a survey to be done.

Action: Rotherham North Area Assembly to arrange a task and finish group to look at parking issues on Byrley Road

Action: Rotherham North Area Assembly to arrange for a survey to be carried out on Great Park Road

The meeting closed at 6:55pm

**Date and time of next meeting: 16th December, 6:15pm
Rotherham Town Hall**