

Rotherham South Area Assembly
Held in the Bailey Suite, Bailey House
Tuesday 2nd March 2010

ATTENDEES:

Members

Councillors (Cllr) Dodson (Chair), Wootton, Gilding and Hussain, and Cllr Iain St. John (Cabinet Member, Culture and Leisure).

Officers

Shaun Mirfield	RMBC Area Assembly Team
Kay Bacon	RMBC Area Assembly Team
Lindsey Gibson	RMBC Area Assembly Team (Minutes)
Rupert Chang	South Yorkshire Police
Steve Hallsworth	RMBC Culture & Leisur

Public

K. Richards	Clifton Community Partnership
K. Millns	Clifton Community Partnership
L. Russell	Clifton Community Partnership
M. Burgin	Clifton Community Partnership
M. Beedham	Clifton Community Partnership
M. Ilyas	Eastwood & Springwell United
F. Sultan	Eastwood & Springwell Untied
G. Holmes	Eastwood & Springwell United
G. Riches	NHW
J. Brogan	RHAC
P. Humphries	RHAC
J. Small	RHAC
S. Gaims	RHAC
L. Lindley	Streetpride Champion
J. Allchurch	Streetpride Champion
D. Straw	Whiston Parish Council
C. Purvis	Whiston Parish Council
S. Sowden	Resident
K. Harrison	Resident
J. Whyke	Resident
N. Whyke	Resident
M. Chance	Resident
K. Cronk	Resident
G. Flatley	Resident
C. Hammond	Resident
B. Johnson	Resident
I. Johnson	Resident
D. Woodward	Resident
C. Booth	Resident
K. Brown	Resident
S. Di	Resident
J.S. Martin	Resident
K. Beaumont	Resident
M. McGrother	Resident

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair introduced himself and colleagues. A presentation was made to Lindsey Gibson, the Area Assembly's Community Support Officer, who has secured an internal secondment on promotion. The Chair thanked Lindsey, on behalf of the Area Assembly, for all her hard work in the last twelve months and wished her well in her new role.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs McNeely, Mannion and Clarke, Ady Antcliffe, Ann Carver and David Dobbs.

Cllr Dodson asked that a card be sent to Cllr Clarke on behalf of the Area Assembly.

Action: Area Assembly team

Response

A card has been sent by Councillor Dodson to Councillor Clarke on behalf of the Area Assembly.

3. HERRINGTHORPE PLAYING FIELDS PRESENTATION – STEVE HALLSWORTH & CLLR IAIN ST. JOHN

Steve Hallsworth gave a presentation on Herringthorpe Playing Fields. The following comments and questions were raised:

- a) It was asked why the proposed land for sale was identified for residential housing and what was the land classified as. It was explained that selling the land for residential housing would maximise the revenue for RMBC. The land is currently classified as 'Community facilities with an element of green space'.
- b) It was asked if RMBC would have to sell the land to undertake the 3 reports. It was explained that the reports make up the preliminary work, costing approx £80-90k, which will be completed prior to any land sale.
- c) It was asked if consideration will be made to the economic climate when the land is sold. It was explained that it is the Director of Asset Management's job to ensure RMBC get the best price at the right time.
- d) It was asked if the classification of the land as 'Community facilities with an element of green space' means that it can be used for residential housing. It was explained that work so far shows no reason why not.
- e) It was asked how else information would be available for people who do not have access to the internet. It was explained that information leaflets will be produced and further progress reports will be submitted to the Area Assembly.
- f) A comment was made that the playing fields used to be a wonderful resource and if selling the land is the only way to raise the funds then they fully support it.
- g) It was asked how many houses are planned for the plot. It was explained that figures are unknown as yet but further information should be available in 8 – 12 weeks.
- h) It was asked if transportation will be considered as part of the planning. It was explained that a Traffic Assessment will be done as part of the planning process and that parking will be managed similar to Rotherham Leisure Complex.
- i) A question was asked about the impact of the stadium lights on surrounding properties. It was explained that the angle of the lights can be changed so as not to disturb residents.
- j) It was asked what will be the quid pro-quo for houses built on the land. It was explained that this is something the planners will determine as part of the process.
- k) It was asked if it was a possibility that flats could be built on the land. It was explained that preliminary work will determine what type of houses could be built on and will include community consultation.

l) It was asked if the flooding problem will be sorted as part of the development. It was explained that the Environment Agency gets involved in any development to advise on how such problems could be alleviated.

m) It was asked if the sale of the land includes car parks. It was explained that it does not include car parks at present but the marked area still needs to be worked up.

n) A comment was made that any public buildings are not made of glass as per Rotherham Leisure Complex.

o) It was asked if RMBC had looked for other external funding to undertake the improvements to the Fields. It was explained that Culture and Leisure have been successful in identifying and securing external funding to develop other projects however are not presently aware of anything to fund this development.

p) A comment was made that minutes from 1928 state that RMBC were given a grant by Carnegie Trust to keep the leisure site for the people of Rotherham. It was explained that it has been done before with the former leisure centre and the playing fields will not be affected by the sale of the land.

q) It was asked what the ball park figure was for the redevelopment. It was explained that estimates produced 12 months ago were £6.9million.

4. PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER PRESENTATION - RUPERT CHANG

Sgt Chang explained that the current priorities were:

- Selborne Street
- North Road / Mowbray Gardens

Selborne Street

- Still an area of concern and problems with community tension
- SNT identified offenders & engaging with communities
- 4 Drugs Warrants undertaken in last month with 4 more to do
- Work being undertaken to combat fly tipping

North Road / Mowbray Gardens

- Action Plan in place with library staff
- Young people issued with ABCs
- Visits to parents of young people banned from library

Sgt Chang also explained that Broom Lane/Maynard Road were being covered under Operation Coverage and that work is continuing on Queensway. It was asked when public consultation will take place with residents of Queensway. It is expected that this will begin circa summer 2010 after the Trust has begun considered the business case.

Cllr Hussain asked what was happening with the garage site on Occupation Lane as people are breaking in, there is fly tipping and a lack of clarity regarding the future of the site.

Action: Shaun Mirfield

Response

A multi-agency Working Group has been convened looking at the current situation and possible future development. The next meeting is on Tuesday 13 April.

The following PACT priorities were agreed given the ongoing work:

- Selborne Street
- North Road / Mowbray Gardens

5i MINUTES OF AREA ASSEMBLY HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2009

The minutes were approved as a true record.

5.ii MATTERS ARISING

a) Flood Alleviation – item 4 ii a

Following a presentation to a previous Area Assembly, the Eastwood Village residents affected by the previous floods reported that, although they had a brief chat with Greg Lindley at the Water Wildlife Reserve opening, they have still not yet been contacted formally. Shaun Mirfield explained that he was meeting with the relevant officers next week to discuss this matter.

Action: Shaun Mirfield

Response

The Area Assembly Chair and Team met with colleagues in EDS. An application for funding has been submitted to DEFRA to flood protect affected properties in Eastwood and East Dene. An announcement is expected shortly.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) It was asked why a traffic count had been undertaken on the streets surrounding Middle Lane the week before the school holidays.

Action: Matthew Lowe

Response

The surveys were undertaken in order to provide a baseline before the implementation of the £100k LTP scheme which will be discussed at a community event on Monday 8 March. The surveys will then be repeated 3 months post the implementation of the scheme.

b) The usage of the off-licence on Middle Lane was discussed and Clifton Community Partnership asked for clarification on its planning application.

c) The Area Assembly team agreed to facilitate an exchange of contact details between Clifton's Truancy Officer and concerned residents in Eastwood.

7. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Tuesday 6th April 6.00pm, Bailey House – Please note new start time and venue change