

CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

**Venue: Town Hall,
Moorgate Street,
Rotherham**

Date: Monday, 9 August 2004

Time: 2.00 p.m.

A G E N D A

Extra open items:-

8. Minutes of a meeting of the Tourism Panel held on 19th July, 2004 (Pages 1 - 5)
 - to receive the minutes.
9. Minutes of a meeting of the Town Centre Initiative Steering Group held on 22nd July, 2004 (Pages 6 - 11)
 - to receive the minutes.
10. Council Representation on the Board of the Academy of Construction Trades. (report attached) (Pages 12 - 13)
Economic Strategy Manager to report.
 - to consider the nomination of a representatives to the ACT.
11. Minutes of the Health, Welfare and Safety Panel held on 16th July, 2004. (copy attached) (Pages 14 - 16)
 - to receive the minutes.
12. Petition - Orange Network Mast Erected at 49-50 Allotments, Vale Road, Thrybergh.
A copy of the petition will be available at the meeting.
 - to receive the above petition against the erection of the mast (Referred from Council on 4th August, 2004).

Extra Item (exempt):-

13. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**
The following item is likely to be considered in the absence of the press and public as being exempt under Paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (report relates to the recipient of a service provided by the Authority):-
14. Report of a Stage 3 Complaint Panel held on 29th July, 2004 (Pages 17 - 19)
 - to consider the notes of the Panel meeting, and to note the decision reached.

**TOURISM PANEL
MONDAY, 19TH JULY, 2004**

Present:- Councillor G. Smith (in the Chair); Councillors Austen and Hall.

together with:-

Colin Scott, Rotherham Chamber of Trade

and

Marie Hayes, Commercial and Promotions Manager
Guy Kilminster, Manager, Libraries, Museums and Arts
Michelle Mellor, Assistant Tourism Officer
Sarah Myers, Tourism Manager
Julie Roberts, Town Centre, Tourism and Markets Manager

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Resolved:- That Councillor Smith be confirmed as Chairman of this Panel.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Resolved:- That Councillor Boyes be confirmed as Vice-Chairman of this Panel.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Councillor Boyes, Cabinet Member, Education, Culture and Leisure Services

Councillor Littleboy, Senior Advisor, Education, Culture and Leisure Services

Councillor Walker, Senior Advisor, Economic and Development Services
Steve Blackburn, Principal Officer Museums, Galleries and Heritage

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 7TH JUNE, 2004

The Panel received and noted the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7th June, 2004.

5. MATTERS ARISING

South Yorkshire Destination Management Organisation (DMO)

The Town Centre, Tourism and Markets Manager reported that the

meeting referred to at Minute No. 4(2) had not been arranged. However, verbal contact had been made with Yorkshire Forward and she would ask if a meeting could be arranged.

6. MINUTES OF A MEETING RE: PROMOTING ROTHERHAM HELD ON 16TH JUNE, 2004

Consideration was given to the minutes of a meeting re: Promoting Rotherham held on 16th June, 2004.

Resolved:- That the minutes be received.

7. ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY FLOWER SHOW AT TATTON PARK 2004

Further to Minute No. 273 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisors for Economic and Development Services held on 16th February, 2004, consideration was given to a report, presented by the Assistant Tourism Officer, relating to the attendance of Tourism officers at the Royal Horticultural Society Flower Show at Tatton Park 2004 from 21st to 25th July, 2004.

Reference was made to attendance in previous years in supporting the work of colleagues in Streetpride who enter the flowerbed competition. It was reported that the event provided an opportunity to promote Rotherham, events and activities by taking up the offer of display space.

Resolved:- (1) That the Panel supports this promotional opportunity.

(2) That a further report on the outcome of the Show be submitted to a future meeting.

8. TOURISM OFFICER'S UPDATE

The Tourism Manager gave a verbal update on the following issues:-

(i) Parliamentary Reception by the Tourism Committee

The Tourism Manager reported that she had talked to Richard Cabourn and raised the presence of Rotherham as an alternative tourism destination.

(ii) Educational Travel Company for Schools

A meeting had been arranged to discuss the promotion of Rotherham as a destination for school visits.

(iii) Twinning

A meeting had been held and schools contacted re: twinning activities

with Riesa, and reference was made to the impending visit of Riesa's Mayor.

(iv) Leaflet – South Yorkshire Tourism

The production of this leaflet, in conjunction with other South Yorkshire Tourism Officers, had included leisure events in Rotherham.

(v) South Yorkshire Food and Drink Festival

This was being organised at Doncaster Racecourse in September.

(vi) TV Coverage

Reference was made to the amount of TV coverage Rotherham had received recently.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Town Centre, Tourism and Markets Manager reported on the following:-

(i) Proposals for a Christmas Market at Magna

An outline was given of Magna's proposals.

Reference was made to Rotherham's Market Franchise and to the statutory duty to protect those rights and the legal issues which this proposal raised.

Reference was also made to the conflict which this caused in that part of the Manager's remit was to have an overview of tourism, and also to manage, develop and protect the market. The proposal would also conflict with the Town's own proposed Christmas Market plans.

Those present commented that to permit the Market at Magna would set a precedent and there would be repercussions for other requests for markets.

It was pointed out that Magna did not have planning permission for retail use, apart from its gift shop and cafe.

Concern was expressed at the lack of consultation by Magna with the Council.

A further meeting was to be held next week with the Council's Solicitor to discuss Market Law and legal issues.

(ii) South Yorkshire Destination Management Organisation – Update

The Town Centre, Tourism and Markets Manager gave an update on the above proposal to form a SYDMO.

A synopsis of discussion from a meeting held on 12th July, 2004 was given. The meeting had discussed issues such as who would lead its formation? Who should be in the organisation? What steps needed to be taken to draw up a tender brief? How would Local Authorities be represented?

It was reported that a request had been made for details of the proposed Terms of Reference and Membership of the Task Group to be made available.

A further meeting was scheduled for 3rd August, 2004.

Those present discussed the benefits and good service received from Yorkshire Tourist Board. Reference was made to representation on the DMO and how it would be funded.

All present agreed that the Council had to decide what was the best way forward for Rotherham.

10. DATES, TIME AND VENUE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Consideration was given to the dates, times and venues of future meetings.

Resolved:- That this Panel meets on Mondays at 2.00 p.m. as follows:-

20th September, 2004
8th November, 2004
20th December, 2004
7th February, 2005
7th March, 2005
25th April, 2005
6th June, 2005
18th July, 2005

(The Chairman authorised consideration of the following exempt item in order for Members to consider the discussions now reported)

11. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved:- That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 7 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (report related to the affairs of an organisation other than the Local Authority):-

12. YORKSHIRE TOURIST BOARD - UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Assistant Tourism Officer, informing Members of the latest situation regarding the restructuring of the Yorkshire Tourist Board.

The appendix to the report included the Yorkshire Tourist Board's Chief Executive's report on three options for a new organisation.

It was reported that Councillor Hall and the Assistant Tourism Officer attended the meeting on 2nd July, 2004 where the options were discussed and voted upon.

Those present were informed that Option 3 was agreed and this proposed that there would be a Tourism Council and a Management Board.

Reference was made to Local Authority representation within the new structure and to how and where future subscriptions would be paid. It was generally accepted that the present Board needed to be restructured to reflect changes within the tourism industry and to be the regional delivery body for tourism. Reference was made to the proposal for a South Yorkshire Destination Management Organisation and how the two organisations would work.

Resolved:- That the decisions made at the Yorkshire Tourist Board meeting held on 2nd July, 2004, regarding the new regional structure be supported.

**TOWN CENTRE INITIATIVE STEERING GROUP
THURSDAY, 22ND JULY, 2004**

Present:- Councillor S. Walker (in the Chair)

together with:-

Julie Roberts	Town Centre, Tourism and Markets Manager
Colin Scott	Rotherham Chamber of Trade
Terence & Pauline Barker	Access Liaison Group
Sgt. Paul Gray	South Yorkshire Police
Phil Woodward	Yorkshire Water
Chris Stanbra	RCAT
Norma Rao	Rotherham Parish Church

Apologies:-

Councillor G. Smith	Cabinet Member, Economic & Development Services
Jane Sinclair	Rotherham Parish Church
Vernon Marsh	Talbot Lane Church
Carol Brooks	Talbot Lane Church
Colin Knight	Streetpride
Patrick Middleton	Development Surveyor, RiDO

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 24TH JUNE, 2004

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 24th June, 2004 were approved as a correct record.

2. MATTERS ARISING

(i) 3 Cranes, High Street

Colin Scott asked if there was any further information about the frontage to these premises.

Councillor Walker replied that a planning application had been submitted which would now go through the planning process and could take up to six weeks.

Julie Roberts undertook to track this.

It was agreed: That Colin Scott be provided with a copy of the planning application.

(ii) Domine Lane Car Park

Colin Scott asked if the issue of drivers over staying the parking limits had been investigated yet.

It was agreed: That the issue be referred to Streetpride.

3. TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN - UPDATE

Julie Roberts apologised for being unable to report progress in this item. This had been due to her involvement in the Renaissance launch. She assured Members that an update would be given at the next meeting.

4. FUTURE ROLE OF THE GROUP

Julie Roberts apologised also for being unable to progress this item, again due to her involvement in the Renaissance launch.

5. GIANT LED SCREEN - UPDATE

Julie Roberts reported that planning permission for the screen had been conditionally granted. Detailed landscaping design was to be provided for the area in which the screen was to be sited. It was confirmed that the sound levels would be reasonable and did not affect the adjacent businesses and the church.

A Design Team was working with the Utilities Companies, Architect and Landscape Designers, and they would report back to the All Saints Square Working Group to present a scheme for them to consider. The proposed works would take time as it was proposed to hand excavate the bedding area to ensure greater care was taken and no cables cut.

Councillor Walker reported that one of the objectors had congratulated the Council on the steps it had taken and the sensitivity shown regarding this.

Julie Roberts reported that the Police were represented on one of the Screen Content Management working group regarding health, safety and management of events. The Group was also looking at the operational aspects and to look at the scheduling and to ensure that nothing detrimental to the town centre was displayed.

Regarding the noise levels it was reported that there would be individual speakers with controls on each which the Town Centre Manager would be able to control from her office. The volume could be controlled to suit the activities. The proximity of the screen to businesses, the church and the Rotherham Information and Tourism office was acknowledged. There would be liaison with the Church about church services, functions and activities.

Srg Gray mentioned work done by pupils at Clifton Comprehensive Youth Centre using video equipment which could possibly be shown on the screen. Reference was also made to the Performing Arts Section at RCAT. Julie agreed to speak to Srg Gray and Chris Stanbra about linking to these courses.

6. TOWN CENTRE MANAGER'S REPORT

(i) Magna's plans for a Christmas Market

Julie Roberts reported that Magna proposed to host a Christmas Market and outlined the implications and potential threat to Rotherham Market, which was a statutory market protected by Franchise Rights. She reported that the Council's legal obligations had been discussed with Magna and she informed the Group of the action proposed to prevent Magna from holding this market. She also pointed out that support would be given to Magna to promote other activities but it had been made clear that retail was not Magna's function. Also it was RMBC policy to regenerate Rotherham town centre and the proposed Christmas Market at Magna would provide additional competition for the town centre business at this sensitive time of the year for trading.

It was agreed: That the Steering Group support Julie in her proposed course of action to prevent the market proposed by Magna.

(ii) Rotherham by-the-Sea 2004

A card detailing all the events proposed between 9th and 21st August was distributed to those present, including Rotherham Olympic Games.

(iii) Rotherham Renaissance

Julie Roberts thanked everyone involved in the launch/exhibition, which drew over 800 people.

She pointed out that the next step was to take the exhibition out into the community and Area Assemblies and community partnerships. A touring exhibition was going to be made to supermarkets and libraries in the Borough.

Leaflets summarising the proposals had been produced asking for people's comments. The leaflet would go out in the Rotherham Record and the Weekender. The proposals were also available on the Council's Website. The closing date for any comments was 16th August and any comments received would be analysed and fed back to Town Team on 21st September. The amended Master Plan would be launched in late October.

Julie asked for any volunteers to help with the presentations.

Chris Stanbra asked how this would fit in with plans for the market. Julie reported that the Consultants had produced their draft report and now awaited the Service's comments. She reported that there was general

support for that the market remaining in its present location. However it was recognised that it needed a lot of work. A detailed report would be presented to Members.

Chris reported that the college now had a formalised plan and it was important to link the two proposals.

Reference was also made to Forge Island.

(iv) New Advertising Campaign

Julie Roberts reported that some retailers wanted more advertising to counter Meadowhall and Parkgate. Thus a new ad campaign was being developed. The campaign was looking to reflect “a slice of life in the town centre” and to highlight the differences. Those present referred to learning, worship, banking etc and Julie agreed to try to adapt depending on where the advertising was being used.

(v) Events and Promotions Manager

Julie Roberts reported that the above post had been created and would be out to advert next week, with interviews scheduled for w/c 23rd August.

(vi) Town Twinning

The Chairman referred to discussions about whether Rotherham could host a language school.

(vii) Anti-Social Behaviour in the Town Centre

Julie Roberts raised the issue of anti-social behaviour in the town centre. Some retailers were concerned about the response time from the Police Control Room in Sheffield.

Chris Stanbra reported that the college had similar problems in the area around the Charter Arms.

The issue of a Byelaw, or Public Places Order, to reduce the effects of drinking in the town centre was raised again. It was agreed that a collective approach was needed. The possibility of funding Community Support Officers for the town centre was also raised.

It was agreed: That a meeting be arranged, to involve representatives from businesses, RCAT, Police and the Town Centre Manager, to look at this issue and to re-examine the possible introduction of a byelaw and the funding for Community Support Officers.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Accidents at St. Ann's Roundabout

Queuing traffic and accidents at peak times were reported. It was questioned whether traffic lights could be installed.

It was agreed: To refer this to Streetpride.

(ii) Effect of the closure of M & S on the footfall count

Colin Scott asked if the closure of M & S had had an effect on the footfall count in the town centre.

Julie Roberts reported that initially on Effingham Street and College Street there had not been much change. However, over the last few weeks there had been a small reduction in footfall. The M & S property was currently under offer by a new retail occupier and confirmation of who this would be was awaited.

(iii) Proposals for the management of town centre pitches

Colin Scott asked about the above, and Julie replied that the proposals had been amended to include comments put forward by this Group, and the scheme had receive Cabinet Member approval and been implemented from 5th July.

(iv) Pavement repair – Eastwood Lane

Christ Stanbra reported that the college had administered first aid to members of the public on three occasions in the past two months following falls on broken pavement.

It was agreed: That this be referred to Streetpride.

(v) Benches in the Churchyard

Norma Rao asked if repairs could be made to the benches.

It was reported that there was a an on-going repair programme.

(vi) Former Bingo Hall, Doncaster Gate

Srg Gray asked if there were any plans for this building and referred to the amount of used syringes in the ginnel alongside.

Councillor Walker replied that there were plans to turn the building into

residential use.

8. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed: That the next meeting of this Steering Group be held on THURSDAY, 2ND SEPTEMBER, 2004 at 6.00 p.m. at the Town Hall, Rotherham.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER

- 1. Meeting:** Economic and Development Services matters
- 2. Date:** 9th August 2004
- 3. Title:** **Council Representation on the Board of the Academy of Construction Trades.**
- 4. Originating Officer:-** Deborah Fellowes, Economic Strategy Manager, Ext. 3828

Designated Manager: - Richard Poundford, Head of RIDO, Ext 2971.

5. Issue

To agree RMBC representation on the Board of the Academy of Construction Trades.

6. Summary

The Council has been invited to nominate an Associate Director for the Board of the Company, as a funder of the project and a key partner in the overall economic regeneration of Rotherham,

7. Clearance/Consultation

The report has been subject to consultation and clearance by Legal Services.

8. Timing

It is proposed to take up membership of the Board of the Academy with immediate effect.

9. Background

The Academy of Construction Trades was set up with the support of RMBC, with the specific purpose of ensuring that Rotherham residents are well placed to access full benefit from the growth in the Construction sector and, in particular, through some of the major capital projects due to come on stream. CERB funding of £50,000 towards the set up costs for the Academy was approved by the Cabinet Member at the Delegated Powers meeting 9th June 04.

10. Argument

The Council is a key partner in the development of the Academy. It has supported the project, as an opportunity to link key regeneration projects and activity within the Borough to the skills and employment prospects of local residents within the Construction sector. The Council is also currently leading on the development of a Rotherham Construction Sector Group, to bring together all of the key partners in the sector. It is therefore important that the Academy is linked into these developments. A letter has been received from the Academy of

Construction Trades, by the Head of RIDO, requesting Council representation. It is therefore recommended that the Head of RIDO is nominated as an Associate Director for RMBC on the Board of the Academy. This letter is appended to the report for information.

11.Risks and Uncertainties

The company will aim to ensure that local employment and training opportunities from the major construction programme planned in the Borough are targeted towards local residents, therefore minimising the risk that the benefits from major construction programmes by pass the local economy. Any risks associated with this company are minimised to RMBC as it is a company limited by guarantee.

12.Finance

RMBC has contributed £50,000 from the economic element of its CERB budget to the Academy of Construction Trades.

13.Sustainability

The company will contribute to a key sustainability principle, the ability to retain jobs and wealth within the local economy.

14.Wards Affected

All

15.References

None

16.Presentation

The formation of the new company will help to deliver the regeneration agenda in terms of maximising benefits within the local economy from major construction projects.

17.Recommendations

That the Cabinet Member nominates the Head of RIDO to act as RMBC's Associate Board Member of the Academy of Construction Trades.

**HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY PANEL
FRIDAY, 16TH JULY, 2004**

Present:- (none) (in the Chair); Councillors R. S. Russell, Pickering, Sharman, Whelbourn, Hall and Darby. and Mr. J. W. Clay (ATL), Mrs. C. Maleham (UNISON), Mr. K. Moore (AMICUS), Mr. C. Oldfield (TGWU) and Mrs. H. C. Smith (UNISON)

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillors Burke and Senior: Mrs. S. D. Brook (NASUWT), Mr. R. Foster (NUT), Mrs. L. Heywood (UNISON), Mr. M. Martin (UCATT) and Mrs. P. Ward (GMB).

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Resolved:- That Councillor R. S. Russell be re-appointed Chairman of the Health, Welfare and Safety Panel for the 2004/05 Municipal Year.

(Councillor R. S. Russell in the Chair)

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Resolved:- That Mr. K. Moore be re-appointed Vice-Chairman of the Health, Welfare and Safety Panel for the 2004/05 Municipal Year.

3. ILLNESS OF MR. MALCOLM MARTIN (UCATT)

The Chairman informed Panel members of the illness of Mr. Malcolm Martin, health and safety representative of the UCATT trade union.

Agreed:- that a letter be sent to Mr. Martin wishing him a speedy recovery from illness.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY PANEL HELD ON 22ND APRIL, 2004

Agreed:- That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Health, Welfare and Safety Panel, held on 22nd April, 2004, be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 22ND APRIL, 2004

(a) Occupational Stress (Minute 26(b))

The Health and Safety Executive's recommendations about stress at work were to be considered by the Council's Corporate Management Team; after which, a report would be submitted to the October, 2004 meeting of this Panel.

(b) Bramley Grange Junior and Infant School – Kitchens (Minute No. 27(e))

The Panel considered that the Principal Catering Officer must arrange for appropriate notices to be affixed to the entrance doors to all school kitchens, in order to prohibit anyone entering the kitchen who is not directly involved in the preparation of schools meals.

(c) Membership of the Health, Welfare and Safety Panel

It was noted that an additional member was to be appointed to this Panel, from the Members' Training and Development Panel.

6. STATISTICS OF ACCIDENTS, INJURIES AND INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE TO EMPLOYEES

The Principal Health and Safety Officer submitted a chart summarising reported accidents to all employees, occurring from the third quarter in 2001 to the second quarter in 2004.

Agreed:- That the information be noted.

7. HEALTH AND SAFETY BULLETIN

Consideration was given to the Health and Safety Bulletin, containing recent articles and reports of legal cases relating to health and safety. Eighteen recent health and safety articles and cases were highlighted.

Agreed:- (a) That the Principal Health and Safety Officer distribute copies of the bulletin throughout the Authority.

(b) That the Principal Health and Safety Officer submit a report to the next meeting of this Panel concerning the training provided for employees of the Council and its agents/contractors who are required to lift and handle heavy materials during construction works.

8. REPORTS ON VISITS OF INSPECTION HELD ON FRIDAY, 2ND JULY, 2004

Consideration was given to matters arising from the visits of inspection made by the Panel on Friday, 2nd July, 2004.

It was noted that the Executive Director, Economic and Development Services would investigate the relevant matters and the Heads of Service concerned would be notified accordingly.

Particular reference was made to:-

(a) Bungalow Unit, Godric Green

The footpaths around the centre would be repaired in the near future.

(b) Visits to Libraries

The Panel agreed that preventative action should be taken immediately to ensure that the mat wells in library entrances were not causing a tripping hazard.

(c) Primary Schools (Private Finance Initiative)

The Health, Welfare and Safety Panel would visit the following primary schools as part of the visits of inspection on Friday, 17th September, 2004:-

Thornhill Junior and Infant School (including youth and community centre)
Ferham Junior and Infant School (including space for sports and arts)
Rawmarsh Rosehill Junior School – air conditioning

9. HEALTH AND SAFETY SECTION - AMALGAMATION

The Chairman reported on the progress of this issue, stating that discussions between Councillors and senior management were still continuing. Further progress would be reported to the October, 2004, meeting of the Health, Welfare and Safety Panel.

10. THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY PANEL

The Chairman reported that 30th July, 2004, was the thirtieth anniversary of the first meeting of the Health, Welfare and Safety Panel (formerly Committee).

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman spoke about the Panel's work and progress during the thirty years' period.

By virtue of paragraph(s) 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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