

ROTHER VALLEY WEST AREA ASSEMBLY
Aston Parish Hall
Monday, 22nd February, 2010 – 6.00 pm

Present:- Present:-

Cllr. J. Swift	Borough Councillor
Cllr. J. Austen	Borough Councillor
Cllr. G. Smith	Borough Councillor
Cllr. H. Jack	Borough Councillor
Cllr. G. Boyes	Borough Councillor
Cllr. J. Gamble	Borough Councillor
Cllr. R. Littleboy	Borough Councillor
Andrea Peers	RVW Area Partnership Manager
Julie Barnett	Community Involvement Officer
Kyley Taylor	RVW Support Officer
Insp. Richard Scholey	South Yorkshire Police
Sgt. Alistair Stuart	South Yorkshire Police
PCSO Steve Inglis	South Yorkshire Police
Karen Wilshon	South Yorkshire Police
Pat Wade	Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Council
Trevor Wade	Aston Resident
Allan Jackson	Brinsworth & Catcliffe History Group
S. Marsh	Orgreave Parish Council
M. Parker	Orgreave Resident
Trevor Wilson	2010 Rotherham Ltd.
M. Clear	Orgreave Parish Council
J. Baggley	Swallownest Resident
Barbara Littlewood	Friends of Ulley Country Park
Jeff Walker	Ulley Parish Council
Alex Armitage	Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Council
Rosemary Armitage	Aston Resident
Adam Wilbraham	Aston Resident
Dave Haswell	Aston Resident
Jan Leyland	Neighbourhood Partnership Team
Cherie Beaumont	Aston Resident
Lisa Rawlin	ESPO
Susan Gilliatt-Kitching	Aston Resident
Mike Finnie	Aston Resident
Maureen Knowles	Aughton Resident
David Knowles	Aughton Resident
Pat Barnes	Aston Resident
James Mossman	Streetpride
Darren Hughes	Catcliffe Parish Council
Mick Firth	Aston Resident
Alan Hodkin	Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Council
Bob O'Keefe	Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Council
Pam Gregory	Brinsworth Parish Council

Apologies:-

Allan Murphy, Cllr. Nightingale, B. Bartholomew

1. Minutes of the previous Meeting

Page 2 – David Knowles reported that he had still received no feedback from Graham Kaye. He had downloaded the report as suggested from the website which gave no new information and consisted of a number of errors. It was also minuted in the last minutes that Cllr. Swift stated that work would be starting on 7th February which has not happened.

Alex Armitage also expressed concern that answers were not being provided to public questions at meetings.

Cllr. Swift stated that he would ask Graham Kaye to attend the next Area Assembly meeting in Swallownest to give an update. Cllr. Swift also reported that work has been completed in Treeton and work was currently taking place in Wetherby on the drainage tunnels.

Page 3 – Barbara Littlewood clarified that the question she raised at the last meeting was about 3 styles being too high not a footpath as recorded in the minutes. Barbara stated that Christian Hayes had been in contact with herself and informed her that he was looking at one of the styles but not the other two.

New Parkway Bridge – Allan Jackson questioned what construction was going to be used and felt it had been a waste of residents time if someone was going to redesign it. Allan was informed that as Yorkshire Water had withdrawn some of the money a redesign had taken place to modify the scheme to fit in with the costs.

2. Building Schools for the Future: Presentation by Andy Hodgson, Assistant Headteacher at Aston Comprehensive School.

Andy was invited to the meeting to give a presentation on Building Schools for the Future (BSF), a national programme of investment which will see every secondary school renewed, remodelled or refurbished over a 15 year period. It is also the vehicle which will drive Transforming Rotherham Learning (TRL) providing the investment and infrastructure to enable all pupils to achieve.

The programme is split into Phases 1, 2 and 3. BSF funding has been secured for phase 1 and construction is due to start on Aston in August 2011 and will take approximately 18 months to complete. The budget is £23 million which includes ICT and accommodation for phase build. Over next 5/6 months Architects will come up with designs for the site although they have got to keep the front block which will be gutted and reshelled. All the schools will benefit from a significant new build, providing learning spaces and facilities that will transform learning in Rotherham.

The phase 1 schools identified are:-

- Aston Comprehensive
- Maltby Community School
- Hilltop (co-located at Maltby Community School)
- Oakwood Technology College
- St. Pius Catholic High School
- Swinton Community School

Andy's presentation also included:-

- Strategy for Change
- Education Brief – Ellis Millar
- Pre-planning application – now put forward
- Invitation to Bidders - tenders will go out in April.

Andy explained that students at Aston Comprehensive were asked to identify faults with the buildings and in rooms from a student's point of view. Some of the suggestions they came up with were narrow corridors, dark areas, difficulties with trying to marshal students around and computers loosely wired. Suggestions they made for the future included light colours, design, break-out spaces, gym, better use of outdoor spaces. Students also felt it was important to have their work on display.

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

- Q. How much community use do you envisage?
 A. Andy stated that they want to make facilities available as much as possible.
- Q. Will community be consulted?
 A. Yes, when there is something to consult on.
- Q. How will you tackle car parking issues in your plans?
 A. This is a live issue at the moment. The design does not address issues around car parking but they are looking to extend leisure centre car parking.
- Q. What is the balancing pond and is it wise to have a pond when houses surrounding the area have previously been flooded?
 A. This has been taken into consideration and the issues are being addressed.
- Q. What ideas have you got for facilities for public use of the school?
 A. Sport England are currently being consulted where facilities can be used for sports facilities.
- Q. Are there plans for a Steering Group to oversee the process which will consist of community members.
 A. After March phase the proposal is to have representatives from Aston feeder schools and community to sit on the group

3. **Extended Services for Schools: Presentation by Lisa Rawlin, Extended Schools Partnership Officer**

Lisa was welcomed to the meeting to talk about extended schools and what they are as certain areas within the borough are underway with extended services. Lisa's presentation included:-

- Schools within the cluster
- Every child matters
- Core offer – all in one place
- Services working together to support families
- Benefits of Extended Services – pupils/parents/carers/community
- How can this be supported – working together
- What projects are happening with the cluster now?
- Various photos of fun days were shown to the meeting.
- What now? continue to build relationships

Lisa was informed that the Secretary of Friends of Ulley Country Park and Cllr. Jack from Aston Volunteers Forum were in attendance at tonight's meeting in order to swap contact details.

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: January 2010 Compared to Previous Month

	Current Month	Previous Month	Difference
All Crime	171	166	5
Burglary	26	34	-8
Robbery	1	0	1
Vehicle Crime	19	20	-1
Violence	30	20	10
Anti Social Behaviour	295	242	53

Crime Data: January 2010 Compared to Previous Year

	Current Month	Previous Year	Difference
All Crime	171	184	-13
Burglary	26	36	-10
Robbery	1	2	-1
Vehicle Crime	19	13	6
Violence	30	26	4
Anti Social Behaviour	295		

Priority 1 – Nuisance Vehicles on Aughton Lane/Worksop Road, Aston, which are being driven dangerously and inconsiderately.

Priority 2 - Anti-social and Inconsiderate Behaviour and Criminal Damage on The Chase Estate, Aston

Priority 3 - Anti-social Behaviour in Treeton Village including a recent rise in Damage and problems being caused by youths gathering near Nicol's Store

We did ...

Priority 1 - Nuisance Vehicles on Aughton Lane/Worksop Road, Aston, which are being driven dangerously and inconsiderately

- Number of reports has reduced greatly over this review period
- Awaiting results from a recent operation run by the Road Policing group
- 1 vehicle was seized for having no insurance
- Patrols continuing to be made
- Mobile CCTV remains in situ.

Question raised as to whether the Mowcam cameras were running efficiently? Alistair reported they are currently experiencing problems with downloading due to technology issues and are in contact with the company who installed it to get the problem rectified. Alistair reported that he looks through incident reports on a regular basis and stated that incidents recorded had gone down. Residents responded by saying that they had stopped reporting incidents as they felt nothing was being done. Alistair stressed the importance of reporting incidents otherwise how will the police know there is still a problem.

Richard Scholey gave his word that the cameras on Aughton Road would be fixed and stated that residents will be given a dedicated mobile phone number so they don't have to keep going through switchboard each time they wanted to report an incident.

Priority 2 - Anti-social and Inconsiderate Behaviour and Criminal Damage on The Chase Estate, Aston

- High visibility patrols have continued
- Repeat victim of ASB has been offered victim support and a range of options to help address his problems
- Covert observations have been conducted
- No anti social behaviour calls have been received from PACT priority streets
- It appears the arrest last month of the youths for possession of Cannabis has had a positive impact on reducing anti social behaviour on the estate

Alex Armitage thanked the police for the work they had done around The Chase in which residents had seen an improvement.

Mike Finney from Malton Drive asked whether police patrols would continue on The Chase now it had been taken off as a priority? Alistair reassured Mr. Finney that patrols would continue.

Priority 3 - Anti-social Behaviour in Treeton Village including a recent rise in Damage and problems being caused by youths gathering near Nicol's Store

- High visibility patrols have continued
- Local shopkeepers have been visited regularly and provided with support and reassurance
- Covert observations have been conducted
- The number of incidents has reduced within the area, however one family appear to be targeted by local youths who have smashed a window
- One local youth believed to be responsible for anti social behaviour and minor crime has now been arrested and released on police bail pending identification procedures

Priorities for February/March 2010

Priority 1 - Hepworth Drive increasing reports of anti social behaviour

Priority 2 - Anti-social Behaviour in Treeton Village including a recent rise in damage and problems being caused by youths gathering near Nicol's Store

Priority 3 - The meeting agreed that the 3rd priority would be to look at anti social behaviour by gangs of youths on Alexander Road, Swallownest

5. Questions/Comments from Members of the Public

- Q. Do the police patrol around Ulley reservoir as there has recently been problems during the evenings and weekends in which there has been a bin burnt out and damage caused to the fencing
- A. It was confirmed that the area is patrolled and information reported will be taken back.
- C. It was reported that two particular families were causing trouble on Hepworth Drive
- A. Richard Scholey informed the meeting that one family had been referred to the Family Intervention Project, 2 arrests had been made and one CPS decision on restorative justice. Other members of the family have received Acceptable Behaviour Contracts. Steve Inglis also commented that residents were becoming more confident in making calls to the police which was positive.
- Q. A number of gully covers were stolen on The Chase over last couple of weeks.
- A. It was reported that the police do check scrap dealers on a regular basis and regular operations also take place.
- C. Reports of anti social behaviour around Ashley Grove and young people still gaining access to a boarded up house. Cllr. Smith stated that this same group of young people were also causing problems on Hepworth Drive. **Action:** Trevor Wilson agreed to look into.

- Q. Mick Firth stated that he raised a question some time ago about a public footpath on Chesterfield Road but had not heard anything since and another outline application had gone in by YES Project.
- A. Cllr. Smith agreed to look into Mick Firth's question.
- C. Mick Firth also reported that Townend Shopping Centre car park was in a mess again and suggested the need for cameras to catch the culprits.
- Q. Blocked gulley reported on The Chase, cover has also been stolen. Council have stated that the grates are cleaned out regularly but this is not the case.
- A. James Mossman agreed to look into the blocked gulley.
- Q. Allan Jackson stated that only 7 seven people turned up at the Waverley Development Meeting which was very disappointing as there was a lot of work going on in which people in this Area Assembly should be aware of.
- A. Cllr. Swift stated that he had spoken to Martin Mee and had been informed that another meeting would take place. Pat Wade stated that she had attended the meeting and reported that Martin had invited all the people who had previously been involved. Pat stated she had suggested to Sue Anderson from UK Coal that they write to all surrounding Parish Councils and ask them to nominate a couple of representatives. It was reported that another meeting has been arranged for 12th May, 2010. Cllr. Swift to invite Mike Mee to a future Area Assembly meeting in June/July 2010.
- C. Vote of thanks from Allan Jackson regarding new library for Brinsworth and meeting brokered by Area Assembly which was well attended. Allan also congratulated Brinsworth Parish Council for getting involved and stated that at the end of the meeting he felt more optimistic. Allan would also like to thank Area Assembly for the community chest grants received by St. Andrews Parent and Toddler Group and Brinsworth History Group for the reprint of their book which has sold 50%.
- C. Cllr. Smith reported that Ulley Country Park will reopen on 25th June, 2010.

6. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday, 19th April, 2010 at 6.00 pm in Swallownest Community Centre.