

ROTHER VALLEY SOUTH AREA ASSEMBLY
(held at the Sports Pavilion, Woodsetts)
2nd April, 2001

Present:-

Councillor Audrey Gilbert	Borough Councillor Ward No. 13 (in the Chair)
Councillor Derek Chapman	Borough Councillor Ward No. 18
Mr. Brian Cottam	Dinnington St. John's Parish Council
Mr. Graham Greaves	Thorpe Salvin Parish Council
Mr. Clive Pantry	Todwick Parish Council
Mr. Irvine Sampson	Harthill with Woodall Parish Council
Councillor Clarence Swindell	Borough Councillor Ward No. 18
Mr. Roy Newman	Laughton Conservation and History Society
Mr. Trevor Stanway	Laughton Parish Council
Mr. Jack MacKay	Harthill with Woodall Parish Council
Councillor Ann Britton	Borough Councillor Ward No. 13
Mrs. Gloria Cawthorne	South Anston Methodist Church
Mrs. Alice Booth	Wales Parish Council
Mr. Colin Britton	Resident Kiveton Park
Councillor Philip Wardle	Borough Councillor Ward No. 18
Mr. A. Vickers	Anston Parish Council
R. J. Alderton	Resident Anston
Mr. Brian Chambers	Resident Todwick
Mr. Alan Yates	Resident South Anston
Mr. Barry Kemp	Resident South Anston
-	Resident South Anston
Mr. G. R. Day	Anston Conservation Society
Mrs. Susan Wood	Resident Woodsetts

Together with

Ms. Nicola Bluff	Area Assembly Support Officer (RMBC)
Mr. Greg Dalton	Rural Priority Officer (RMBC)
Mr. David James	Engineering Services (RMBC)
Mr. Gordon Smith	Area Assembly Officer (RMBC)
Mr. David Tyrrell	Chief Executive's Office (RMBC)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillor Sid Bennett, The Mayor (Councillor Ian St. John) and Councillor Robin Stonebridge (Borough Councillors Ward No. 1); Councillor Karl Barton (Borough Councillor Ward No. 13); Mr. Robert Carter (Harthill Parish Council); Ms. Denis Andlars (Dinnington Job Centre); Mr. Michael Gazur (Anston Parish Council); Mrs. Wendy Degg (Community Development Worker, RMBC); Ms. Tessa Popple (Sports Development Worker, RMBC) and Mr. Mick Stowe (Community Development Worker, RMBC).

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Some general introductions took place.

3. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

The following issues were raised:-

(a) Former Dinnington and Kiveton Park Colliery Sites – Mr. Brian Chambers, on behalf of the SK 58 Bird Group spoke of their concerns in protecting the birdlife which used these sites and need to ensure that a scrape (shallow water area) was provided at each in suggested situations. They had written many times but still felt they were not achieving any assurances.

In response, Councillor Gilbert explained that the draft plan for the Kiveton Colliery strategy was to be the subject of public participation and any comments from the SK58 Bird Group would be welcome. A meeting of the Kiveton Park Development Trust was to take place that Wednesday at which discussions would take place on the issue.

Councillor Wardle explained that no decisions had been taken on Phase II reclamation of the Dinnington Colliery site. When an application came forward for planning permission it would be possible to impose conditions to allow for such issues.

(b) Smell/Noise Nuisance, South Anston – Residents attended and expressed their deep concerns as to nuisance arising from the Pig Farm on land to the rear of Windsor Walk, South Anston, which was having a detrimental effect on many residents of South Anston. They referred to materials being brought on site, a noise nuisance into the early hours and tipping on the canal bank. People were having to stay indoors and even the local school, some little distance away, had been forced to keep children in at playtimes on several occasions. It was noted a large petition had already been presented to the Council and support sought in resolving the issue.

Agreed:- (i) That the deep concerns raised be referred to the Head of Environmental Health who was investigating the matter and Head of Planning and Regeneration Services to enable him to investigate any planning contraventions.

(ii) That an update report be requested for the next meeting of this Assembly.

(c) Litter – Reference was made to statements in Rotherham Council Matters as to improved cleanliness of streets and public areas and concerns expressed as to standards in the outer urban/rural areas.

The Area Assembly Officer reported on dialogue and correspondence with Mark Benton of the Environmental Health Service who had taken up issues as to litter/tipping in Dinnington. He had explained that a new 'Poop Scoop' Law would come into force in mid-April, 2001. This would require a

person in charge of a dog to clear up straight away otherwise they were contravening the law and could be subject to a penalty fine.

Four Environmental Wardens were to be employed to help implement this newly adopted legislation and to also start enforcing laws regarding litter and fly tipping. Any person who throws rubbish in any public area or even out of a car window can be issued with a fixed penalty notice or face prosecution.

Discussion ensued on the need to target litter problem areas and the need to obtain collaborating evidence if willing to act as a witness on a dog fouling matter. The Harthill Parish Council explained how they issued warning letters to people.

The general need for education/publicity on these issues was emphasised.

Agreed:- That the Borough Council be asked:-

- (i) to arrange to target known problem areas for tipping and litter which the Local Ward Members/Parish Councils could readily identify;
- (ii) to ensure that appropriate publicity is given in the local press and in "Rotherham Council Matters" to the problems of tipping/litter and the new 'Poop Scoop' Law;
- (iii) to clarify the frequency of street cleaning in this Assembly Area and whether any response is automatically available to deal with problem situations;
- (iv) to confirm whether a Council sweeper was recently sent to Dow Carr Lane, Woodall, to deal with a particular problem and if so who paid for this service;
- (v) supply a copy of the new Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 to all Parish Councils and confirm to which land this will apply;
- (vi) to consider a 'One Stop Shop' service that can handle any comments/complaints from Members of the public;
- (vii) to address road flooding problems on Woodall Lane, Harthill, near to the Chapel and on Outgang Lane, Dinnington, near to the former Colliery entrance;
- (vii) to raise with the Water Authority and address the seepage of water from the Old Water Tank at the top of Winney Hill, Harthill, which is running on to the road and causing problems particularly in the winter.

4. MINUTES

Agreed:- (a) That the minutes of the meeting of the Assembly held on 5th March, 2001, be received and approved.

(b) That arising it be noted:-

(i) Todwick Road, Dinnington (B6463) – the road had been patched up and the person to contact for such road repair issues was Colin Knight 822924 (Minute No. 3(a)) and felt it would be helpful if an officer contact list could be supplied;

(ii) Kiveton Park White City – Environmental Health could respond to specific cases but not put rat poison down in public areas. The contact officer for such was Keith Hodgkinson 823115. It was still felt that problems on the garage site off Pryor Mede needed attention (Minute No. 3(b));

(iii) New Type Cats Eyes – It was noted that the trial exercise had been very successful. Following installation on the B6060 at Thurcroft, no accidents had been recorded and only one of an evening on Worksop Road, Woodsetts. Whilst they were expensive to install, they would be considered for appropriate locations in future (Minute No. 3(g));

(iv) Unisco Steels, Kiveton Park – The issue of the Receivers being appointed at this Company had been referred to the Chief Executive (Minute No. 3(h));

(v) Conservation Areas – The views expressed by the Assembly would be taken into account inter alia during the consideration of application No. RB2001/138 (Minute No. 3(j));

(vi) Laughton-en-le-Morthen – The junction of High Street, School Road and Hooton Lane was to be looked at (previous Minute).

5. SOUTH YORKSHIRE LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN

The meeting welcomed David James of the Engineering Services who reported on the framework for the delivery of the Plan in Rotherham. The Plan set out objectives and targets based on Government Policies to promote sustainable modes of transport and also to improve road safety by danger reduction and accident prevention.

An increased Local Transport Plan settlement had been announced by the Department of the Environment Transport and the Regions in December, 2000, with a level of funding likely to be continued for five years within a ten year Plan. This would give the opportunity to develop a long term approach to planning transportation issues instead of annually reacting to the available funding.

He explained the five year Programme had been developed based around the priority given to the Quality Bus Corridors which were being assessed to achieve improvements in bus operations. Linked to the Programme were possible Borough-wide strategies which included Local Safety Schemes, Safer Routes to School and monitoring of performance towards the targets. Major transportation studies were also being undertaken. In addition, major schemes identified included the improvement of West Bawtry road, schemes at Orgreave, Dinnington and the A57 at Todwick.

It was emphasised that the views of people on local traffic and road safety problems were extremely important.

A question and answer session then ensued with issues raised including:-

Park and Ride – It was confirmed that, whilst it was intended to get as many people as possible onto buses, there were no proposals at this time for Park and Ride in Rotherham.

Dinnington Interchange – An agreed traffic regulation scheme for Dinnington had now been accepted including support from bus operators. Plans for the Interchange were progressing with planning permission having recently been granted. The position as to land transfer was clarified. Concern was expressed at the loss of some sixty-seven car parking spaces and the implications particularly on a Friday and Saturday.

Quality bus Corridors – In addition to the identification of quality bus corridors, the South Rotherham Rural Transport Initiative could address relevant issues.

Cycling/Road Safety – The need for planning of cycle routes and further road safety initiatives was referred to. It was clarified that the cycle routes were being planned as part of a strategic network that did link into the national cycle route.

It was clarified this presentation was about the overall Plan and that matters of detail could be addressed in the coming months following acceptance of the delivery framework for Rotherham.

Agreed:- That David James be thanked for his presentation and he be invited to address a further meeting of this Assembly on matters of detail.

6. AREA ASSEMBLY OFFICER'S REPORT

The Area Assembly Officer gave a progress report on the following issues:-

(a) Foot and Mouth – There were no reported cases at that time but precautions had been put in place including the closure of all public footpaths and Rother Valley Country Park. Some relaxations had now been agreed including the re-opening of Ulley and Thrybergh Country Parks but the situation was under continual review.

(b) Rural Priority Area Status – Representations were being made following the indication given by Yorkshire Forward that the designated area would no longer have priority when it came to bidding for rural regeneration monies. They had stated it would have to compete with all other urban and rural areas for a single 'pot' of funding.

(c) Environmental Hotspots Fund – A decision was awaited as to whether further funding may be available to enable the Area Assembly to tackle these problem areas directly. A list of issues was continuously being updated.

(d) Dinnington Community Resource Centre – Successful bids had been made by the Borough Council to secure SRB5 funding for a Centre Manager and DART Development Worker for stated contract periods. These posts would be line managed by the Area Assembly Officer for their

duration or until such time that alternative management and funding mechanisms were established.

(e) Kiveton Park and Wales Community Development Trust – The Trust was in the process of assuming full responsibility for managing its Support Worker and was in the process of submitting a substantial bid to the National Lottery Charities Board for funding to enable the appointment of staff in support of its activities.

7. **REPORTS**

The reports of the following meetings were submitted:-

DART Board held on 8th February, 2001

South Rotherham Rural Transport Group held on 26th February, 2001

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S)**

Agreed:- That a presentation on the Local Government Act 2000 be the feature item for the next meeting of this Assembly.

9. **NEXT MEETING**

Agreed:- That the next meeting of the Assembly be held in the Parish Rooms at Wales, on Monday, 14th May, 2001 at 2.00 p.m.