

ROTHER VALLEY SOUTH ASSEMBLY
Monday, 5th April, 2004
Laughton Village Hall

PRESENT

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| Councillor Audrey Gilbert (Chair) | Borough Councillor Ward No. 13 |
| Councillor Dave Hall | Rotherham MBC |
| Councillor Philip Wardle | Rotherham MBC |
| Councillor Clarence Swindell | Rotherham MBC |
| Alan Vickers | Anston Resident |
| A. Jones | Laughton Resident |
| Roy Newman | Dinnington Resident |
| Catherine Bunten | Community Development Worker |
| I. Lloyd | Harthill with Woodhall Parish Council |
| Councillor E. Simmonite | Harthill with Woodhall Parish Council |
| K. Ward | Woodsetts Parish Council |
| J. Swann | Woodsetts Parish Council |
| Alice Booth, M.B.E. | Wales Parish Council |
| Samantha Brooks | Laughton Parish Council |
| Trevor Stanway | Laughton Parish Council |
| Colin Savage | Wales Resident & CDT Representative |
| John Humphrey | Letwell Resident |
| Maureen Humphrey | Letwell Resident |
| M. Bishop | Harthill Resident |
| Robert Kearsley | Dinnington Resident |
| Julie Hanks | Kiveton Park Resident |
| Paul Hanks | Kiveton Park Resident |
| Brian Cottam | Dinnington Town Council |
| Michael Gazur | Anston Parish Council |
| Beryl Howarth | Anston Resident |
| Sue Thomson | Anston Parish Council |

Together with:-

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| Gordon Smith | Area Officer |
| Mick Stowe | Community Planning Officer |
| Kyley Gains | Support Officer |
| Andy Roddis | Streetpride |
| Gillian Charters | Housing & Environmental Health |
| Nicola Cheetham | Environmental Warden |

APOLOGIES

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|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Carol Mills | Rotherham MBC |
| Monica Carroll | Woodsetts Parish Council |
| Nigel Lee | Firbeck Parish Council |
| Rita Alderton | Anston Parish Council |
| David Oldroyd | Kiveton Park & Wales CDT |
| Brian Neely | Kiveton Park & Wales CDT |
| Councillor K. Barton | Rotherham MBC |
| Councillor David Davies | Rotherham MBC |
| Lesley Fletcher | Ryton Credit Union |
| Fran Blanksby | Wales Parish Council |
| Peter Blanksby | Wales Parish Council |

26. MINUTES

Agreed: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 1st March, 2004 be approved as a true record.

27. MATTERS ARISING

Page 2 – Mick Stowe advised that he had met with Lesley Cooper who is looking to set up a Crime and Community Safety Network Group for the South Rotherham Area. Lesley is of the view that issues affecting all the communities can be addressed more strategically working together.

Page 3 – Colin Savage reported that he was still awaiting a report from Debbie Fellows regarding Town Centre parking.

28. WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICE AND CONTROL OF FLYTIPPING

Gillian Charters and Nicola Cheetham of the Housing and Environmental Services of the Borough Council outlined the present position of waste disposal and the need to address recycling issues in the Borough. There is currently 120,000 tonnes of waste being produced in Rotherham every year, everything that is put in the household bin is currently put into a hole in the ground at Doncaster including many items which are recyclable such as glass and paper. Rotherham has a legal obligation to provide one waste disposal site and currently has four. Targets have now been set by the Government for recycling in which Rotherham's target was to achieve 10% by 2004 and 18% by 2006. They are now achieving just below 15%.

Recycling Schemes currently in place are:-

Blue Bag for waste paper collections which is now available in (Laughton)

Blue Box for glass, cans and textiles will be available to (Laughton) in the near future.

Green Bins are to be used for garden waste and cardboard and are currently on trial in 12,000 households geographically spread across the Borough and will be extended to more households in 2005/06.

In 2000 a barrier and permit system was introduced to waste centres due to the increasing amount of construction waste going through the sites.

Nicola Cheetham, Environmental Warden reported that she was responsible for actions to tackle litter, graffiti, dog fouling and fly-tipping and reported that litter dropping and dog fouling were causing the biggest problems. The Wardens regularly patrol parks looking for offenders and ask for residents to be vigilant and report any offenders.

Once a complaint is received the Wardens will then try and find evidence in order to prosecute in which they work closely with various other agencies. Fixed penalty fines are issued for minor fly-tipping.

In order to educate the young people the Environmental Wardens are visiting local schools in order to educate the young people on litter dropping which can result in letters and fines being sent to parents of any young person found litter dropping.

The following questions were raised:-

- Q. How many prosecutions have taken place?
 A. 300 on the spot litter fines, 100 dog fouling fines and 3 successful prosecutions in Court.
- Q. How many of the fixed penalty fines have been paid?
 A. 85-90% have been paid
- Q. How many Environmental Wardens are there in total?
 A. 4 Wardens for the whole Borough
- Q. Are the offenders named and shamed?
 A. Successful prosecutions are named and shamed in the Advertiser.
- Q. What is the case if it is Rotherham's Borough Council's Bin Collection Service that is causing litter?
 A. This should be reported immediately because the workforce should be picking up any litter that they create during their operation.
- R. Can anything be done about lorries carrying waste which are not covered properly?
 A. Yes the companies responsible can be prosecuted if details are known.
- Q. What kind of response has been received from schools?
 A. Good, with the teachers being very helpful. Nicola stated they were currently having difficulty getting into a Dinnington school in which the Chair advised to contact the School Governor.
- Q. Concerns were raised regarding the underlying strata of the waste disposal site being constructed at Thurcroft.
 A. The Chair advised to put any concerns in writing as this was a planning issue.
- Q. Were there any plans for an incinerator?
 A. No as the current waste disposal contract runs until 2008.
- Q. As many Parish Councils employ a lengthsman to collect rubbish why is he unable to take it to the dumpit site when he is saving the Borough money?
 A. This is a matter for Streetpride as they are responsible for street cleansing litter.

It was suggested that statistics of prosecutions be printed in Community Matters.

Agreed: that Gillian Charters and Nicola Cheetham be thanked for their helpful presentation.

The Chair issued a response received by the Area Assembly from David Hill, Environmental Health regarding the discontinuation of the Community Skip Service. Any groups willing to pay for the service would cost £400-£500 per occasion.

29. STREETPRIDE OFFICER REPORT

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

High Street, Laughton – mirror fallen off post
 Crowgate, South Anston – piece of metal reported to be sticking out
 Mill Lane, Anston – damage to bridge
 Condition of various roads in South Anston
 Motorcycles accessing the green open space, opposite Safeway, Dinnington.

Projects on last year's devolved budget are now almost complete and a table showing confirmed requests for next year's devolved budget was made available.

30. AREA OFFICER REPORT

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

Future Area Assembly Meetings with regard to the forthcoming general restructuring – the next meeting will be the last one for a while until after elections.

The Local Agenda 21 Officer asked to address the next meeting on 10th May, 2004

Rotherham Council's Corporate Plan 2003-2006 – a summary was made available

Safer Rotherham Partnership revised Strategy to reduce Crime and Disorder 2003-2005 – a leaflet outlining revised targets was made available

Newsletter from Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership – a leaflet updating on progress was made available

The Chair announced that as from Saturday, 27th March, 2004 bus fares would be revised resulting in a 5p increase for adults although there would be no change to senior citizens.

31. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Was there any news on the Mansfield Road junction?

A meeting had been held and a response was awaited from Parish Council meeting.

2. Concern was raised regarding the amount of pollution caused by buses in South Yorkshire and could something be done about it?

It was suggested the Area Assembly Office could pursue this issue.

3. Was an update on the Quarry Site at Kiveton Park Station available?

A helpful meeting had taken place with the site owner as part of the planning application process.

4. What was the current status regarding windfarm turbines being placed in the area?

It was reported that as yet no application had been received for this area. The Chair reported they were in the process of gathering as much information as possible in order to be prepared for such an application and stated this was an issue which the 7 Parishes Meeting may want to address together.

32. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Agreed: That the next meeting be held at Anston Eco Centre on Monday, 10th May, 2004 at 7.00 p.m.