

ROTHER VALLEY SOUTH ASSEMBLY
Monday, 2nd February, 2004
Woodsetts Pavilion

PRESENT

Councillor Audrey Gilbert (Chair)	Borough Councillor Ward No. 13
Councillor I. Lloyd	Harthill Parish Council
Councillor E. Simmonite	Harthill with Woodall Parish Council
Councillor I. St. John	Rotherham MBC
Councillor C. Swindell	Rotherham MBC
Brian Neely	Kiveton Park & Wales CDT
Clive Pantry	Todwick Parish Council
Alan Vickers	Anston Resident
Julie Chessman	Woodsetts Parish Council
Catherine Bunten	CDW - Dinnington
Andrew Woodhead	VAR – South Rotherham
Mike Gazur	Anston Parish Council
G.J. Dickens	North Anston Resident
Alice Booth, M.B.E.	Wales Parish Council
Brian Cottam	Dinnington Town Council
Trevor Stanway	Laughton Parish Council
Jack Mackay	Rural Transport Group
M. Bishop	Harthill Resident
Monica Carroll	Woodsetts Parish Council
Ken Ward	Woodsetts Parish Council
Rita Alderton	Anston Parish Council
Richard Swann	Woodsetts Parish Council
S. Thompson	Anston Parish Council
J. Humphrey	Letwell Resident
Jan Poucher	Harthill Parish Council
B. Howarth	Anston Resident
J. Robinson	Anston Resident

Together with:-

Gordon Smith	Area Officer
Mick Stowe	Community Planning Officer
Kyley Gains	Support Officer
Andy Roddis	Streetpride
Lee Stephenson	YRCC

APOLOGIES

Councillor Karl Barton	Rotherham MBC
Councillor Philip Wardle	Rotherham MBC
Councillor David Davies	Rotherham MBC
Councillor Robin Stonebridge	Rotherham MBC
Councillor Dave Hall	Rotherham MBC
Roy Newman	Dinnington resident
Colin Savage	Wales Resident & CDT Representative

David Oldroyd	Kiveton Park and Wales CDT
Fran Blanksby	DAT Community Activist
Peter Blanksby	Wales Parish Council
Carol Mills	Rotherham MBC
Nigel Lee	Firbeck resident
David Tyrrell	Dinnington Town Council

9. MINUTES

Agreed: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 1st December, 2003 be approved as a true record.

10. MATTERS ARISING

It was requested at the previous Assembly meeting that a microphone system be used at future meetings. A microphone system was obtained for today's meeting but due to the size of the system it was thought inappropriate for a venue of this size but will be used in larger venues where appropriate.

11. COMMUNITY PLANNING

Lee Stephenson of the Yorkshire Rural Community Council (YRCC) gave a presentation on the role of the YRCC and Countryside Agency in enabling community planning at Parish level. He stressed the key role that Parish Councils can and do play in the formulation of Parish Plan Steering Groups.

Mick Stowe, Community Planning Officer pointed to the Action Plan for Woodsetts as an excellent example of what would be achieved and went on to describe progress elsewhere in the Assembly Area. A variety of models was being pursued using different consultation techniques. All were valid. He is working with Lee to assist progress where invited. It was recognised that some Parishes may not have the ability in terms of volunteer capacity to "go it alone". He was seeking an indication from the smaller rural Parish Councils whether they might wish to combine efforts.

Mr. Bishop referred to the Countryside Agency advice on the drive to establish a Quality Parish Council benchmark. It was clarified that this was an important consideration for individual Councils but should not be seen as a constraint upon the process of Parish Planning. Reference was made to the energy and enthusiasm which was being generated through consultation and Steering Groups which extended beyond the membership of individual Councils.

The Assembly Officer referred to the valuable information on local issues and priorities coming from Parish Planning which was already

being referred to in a revised Assembly Area Action Plan. In this Area Steering Groups were the equivalent of the Community Partnerships being formed in the more urbanised areas of the Borough. The Area Plan provided a direct route to influencing the Rotherham Partnership's Community Strategy and to attract resources for local needs.

Agreed: Lee Stephenson and Mick Stowe be thanked for their informative presentation. A copy of the presentation will be made available with the minutes.

12. STREETPRIDE OFFICER'S REPORT

A report was received which updated progress in dealing with issues:-

Blocked gullies outside St. Johns Rooms, Wales Road, Kiveton Park
Mud being discharged onto Rotherham Road, Laughton Common
Traffic lights/roundabout on Mansfield Road/School Road, Wales Bar
Concerns regarding planning application for the quarry off Red Hill

It was noted that the majority of work ordered on this year's budget has been completed and all requests for work to be undertaken in next year's budget have been received and are currently being calculated.

13. AREA OFFICER REPORT

A minute's silence was held in remembrance of Councillor Sid Bennett and Tom Wakefield.

The Assembly Officer then reported on the following matters in which a full report was made available to the meeting:-

Engagement of People with the Assembly
Young People
Mansfield Road/School Road Junction
Community Skips
Community Fund Information Sessions
Rotherham Council's Environment Strategy

The Assembly Officer introduced the two new Community Development Workers for the Area, Catherine Bunten (Dinnington) and Andrew Woodhead (South Rotherham).

The Assembly Officer asked that attention be paid when signing the attendance sheet to include postcodes in order to identify where people are attending from.

14. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. It was stated that by comparison Sheffield's Streetforce initiative seemed to be more informative about its attempts to stop fly-tipping. As fly-tipping was on the increase in this area it was asked that more should be done to get people involved to enable more prosecutions to take place and prevent future fly-tipping. It was also suggested that many waste recycling sites have inappropriate opening times.

The Chair suggested that the relevant officers could put an article in the next issue of Community Matters to highlight the strategy and tactics being employed to address this problem. Any witnesses to fly-tipping should try and get as much information as possible and report on the Streetpride number 01709 336003.

2. Related to fly-tipping is the issue of how much commitment the Borough Council shows towards promoting re-cycling. Could it be doing more?

The Assembly Officer informed the meeting that if it wished it could refer its concerns about waste disposal and recycling to the Scrutiny Process.

3. What progress with the Crime and Community Safety Partnership?

The Assembly Officer remarked that the project had experienced a few problems and one of the officers was now leaving but stated the project had received funding for another year to carry on. It was also reported that South Yorkshire Police were fully committed to supporting the project.

Leaflets from Jack MacKay were made available to assembly addressing Credit Card Crime, The Law on Air Weapons and Petrol and Battery Go-Peds.

15. FORTHCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

- Revised Area Assembly Plans
- Future direction of Area Assemblies
- Neighbourhood Wardens

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Agreed: That the next meeting be held at Todwick Village Hall on Monday, 1st March, 2004 at 2.00 p.m.

Main presentation Item: Progress on upgrading of A57.