

ROTHER VALLEY SOUTH AREA ASSEMBLY
held at Dinnington Resource Centre
3rd February, 2003

Present:-

Rita Alderton	South Anston Resident
Brian Cottam	Dinnington St. John's Parish Council
Councillor Audrey Gilbert	Borough Councillor Ward No. 13 (in the Chair)
Ken Ward	Woodsetts Parish Council
Nigel Lee	Firbeck Parish Council
Alan Yates	South Anston Resident
Peter Blanksby	Wales Parish Council
J. B. Mosley	Todwick Parish Council
Barbara Justice	Ace Project
Councillor Clarence Swindell	Borough Councillor Ward No. 18
Barry Bott	DART
Councillor Iain St. John	Borough Councillor Ward No. 1
David Hall	Harthill with Woodall Parish Council
Alice Booth	Wales Parish Council
Michael Gazur	Anston Parish Council
Tina Jones	South Yorkshire Police, Kiveton
Howard Saul	South Yorkshire Police, Kiveton
J. W. Slack	Dinnington Resident
Robert Holland	Throapham Resident – DART
Alan Vickers	Anston Parish Council
Cliff Loy	Dinnington Resident
Jamie Kirkpatrick	DART
Wilf Dale	Dinnington St. John's Parish Council

By invitation:-

Pam Horner	South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive
Stuart Savage	Design and Engineering Service, RMBC
Graham Weaver	Design and Engineering Service, RMBC

Together with :-

Gordon Smith	Area Assembly Officer (RMBC)
David Tyrrell	Principal Democratic Services Officer (RMBC)
Mick Stowe	Community Planning Officer (RMBC)
Tessa Popple	Active Communities Development Officer (RMBC)
Sam Allen	Active Communities Development Officer (RMBC)
Wendy Degg	Voluntary Action Rotherham

75. 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); Councillor Robin Stonebridge (Borough Councillor Ward No. 1); Mandy Bell (Housing and Environmental Service, RMBC); Clive Pantry (Todwick Parish Council); Fran Blanksby (Disability Action Group); Graham Greaves (Thorpe Salvin Parish Council); David Oldroyd (Kiveton Park and Wales C.D.T.); Councillor Karl Barton (Borough Councillor Ward No. 13); Councillor Anne Britton (Borough Councillor Ward No. 13); Jack MacKay (South Rural Rural Transport Group and South Yorkshire National

Neighbourhood Watch Association); Ron Bennett (VAR) and Councillor Philip Wardle (Borough Councillor Ward No. 18).

76. MINUTES

Agreed:- (a) That the minutes of the meeting held on 6th January, 2003 be received and approved.

(b) That further to Minute No. 72 it be noted that Yorkshire Forward intend to undertake a presentation in the Kiveton Park area on the proposals, the subject of application No. RB 2002/1912.

77. CRIME AND DISORDER ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The Assembly received Mrs. Pam Horner of the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive who gave a presentation on the 'Safe Initiative' which it was felt was proving to be a great success. She commented upon :-

- that the general public were very safe on public transport
- on the need to affirm the above and remove the perception it was unsafe
- the action they were taking to achieve the above and to reduce vandalism/incidents
- the development of Crime Analysis
- how passengers can help
- progress achieved to date

In closing she again emphasised that public transport was a safe way to travel.

A general question and answer session ensued with issues raised/clarified including :-

- within a stated time period carrying 145m passengers only approximately 420 incidents had been reported. Some 4,000 incidents of bus shelter damage had been reported
- the reasons people had to travel to the main towns for bus passes
- the need for waste bins near to bus stops

Pam confirmed she was willing to provide any further information that people may need.

(A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes)

Agreed:- (a) That Pam Horner be thanked for her presentation and the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive be asked to look at the possible issue of bus passes at the new Dinnington Transport Interchange to assist people of this area.

(b) That all relevant partners including the Transport Executive, Borough Council and Parish Councils be asked to consider the provision and emptying of waste bins at bus stops.

78. YORKSHIRE WATER – CAPITAL WORKS IN THE ROTHER VALLEY SOUTH AREA

The Assembly received Mr. Graham Weaver of the Design and Engineering Service of the Borough Council who advised that Yorkshire Water had started a large £ 1½ m capital programme scheme in the area involving the improvement/repair of water mains. Rather than digging trenches and replacing the pipes the appointed contractor, Kennedys, would be digging a series of pits and inserting sleeves inside existing pipes. In saying this there was bound to be some disruption and for a period possible some discoloured water and loss of pressure. The renewal would obviously however be of long term benefit.

To try to ensure that matters proceeded smoothly the Borough Council would have a dedicated Inspector to look after the works.

General discussion took place on the scheme which was welcomed. Graham agreed to investigate a reported traffic movement problem associated with the work at Crowgate, South Anston.

Agreed:- That details of the scheme be noted.

79. A57 – INTERIM MEASURES PENDING IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

The Assembly received Stuart Savage of the Design and Engineering Service of the Borough Council who explained that, pending the major improvement scheme on the section of the A57 between the M1 and near to the Red Lion Crossroads, consideration was being given to a road safety scheme. It was recognised that drivers leaving the motorway were driving too fast on the section of road in question and this had contributed to accidents on the bends on the road. Large signs were to be erected, new intelligent road studs inserted on the bends and improved road markings.

It was explained the national speed limit applied to the road and it was impossible to vary this without obtaining a Traffic Regulation Order which did take some time.

Agreed:- That the details of the scheme be welcomed and the Design and Engineering Service be asked to investigate the difficulties experienced by

some heavy goods vehicles in turning from the A57 onto Todwick Road towards Dinnington when traffic is parked on the adjoining traffic lane.

80. ASSEMBLY OFFICER'S REPORT

The Assembly Officer reported on the following issues:-

(a) Community Action Plan

Work was proceeding on the Action Plan including aligning issues raised with the most appropriate themes in the Community Strategy. Copies of the draft were being circulated for comment prior to submission to the Rotherham Partnership. Should any interested representatives not receive a copy they were asked to inform the Assembly Officer.

(b) Community Chest

The deadline for the receipt of applications for the remaining funds had now passed and the Grants Panel were to meet on 5th February, 2003 to consider those submitted.

(c) Environment Sub-Group "Hotspots" Fund

The budget of £5,000 had now been fully allocated. Repairs to lanes off Wales Road in Kiveton Park were now complete and lists for dog waste bins in Anston and Dinnington passed to the Environmental Health Service for implementation.

(d) Graffiti

Representatives were asked to inform the Assembly Officer of any problem graffiti areas so that a database can be established to assist the new Borough team established in dealing with the issue.

(e) Funding Fayre

A 'Meet the Funders' Day was being held at the Unity Centre, Rotherham on 5th February, 2003 from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

(f) Community Fund Information and Advice

The Community Fund had arranged an event at the old Anston library on 26th February, 2003 for organisations that are new to applying, are in the early stages of bidding or were thinking of re-applying.

(g) Winter Highways Maintenance

A copy of the Winter Maintenance Manual of the Design and Engineering Service was available at the Assembly Office.

(h) White City, Kiveton Park

A new Residents Liaison Group had now been formed.

(i) Drainage issues

The response of the Design and Engineering Service of the Borough Council to issues raised as to drainage at Mansfield Road, Wales, Thorpe Salvin and at Winney Hill, Harthill were reported.

A resident raised concerns that leaves blocking drains on South Street, Dinnington were causing flooding, something experienced year on year. It was felt that drain cleansing should be programmed.

(j) Litter Nuisance to rear of Shops on Laughton Road, Dinnington (near outdoor market)

An approach had been made to the Chamber of Trade which had not been productive. The problems had however been referred to Environmental Health Services and hoped they could pursue the matter.

81.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

(a) Swimming Provision – Rother Valley South Area

The meeting expressed concern at reports that the Dinnington Swimming Pool was to close and that the nearest provision would then be at either Aston or Maltby. Reference was made to the following issues :-

- the existing facility at Dinnington had been provided with the benefit of funds raised by local people
- the suggested alternative facilities were difficult to reach for many people of the Rother Valley South Area and would most certainly not benefit the disadvantaged
- the time and cost involved in transporting school children would be counter productive and could either damage education time or lesson swimming provision

Councillor St. John reported on the Sports Council criteria and arguments put forward for this area which had not been successful. Preferred sites had been put forward with one for the south of the Borough which as stated was at Aston.

Agreed:- That a Statement be sought from the Executive Director of Education, Culture and Leisure Services in view of the deep concerns felt in this matter.

82.

SOUTH ROTHERHAM RURAL TRANSPORT GROUP

The minutes of the meeting of this Group held on 13th January, 2003 were submitted.

83. NEXT MEETING

Agreed:- That the next meeting of this Assembly be held in the Woodsetts Pavilion on Monday 3rd March, 2003 at 2.00 p.m.