

ROTHER VALLEY SOUTH AREA ASSEMBLY
held at the Wales Methodist Church
6th January, 2003

Present:-

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| Rita Alderton | South Anston Resident |
| Brian Cottam | Dinnington St. John's Parish Council |
| Councillor Audrey Gilbert | Borough Councillor Ward No. 13 (in the Chair) |
| Graham Greaves | Thorpe Salvin Parish Council |
| Ken Ward | Woodsetts Parish Council |
| Nigel Lee | Firbeck Parish Council |
| Alan Yates | South Anston Resident |
| Councillor Philip Wardle | Borough Councillor Ward No. 18 |
| Trevor Stanway | Laughton Parish Council |
| Fran Blanksby | Disability Action Group |
| Peter Blanksby | Wales Parish Council |
| Clive Pantry | Todwick Parish Council |
| Jack Mackay | South Rotherham Rural Transport Group and South Yorkshire National Neighbourhood Watch Association |
| Barbara Justice | Ace Project |
| Councillor Robin Stonebridge | Borough Councillor Ward No. 1 |
| Pete Carter | South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Services |
| Tom Wakefield | Harthill with Woodall Parish Council |
| J. Bishop | Harthill Resident |
| Councillor Ann Britton | Borough Councillor Ward No. 13 |
| Colin Britton | Kiveton Park Resident |
| Councillor Clarence Swindell | Borough Councillor Ward No. 18 |
| Councillor Karl Barton | Borough Councillor Ward No. 13 |
| Brian Nealy | Kiveton Park and Wales C.D.T. |
| Gerald Capper | DART |
| Councillor Iain St. John | Borough Councillor Ward No. 1 |
| David Hall | Harthill with Woodall Parish Council |
| Alice Booth | Wales Parish Council |

By Invitation

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| David Oldroyd | Project Officer – Kiveton Park and Wales C.D.T. |
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Together with

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| Kyley Gains | Area Assembly Support Officer (RMBC) |
| Gordon Smith | Area Assembly Officer (RMBC) |
| David Tyrrell | Principal Democratic Services Officer (RMBC) |
| Mick Stowe | Community Planning Officer (RMBC) |
| Tessa Pople | Active Communities Development Officer (RMBC) |
| Sam Allen | Active Communities Development Officer (RMBC) |

68. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillor Sid Bennett (Borough Councillor Ward No. 1); Councillor Derek Chapman (Borough Councillor Ward No. 18); Roy Newman (Dinnington and District Conservation and History Group); Sue Thomson (Anston Parish Council) and Alan Vickers (Anston Parish Council).

The Chair and Councillor Stonebridge made reference to the motor vehicle accident on 26th November, 2002 in which Councillor Sid Bennett suffered serious injuries and reported on his progress. It was explained that, despite having to lose part of his right leg he was managing to remain in good spirit and had thanked everyone for their best wishes. All in the meeting joined in wishing him as speedy a recovery as possible.

69. MINUTES

Agreed:- (a) That the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd December, 2002 be received and approved.

(b) That, further to the minutes stated it be noted:-

- water was still running on to Mansfield Road, Wales and ponding (Minute No. 65(b))
- Thorpe Salvin were still awaiting a response as to their drainage problems, and raised further queries as to street sweeping being advised, a road sweeper only visited once per year and only swept where there was a pavement (Minute No. 65 (c))

70. AREA ASSEMBLY

The Assembly Officer reported on the following issues:-

(a) Town Centre Retail Surveys 2002

Copies of two local surveys undertaken by Yorkshire Forward during September, 2002 of eleven shopping centres throughout Rotherham, since September, 2001 have revealed –

- Kiveton Park – very little change with a slight increase in living above the shop
- Dinnington – a slight reduction in total vacant properties but a big reduction in vacant floor space with three large units taken up

(b) Green Business Park Initiative

Dinnington/North Anston/Todwick Road Industrial Estate had been commended to Groundwork Creswell for consideration under this scheme

(c) Community Skips

Outstanding skip requests had been made and the Cleansing Service would be contacting Parish Councils shortly. There remained an opportunity for additional requests to be made.

(d) Leonardo Da Vinci Student Placement

It was felt that Berta Perez's placement studying issues around and approaches to tackling rural regeneration had been a great success.

(d) Environmental Sub Group

The Group had met further and had agreed to work filling potholes on the north side of Station Road, Kiveton Park and Dog Bins in Anston and Dinnington

71. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

(a) Recycling – Recycle bins always seemed to be overflowing not being emptied which it was suggested did not help in promoting the idea. Some of the containers were also not fastened correctly when left on a site allowing materials to spill out.

(b) Blue Bag Recycling Scheme – Could this not be extended to the South of the Borough

(c) Rubbish Problems, Dinnington – Rubbish was accumulating at the rear of shops adjoining the outdoor market and felt the shop operators/owners should be doing more to resolve the issue rather than leave it to blow around on the basis the Council would then clean up.

Agreed:- That the issue be raised with the Chamber of Trade to see if they can also pursue the issue with the traders concerned.

(d) Abandoned Cars – Concern was expressed at the implications to landowners of cars being left on their land and on many occasions set alight. This was accepted as a serious and growing problem.

72. THE PITHEAD BATHS PROJECT, KIVETON PARK

The Assembly received David Oldroyd, Project Officer of Kiveton Park and Wales Community and Development Trust who gave a presentation on the role and work of the Trust in helping improve the community in any way they can and specifically in promoting the Pithead Baths Project.

It was explained that initially Yorkshire Forward had proposals to demolish the Baths, a Grade II Listed Building, but had been refused permission. The Development Trust had seen the potential to provide facilities in the

area. They had already prepared a Business Plan and basis of a scheme and had undertaken consultation and sent out questionnaires. More than 90% of the responses had been positive. People recognised and wished to support such a community project.

The Trust appreciated that the overall cost of the project at £3.4m seemed a lot of money but seriously questioned if that would be questioned if it was for a scheme in the middle of Sheffield. So why not Kiveton Park. Discussions had already taken place with the Heritage Lottery and Cultural Industries had expressed interest in a possible satellite base. The next step was to submit funding applications.

The scheme consisted of a Theatre/Cinema, Interpretation Room, Side Rooms, Recording Studio, Café and Community Hall and would create employment opportunities. They were well aware of the need to ensure they did not clash with the Wales Parish Council's own proposals involving sports facilities and accordingly they did not form part of their scheme.

The Chairman further reported that Yorkshire Forward had now also just submitted a planning application in respect of the former Kiveton Park Colliery Site (Application RB2002/1912). This was for the reclamation of the former colliery site, creation of a fishing pond excavation of approximately 1000,000m³ of material, creation of a recreation arena/amphitheatre, regrading of main colliery tip using materials from the above excavations, creation of a view point feature at the highest point on the site. Tree planting to include community woodland and short rotation coppicing as well as recreational paths and tracks.

It was presumed that Yorkshire Forward would need to have a local public meeting on the proposals.

Discussion ensued on rights of way over the site and need to ensure that any such rights were maintained. The view was they should be protected under planning conditions.

Agreed:- That David Oldroyd be thanked for his presentation.

73. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

The following items/issues were put forward:-

- Community Safety Strategy to include Neighbourhood Watch
- Recycling
- A57 – Interim measures pending improvement scheme

74. NEXT MEETING

Agreed:- That the next meeting of this Assembly be held in the Dinnington Resource Centre on Monday 3rd February, 2003 at 10.00 a.m.