

ROTHER VALLEY SOUTH AREA ASSEMBLY
(Wales Parish Rooms, Kiveton Park)
14th May, 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. Jack MacKay

South Yorkshire Neighbourhood

Watch Association

Councillor Robin Stonebridge

Borough Councillor Ward No. 1

Mr. Alan Vickers

Anston Parish Council

Mr. Alan Yates

Resident South Anston

Councillor Sid Bennett

Borough Councillor Ward No. 1

Mrs. B. Dane

Dinnington Resident

Mrs. C. Cocking

Laughton Road, Dinnington Resident

Mr. Michael Gazur

Anston Parish Council

Mr. L. Ball

South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service

Mrs. J. Ritson

Rotherham CAB Outreach Project

Mrs. V. Cottam

Dinnington Guardian

Mr. N.H.W. Lee

Firbeck Parish Council

Mr. David Oldroyd

Kiveton Park and Wales Community

Development Trust

Mrs. Rita J. Alderton

Anston Resident

Wales Bar Resident

Mr. C. Ashton

Kiveton Park Resident

Mr. J. Holdon

Kiveton Park Resident

Together with:-

Mrs. Nicola Hacking

Area Assembly Support Officer (RMBC)

Mr. Phil Rogers

Education, Culture and Leisure (RMBC)

Mr. Gordon Smith

Area Assembly Officer (RMBC)

Mr. Stephen Ward

Community Development Worker (RMBC)

Mr. David Tyrrell

Chief Executive's Office (RMBC)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillor Ann Britton (Borough Councillor Ward No. 13); Councillor Karl Barton (Borough Councillor Ward No. 13); Mr. David Hall (Harthill with Woodall Parish Council); Mr. Steve Hunter (South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service); Mr. Tom Wakefield (Harthill with Woodall Parish Council) and Councillor J. P. Wardle (Borough Councillor Ward No. 18)

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Some general introductions took place.

3. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

The following issues were raised:-

(a) Smell/Noise Nuisance, South Anston – Residents spoke of their annoyance that despite the submission of a large petition and continued representations that no action appeared to have been taken to deal with the very real problem of smell, noise and they believed unauthorised works arising from the pig farm adjoining residential development at South Anston. They asked for an urgent review of the matter.

The Borough Councillors referred to the investigations being undertaken by the Environmental Health Service and need to build up a case if action was to be taken against any unauthorised or unacceptable activities.

Agreed:- That the Head of Environmental Health Services be asked to arrange an urgent meeting with interested residents of South Anston to discuss this issue.

(b) Public Notice of Meetings

It was explained that the press had, in error, included the previous months notice of Borough Council meetings in the last edition of the Dinnington Guardian instead of the current months programme of meetings.

(c) Development Wales Moor Avenue, Kiveton Park – It was queried if the new spine road was to be constructed right through and if so if road safety safeguards would be included. The Chairman advised that no definite proposals had been put forward and that until a planning application was submitted it was difficult to judge the extent of the development and road line. The land was however designated for building. Consideration would be given to the issue as and when it arose.

(d) Chinduit Court, Dinnington – Residents referred to problems and sought assistance in resolving these. They advised that they already approached the South Yorkshire Police and Dinnington District Housing Office. The residents concerned were advised to raise their concerns with the South Yorkshire Police.

(e) Kiveton Renewal Area News – Residents referred to the issue of Newsletters by the Housing Services in May 1999 giving information on what was happening in the Kiveton Renewal Area and asked why they had heard nothing since. They felt the initial information should have been followed up. The Chairman referred to the difficulties with funding in progressing the regeneration area action but felt that having issued

newsletters both in Kiveton and possibly other renewal areas that follow up information should have been given.

Agreed:- That Housing Services be asked to provide follow up information to people living within any intended Renewal Areas which fell within the Rother Valley South Assembly area.

(f) Borough Council Board representation – The Chairman advised that the following Members would represent this Assembly Area on the following Council Boards for the 2001/2002 Municipal Year:-

Planning Board	-	Councillors Gilbert and Wardle
Licensing Board	-	Councillors Chapman and St. John

(g) Road Safety Calming Measures – It was queried whether vehicles slowing down and speeding up negotiating speed humps increased pollution.

4. MINUTES

Agreed:- (a) That the minutes of the meeting of the Assembly held on 2nd April, 2001 be received and approved.

(b) That arising it be noted:-

(i) Road Flooding Problems – that no action had been taken as to the road flooding problems on Woodall Lane, Harthill and Outgang Lane, Dinnington and water seepage problem on Winney Hill, Harthill (Minute No. 3(vii) and (viii))

(ii) Street Cleansing – that whilst a response had been received from the Engineering Service on certain issues raised at the previous meeting the query as to a road sweeper attending to clear mud deposited on Dow Carr Lane had not been answered (Minute No. 3 (iii)).

5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000

Gordon Smith reported on the Second Stage Consultation on New Executive arrangements for the Borough Council.

The feedback from the First Stage had clearly shown a majority of people in favour of Option 'A', the Leader and Cabinet model. Following completion of the next stage of the process all of the evidence collected will be sent to the Government who will still have the authority to change the Council's decision but the Council were confident this would not happen.

The Second Stage involved the development of the broad proposals with the overall structure comprising the full Council and Cabinet, Overview and

Scrutiny Panels, Area Assemblies, Regulatory Boards and a Standards Board. A paper was submitted showing the role of the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee and each of five Policy and Review Scrutiny Panels. It was explained that as part of this process the Chairs of the Area Assemblies would be able to make recommendations to the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee suggesting issues for review by the appropriate Policy and Review Scrutiny Panels.

The Area Assemblies were of course already effectively operating and were made up of all of the Elected Members for the area from across the political spectrum together with local residents, representatives from other partner organisations such as the Police, Health Authority and Faith Organisations and, of course, representatives of voluntary and community sector organisations.

The original aims and objectives of Area Assemblies still stand. They will:-

- provide a mechanism for service providers to consult with local communities
- identify local needs and priorities
- play a key role in the community planning process
- work with local communities to meet local needs and priorities
- Influence the standards of local services
- provide a vehicle for local residents to become involved at a level which they consider appropriate

Although a major part of the Area Assembly's role will be consultative, it is also intended that they play a key role in agreeing action plans to address identified community needs and that through this process Area Assemblies will feed into key strategies including the community strategy for the whole borough and the Council's Best Value Performance Plans.

Although only Elected Members of the Council will continue to make decisions on Council Policy, spending priorities, etc. Area Assemblies will provide a forum for discussion of those priorities and an opportunity to directly influence the decisions of Elected Members. A good example would be the decisions over the last two years on the spending of the environmental Hot Spots monies.

It was now open for the Area Assembly collectively, and of course for individuals to comment on the overall proposals. Constructive comments would be welcomed and interested persons were invited to forward any views they had.

Residents made reference to meetings being held at times that were accessible to people who may be working and it was clarified that meetings of this Assembly were:-

- held at different locations throughout the Assembly Area to assist accessibility
- arranged on a rotation basis with morning, afternoon and evening meetings to enable as many people as possible to attend

Agreed:- That any comments be forwarded via the Area Assembly Officer to enable them to be taken into account by the due date of 25th May, 2001.

6. GRAFFITI IN AREA ASSEMBLY AREAS

The Assembly received a note from the Head of Engineering Service on suggested action to deal with graffiti and asking if areas of concern could be identified.

Queries were raised as to indemnity and the difficulty in cleaning graffiti from difficult/dangerous situations e.g. railway bridges.

Agreed:- (a) That this Assembly support the introduction of a “Hot Line” on which people could notify complaints regarding graffiti and other matters and feel that prosecutions should follow where possible.

(b) That in the interim any areas of known graffiti be notified to the Area Assembly Officer.

(c) That the position of other major bodies on this issue be sought e.g. Railtrack, Yorkshire Water/Severn Trent Water Authority, South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive.

7. JOINT REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC HEALTH FOR THE BARNESLEY, DONCASTER AND ROTHERHAM HEALTH AUTHORITIES

It was reported that this joint report had just been issued which gave detailed information to those responsible for the planning and delivery of health care for the people of the three districts.

Agreed:- That copies of the Joint Report be placed in local libraries and in the Dinnington Initiative Office, 26 Laughton Road, Dinnington.

8. OBJECTIVE 1 CONSULTATION ON ECONOMIC ZONES

Reference was made to the consultation meeting held in Anston on 26th April, 2001 and Gordon Smith submitted a report outlining his views of the meeting.

Representatives who had the opportunity to attend, and many expressed concern that they had not been informed of such, echoed their strong feelings that whilst the overall funding opportunities were welcomed that this Area would not benefit as it should. The appointed consultants had identified priority sites which would benefit but it was felt they were so placed that they would in any event be developed. The case for Objective 1 was however built on the position appertaining, inter alia, in the south of the Borough. It would appear it may however receive little Objective 1 funding with the former Dinnington Colliery site, which had been identified for development, only coming on stream some eighteen months before the end of Objective 1 funding. The amount of development being then inhibited by highway constraints. It was felt the latter should have been recognised and tackled to enable the area to fully benefit.

Agreed:- That all parties with an interest in the area be asked to consider this issue with a view to making formal representations.

9. REPORTS

The reports of the following meetings were submitted:-

South Rotherham Rural Transport Group held on 26th February and 12th March, 2001.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S)

Agreed:- That the main presentation items on the agendas for the Assembly meetings stated be as follows:-

June	-	Youth Offenders Support Programme
July	-	Domestic Violence
September	-	Highways Issues

11. NEXT MEETING

Agreed:- That the next meeting of the Assembly be held in the New Life Church, Silverdales, Dinnington on Monday 4th June, 2001 at 7.00 p.m.