

**ROTHER VALLEY SOUTH AREA ASSEMBLY
(Anston Parish Hall, North Anston)
2nd July, 2001**

Present:-

Councillor Audrey Gilbert	Borough Councillor Ward No.13 (in the Chair)
Mr. Brian Cottam	Dinnington St. John's Parish Council
Mr. Graham Greaves	Thorpe Salvin Parish Council
Mr. Irvine Sampson	Harthill with Woodall Parish Council
Councillor Clarence Swindell	Borough Councillor Ward No. 18
Mr. Jack Mackay	South Yorkshire Transport Initiative
Councillor Robin Stonebridge	Borough Councillor Ward No. 1
Councillor Iain St. John	Borough Councillor Ward No. 1
Councillor Philip Wardle	Borough Councillor Ward No. 18
Mrs. Alice Booth	Wales Parish Council
Mr. D. Hall	Harthill with Woodall Parish Council
Mr. Pat McLoughlin	Rotherham Churches Tourism Initiative
Mr. Ken Ward	Woodsetts Parish Council
Mrs. Brenda Howarth	Anston Resident
Mrs. Sue Thompson	Anston Resident
Mr. Nigel Lee	Firbeck Parish Council
Mr. Roy Newman	Laughton Conservation and Historical Society
Mr. Trevor Stanway	Laughton en le Morthen Parish Council
Mr. Alan Vickers	Anston Parish Council
Mr. Michael Gazur	Anston Parish Council

Together with:-

Mr. Brian Chapple	Education, Culture and Leisure Services (RMBC)
Mr. Mark Humphries	Education, Culture and Leisure Services (RMBC)
Mr. Phil Rogers	Education, Culture and Leisure Services (RMBC)
Mr. John Gomersall	Executive Director of Social Services (RMBC)
Mrs. Dawn Roberts	Chief Executive's Office (RMBC)
Mrs. Nicola Hacking	Area Assembly Support Officer (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 (Borough Councillor Ward No. 1); Mrs. Wendy Degg and Mr. Mick Stowe (Community Development Workers – RMBC) and Mr. Clive Pantry (Todwick Parish Council).

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Some general introductions took place.

3. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

The following issue was raised:-

Japanese Knot Weed – The very real nuisance caused by this weed which was very difficult to kill off and which had been noted had established itself on land situate off Undergate Road at Dinnington believed to be in Borough Council ownership.

4. MINUTES

Agreed:- (a) That the minutes of the meeting of the Assembly held on 4th June, 2001 be received and approved.

(b) That arising therefrom it be noted:-

(i) Unbrako – the issue as to the purchase of the playing field to secure its future had been noted but it was queried if this was a matter it would be best for the Parish Council to pursue (Minute No. 3(a))

(ii) Smell/Noise Nuisance, South Anston – arrangements had been made for a meeting with South Anston residents to be held in the Old Library Building at North Anston on Monday 9th July, 2001 (Minute No. 3(d))

(iii) Community Chest – application forms were now available for Community Chest funding (Minute No. 3(f))

(iv) Area Assembly Office – in view of the ending of the current lease at 26 Laughton Road the Area Assembly/Dinnington Initiative Office was transferring to the Old Colliery Building at Kiveton Park.

5. ROTHERHAM CHUCHES TOURISM INITIATIVE

The meeting welcomed Pat McLoughlin who reported on his new role of Volunteer Co-ordinator for the above initiative which aimed to increase access to and awareness of Rotherham's fine ecclesiastical buildings. The aim was to:-

- help understand and take a pride in the history and heritage of your own village and others in South Rotherham
- develop further the tourism, education and regeneration potential of partner churches, through increased access, events, exhibitions and information
- see an increase in the number of visitors to our churches and villages – it was known that tourists spend money and they want to encourage

them to visit local shops, pubs, cafes and other attractions. This will help to maintain (and even increase) local jobs

- want visitors to have an enjoyable and informative visit, so much that they will want to come back

Volunteers were being sought to assist in the venture.

It was the intention to visit each Parish Council in the area to seek their support.

Agreed:- That the Initiative be welcomed.

6. **ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN**

The meeting welcomed John Gomersall who thanked the Assembly for allowing this issue to be addressed at short notice to enable the consultation timetable to be met. He explained why the Borough Council needed a Corporate Plan, the context in which it sits, i.e. it needed to sit and be seen alongside –

- the Community Strategy and Community Planning
- the Government agenda and priorities (e.g. Best Value)
- the Borough Council's budget process

The draft Mission of the Borough Council was outlined, together with the draft vision and suggested values and priorities. The need to ensure performance was acknowledged with a target for progress set against each priority and progress monitored through a set of indicators. The aim was for a Corporate Plan which looks forward for three years with progress reported annually.

The consultation process was outlined, copies of the Plan handed out and comments sought either to the Chief Executive at Rotherham or through the local Area Assembly Office.

A short question and answer session ensued with the need to consult Parish Councils emphasised. An assurance was sought that all comments would be considered.

Agreed:- That the presentation be received, representatives present be invited to submit direct any comments they may have and all local Parish Councils be consulted as part of the exercise.

7. **SPORT AND ACTIVE RECREATION PLAN**

The meeting welcomed Phil Rogers supported by Brian Chapple and Mark Humphries who explained that the purpose of this Plan was to provide a plan of action to enable more people to participate, enjoy and benefit from

sport and active recreation. It also set out priorities necessary for the safeguard and development of facilities and programmed activities in Rotherham. The intention was to produce a vision for sport and active recreation built on a solid foundation of partnerships between the Council, education, private and voluntary sectors, advisory bodies, communities and individuals.

The preparation of this Strategy had encompassed a number of key areas including the following:-

- the need to establish a clear vision for sport and recreation in Rotherham for the next five years
- an appraisal of sport and recreation provision within Rotherham Borough
- the need to enable more effective co-ordination of the development of facilities and in the provision of sport and recreation opportunities

It was explained that in the context of the Strategy sport and recreation was taken to mean all forms of physical activity with the definition being fairly broad and inclusive ranging from structured children's play through to active yet informal types of recreation such as rambling.

The strategic priorities underpinning the strategy framework were:-

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|-------|-----------------------|--|
| (i) | Social Inclusion | Removing the barriers to participation in sport and recreation |
| (ii) | Healthy Lifestyles | Promoting a healthy lifestyle through sport and recreation |
| (iii) | Environmental Issues | Developing a comprehensive and sustainable framework of sports and recreation facilities |
| (iv) | Economic Regeneration | Regenerating the economy and community through sport and recreation |
| (v) | Young People | Developing lifelong sporting pathways from schools to community |

The identified vision and priority areas were outlined together with the steps to be taken to help achieve the vision and a number of strategic recommendations set down.

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

- it would be helpful in considering the Plan to have a plan showing the whereabouts of facilities

- the use made of Dinnington Swimming Pool and the facilities at Wales High School. Were they open when not needed and closed when there was public demand
- the suggestions of joining facilities was supported i.e. libraries with swimming pools
- Sport England funding was for new build rather than repair
- providing facilities where needed and can be accessed
- the intention was to achieve the main aspirations within five years

Agreed:- That the presentation be received and representatives consider the proposals put forward and forward on any observations.

8. AREA ASSEMBLY OFFICERS REPORT

The Area Assembly Officer commented on a number of issues of relevance, including:-

(a) SRB 3 “Young People Sharing Rotherham’s Future” - the Commissioning Document and Interim Evaluation had been received. This was intended to provide projects that will offer young people places to go and things to do in Rotherham. The deadline for registration of interest was 20th July, 2001.

(b) Dinnington Resource Centre. The SRB 5 bid made on behalf of the Trustees had been successful providing funding for the employment of a centre manager and an administrative support worker for one year. The posts would be line managed by the Area Assembly Officer.

(c) Hot Spots Fund – A further sum of £5,000 had been made available to the Assembly Area and a list of areas which needed attention to form the basis of a scheme to spend this money being prepared. Suggestions as to how this money should be allocated were put forward together with comments on areas which should receive attention, including the area near Safeway and the car parks at Dinnington, near the Civic Amenity Site at North Anston and the land adjacent to The Squirrel Public House at Dinnington. Reference was also made to the state of the gardens of the aged persons bungalows on Wilberforce Road, Anston.

Agreed:- (i) That suggestions as to hot spot areas be sought through Parish Councils.

(ii) That the Area Assembly Officer and Support Officer be authorised to initiate work based on the hot spot list.

(iii) That information be obtained on the operation of the garden tidying scheme for aged persons.

(d) Graffiti – Details of graffiti problem areas as notified were submitted and further suggestions sought. Particular reference was made to the need to remove the racist graffiti on the rail bridge at North Anston.

(e) Community Skips – The allocation of skips was in future to rest with Area Assemblies. In this area it was understood that Parish Councils were being approached for their suggestions having regard to the overall allocations.

9. REPORTS

The report of the following meeting was submitted:-

Board of Trustees of Dinnington Community Centre held on 17th May, 2001

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S)

Agreed:- That as previously agreed the main presentation item on the next meeting be Highways Issues.

11. **NEXT MEETING**

Agreed:- That the next meeting of the Assembly be held at the Wales Primary School, Kiveton Park on Monday 3rd September, 2001 at 2.00 p.m.