

ROTHER VALLEY WEST AREA ASSEMBLY
Ulley Village Hall
Monday, 1st February, 2010 – 6.00 pm

Present:- Present:-

Cllr. J. Swift	Borough Councillor
Cllr. G. Smith	Borough Councillor
Andrea Peers	RVW Area Partnership Manager
Julie Barnett	Community Involvement Officer
Kyley Taylor	RVW Support Officer
Sgt. Alistair Stuart	South Yorkshire Police
Glen Holmes	Victim Support
Chris Hayes	RMBC
Matthew Jenkins	Arup
Andy Banner	Vinci
Jeff Walker	Ulley Parish Council
Mrs. M. Walker	Ulley Resident
Barbara Littlewood	Friends of Ulley Country Park
John Jackson	Ulley Country Park Ranger
Gwyneth Hodgson	Ulley Resident
C. Broomhead	Ulley Resident
B. Bartholomew	Aston Parish Council
R. Armitage	Aston Resident
Alex Armitage	Aston Parish Council
Bob Morrison	Ulley Resident
Jo Myers	Ulley Resident
Rosemary Corden	Ulley Resident
A. Mozley	Ulley Resident
P. Harper	Ulley Resident
PA Harper	Ulley Resident
T. Wade	Aston Resident
G. Cooper	Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Council
David Knowles	Aughton Resident
Maureen Knowles	Aughton Resident
Pam Milnes	Brinsworth Parish Council
Pam Gregory	Brinsworth Parish Council
Barry Ellis	Ulley Resident
Peter Morris	Ulley Resident
Richard Steel	Ulley Resident
James Mossman	Streetpride
Trevor Wilson	2010 Rotherham Ltd.
Glenis Briddon	Brampton-en-le-Morthen Resident
Dave Ashton	Ulley Resident
Jill Ashton	Ulley Resident
Bryan Longworth	Press

Apologies:-

Cllr. Austen, Cllr. Boyes, Cllr. Littleboy, Cllr. Wright, Mick Firth, Allan Murphy, Andy Pashley, Pat Wade

1. Minutes of the previous Meeting

Approved by David Knowles, seconded by Barbara Littlewood.

Page 2 – David Knowles reported that he had still not received any response from Graham Kaye with regards to the floods. David was informed that information was available on the website and Cllr. Swift stated that work would be starting on 7th February.

2. Public Rights of Way: Christian Hayes, Countryside and Rights of Way Officer

Christian Hayes, Countryside and Rights of Way Officer was invited to the meeting to talk about Public Rights of Way and the work he is currently involved in which includes:-

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

- Rotherham has over 400 kms of PROW passing through both rural and urban areas linking villages, churches and farms.
- Rotherham's ROW network is ranked as one of the most user friendly to walk and ride in the country.
- The network in Rotherham is split into 3 categories:
 - Footpaths (on foot only)
 - Bridleways (on foot, horseback or cycle)
 - Restricted Byways (on foot, horseback or non-motorised vehicle)

CROW Act Officer

- To improve access within the borough's ROW network
- Identify ROW improvements and implement them liaising with user groups and land owners.
- Manage the Local Access Forum (an Advisory Group made up of local land-owners, Councillors, walkers & horse riders who meet quarterly to discuss improvements to the Rights of Way network)
- Review the Rights of Way Improvement Plan
- Manage the Parish Paths Partnership Scheme

Works completed/ongoing this financial year

- 3 new Doorstep Walks at Wickersley, Aston and Anston
- Construction of 2 sets of timber steps to aid walkers at Maltby Crags
- Creation of a new permissive bridleway between Long Lane and Whiston Vale at Whiston
- Construction of a new bridleway bridge on Stoket Lane, Ulley

- Construction of kissing gates at Skipton Road, Aston (funded by the AA)
- Access improvement works along the riverside from Rotherham Town Centre through to Rother Valley Country Park
- Construction of wheelchair friendly kissing gates at Anston
- Clearance work along verges at Long Lane, Treeton, Brampton Straight Mile and Carr Lane, Carr to enable access by pedestrians and horse riders.
- Construction of steps and path resurfacing works at Hellaby
- Surfacing of a footpath behind St. Bartholomew's Church, Maltby

Major Schemes

- **New Parkway Bridge** - work will begin in March on the construction of a new multi user bridge over the Sheffield Parkway.
- **Smithywood Bridge** - works to start shortly on multi-user bridge over the M1 linking Thorpe Hesley with the Trans Pennine Trail in Sheffield.
- **A57 underpass** - works will begin this weekend on a new underpass at Limerick Golf course, the tunnel will provide a public footpath from one side of the A57 to the other.
- **Eastern Strategic Route** - a multi-user trail from Wick Road, Dinnington to the Borough Boundary at Woodcuts. This will link to the already completed Thurcroft Trail. The route will include a Pegasus crossing at Todwick Road.

Closure at Ulley Country Park

The current footpath closures will end on 24th February, however a further 6 month closure will then be used to allow ongoing works to be completed. The closure will be taken off, if the works are finished before 24th August, 2010.

The following questions/comments arose following Christian's presentation:-

- Q. Barbara Littlewood reported that she had sent an email to Alex Cousins regarding the permissive footpath in Ulley being too high and she had received an email back saying the footpath was shut which was not the case.
- A. Christian reported that he had spoken to Alex who had confirmed there had been a misunderstanding and she will be looking into the matter on her return to work.
- Q. Jeff Walker reported that he had raised concerns regarding a footpath from Guilthwaite to Ulley with Clare McCoy but had received no feedback and asked whose responsibility it was?
- A. Responsibility was joint between Council and the land owner. Christian to speak with Clare McCoy but stated that it would not be a quick fix due to drainage issues.
- Q. Jeff Walker asked if there was anything to feedback regarding the new bridleways created around Ulley as a result of the Windfarm development?

- A. RMBC Rights of Way have not been formally consulted by Banks, the developer and no planning application has been received so far but they are aware of the situation.
- Q. It was reported that the wooden bridge erected on Stoket Lane was being used by quad bikes which were causing damage.
- A. Christian will look into possibility of putting sleepers down in order to prevent the quad bikes using the bridge but would not affect the horses.
- Q. Small paddock in Aston which has Rights of Way access running through has an inefficient stile. Horse owner is constantly having to check gate has been closed for both public safety and that of her horses.
- A. Landowners are the first point of contact but if problem persists Christian advised the resident to contact himself.
- Q. One of the Doorstep Walks on Stoket Lane is dangerous due to traffic.
- A. Christian to look into creating a clear verge.

3. Ulley Reservoir Progress: Presentation by Matthew Jenkins, NEC Project Manager, Arup and Andy Bannier, Construction Manager, Vinci

Matthew and Andy were invited to the meeting to give some feedback to the community on the progress of works currently taking place at Ulley Reservoir. The presentation included:-

- Ecological Aspects
- Reservoir Safety
- Construction Progress
- What's Next?
 - Complete drawdown pipework
 - Complete wave protection
 - Bentonite clay wall
 - Complete spillway structure
 - New bridge over spillway
 - Stream training works
 - Fill in 1943 spillway
 - Timber decking to new wildlife pond

Cllr. Swift asked that Parish Councils be provided with a copy of the presentation for their information.

The following questions/comments arose following Matthew and Andy's presentation:-

- C. Alex Armitage reported that he thought it was inappropriate for the Council to spend £50k on a snake fence when there had been residents who had been flooded twice. Alex felt that the money could have been better spent helping the flood victims out.

Councillor Smith pointed out that the money for the snake fence would not have been available for spending on other purposes.

- Q. What was the expected completion date?
 A. Construction should be complete by the end of May.
 Q. How long will it take for the water to get back upto normal levels?
 A. Difficult to tell but once the critical work has taken place water will be allowed to creep up
 Q. Is the project going to finish on budget?
 A. Early indications are good.

4. PACT (Partners and Communities Together) – Sgt Alistair Stuart

Sgt. Alistair Stuart presented information to the meeting about crime figures in the Rother Valley West area. The meeting also looked at the priority results from last month's meeting and to look whether the priorities need changing. Once the 3 priorities for the Rother Valley West area are decided the Police and Partner agencies would work together on them.

Crime Data: Dec 09 Compared to Previous Month

	Current Month	Rate	Previous Month	Difference
All Crime	166	4.7	196	-30
Burglary	34	1	31	3
Robbery	0	0	1	-1
Vehicle Crime	20	0.6	18	2
Violence	20	0.6	35	-15
Anti Social Behaviour	242	6.9	274	-32

Crime Data: Dec 09 Compared to Previous Year

	Current Month	Rate	Previous Year	Difference
All Crime	166	4.7	171	-5
Burglary	34	1	18	16
Robbery	0	0	2	-2
Vehicle Crime	20	0.6	25	-5
Violence	20	0.6	25	-5
Anti Social Behaviour	242	6.9	193	32

Good News – What We Have Done

- Licence Watch – Regular meetings already being held with new banning orders in pace. Excellent response from local pubs. Possibly extending to include off licences?
- Bottle Watch – launched within Thurcroft. One issue with a local store to be resolved regarding their head office. This project will have a massive impact on reducing anti social behaviour fuelled by alcohol.
- Shop Watch – To be launched during the next revue period. Anyone who causes harassment, alarm or distress to shop staff or customers will be banned from the local shops. Posters have been designed. Links into Bottle Watch above.

- Mocam cameras have been installed. Some problems with set up which are being addressed. These will have a massive impact on helping to solve your local problems. For example, at Aughton Lane, Thurcroft and Brinsworth.
- Operation Coverage dedicated Anti Social Behaviour Patrols – continues to have a positive impact on reducing anti social behaviour and therefore improving your quality of life.

What are your priorities?

Priority 1 - Nuisance and inconsiderate behaviour around The Chase, Aston

Priority 2 - Anti-social use of Motor Vehicles on Aughton Lane/Workshop Road

Priority 3 - Rowdy and Inconsiderate Young People Pike Road junction with Ellis Street, Brinsworth

We did...

Priority 1 - Nuisance and inconsiderate behaviour around The Chase, Aston

- High visibility mobile and foot patrols have been made.
- Increase in demand during snowy weather due to snow ball throwing.
- Five youths stop checked in alley where there have been problems of anti social behaviour. Two of the youths arrested for possession of a small amount of cannabis. Other three taken home to parents.
- Acceptable behaviour Contracts being given to the above.
- SNT have arranged for a local family with children who are causing problems in the area to take part in the Family Intervention Programme. This engagement has already started.

Priority 2 - Anti-social use of Motor Vehicles on Aughton Lane/Workshop Road

- Directed patrols, including foot and observations, have been made.
- MOCAM is recording. However, technical problem with linking into software. Teething problem which will be resolved. Footage will then be downloaded for the specific times and dates of complainants made.
- Resources have attended the locations at various times but not observing offences taking place. Hence the importance of the MOCAMs above.
- Road Traffic Police will be running a proactive operation this month. Their last operation target the youths using the car par who have been causing problems and resulted in vehicles being taken off the road for document and condition offences.

Priority 3 - Rowdy and Inconsiderate Young People Pike Road junction with Ellis Street, Brinsworth

- Whilst there have been some reports within the target area the majority of the calls have been made by one occupant.
- Anti social behaviour patrols have been made but with nothing of note

- As a result of partnership working the housing policy has been changed to exclude anyone with a back ground of anti social behaviour from being house at the location.

Priorities for January 2010

Priority 1 - Anti-social use of Motor Vehicles on Aughton Lane/Worksop Road

Priority 2 - Nuisance and inconsiderate behaviour around The Chase, Aston

Priority 3 - The meeting agreed that the 3rd priority would be to look at anti-social behaviour in Treeton following reports of damage to vehicles, assaults on staff in newsagents and gangs of youths.

For a full copy of any of the presentations please contact the Rother Valley West Area Assembly Office on 01709 702897.

5. Questions from Members of the Public

Q. Growing concerns raised in Ulley around buses operated by Veolia Transport which are not service buses travelling through the village, using the village as a rat run causing problems to other vehicles on the road and often resulting in vehicles having to mount pavements in order to get past. It was also reported that the buses have been driving on grass verges on Penny Hill Lane resulting in soil eroding and tarmac breaking up. Peter Hubbard reported that the Parish Council will be approaching RMBC to look at width restrictions and speed humps and asked the Area Assembly for support. Peter reported that the bus company have been invited to Parish Council meetings but as yet they have received no response.

A. Cllr. Smith suggested the Parish Council write to the PT and to contact Tom Finnegan-Smith in EDS with regards to speed humps. Cllr. Swift also stated that he would bring the issues raised up at the next transport meeting and will try and get a Transport Officer to attend the next Area Assembly meeting.

Q. Litter problems reported on Ulley Lane, Reservoir Road, lay-by at Aston Common, Hardwick Lane, Worksop Road, outside Aston Comprehensive and dyke on Alexander Road.

A. James Mossman to look into litter problems.

Q. Ulley resident reported that Turnshaw Road, Ulley was like a sheet of glass during the bad weather and asked if the road could be gritted more frequently in bad weather?

A. James reported that they do not grit unclassified roads but could look into getting a grit bin installed. Cllr. Smith also stated that RMBC are currently looking into filling grit bins purchased by Parish Councils.

6. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday, 22nd February, 2010 at 6.00 pm in Aston Parish Hall.