

MINUTES OF THE WENTWORTH SOUTH
 AREA ASSEMBLY MEETING
 HELD ON MONDAY 27TH JULY 2009
 AT
 KILNHURST RESOURCE CENTRE

Present

Cllr Paul Lakin (Chair)	-	Valley Ward Member
Lindsey Gibson (Minutes)	-	Rotherham South Area Assembly Team
V Bryan	-	Wentworth South Area Assembly
J Colley	-	Wentworth South Area Assembly
Cllr N Hamilton	-	Rawmarsh Ward Member
Cllr P Russell	-	Silverwood Ward Member
Cllr A Russell	-	Silverwood Ward Member
Cllr D Pickering	-	Valley Ward Member
Cllr S Currie	-	Valley Ward Member
J Foxton	-	Thrybergh Parish Council
B Bentley	-	Thrybergh Parish Council
D Rowley	-	Ravenfield Parish Council
M Johnson	-	Ravenfield Parish Council
A Scholes	-	Ravenfield Parish Council
V Twigg	-	Friends of Valley Park
C Shaw	-	Friends of Valley Park
J Rowe	-	Friends of Valley Park
Mr Broadhead	-	Friends of Valley Park
Mrs Broadhead	-	Friends of Valley Park
V Trimmer	-	Thrybergh & Dalton District Correspondent
K Brigland	-	Stag Action Group
W Billups	-	Rawmarsh Area Action
K Reeder	-	Resident
J Dearden	-	Resident
B Littlewood	-	Resident
T Ward	-	Resident
P Cahill	-	Resident
H Cahill	-	Resident
T Buttle	-	Resident
J A Wooding	-	Resident
N Brayshaw	-	Resident
R Cross	-	Resident
J S Campbell	-	Resident
A Bamforth	-	RMBC Planning
M Finn	-	RMBC Community Protection
R Patrick	-	RMBC Energy Efficiency

184. Welcome and Introductions

Cllr Lakin welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Area Assembly Team.

185. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Whelbourn, Cllr Wright, Cllr Stone, Shaun Pilley, Julia Millea, Colette Williams, Amy Hutson, Colin Booth, Glen Trickett ,M Ardron and Mr Darby

186. LDF Core Strategy Consultation – Alan Bamforth & Paul Woodcock

It was explained that RMBC have a Government set target to find sufficient land to build 24,500 new houses by 2026. Currently 3 options are being explored:

Option 1 - Concentration on Rotherham Urban Areas

Option 2 – Rotherham Urban Areas and Major Transport Routes

Option 3 – Disbursed Option

The final option could be a combination of options however all 3 options include Bassingthorpe Farm.

The followings questions/comments were raised:

- a) A question was asked as to why RMBC have to follow this target.
It was explained that staff have to work to Government recommendations
- b) A question was asked regarding the occupiers of the new houses.
It was explained that the targets are not to meet immigration but to meet the projected population growth.
- c) It was asked if the new houses can be ‘pocketed’ to ensure greenspace/countryside remains.
It was explained that there is still lots of work to do to identify suitable sites for development but the developments will be ‘pocketed’ to ensure greenspace exists.
- d) A question was asked regarding infrastructure to the new houses.
It was explained that when assessing sites, the local roads, schools, and health facilities will be considered.
- e) It was asked what the timescales/framework is for decision making.
It was explained that the following framework would be used;
 - Firm up on direction
 - Seek Council approval
 - Submit to Secretary of State
- f) A comment was made regarding the resources for food and the recent encouragement to become self-sufficient.
- g) A comment was made that the area being consulted on at Bassingthorpe Farm isn’t in Wentworth South’s area.
- h) It was asked if the previous areas identified in HMR consultation would be considered first.
It was explained that the masterplans would be considered and that Government guidance would be followed regarding developing on Brownfield land before Greenbelt land.
- i) It was asked how many people were on the Council House waiting list.
It was explained that there are approx 19,000 currently on the list.

187. Minutes from 16th June 2009, matters arising and action table

Minutes were passed as a true record.

Matters arising from the minutes and action table

4) Junction at Green lane near Rawmarsh Police Station –

Vanessa Bryan had received the following response from Richard Baker, Senior Technician, Transportation - Planning & Regeneration, Environment and Development Services, Rotherham Council.

We agree that good visibility is important when driving and particularly when turning into or out of a junction. The Highway Code advises drivers on the laws and rules of the road and includes instructions to drivers that they should not park within 10 metres of a junction. We are assessing methods to improve visibility here and the need for measures to prevent vehicles parking too close to the junction. The introduction of waiting restrictions, denoted by yellow lines, may be one suitable method to achieve this. To provide waiting restrictions we would promote a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) which requires us to properly consult statutory bodies such as the Police, other emergency services, local councillors and the public. This process can take six to nine months to implement but if successful would enable us to place restrictions at this location.

With the instances of vehicles mounting the pavement to turn left we are obviously keen to avoid this as it is a dangerous practice. It not only endangers pedestrians directly but also damages the kerb and footway leaving a secondary danger to pedestrians in particular the blind or infirm. To address this we are looking at the possibility of installing bollards at the edge of the footway. These should hopefully prevent the problem reoccurring and protect pedestrians on the footway.

Although we have received requests in the past to change the configuration of this junction to a mini roundabout we do not currently consider that this would be a suitable change. The A633 is highlighted as a congestion route and a key route for the north-south traffic in Rotherham. It is probable that by improving access at the Green Lane junction with Barber's Avenue that this route would be made more attractive and some of the through traffic from the A633 would migrate to using Barber's Avenue. We do not want this to occur as this could have a detrimental impact on the area and the road is not necessarily fit for this purpose. When possible we want to keep through traffic on the key routes in the network, minimise rat-running and ensure that residential areas are not overwhelmed by non local traffic. In addition, as we have a limited amount of money available to spend on changes we have to prioritise what issues and locations we look at. One of the ways we do this is by seeing if there is a history of accidents at a location and then if an accident problem exists investigating whether a change to the junction would reduce this problem. We have to do this to make sure we are spending the money at the locations where it is most needed. The Barber's Avenue/Green Lane junction is not currently considered to be an accident hotspot so we would not be able to get the necessary funding on this basis. Other junctions which have a poorer accident record need to be looked at first and changed if necessary.

- 5) The roads and streets around Chaucer Road shops –** This area suffers from a large amount of litter and the owners of the shops are filling the bin which means the bins are overflowing with litter can streetpide provide a litter picker?

ACTION – Amy Hutson

Response

I can confirm that Rotherham Streetpride litter pick and empty the litter bins around Chaucer Road Shops twice a week - Monday and Thursday. We are not in a position currently to increase the frequency of street cleansing in this location - Richard Jackson

6) Moorefield Close/Moorefield Drive at Ravenfield – It is confirm that off-road parking is part of the 2010 environmental scheme however commencement date has not been set.

8) Noise Nuisance in Kilnhurst – Matthew Finn reported that the noise level is being monitored.

9) Channelling of road outside Silverwood Pit – The landowners have been contacted and waiting for further information.

10) Water Leak on Barbers Avenue – A resident said that the water leak has been reported to Streetpride however the hole is still there.

ACTION: Councillor Hamilton to follow up.

Response

Cllr Hamilton has passed this on to Richard Jackson who is dealing with the issue and will feedback at the next Area Assembly meeting

188. Presentation by Matthew Finn, Community Protection Unit

Matthew Finn, Community Protection Manager for Rotherham North Safer Neighbourhood Area gave a presentation entitled 'Public and environmental protection in one locality based service'.

The presentation provided an overview of who the Community Protection are and the services the provide, including:

- *Building links with communities*
- *Neighbour Nuisance*
- *ASBO's and ABC's*
- *Housing*
- *Licensing*
- *Pollution control*
- *Fly Tipping*
- *Littering*
- *Dog Control*
- *Fly Posting & Graffiti*
- *Off Road Motorcycles*

The followings questions/comments were raised:

- a) A question was asked regarding the Council's policy on ragwort. It was explained that Steve Mellard, Streetpride has no budget to eradicate ragwort. A discussion then followed regarding ragwort legislation.
- b) A question was asked regarding how the Community Protection Unit is linked to the Council. It was explained that the Community Protection Unit is a Council

department and when members of the public ring Streetpride's 'Golden Number' the information is fed into their database.

- c) A question was asked regarding the Community Protection Unit's involvement in tackling anti-social behaviour. It was explained that initially anti-social behaviour is dealt with by the Safer Neighbourhood Team and then, dependent upon the severity, referred to the Community Protection Unit.

189. Presentation by Kevin Burke, Groundwork Dearne Valley

Kevin Burke, Groundwork Dearne Valley gave a presentation on who Groundwork Dearne Valley are and the work they are involved in. Kevin explained that they work with communities, public bodies, private companies and the voluntary sector.

The following questions/comments were raised:

- a) A question was asked regarding Groundwork's policy on ragwort. It was explained that workers/volunteers are made aware of any potential dangers.

190. Presentation by Ron Patrick, South Yorkshire Energy Efficiency Advice Centre

Ron Patrick, RMBC Home Energy Efficiency Team gave a presentation on how people can reduce energy costs and how the team can support people to do so. Attendees were also given a booklet entitled 'Save Energy, Save Money'

The following questions/comments were raised:

- a) A question was asked regarding publicising the Home Energy Efficiency Team. It was explained that a full page advert is placed in the Rotherham Record/Advertiser every October.
- b) A comment was made regarding solid fuel heating and ensuring adequate ventilation. It was explained that solid fuel is only 20% efficient.
- c) A question was asked regarding Government Grants towards reducing energy costs. It was explained that Government Grants are means tested however there are also heavily discounted schemes for people of any age who can't get Government Grants.

191. Agencies Reports

Streetpride – Richard Jackson

Richard explained that a presentation will be made at September's Area Assembly meeting to update on how the Streetpride Devolved Budget money has been spent.

192. Questions from the Public

- a. A question was asked regarding flytipping on the double boundary of Stagecoach in Rawmarsh. Richard Jackson explained that the manager of Stagecoach has been contacted and Streetpride will work with them, 2010 and the Wardens to clear the site.
- b. A question was asked regarding having an answering machine on Streetpride's golden number as a resident was on hold for 5 minutes. It was

explained that operatives need to speak to all callers to ensure the relevant information is provided as Streetpride have response times they most meet.

- c. A question was asked regarding improving Herringthorpe Valley Road to the same standard as Warren Vale Road. It was explained that the scheme on Warren Vale was funding through HMR via Wentworth South and Wentworth North and that, at present, no further funding is available.
- d. A question was asked regarding overgrown hedges on country lanes. It was explained that boundary fences are the responsibility of the land owners.
- e. It was asked whether Chaucer Road Shops could be redeveloped along the same lines as Thurogate Shops in Rawmarsh, through the HMR money. It was explained that currently all HMR funding had already been allocated therefore this would not be possible.
- f. A resident raised concerns over a drug dealer residing at Barratt corner. It was explained that the SNT and councillors are aware of this.

193. PACT and South Yorkshire Police update

Inspector Tattershall provided the following report;

All reported crime within our area still follows a downward trend.

We are currently seeing a 4% reduction in all crime compared to this time last year.

- Burglary dwellings have reduced by 30% (-15 offences)
- Criminal Damage offences reduced by 10% (-23)
- Vehicle Crime by 10% (-12)
- Drugs Possessions by 48% (-12)
- Assaults by 27 % (-24)

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Compared to this time last year reported ASB incidents have fallen by 3%

DETECTIONS

The Police Authority set us a target to detect 22% of all crime. Thus far we are detecting 31% of all reported crimes.

NEWS STORIES

The SNT worked with Rotherham Youth Services on Operation Staysafe. The idea is we patrol hot spot locations and remove vulnerable youngsters to a place of safety. Contact their parents and if appropriate instigate some interventions for the child or the family. We removed 14 young people the majority of these were in drink. Although not in drink the youngest was 8 years old wandering the streets of Rawmarsh at 10.30pm.

A Thrybergh church had the lead stolen from its roof. Although expensive in value following a downpour of rain a significant amount of damage was caused due to the leaking roof. The suspected thieves were arrested a few days later weighing it in at a Parkgate scrapyard.

We have executed 3 drugs warrants in Rawmarsh. Cannabis bush was recovered from one address. Cannabis plants were being cultivated at the other 2. Over £8000 worth of drugs were recovered and 5 people have been arrested.

A Rotherham man burgled a local garage. He left some of his DNA behind. He admitted that offence along with 20 other burglaries at Rotherham public houses. He is currently remanded in custody.

There was a fight on Bradstone Road where someone was assaulted and a vehicle damaged. The offender left his marks on the vehicle. He has been arrested and charged with damage and affray.

3 men stole £30,000 worth of scrap radiators from a Parkgate business. They quickly weighed them in at a Rotherham scrap dealer leaving their personal and vehicle details. Following a check of the premises the 3 men have been arrested and will be charged when they answer bail.

The SNT, Road Policing Group, Streetpride and Customs and Excise completed an ANPR operation on Aldwarke Road. They arrested 2 illegal immigrants, seized 11 vehicles due to vehicles being uninsured, issued 17 on the spot fixed penalty tickets, 2 drivers were fined £500 for using red diesel and 2 drivers were fined £300 for transporting waste material without a licence.

Working with RMBC the SNT have completed a further nuisance motor cycle operation. 4 bikes were seized at Thrybergh. During June/July we have issued 24 warning notices and seized 13 bikes.

The new PACT priorities were set as
Claypit Lane – Rawmarsh
Vale Road – Thrybergh
Mallory Road / Branston Road - Herringthorpe

STAND ALONE PACT Meeting at 6.30pm WEDNESDAY 26th August 2009
Dale Road Community Centre Rawmarsh

194. Time, Date and Venue of next meeting

Monday 28th September 2009
6pm
Ravenfield Parish Hall

