

HOUSING MARKET RENEW AL PATHFINDER**Monday, 14th June, 2010**

Present:- Councillor Akhtar (in the Chair); Councillors Pickering, Sangster and Whelbourn.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dodson, Falvey and Kaye and Jeff Goode.

1. 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 items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any person (including the Council)).

2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 31 ST MARCH, 2010

Agreed:- The minutes of the meeting held on 31 st March, 2010, be approved as a true record.

3. ADF CHAIRS

Members noted the ADF Chairs' reports which highlighted:-

Rawmarsh and Parkgate

Goodwin Avenue

Mahon Avenue

Clarence Hotel

Improvements to Gateway Corridor A633

Neighbourhood Masterplanning

Private Sector Housing, Rawmarsh Hill, Parkgate

Regeneration of Service Centre/ New Homes

Better Public Spaces

Rotherham East

Eldon Road

Longfellow Drive

Greencroft

Wood Street/ School Street – Council House Build

Dalton and East Herringthorpe Development Framework

Eastwood Masterplan

Remodelling – Demonstrator Project

Doncaster Road, East Dene
Chesterhill Avenue, Dalton
Neighbourhood Safety

Wath and Swinton

The Dearne Valley Vision
Almond Place
White Bear Estate
Highfield Road
Rookery Road
Brameld Road
Cliffe Bank
Swinton Gateway/ Green Linkages
Brampton Bierlow/ Knolbeck Lane
Albany Road, Kilnhurst
Albert Road, West Melton

Rotherham West

Henley Rise ECO Homes
Canklow Woods
Fernbank Development
Bennett Street Development
Munsdale
Castle Avenue/ Warden Street/ Canklow Road
St. Johns Green Study
West Central Sustainable Action Plan
Gateway Improvements
Public Art Feature

Town Centre

Nos. 15-21 Moorgate Road
Hollowgate
Doncaster Gate
Wellgate
Westgate Demonstrator

Dinnington

Monksbridge Phase 1 and Ryton Road
Victoria Street
Relocation of Medieval Cross
Private Sector Enforcement
Dinnington Landlords' Forum
Monksbridge Terrace
Doe Quarry and Silverdales
Leicester Road

Maltby

China Town Street Scene Improvements
Abbey Reach Garden Scheme
Model Village Parking Scheme
Tarrans Redevelopment
Private Sector Housing Enforcement
Newlands Avenue – New Council Homes

4. HMR FINANCIAL UPDATE

Joel Gouget, Finance Manager, Neighbourhood Investment Team, reported that until the emergency budget on 22nd June, there was a great deal of uncertainty with regard to funding.

As of today, Rotherham's external funding allocation, as announced in March, 2010, was £7.4M, of which £4.3M was Pathfinder and £800,000 Growth money. Both Programmes had not yet been confirmed by the HCA; the only guaranteed funding was £2.1M Regional Housing.

The Government had announced a 16% cut (£5.6M) across all the local authorities of the £31M Pathfinder funding. There was no certainty on the Growth funding and it was not known if the 16% cut also applied to it.

Obviously this would have massive consequences on the Programme of delivery. Once the cuts were confirmed the Programme would have to be revised and reports submitted to Members.

The Team had presented the information to the TSY Board based on a 12% cut.

A meeting was to take place later that week with the Chief Officers from each of the South Yorkshire authorities involved in Housing Renewal to consider the 16% cut.

The majority of the 2010/ 11 funding for Rotherham had already been committed so any cuts would be very difficult.

Discussion ensued on the possible funding cuts and the implications for the communities of Rotherham as well as staff.

Agreed:- (1) That the information be noted.

(2) That a special meeting be held on 27th July, 2010, at 4.00 p.m.

5. ROTHERHAM INVESTMENT PLAN 2011-14

It had been hoped to discuss with all ADF Chairs at the meeting all the individual parts of the Plan and bring together as 1. However, in light of the latest funding announcements by the new Coalition Government, the new Programme for Government our Plan was being revised so it could not happen at the present time.

Tom Bell, Neighbourhood Investment Manager, gave a brief summary of issues that required further discussion at the special meeting:-

- The first Single Conversation workshop had been held setting out an evidence base line which lead to what are our priorities for the way forward
- An officer from the HCA currently spends 1 afternoon a week with the Team helping with the Single Conversation
- The process was not as advanced as anticipated due to the change in Government and new ideas were being developed
- There was some uncertainty of the HCA's future role
- Completion of projects already started remained a key priority and consideration given to how to take projects forward with less money
- The role of the private sector
- Greener Homes was on the agenda along with Affordable Homes and more new homes
- The Government was to scrap Regional Spatial Strategy targets – what did that mean for Rotherham?
- Continued support for reducing the number of Empty Homes
- Localism and A Big Society where Rotherham people are more involved
- A review of team structures to deliver a new programme

Agreed:- That the report be noted and be discussed further at the special meeting..

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Agreed:- That meetings be held in 2010/ 11, commencing at 2.00 p.m., as follows:-

6th September, 2010
13th December
21st March, 2011
6th June