

WENTWORTH NORTH AREA ASSEMBLY
Meeting held on Monday 14th July 2008
St James Rooms, Wath at 7.00pm.

Present

Councillor Frank Hodgkiss	Ward 7 - Hooper- (IN THE CHAIR)
Councillor Alan Atkin	Ward 19 – Wath
K Boughton	NHS Rotherham
J Brown	NHS Rotherham
Anthony Barber-Lomax	Estate Office, Wentworth
Councillor John Doyle	Ward 16 – Swinton
Colin Dyson	Local Resident
Amy Hutson	RMBC Streetpride
Jim Gelder	Wentworth Church
Councillor A Gosling	Ward 19 – Wath
Harry Harrison	Swinton Resident
Councillor Jane Hamilton	Ward 7 – Hooper
P Heald	Local Resident
Dianne Hurst	RMBC Area Partnership Manager
D Lelliott	Local Resident
K Lelliott	Local Resident
Ian Lomas	Wentworth Parish Council and Harley Village Partnership
Dianne Morphet	Rotherham Young Peoples Services
Lee Peace	South Yorkshire Times
Jill Ratcliffe	Neighbourhoods Community Support Officer
	Wentworth North (MINUTES)
Councillor Richard Russell	Ward 7 – Hooper
K Sanderson	Acorns TARA
Inst S Tattershall	South Yorkshire Police
Harry Tooley	Area Housing Panel
Vicky Whitehead	RMBC Young Peoples Services
J Wordsworth	Charles Street Community Centre

1. Welcome and Apologies

Councillor Hodgkiss welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made. He informed the meeting that if anyone had any issues they wished to raise with officers they would be available following the meeting.

Apologies were received from:-

P Drabble	Swinton Youth Action Group
Councillor Neil License	Ward 16 – Swinton
Joyce Maleham	Wath upon Dearne Community Partnership
Karen Milner	2010 Rotherham Ltd
Sue Ransom	Dearne Valley College
Councillor Alex Sangster	Ward 19 – Wath
Councillor Ken Wyatt	Ward 16 – Swinton

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 12th May 2008.

Agreed: - That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12th May 2008 be received and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Matters Arising

None raised

3. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

3.1 A local resident asked what the minimum age is for acquiring accommodation in sheltered housing.

George Smith informed him that the criteria goes on need rather than age and the person may need to be assessed.

3.2 A local resident stated that there are planning applications for over 700 properties in Brampton and asked if the police will be given an extra budget to cover increase in population.

Insp Tattershall stated that there will be no more police officers but there may be a possibility of obtaining more PCSO.s.

3.3 A local resident asked if there were any plans to stop cars going through the centre of Wath.

Insp Tattershall stated that if there was an issue it has not been reported to the police, and added that he would raise the matter at the next SNT.

3.4 A local resident stated that the bus lane at the bottom of West Street was being abused on a daily basis as cars are ignoring the busses only sign.

Insp Tattershall stated that the matter had not previously been raised with the police, but the matter will be looked at.

4. REFERAL PROCES FOR THE TARGETED YOUTH TEAM

Vicky Whitehead - Senior Youth Worker introduced herself and gave a presentation explaining the referral process for the targeted youth team. A copy of which is available by contacting the Area Assembly Office on 01709 334604, or via email – wentworth.north@rotherham.gov.uk Vicky can be contacted on 07881 572585.

Following the presentation Vicky invited questions from the floor.

Q, Can groups come to you with ideas and suggestions?

A. Yes, we welcome new ideas and will work with you.

5. NEW GP PRACTICES FOR ROTHERHAM PCT

Jackie Brown – NHS Rotherham gave a presentation outlining the proposals for the new initiative that is under way for two new GP Practices, one in Rotherham Centre and one in this area. As yet no specific locations have been located and will go out to consultation. She added that this will not be a Poly - Clinic, it will be a GP Practice and we are not looking at closing any existing GP Surgeries.

A question leaflet has been delivered to every property that receives the Weekender free press and are also available at the Library.

A copy of the presentation is available by contacting the Area Assembly Office on 01709 334604, or via email – wentworth.north@rotherham.gov.uk

Jackie stated that if anyone required further information she could be contacted on 01709 302776, she then invited questions from the floor:-

Q. Have all Local GP's been informed?

A. Yes, we have consulted with local GP's and councilors, our proposals have also gone to Scrutiny.

Q. Will the new GP's Surgery be a new build? If so, where will it be?

A. Location options will be West Melton, Brampton or Wath which is considered to be in the centre of the area. We need to hear what people have to say, consultation runs until the end of July and we will then discuss the results with you. Any GP Practice may submit an expression of interest to expand their current services. To date eleven expressions of interest have been received. Contracts must be signed by 31st December 2008.

Q. Will Ambulance Services also be located in this area?

A. Jackie did not have the answer to this question but promised to find out.

Q. The timescale for this consultation is all wrong; it should have gone out in March/April. We are already in July and many people represent community groups, by the time the groups meet we will have missed the deadline and people in Wentworth and Harley will have different needs to people in Wath and Brampton.

A. Even if the consultation date closes we will still hear your views. However Harley is not an area of deprivation so we are only talking about Wath, West Melton and Brampton.

Q. The new development at lakeside originally planned to have a health centre, but now they are just building more houses.

A. We looked at this around four years ago and decided it would have been too small a practice and we are looking at the bigger picture.

Q. Will the PCT run the new GP's Surgery?

A. The PCT will fund it but it will be run the same as current GP Practices.

- Q.** Is this privatization through the back door? And will we be refused the best treatment because of cost?
- A.** If they don't perform to certain standards we can terminate the contract, and we will be monitoring them.
- Q.** What about Swinton?
- A.** We are not putting additional services in the area as they have a plethora of GP Services

6. WENTWORTH PARISH PLAN

Ian Lomas – Wentworth Parish Councillor and Chair of Harley Partnership gave the following statement:-

Parish Plans were conceived and outlined in the 2000 Government White Paper entitled "Our Countryside". It is in effect an audit of a community, recording what has been achieved and what is still needed to make that community an even better place to live.

A Parish Plan must be an honest account of the environmental face of a community as well as its human, commercial and industrial aspects. It should also set out a shared vision for that community and address ways in which changes and improvements can be best accomplished as well as identifying the features and characteristics that people value.

The Parish Planning Group was set up in 2007 and was made up of a number of volunteers representing all sections of the community. Also involved and supportive of the project were the following organizations: - Wentworth Parish Council, RMBC Wentworth North Area Assembly, Yorkshire Rural Community Council, Social Enterprise Europe and Fitzwilliam (Wentworth) Estates.

By coincidence the plan is well timed to compliment the themes of the Wentworth North Area Assembly Plan and Rotherham Borough's Community Strategy – Achieving, Learning, Alive, Safe and Proud. These five themes appear down the right hand side of our Action Plan, helping to demonstrate to Rotherham Borough Council which of their themes our plan addresses.

We hope the plan will provide a catalyst for partnership working with the Local Authority and other Public Service Providers to implement the Community's Action Plan. It is also a statement of communal pride in what has and is being achieved to make the parish a better place in which to live.

The information that was fed into the plan came from a number of sources. In 2002/3 both Wentworth and Harley (the two major settlements within the parish) conducted separate village surveys in the form of questionnaires distributed to every household. The response to these questionnaires was excellent, being in excess of a 75% return. Soon after this the Wentworth North Area Assembly organized a village day in each of the communities, once again with excellent results.

When the Wentworth Parish Planning Group was formed we needed to be sure that the information gathered from the previously mentioned events remained an accurate

indication of the community's opinion of their community and its aspirations. To this end all households within the parish received a brief flyer explaining the aims of the proposed Parish Plan with space for comments or suggestions for inclusion into the plan.

A consultation day was held at the local Junior School which was led by Jonathon Cooper and supported by Anita Pickering, Jill Ratcliffe and Michael Hill. An evening event was held local business people to attend, where comments and suggestions were recorded. Last year the Parish Planning Group had a table at both Wentworth and Harley Village Gala Days, where comments from attendees were canvassed so as to be included in the plan. This initiative proved quite useful as some comments from non residents were received, thus giving a picture of how others see our communities.

Extracts from Rotherham's Rural Baseline Study have been included in the plan, as many of the issues highlighted in the Parish Plan are common to other areas of the borough, evidenced by the Rural Baseline Study.

In April we held a launch event for the plan which was initially open to invited service providers, and later open to the public. The document provided at the launch was the final draft and invited guests and members of the community were asked for their comments and suggestions so that these could be included in the finished document. There was a four week window for the comments to be received, and then the final editing took place.

The Wentworth Parish Planning Group will continue to meet at least twice a year to monitor progress of the Action Plan. Wentworth Parish Council will probably be the main vehicle for progressing the Action Plan in conjunction with the identified partners.

Finally I would like to present a copy of the Parish Plan to Audrey Hart - Chair of the Brampton Parish Council, I am sure that many of the issues identified in the plan are common with issues in the Brampton Parish. If this is so, then I would hope that both Parish Councils could work together to achieve a common goal.

7. AREA PARTNERSHIP MANAGER REPORTS

Dianne Hurst, Area Partnership Manager for Wentworth North gave an update on the progress and development of issues since the last meeting which included Housing Market Renewal Activity, Wentworth North's Area Plan, the Streetpride Devolved Budget and an update on Community Activity including Friends of Wath Park and Highfield Park, Swinton.

Dianne introduced Lucy Reader who was appointed to the post of Community Involvement Officer on 7th July 2008. Lucy joins us after working with the Rotherham South Team as a Community Support Officer.

Lucy will be out and about over the next few weeks meeting everyone. Should you wish to meet with her in the meantime her contact details are:- email:

lucy.reader@rotherham.gov.uk tel: 01709 4603 mobile: 0774 8760034.

8. PARTNER UPDATES

Updates were given from Inspector Steve Tattershall - South Yorkshire Police
Karen Milner -2010 Rotherham Ltd
Andy Fawdry – RMBC Streetpride.

Printed copies of the reports were available to everyone at the meeting and can also be obtained by contacting the Wentworth North Area Assembly Office on 01709 334604, or via email – wentworth.north@rotherham.gov.uk

9. INTERACTIVE COMMUNITY SAFETY QUIZ – HOW SAFE IS YOUR COMMUNITY?

Attendees were given remote control handsets and asked a series of questions relating to Crime and Safety in the area.
Questions were presented on a large screen and participants were asked to answer by pressing True/False or A, B or C.
Everyone enjoyed taking part, and by the end of the quiz had a better understanding of Crime and Safety in the area.

10. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 8th September 2008, 5.00pm @ Brampton Parish Hall.