

WENTWORTH NORTH AREA ASSEMBLY
Meeting held on Monday 11th January 2010
Wath Community Library at 7.00pm

Present

Councillor Alan Atkin	Ward 19 – Wath - (IN THE CHAIR)
Councillor John Doyle	Ward 16 – Swinton
Andy Fawdry	RMBC Streetpride
Councillor A Gosling	Ward 19 – Wath
Councillor Jane Hamilton	Ward 7 – Hooper
Harry Harrison	Swinton Resident
Revd Sue Hobley	All Saints Parish Church
Dianne Hurst	Wentworth North Area Partnership Manager
Richard Jackson	RMBC Streetpride
B Jones	Local Resident
A Laird	Montgomery Enterprises
Ian Lomas	Wentworth Parish Council and Harley Village Partnership
A Norton	South Yorkshire Police
S Owen	Wath Comprehensive School
Lee Peace	South Yorkshire Times
Jill Ratcliffe	Wentworth North Community Support Officer (MINUTES)
Lucy Reader	Wentworth North Community Involvement Officer
Councillor Alex Sangster	Ward 19 – Wath
George Smith	2010 Rotherham Ltd
K Swanwick	Local Resident
Clive Taylor	Local Resident
Temp Ch Sup Tweed	South Yorkshire Police
Brian Walker	Local Resident
J Wordsworth	Charles Street Community Centre
Councillor Ken Wyatt	Ward 16 – Swinton

1. Welcome and Apologies

Councillor Atkin welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made. He informed everyone present that the meeting would be minuted, so if anyone wanted to say something that they wished not to be minuted would they please make it known. Councillor Atkin added that if anyone had any issues they wished to raise with officers they would be available following the meeting.

Apologies were received from:-

V Bryan	RMBC Neighbourhood Partnership Manager
A Barber Lomax	Fitzwilliam Wentworth Estates Office
Craig Cornwall	RMBC Wardens
Councillor Frank Hodgkiss	Ward 7 – Hooper
Councillor Neil License	Ward 16 – Swinton

Karen Milner	2010 Rotherham Ltd
Councillor Richard Russell	Ward 7 – Hooper
Joyce Maleham	Wath upon Dearne Community Partnership
Karen Milner	2010 Rotherham Ltd
Councillor Alex Sangster	Ward 19 – Wath

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 9th NOVEMBER 2009

Agreed: - That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 9th November be received and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Matters Arising

An action checklist with updates from issues raised at the previous meeting was available to all in attendance.

3. QUESTIONS FROM OPEN FORUM

3.1. A local resident stated that eight aged person's bungalows in Harley had new windows fitted by the Decent Homes Team during the recent bad weather, and it was snowing into the properties. This made keeping warm very difficult for the residents and Work should have been halted.

Action – George Smith to address the issue raised with The Decent Homes Team.

3.2. A local resident stated that there is still a problem with the junction of Melton Green and Rotherham Road. Traffic Police have stated that there have been six accidents at this location. He added that up to recently there had been a horsebox parked on the junction causing a blind spot.

He added that both he and other residents have reported the problems to Streetpride. He requested that the speed camera be used on Rotherham Road.

PC Andy Norton stated that he would look into the possibility of the camera being used on Rotherham Road, and informed the meeting that if anyone was breaching legislation they could be prosecuted if they continue to do so. He added that the registration number should be taken where possible and the incident reported to the police. PC Norton could then request that a traffic Officer attached to the SNT takes a look.

Mark Hill will also be informed.

3.3. A local resident stated that there is a problem with nuisance drivers in Swinton.

PC Norton requested that future incidents be reported to the police, who would be able to check the cameras.

4. RECOVERY PLAN FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES SERVICES

Unfortunately there was no one available to attend the meeting due to prior commitments. However Joyce Thacker will be in attendance at the meeting to be held on 8th March 2010.

5. MANVERS LAKESIDE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Steve Holmes was unable to attend the meeting due to the adverse weather conditions, but will be attending a future meeting.

6. AREA CHAIR / AREA PARTNERSHIP MANAGERS REPORT

Dianne Hurst, Area Partnership Manager for Wentworth North gave an update on the progress and development of issues since the last meeting which included;-

Swinton Fitzwilliam Group

The Swinton Fitzwilliam group continues to meet and work with the community to try to improve the quality of life for those living on the estate. Walkabouts continue on the estate to assess progress and pick up any issues with regard to fly tipping, untidy gardens, littering and untaxed cars.

A second newsletter has also been produced and delivered to households to inform them of the progress made and to encourage anyone who is interested to take part.

If you think that you would like to get involved, please contact Lucy Reader using the details given below.

Wood Street Allotments

January will see the completion of a major renovation of the Wood Street allotments in Swinton. Using Area Assembly Devolved Budgets and Housing Market Renewal Funding this site has had new fencing and gates to improve security, attention from RMBC Wardens to encourage dog walkers to pick up after themselves, a site clean up organised by the Allotments Service and the Allotments Society and new storage and meeting containers that are dry and secure.

Town Centre Link, Wath

The new pocket park and link between the Town Centre at Wath and the Tesco store has been completed and was opened in a low key ceremony performed by Councillor Sangster on Friday 18th December.

Festive Lights

The Area Assembly celebrated the festive season in proper fashion by ensuring that the festive lights in Wath town Centre and a lighted Christmas tree on Woodman

roundabout Swinton were installed and lit throughout advent and up to the Epiphany.

Community Transport in Harley

Following on from partnership work in Harley, working alongside the Village Partnership and Rotherham Community Transport, a Christmas shopper bus was run to benefit Harley, Wentworth and the rural fringe. If you want further details about other community transport services, we have information available.

Decent Homes Work, Brampton

The Decent Homes programme has begun in Brampton, with work taking place on long term vacant properties with the intention of having them ready for letting by the end of March. To satisfy concerns about site safety and security, the SNT conducted a site visit during November.

Broadway and Valley Rd Survey

A one in ten survey and a business survey was organised by the Area Assembly, Wardens, 2010 and PCSOs during December, concentrating on the Broadway and Valley Rd area of Swinton. Issues raised by this survey are being pursued.

For further details about the projects above, take a look at our website on www.areaassemblies.gov.uk or contact Lucy Reader on 01709 334603.

An opportunity for free training in respect to the Stop Hate Crime initiative is being offered at the Montgomery Hall on the morning of the 15th February. Lunch is provided. Gail Wilson of RMBC has more details.

Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG)

Work continues on the NAG Priorities for 2008 and 2009, these are: the Swinton Fitzwilliam estate and Valley Road area and Brampton. These priorities are due to be reviewed during this month and we would welcome suggestions from the meeting.

PACT priorities for the area will be changed at this evenings PACT meeting.

The SNT ask for your support in the matter of securing the future of the civilian reception desk at Wath Police station.

Housing Market Renewal (HMR) Activity

At the last public meeting, concerned residents voiced their complaints about the **Swinton Bridge** area. As a result the HMR team has found monies to render the Inn safe, secure and more attractive. RMBC Enforcement officers have visited the Jet garage to investigate complaints with regard to the use of the car wash. The Safer Neighbourhood Team has concentrated its attention on the area by making it a PACT priority area following concerns about antisocial behaviour and suspected drug activity. Cllr John Doyle convened a meeting to discuss the play area at Dunn Street

and secured agreement to a course of action to enhance the site within the New Year.

This meeting will forward any questions on to this service that you may have.

Street Pride Devolved Budget

A programme of activity for this year's devolved budget has been agreed and a delivery schedule is being worked up. The Area Assembly has taken up two projects undeliverable through this programme and they are now in contract.

Area Assembly Devolved Budget

The Devolved Budget for the financial year 2009 – 2010 has now been exhausted. Following the decisions taken at the September Area Assembly meeting, a number of reserve projects have been received to alleviate any risk of under spend. One of these projects is submitted tonight for your approval.

Dates of meetings for 2010

The dates of the meetings to be held during 2010 were available at the meeting.

7. PARTNER UPDATES

Updates were circulated to everyone present from:-
Karen Milner - 2010 Rotherham Ltd
Andy Fawdry – RMBC Streetpride.
Craig Cornwall – Rotherham Warden Supervisor

Andy Fawdry stated that Streetpride are currently looking for projects for the devolved budget and asked that people submit any suggestions.

A local resident asked if anything could be done regarding the chewing gum on the streets.

Richard Jackson stated that he would arrange for the machine which would remove the chewing gum to be brought into Wath

Copies of any of the above reports are available by contacting the Wentworth North Area Assembly Office on 01709 334604 or via email - wentworth.north@rotherham.gov.uk

8. PACT – Partners and Community Together

Prior to the meeting receiving the PACT report, Temporary Chief Superintendent Tweed informed the meeting of the proposals for Wath Police Station. He dispelled the

rumours that the Station was to close, and that the SNT would not be moving from Wath.

He explained that there are currently three SNT's and four enquiry desks, so the enquiry desk based at Wath will be relocated to Rawmarsh police Station.

He added that It is the intention to increase the opening hours at Rawmarsh which is currently 8.00am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday, and 8.00am to Midday, including Saturday and Sunday at Mainstreet Police Station.

Temporary Chief Superintendent Tweed then invited Questions from the floor.

A local resident suggested that it would make more sense to close Rawmarsh and keep Wath Station open due to the location.

Chief Superintendent Tweed stated that recent monitoring showed that footfall for both Rawmarsh and Wath Stations was only one person per hour.

Councillor Wyatt asked if there would be any outreach work at the Customer Service Centre in Swinton.

Temporary Chief Superintendent Tweed stated that there would be some outreach work undertaken, and notification would be provided one month in advance.

Councillor Gosling stated that disagreed with the rationale and the residents of Wath have signed a petition to keep the reception desk open. He suggested that the Area Assembly write to the Chief Constable as this is a facility that the people of Wath needs, and the Area Assembly should object to the proposals.

Brian Walker seconded the motion that the Area Assembly write to the Chief Constable, as did another local resident.

Councillor Atkin informed Temporary Chief Superintendent Tweed that at no point had he been informed that the intention was to increase reception desk opening hours. He added that there has been no consultation, not even with the Elected Members.

Councillor Atkin added that he had recently attended a Safer Neighbourhoods Team meeting at Wath Police Station and he could not get in. He had to phone Maltby Police Station for them to contact someone who could let him in.

Councillor Atkin stated that this is not good enough, and when police officers are all out dealing with crime there is no one there to either answer the phone or let people in the station.

There were no further questions and Councillor Atkin thanked Temporary Chief Superintendent Tweed for his attendance.

PC Andy Norton, on behalf of Sergeant Sarah Hoyle, South Yorkshire Police, gave a report regarding the crime statistics for the previous month, a copy of which is available by contacting the South Yorkshire Police website @

www.southyorks.police.uk or by contacting the Wentworth North Safer Neighbourhood Team on 01709 832485. Alternatively you could contact the Area Assembly Office on 01709 334604 or via email - wentworth.north@rotherham.gov.uk

PC Norton then explained to everyone what a PACT is and then went on to discuss the PACT priority areas.

The PACT is part of the National Policing Pledge, full details of which can be found on the South Yorkshire Police Website.

Under this pledge South Yorkshire Police commit to holding monthly meetings in the community, six of which will form part of the Wentworth North Area Assembly meeting, and a further six will be identified using the opportunities provided by other community fora. Thereby identifying a number of short term priority areas which will be subject to a 60 minute response time.

Meetings will be advertised on the Safer Neighbourhood Website www.southyorks.police.uk.

These are small local priority areas and are not the same as Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) priorities.

PC Norton then gave an update on last months PACT Priority area and asked for suggestions for this months priority areas.

A full update of the pact priority areas can be found on the South Yorkshire Police website @ www.southyorks.police.uk or by contacting the Wentworth North Safer Neighbourhood Team on 01709 832485

A brief discussion followed to identify new priority areas and the following areas were agreed.

This month's identified priority areas are:-

- 1. Park Road, Swinton**
- 2. Fir Close, Wath**
- 3. Valley Road, Swinton**

Agreed by all in attendance.

There were no further discussions and Councillor Atkin thanked PC Norton for his report.

9. DEVOLVED BUDGET

Dianne Hurst informed the meeting that a Devolved Budget report would be presented at the March Area Assembly Meeting.

All spend has been allocated and a project request has been received from Wath Bowling Club to provide fencing around the bowling green at a cost of 14k, and which forms part of the Master Plan.

Dianne added that if the meeting agree in principle to approve the project then further quotes could be obtained, the project could then be funded if an under spend occurs.

Agreed by all in attendance

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Council Budget to be discussed at a future meeting.

New Grounds Maintenance Service.

Dun Street Play Area.

Draft Green Spaces Strategy.

11. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 8th March 2010, 7.00pm at the Mechanics Institute, Wentworth.