

MINUTES OF THE WENTWORTH SOUTH  
AREA ASSEMBLY MEETING  
Held on MONDAY 28<sup>th</sup> September 2009  
At  
Ravenfield Parish Hall

Present

Cllr Paul Lakin (Chair)	-	Valley Ward Member
Mandy Ardron (Minutes)	-	Wentworth South Area Assembly
V Bryan	-	Wentworth South Area Assembly
Cllr N Hamilton	-	Rawmarsh Ward Member
Cllr G Whelbourn	-	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
Colette Williams	-	2010 Rotherham Ltd
Matthew Spittles	-	2010 Rotherham Ltd
Richard Jackson	-	Streetpride
S Schofield	-	Neighbourhood Pride Team
B Bentley	-	Thrybergh Parish Council
S Doeherty	-	Thrybergh Parish Council
G Marlow	-	Thrybergh Parish Council
D Rowley	-	Ravenfield Parish Council
V Burges	-	Ravenfield parish council
A Scholes	-	Ravenfield Parish Council
V Twigg	-	Friends of Valley Park
C Shaw	-	Friends of Valley Park
Mr Broadhead	-	Friends of Valley Park
Mrs Broadhead	-	Friends of Valley Park
V Trimmer	-	Thrybergh & Dalton District Correspondent
Mike Hull	-	Resident
M Darby	-	Resident
K Brisland	-	Stag Action Group
N Brayshaw	-	Resident
J Bacon	-	Resident
K Reeder	-	Resident
N Wright	-	Resident
J Dearden	-	Resident
J Cox	-	Resident
Eric Shaw	-	Resident
J Stanfield	-	Resident

**195 Welcome and Introductions**

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

**196 Apologies**

Apologies were received from, Cllr Wright, Cllr Stone, Shaun Pilley, Julia Millea, Julie Colley, Amy Hutson, J Campbell, Glen Trickett, J Rowe, D Swallow, G Palmer, B Littlewood, C Booth, W Billup and Mr Cross.

## 197 Minutes from the Area Assembly meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2009

Cllr Lakin asked the meeting to go through the minutes for accuracy.

He explained that Mr Campbell had written to the Area Assembly office to let them know that in his opinion there had been some questions raised that had been missed out of the minutes.

Vanessa Bryan read out the letter and it was agreed the following points were to be included

Q. I asked about building houses next to electricity pylons.

A. Alan Bamforth – Forward Planner explained that development near to pylons and overhead cables was controlled by Health and Safety Legislation which set out stand off distances.

With these additions the minutes were accepted as a true record.

All other Questions raised in the letter from Mr Campbell to be included in Questions from the public.

### 198. Matters arising from the minutes

Page 4 point 8 were,

It was stated that Hooton Road at Kilnhurst had still not been swept.

**Action – Richard Jackson to take this back to Streetpride for schedule of work**

Response

The footpath has been swept

A request for something to be done regarding the noise made from Heavy goods vehicles travelling over Speed Humps on Hooton Road.

**Action – Richard Jackson to contact relevant officers for the results of any speed surveys that may have been undertaken since the traffic calming had been constructed outside the school on Hooton Road.**

Response

I have passed this request to Nigel Davy - Planning and Transportation Group to investigate and report - no update has been received

**Chaucer Road Shops** – It was reported that the area around Chaucer Road Shops was still suffering from a large amount of littering. The littering was not just from school children but from adults and from some of the shop owners themselves; who were using the litter bins for commercial use.

Richard Jackson explained that the area was litter picked twice a week, which was more than most area and that this could not be increased. He suggested that residents came forward with evidence if they knew who was causing the littering. He also suggested the CCTV cameras were checked to find out if shop owners are using the bins for shop waste. If this was the case then enforcement, such as fixed penalties could then be issued.

#### **Actions**

- **Contact Matthew Finn's team about gaining access to the CCTV footage at Chaucer Road Shops.**
- **Streetpride to assess the amount of bins and the capacity to determine if they are adequate for the area.**

Response

I understand that the issue of litter around Chaucer Road Shops, Herringthorpe has been highlighted again recently. In particular concerning the local shopkeepers and how they dispose of their waste!

I visited Chaucer Road Shops on Thursday/ Friday last week and as a result a Section 34(5) Notice and Producer, has been hand delivered to the proprietor of one of the shops, who did

not have a current commercial/ business contract or any documentation that show how they dispose of their business (controlled) waste. This offence is usually dealt with by a £300 Fixed Penalty Notice for failure to comply with this notice.

The Rotherham Warden Pro-Active Team and myself have done several operations regarding littering in this area in the past few months, issuing a number of Fixed Penalty Notices for littering. The educational 'Toxic' presentation has also been given at the local comprehensive school by Craig Cornwall. I have also requested that 'pick up or pay' warning stencils be applied in that area. Hopefully this should have some impact on this problem! If there is anything else I can assist you with regarding these matters please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Richard Jones – Enviro-crime enforcement officer – RMBC

**HMR funding for Chaucer Road Shops** – It was explained that all HMR money has been allocated for this year and currently it is not yet known how much, if any, HMR funding will be available for next year. It was agreed that an improvement scheme at Chaucer Road shops would be put forward for consideration next year, but would be looked at alongside all other submitted projects.

### **199. Presentation 1 - Wentworth South Area Plan 2009/10 by Vanessa Bryan.**

Vanessa Bryan gave a power point presentation on the Wentworth South Area Plan; she explained that through consultation carried out by the Area Assembly team the following priorities had been identified:

1. Reduce the level and fear of crime and increase community safety
2. Increase facilities and activities for children and young people
3. Improve standards of road and pavements and cleaner streets
4. Increase employment opportunities and opportunities for access to learning new skills
5. Increase community facilities and activities
6. Additional Priority: Health and Well Being

She gave an overview of some of the projects and activities being carried out to address these priorities.

The following concern was raised,

A member of the Ravenfield Parish Council had been informed that the Ravenfield Parish Plan and the Wentworth South Area Plan would have very little value in context to the LDF plans and decisions made in terms of planning.

She asked the Area assembly to support Ravenfield in gaining recognition of the plans in the future.

**The Area Assembly agreed to give their support.**

### **Presentation 2 - Wentworth South Devolved Budget by Vanessa Bryan**

Vanessa Bryan went through the Devolved Budget process and explained how the projects aligned with the Area Plan, and how they address the top 5 community priorities.

Vanessa explained that there may be potential slippage of spend on some of the projects therefore anyone with potential project could submit them to the Area Assembly office to be added to a reserve list.

The following questions were raised;

A request was made for a list of all the projects that have been allocated funding.

**Action – Area Assembly to distribute this with the minutes**

A resident commented on the Wild flowers that had been planted on Warren Vale and asked that similar planting be considered for Valley Road next year.

### **200. Streetpride Devolved Budget by Richard Jackson**

Richard gave a power point presentation which explained which projects had been agreed for funding through the Streetpride Devolved Budget. Schemes were to be carried out in the following areas; Barbers Avenue, Shenstone Road, New Meadows, Brecks Lane, Broad Street and Hollings Lane. The following questions and comments were raised.

Richard was thanked for the work done so far by Streetpride at Shenstone Road, residents felt the work complemented the new school building.

A discussion took place regarding the huge improvement in littering outside Rawmarsh Comprehensive. It was said that the school had decided to prevent pupils leaving the School grounds during lunch and break times and this had been successful in reducing the amount of litter dropped in the area.

A request for a footpath on Warren Vale to the Roundabout was made. Currently there is a path on one side only. Richard explained that this request had gone in but due to the costs involved he felt it would not be likely in the near future.

A resident of Broom Avenue requested the implementation of a traffic calming scheme on Broom Avenue, cars are said to be travelling at much greater speeds than 30 mph.

**Action - Richard Jackson to pass this on to the relevant officer and provide an update.**

#### **Response**

I have passed this request to Matthew Lowe - Planning and Transportation Group to investigate and report - no update has been received

A discussion took place regarding dangerous parking outside Schools. One particular incident had occurred at Thrybergh Fullerton School where photographs had been taken of a heavy goods vehicle reversing into the drive of the school during drop off times.

It was explained that a scrutiny review on Safety outside Schools' was currently underway that would assess the needs of all schools within the borough. This would help to tailor the support given to each school.

A pilot project funded by the Wentworth South Area Assembly Devolved Budget has just been delivered within the 21 primary Schools in the Area. The project provided a booklet and DVD to every family in the area to raise awareness of Safety outside School. It is hoped that this will be delivered borough wide.

### **Agencies Report – 2010 Rotherham Ltd**

Colette Williams 2010 Rotherham Ltd gave an overview of her report which was circulated at the meeting. Her report included information on tenancy verifications carried out, estate Action days and estate walkabouts.

Cllr Lakin informed the meeting that Rotherham Council has been successful in their bid to Central Government for an allocation of money to build 36 new council houses.

The houses are to be built at Wood Street, Thrybergh and will kick start the regeneration process within the area. Work is due to start in March 2010 and will take around a year to complete.

### **Rotherham Wardens report**

A report from Rotherham wardens was distributed at the meeting which included the following,

During August and September Rotherham Wardens dealt with over 100 reports in the Area Assembly Area. Wardens took an active part in the Rotherham Show, attending alongside Junior Wardens who carried out questionnaires. Several tenancy verification events took place in East Herringthorpe and Herringthorpe. Wardens also took part in a Walkabout on Arcon Place. Wardens are working with St. Bernard's school to improve the environmental situation at Browning Road, with Assembly presentations taking place and follow-up action taken.

## 201. Questions from the public

### **Q Are houses to be built on green belt land next to Symonds Avenue and Harding avenue** (submitted by letter)

A. With regards to Mr Campbell's enquiry about land off Harding Avenue/ Symonds Avenue, Outline Planning Permission for residential development was granted on 16/09/09.

**The land is not and never has been Green Belt.** The site was allocated for residential development in the Unitary Development Plan (adopted June 1999) - Site H42 - which is still the Borough's statutory development plan, so this residential application was in conformity with the statutory development plan.

Ms Deardon expressed the following concerns and questions

What measures had been put in place to prevent a repeat of the flooding that happened in 2007? There has been no mention of flood defences and future planning for erosion of the River banks. The environmental agency and Yorkshire water haven't provided any answers so far. Other areas, such as Catcliffe have reports back to Area Assemblies, they have flood bags provided. Other than the drains been cleaned there has been no further improvements in 2 years.

It was explained that Parish Councils had received a letter asking them to identify the number of sandbags/flood bags they require for each area. Kilnhurst did not have a parish council so was not aware of this.

Possible solutions were discussed such as, contacting Rother Valley West for information/advice on Flood defences and inviting Alan Matthews from the emergency planning team to attend a future Area Assembly meeting to provide an update

### **Youth Shelter at Valley Park**

A number of concerns were raised regarding the adverse publicity printed in the Rotherham Advertiser a number of weeks ago. The Friends of Valley Park felt that the article was damaging to the reputation of the park and the allegations were not true.

They have written a response to highlight the hard work that has been done in the park and asked if the Area Assembly would support them in their response.

Cllr Currie explained that he would be writing to the advertiser in support.

Cllr Lakin said that the Area Assembly were fully in support, but he felt that the situation needed to be looked into, a response may do more harm than good. He felt that any response should be a joint multi agency approach.

Q. It was asked what time does the litter picks take place in the park and can a bin be provided near the youth shelter.

A. a bin has been requested and is due to be fitted shortly

**Action Julie Colley to find out what time the litter pick takes place.**

#### Response

Generally the park is litter picked and bins emptied on Monday and Friday, times could vary week to week depending on circumstances.

Richard Malkin - Contract Manager Grounds Maintenance, Streetpride

Q how many complaints have been received regarding the Youth Shelter

A. There has been no complaints received. Richard Kearney reported a positive response from the people using the bowling green, as young people now have somewhere of their own to use.

A resident of Ravenfield reported a number of issues regarding the frequency of buses from Ravenfield to Rotherham; in particular the number 3, 4 and 122 bus. The timetable of these buses meant that they all ran very close together leaving large gaps in the time table. He also reported the bad condition of the number 4 bus.

**Action – Area Assembly team to pass this information on to Gillian palmer for a response.**

**Response**

Gillian has reported the matter to First and is awaiting a response. She has also tried to contact the resident on a number of occasions and left messages but as yet has been unsuccessful. She will keep trying and give an update at the next meeting.

A resident asked if the Hedges on Longfield Drive adjacent to the bus stop could be cut back as they were blocking the path and making it difficult to use the bus stop.

**Action – Richard Jackson to pass on to Streetpride**

**Response**

Works to be carried out as soon as practicably possible

Q. Is there going to be houses built on the garage site at Deer Park Road Thrybergh?

A Not that we know of, there will be a second round, but an area has not been allocated as yet. Once this information is known it will be shared with the Area Assembly.

Q. What is happening with the 10 million pound environmental budget?

A. Neighbourhood Champions from 2010 have allocated projects; decisions have still not been made on which schemes will be included. Once this information is available it will be shared with the Area assembly.

Q. Will there be any schemes designed to help home owners improve their properties

A There are 'home appreciation loans' that were available in some areas, however these are not available in Rotherham East.

The following two requests were received by letter and passed on to Richard Jackson for action.

Q Can Streetpride look at the pavements on Gerard Avenue opposite March Flats Community Centre?

**Response**

Site visit carried out at March Flats no works required Councillor Russell informed

A request for Dog bins to be provided on Hollings Lane near the entrance and exit of the woods and repairs made to the fence and gates.

**Response**

A request for dog bin included on list for next years Devolved Budget , A report of defective fence/ gates has been sent to land owner

**202. South Yorkshire Police update and PACT by Inspector Tattershall**

Compared to this time last year we are seeing a 10% reduction in overall crime

(150 less crimes)

Burglary dwellings have reduced by 39% (35 less crimes)

Burglary others have reduced by 9% (10 crimes)

Vehicle Crime reduced by 4% (10 crimes)

Drugs Possessions reduced by 17% (6 crimes)

Violent Crime reduced by 22% (57 crimes)

Of the 1350 crimes committed the police have detected around 30% (4000)

## **ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

Compared to this time last year ASB incidents have fallen 6% (110 incidents)

### **News Stories**

A few months ago I reported a knife point robbery that had occurred at a Rawmarsh off licence. The 2 offenders were detained after being recognised by the PCSO's. The pair whom had originated from Liverpool went to prison for 7 and 3 years for the offence.

The SNT executed a warrant at Rawmarsh and recovered a large quantity of cannabis plants. The male responsible was adamant that these were for personal use. A member of our drug squad attended court and gave evidence that the quantity of drugs would last 113 years. The male was subsequently convicted of Possession with Intent to supply and sentenced to prison for 12 months.

A warrant was executed at East Herringthorpe. This family had previously caused problems on Chesterhill Ave. The mother was trying to flush drugs down the sink. However we still managed to recover £2000 of amphetamine, £500 cash and the 2 occupants were arrested. They will be charged and tenancy enforcement will follow.

An old lady was the subject of a knife point robbery at Rawmarsh. Whilst running away the offender was hit in the face by a passer by. That offender was traced and has been subsequently charged with the robbery and remanded in custody.

We executed a warrant at a Chinese Takeaway. 460 cannabis plants were recovered value £130k. 2 people have been processed for the cultivation. 3 others were illegal immigrants.

We had information that a Rawmarsh man was selling cigarettes to local school children. With Trading Standards we executed a warrant and recovered £10k worth of counterfeit cigarettes. Tenancy enforcement will follow.

A Dalton male left his DNA at burglary in Eastwood. He admitted that offence along with 17 other theft from motor vehicles. These have been committed in Wentworth South and the Rotherham South areas. He is currently in prison and has indicated he would admit numerous other offences in Rawmarsh and Wath

A Rawmarsh youth was caught in a stolen vehicle. He has admitted 35 other vehicle offences around the Rawmarsh/Parkgate area and is currently in prison.

In the past month the PCSO's have issued 13 x 171 notices with regards nuisance bikes, seized 5 bikes, removed 5 abandoned vehicles and assisted in 10 arrests.

### **PACT**

The New Pact priority areas were agreed as follows;

- Chaucer Road Shop – To be the next Grot spot of the month
- Thorogate Shops – Rawmarsh
- Meadow Close - Dalton

It was explained that police have a duty to respond within 60 minutes to a PACT location, therefore PACT areas focus mainly on one or two streets but do take into account the surrounding area.

An issue was raised regarding Pitches at Broom; reports were made of young people drinking and causing issues with anti-social behaviour during the times when the building is closed.

**Action – Steve Tattershall to look into this.**

Response

**Stand Alone PACT meeting  
6.30pm Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at  
Dale Road Community Centre Rawmarsh  
The Bridleway, Rawmarsh**

---

**NEXT AREA ASSEMBLY MEETING  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2009 at 6pm  
Thrybergh Comprehensive Main Hall**