

CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURAL SERVICES AND SPORT

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

Date: Tuesday, 20th October, 2009

Time: 9.00 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.
3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 6th October, 2009 (copy herewith) (Pages 1 - 4)
4. Mowbray Gardens Library Project (report herewith) (Pages 5 - 11)

Extra Item:-

5. Proposed Public Art Feature on Knollbeck Lane, Brampton - Gateway Improvement Works (report herewith) (Pages 12 - 19)

**CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURAL SERVICES AND SPORT
6th October, 2009**

Present:- Councillor St. John (in the Chair); and Councillor Falvey.

19. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 1ST SEPTEMBER, 2009

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member held on 1st September, 2009 be signed as a true record.

20. ARCHIVES AND LOCAL STUDIES SERVICE ANNUAL CLOSURE

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Principal Officer, Archives and Local Studies, which requested permission to close the Archives and Local Studies Services to the public for five days at the end of November, beginning of December, to carry out essential work on its collections.

The Archives and Local Studies Service had an annual closure week. During this time the staff would undertake work on the historic collections it held which could not be completed at any other time as it required all staff to be available and the use of the space in the public search room. This was normal practice within Archive Services nationally to allow necessary collections work to be undertaken.

This year it was intended to close to the public for the week commencing Monday, 30th November, to Saturday, 5th December inclusive. December was historically one of the quietest months, which was why in past years the closure week had been scheduled for this time

It was, therefore, suggested that the intended closure be publicised well in advance to users, including on the Council's webpages, in the search room and through press releases.

The closure would enable staff to focus upon the Service's earlier ordnance survey map collection. The impending relocation of the service meant that a clear and careful catalogue of collections needed to be undertaken to ensure that transfers could take place with minimum risk to the integrity of the service and its collections.

Resolved:- That the closure to the public of the Archives and Local Studies Service for five days to carry out essential work on its collections be approved.

21. MUSEUMS, GALLERIES & HERITAGE - 2007-2009 BIENNIAL RETURN FOR THE ACCREDITATION STANDARD FOR MUSEUMS IN THE UK

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Senior Officer, Collections,, which detailed the Museums Accreditation Scheme, which was the national minimum set of standards for UK museums. Museums qualified for the scheme by meeting clear requirements on how they cared for and documented their collections, how they were governed and managed and on the levels of information and services they offered to their users and visitors.

A report was submitted to the relevant Cabinet Member in July, 2006 asking for approval for the 2006/2007 Service Development Plan and the Acquisition and Disposal Policies for the three venues (Clifton Park Museum, Rotherham Art Gallery and the York and Lancaster Regimental Museum). The venues achieved Accredited status in June, 2007. This was reported to the relevant Cabinet Member on 15th October 2007.

The Service was now required to submit Biennial Returns for the three venues covering the period 2007 to 2009 (from the attainment of Accredited status to now).

The Service was, therefore, seeking approval for the policy document which must be submitted as part of the Return (along with a copy of the signed and dated Cabinet Member Minute).

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and the contents noted.

(2) That the policy document be approved, in order that the returns for the Biennial Review be submitted.

22. AUGUST REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

Consideration was given to a report submitted by the Senior Accountant, which detailed the performance against the revenue budget for the Environment and Development Services Directorate as at the end of August, 2009 and to provide a forecast outturn for the whole of the 2009/10 financial year.

The report reflected the position against budget for the period 1st April, 2009 to 31st August, 2009 and a summary was provided of the projected 2009/10 revenue position for the Directorate.

Following the August cycle of budget monitoring the Directorate identified that it was likely to incur an overspend of £631,000 (1.38%) against its total net revenue budget of £45,814,106. However, all possible actions to mitigate this would be taken.

The key pressures contributing to this position of relevance were the restructuring costs within Culture and Leisure.

A full breakdown of the Culture and Leisure Services budget was requested and this would be provided in due course.

Resolved:- (1) That the current forecast year end outturn position of an overspend of £631,000 for the Environment and Development Services Directorate based on expenditure and income as at August, 2009 be noted.

(2) That a breakdown of the Culture and Leisure Services budget be provided to the Cabinet Member and Adviser.

23. ROTHERHAM SCHOOLS LIBRARY SERVICE - CURRENT PRIORITIES AND FUTURE PROPOSALS

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Manager for Service Design and Development, which detailed developments in the Schools Library Service (SLS). These developments were necessary in order to maintain and enhance the Service's relevance to the needs and aspirations of schools in Rotherham, to better support schools in meeting the challenges they faced and to play a key part in building links between schools and local community libraries.

Recognition of these functions brought the need to ensure secure funding of the SLS for the future and that security would only come with a clear confidence and understanding that the SLS could help to deliver school improvement.

Discussion ensued on the contact mechanisms with schools and emphasis placed on the need to contact schools for their continued support to the Schools' Library Service on a regular basis.

Resolved:- (1) That core service and current priorities should be maintained in order to ensure delivery was of the highest possible standard.

(2) That the new ways of working and action the four proposals identified be approved.

(3) That additional areas of external funding be explored which may supplement current school subscription levels.

(4) That contingency plans be formulated in order to manage the risk of reduced subscriptions.

(5) That past consultation be built upon by embedding further consultation with schools into the service planning process.

(THE CHAIRMAN AUTHORISED CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES IN ORDER TO PROCESS THE INFORMATION REFERRED TO)

24. PLAY PATHFINDER PROJECT BOARD

Consideration was given to the minutes of the Play Pathfinder Project Board held on 18th September, 2009.

Reference was made to the new benches in Clifton Park and a request made for future use of the old benches if they were still available.

Resolved:- (1) That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th September, 2009 be received.

(2) That the request regarding the benches in Clifton Park be followed up and investigated further.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Cultural Services and Sport
2.	Date:	20th October, 2009
3.	Title:	Mowbray Gardens Library Project
4.	Programme Area:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

Developments undertaken by Rotherham Library and Information Service during the construction and initial stages of the Big Lottery Funded Community Libraries Programme at Mowbray Gardens Library.

6. Recommendations

- **That this report be received.**
- **That further opportunities be taken to participate in externally funded projects to renovate libraries.**
- **That new methods of engaging with potential customers continue to be investigated.**

7. Proposals and Details

The main areas of work undertaken have been:

- Successful application for award from Big Lottery Fund and ongoing monitoring
- Consultation with local people in design of library facility and services
- Design and construction of new library facility
- Ongoing community engagement to enable local people to design, deliver and manage library services

Rotherham Library and Information Service was one of 58 library authorities across England to be awarded a grant from Big Lottery Fund to renovate, extend or build new libraries so that they can offer a broader range of activities to their communities. Mowbray Gardens Library Project was put forward as a proposal to maximise the already positive work being undertaken with local people, especially children and young people.

7.1 Consultation

Consultation has been carried out by Rotherham Library and Information Services and their partners (including Area Assemblies, Children and Young People's Services, and Rotherham Learning Communities). The five themes of the project are based around community involvement, learning, health, reading and families. Outcomes were drawn up in partnership with local organisations to ensure shared priorities. Consultation around the design of the new facility has included aspects such as security, interior design, accessibility and independent use of the library by different user groups.

7.2 Design and construction phase

Facilities Management and Rotherham Construction Partnership (RCP) commenced the design of the new library in October 2007 in consultation with Rotherham Library and Information Service. A productive relationship was developed where the priorities of both the construction team and the client were able to be met. Design features that were essential for the operational management of the library and those features identified by local people were included e.g. pleasant outside environment, space for storage, adequate networking, a light and bright interior. Full planning permission was obtained and all conditions met.

Work commenced on site in October 2008 with the demolition of the swimming pool, construction of the new library space and renovation of the existing library. Nearby temporary accommodation was secured to maintain a library provision in the area. As the construction phase ended there were close negotiations with RBT and the library fit-out specialists Opening The Book. RCP ensured that all contractors met agreed timescales and the handover date to Rotherham Library and Information Service was honoured.

The interior design of the library offers a number of facilities that were identified as a need by local people e.g. distinct space for adults, children and families, self service option, improved book choice and a more 'browsable' bookshop feel. The current usage patterns demonstrate that new users have been attracted to the library because of these features. Rotherham Access Audit Group have been involved in the design of the library to advise on practical issues around accessibility.

7.3 Usage

The demographics of previous usage at Mowbray Gardens Library has children and young people and people of retirement age to be the main users. The project offered an opportunity for work to be undertaken to match the user profile more closely to the community profile. Working age adults are a key group for Rotherham Library and Information Service to engage with.

As *Appendix A* shows the overall usage of Mowbray Gardens Library has increased. In particular the figures show that adult areas of book stock is being well used and the usage of computers by adults and the number of new borrowers in the 16+ age category have increased at a greater rate than the increase shown by children and young people.

7.4 Current initiatives and future plans

After the opening of the new library the focus of consultation has shifted towards service provision. Several sessions have been organised at the request of local people e.g. young children's soft play, activities for school children over the summer holidays, the library as a base for a walking group and activities targeted towards fathers and their children. The library holds a weekly Nintendo Wii games afternoon for adults as a health and social activity. A nature club has been developed to promote green spaces and encourage the positive use of the Library's own Reading Garden.

Both an adult and a young people's community board have been convened to help steer the ongoing development of the library project and a programme of regular meetings is planned.

Future plans include the development of voluntary Reader Champions to work within the community and act as advocates for the library service and to make recommendations about service delivery and development.

Staff training needs are being addressed to encourage and enable them to adopt new ways of working that engage more proactively with library users and with the community as a whole.

7.5 Marketing

The marketing and promotion of the library has been undertaken jointly by RMBC Culture and Leisure Marketing Team and Rotherham Library and Information Service. Outreach work was undertaken by library officers throughout the closure period to maintain the profile of the library. Several communications have been made with the database of library users to ensure that they were kept informed of developments and timescales. Publicity has been distributed to local schools and community venues. Community open days and roadshows have been attended by library officers. A series of press releases have been made to coincide with major events e.g. the opening of the library by The Mayor of Rotherham and performance poet Benjamin Zephaniah.

All monitoring requirements for Big Lottery Fund have been met on schedule to fulfil the grant requirements

8. Finance

A grant for £1,152,771 (capital grant £1,079,001 and revenue grant of £73,770)

was awarded from Big Lottery Fund. Total project costs are shown in *Appendix B*. Savings were made from falling prices during the construction period which enabled better quality materials and some additional works to be carried out.

Funding from other sources included contributions from Rotherham Library and Information Service budgets as in-kind support for the post of Community Engagement Manager, recruitment, training, evaluation costs, marketing and £40,000 from the book fund.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The project has been monitored on RISGen (004/00b) to analyse the impact and probability of risks and to identify officers to take mitigating action. The main risks during the constructions phase were:

- An initial delay in confirmation of the award of the grant from Big Lottery Fund meant that some spending costs were incurred at risk to meet the timescale required to secure planning permission. Permission to take this action was granted by elected members.
- A delay to the programme was made by the discovery of undetected asbestos in several areas at an early stage. This delay was made good during the remainder of the programme.

Risks to the success of the project as a whole are being managed by Rotherham Library and Information Service. Initial usage figures suggest a promising start for the future of the new library. Efforts are being undertaken to maintain this momentum. The main risk here is the necessity to mainstream initiatives before the grant funded project officer leaves the post in May 2010.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The project is clearly aligned to the Corporate Plan by each of the 5 outcomes:

1. Rotherham Learning

By March 2011, 276 local people between the ages of 16-50 will report that they have improved life skills (literacy, numeracy and ICT) by participating in at least 1 library supported activity.

2. Rotherham Achieving

By March 2011, 30 families from low income backgrounds will report increased social interaction by participating in intergenerational learning activities at a 'Bring your family to the library' day.

3. Rotherham Alive

By March 2010, 160 local residents will report an improved knowledge of healthy living choices through the use of health information collections or participation in other library sponsored health related activities offered in partnership with community service providers

4. Rotherham Safe

By March 2011, 40 18-30 year olds will report an increase in positive attitude to reading through reading focused activities at the library

5. Rotherham Proud

Communities are actively engaged in the development, delivery and management of library services

The cross cutting priority of sustainable development is met by identifying local needs and working with local people to deliver the library service they feel is relevant to their community. Access to high quality cultural services improves people's quality of life. Commitment to fairness has been met by working with individuals and groups who have specific needs and ensuring that these are taken account of.

Mowbray Gardens Library was recently the focus of an inspection as part of RMBC Culture and Leisure bid to achieve accreditation to the new Customer Service Excellence Standard. Officers and members of the public were spoken with at length about their contribution to the project. Accreditation was successfully awarded to the department.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Consultation has been a main basis of the project with both members of the local community and council officers heavily involved in the development of the project.

In addition the Community Engagement Manager has attended regional workshops organised by the Big Lottery for participating library authorities.

Contact Name :

Laura O'Neill, Community Engagement Manager - 01709 814 934

laura.o'neill@rotherham.gov.uk

**Table showing usage of Mowbray Gardens Library
before and after refurbishment and extension**

	Apr-08	May-08	Jun-08	Jul-08	Aug-08	Sep-08	Average Apr-Sep 08	Jun-09	Jul-09	* Average since opening	Average percentage increase since reopening
Adult Fiction	927	1034	964	1075	1032	902	989.00	730	1453	1091.50	10.36
Adult Non Fiction	298	306	294	262	286	252	283.00	555	761	658.00	132.51
Children's Fiction	777	1012	834	1046	1206	775	941.67	1781	2513	2147.00	128.00
Children's Non Fiction	189	196	189	140	172	133	169.83	411	647	529.00	211.48
Adult Computer											
Adult Computer	214	189	229	227	146	212	202.83	356	767	561.50	176.83
Youth Computer	580	263	206	287	255	188	296.50	317	552	434.50	46.54
Child Computer	159	178	180	210	256	124	184.50	320	531	425.50	130.62
Active Borrowers											
Active Borrowers	817	928	963	1016	1004	1012	956.67	1345	1499	1422.00	48.64
Active under 16	489	585	607	645	636	640	600.33	672	753	712.50	18.68
New Borrowers 0-4											
New Borrowers 0-4	2	4	2	7	4	10	4.83	38	28	33.00	582.76
New Borrowers 5-15	19	113	12	34	12	16	34.33	113	86	99.50	189.81
New Borrowers 16+	16	10	11	20	12	14	13.83	88	92	90.00	550.60

* Jun 09 was a half month as library opened June 15th

Appendix B

**Table showing financial information
relating to Mowbray Gardens Library Project**

Budget Heading	Year 3 amounts including VAT	VAT Recoverable from total	Amount excluding VAT	Funding from other sources	Amount Requested from BIG Lottery
		B		C	A-B-C
	£	£		£	£
Direct Revenue Costs					
Salaries, NI and Pension					
Project officer - Mowbray Gardens	56,039	0	56,039	0	56,039
Community Engagement Manager	55,612	0	55,612	55,612	0
Recruitment	4,579	682	3,897	3,897	0
Training	6,463	963	5,500	2,500	3,000
Travel and other expenses	0	0	0	0	0
Project running costs	0	0	0	0	0
Evaluation	2,350	350	2,000	2,000	0
Marketing and publicity	11,751	1,750	10,001	7,000	3,000
Other* Development of community engagement, capital and project plans	0	0	0	0	0
Other* Books/learning	40,000	0	40,000	40,000	0
Other* Activities and Outreach Work	13,785	2,053	11,732	0	11,732
Total Direct Revenue Costs	190,578	5,798	184,780	111,009	73,771
Direct capital costs					
Equipment purchase	249,100	37,100	212,000	17,159	194,841
Land purchase	0	0	0	0	0
Construction or refurbishment	934,125	139,125	795,000	59,400	735,600
Professional and legal fees	88,125	13,125	75,000	0	75,000
Contingency	120,250	17,910	102,340	28,781	73,560
Other *	0	0	0	0	0
Other *	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Capital Costs	1,391,600	207,260	1,184,340	105,340	1,079,001
Total Project	1,582,178	213,057	1,369,121	216,349	1,152,771

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
--

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Cultural Services and Sport
2.	Date:	20th October, 2009
3.	Title:	Proposed Public Art Feature on Knollbeck Lane, Brampton - Gateway Improvement Works Hoover Ward
4.	Programme Area:	Environment and Development Service

5. Summary

To report on proposals for a public art scheme close to the Bierlow Close Community Hall, on Knollbeck Lane Rotherham, commemorating the heritage of the local area.

6. Recommendations

That Cabinet Members' approve the proposed works and note the funding arrangements.

7. Proposals and Details

Cabinet Members will be aware of previous environmental improvements undertaken in Rotherham in Wentworth North, as part of the Gateway Improvement Programme and utilising funding from the Housing Market Renewal Area (HMRA) Programme.

The current proposal represents a further phase of such works, jointly developed with colleagues in the Council's Community Arts Service and comprising the introduction of a public art feature onto a retaining wall on Knollbeck Lane.

This feature comprises 6 ribbon shapes affixed to the wall, made from stainless steel and incorporating images generated with local residents, young people and schoolchildren about local heritage features and aspirations. The ribbons are preceded and followed by cart-wheeling figures based on local young people, to symbolize moving energetically and with hope from the past into the future. The end figure is framed within a continuation of the metal ribbon, on the grassy knoll next to the wall, and will be surrounded by landscaping works.

The Knollbeck Lane corridor is identified as a potential Gateway Improvement scheme within in the wider **Housing Market Renewal** Programme for 2009/10, **approved by the Cabinet Member for Housing and Neighbourhoods on 15th June 2009 (Item 14 refers)**; and previously within the Gateway Improvement Plan (Approved 22nd June 2005, Cabinet Item 37). The latter document highlights the introduction of works of public art along Gateway corridors as being a key objective in order to celebrate the Boroughs cultural and historic heritage.

The design was developed by Artist Van Nong of Chrysalis Arts. Chrysalis was selected by a local steering group, who have been involved at every stage of the project.

The design was developed through workshops in the community and the final design has been the subject of consultation with the local Parish Council, the Brampton Public Art Steering Group, local youth groups, residents' groups and local schools and interest groups and through open displays in three community venues. A more detailed description of the consultation process is in Appendix 2. No adverse comment has been received. However, as a result of the consultation the length of the work was extended to include more images generated by the community. The artist' impression of how these might be included is in Appendix 3.

The works are currently the subject of a Planning application.

The works would be installed by the artist and Chrysalis Arts. Access to the site and work thereon will be arranged by means of Traffic Management Plan (TMP) to be implemented though the Council's Streetpride Schemes & Partnerships Team. The TMP will entail the temporary closure of the adjacent side of Knollbeck Lane with the narrowing of traffic to single carriageway.

Subject to Member approval, it is proposed that works be carried out between January and March 2010.

An illustrative plan of the proposed development is attached as Appendix One.

8. Finance

Costs associated with the scheme are as follows:

Selection process	£500
Artists fees and Fabrication	£25,000
Extended works	£4,500
Management fees (RMBC)	£5,000
Provision Traffic Management and Installation	£3,400
Consultation	£2,750
Provision Landscaping	£2,000
Overheads	£200
Celebration and documentation	£800
Set aside for maintenance	£5,250
Contingency	£600
Total	£50,000

The funding has been secured from the HMRA programme by the Council's Neighbourhood Investment Service.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

None over and above those normally associated with small scale construction works.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The scheme contributes to the 'Rotherham Proud' agenda by enhancing the main 'Gateway' routes into the Borough with high quality public realm works. It will also contribute to 'Rotherham Safe' in that the public highway will be free of defects and well lit. The scheme contributes to the Community and Corporate Plans by:

Supporting the Housing Market Renewal Programme.

Improving and promoting the image of Rotherham and addressing negative views both within and outside the borough, through the environmental improvement of Gateway Corridors which form many peoples first impression of the borough, as well as a backdrop to the lives of many of its residents.

Providing sustainable neighbourhoods of quality, choice, etc, by contributing to an improved environment within many residential districts.

Supporting the Rotherham Town Renaissance, by contributing to the improvement of approach routes to the Town Centre.

Development and support of Public Artworks in key Gateway or satellite areas in Rotherham, was identified as a breakthrough project in the Community Arts Service

Plan, 2002+, developed in conjunction with Arts Council England (Yorkshire) as part of Rotherham MBCs partnership agreement.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Public consultation has been carried out by the Project Officer and the designs have been approved by the Rotherham West HMRA Steering Group, which includes the three local Ward Members.

Further background papers include:

The Gateway Improvement Plan (Approved 22nd June 2005, Cabinet Item 37)

Housing Market Renewal Area Programme, Financial Update, 2009-11, Cabinet member for Housing and Neighbourhoods (Approved 15th June 2009, Item 14)

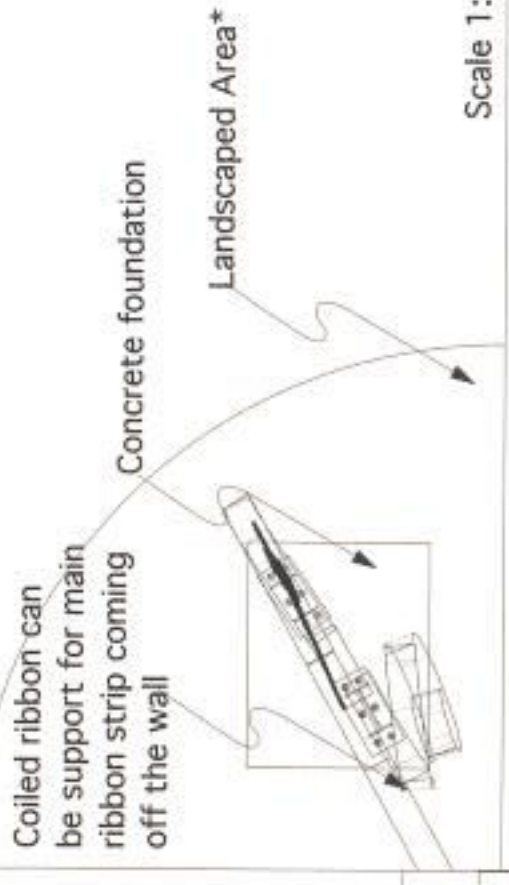
The local community have been engaged on this and other related environmental improvement projects via the HMRA Steering Group and by direct mail shot of local residents.

Discussions have been ongoing with representatives of Streetpride to confirm their capacity to assist in delivering these works in the time-scale outlined above.

Contact Name: Andy Newton, Project Officer, Development Team. Telephone Extension 3849 (e-mail andy.newton@rotherham.gov.uk).

Lizzy Alageswaran, Principal Officer Community Arts, Telephone Extension 3636 (e-mail lizzy.alageswaran@rotherham.gov.uk).

PLAN



Scale 1:50

*Landscaped Area - this area to be designed, prepared and maintained by RMBC

4mm Thick Stainless Steel

Tactile Textured or Perforated SS Plate

2060

GRASS BANK

Landscaped Area*

SCALE 1:50

TOWARDS BARNLSLEY

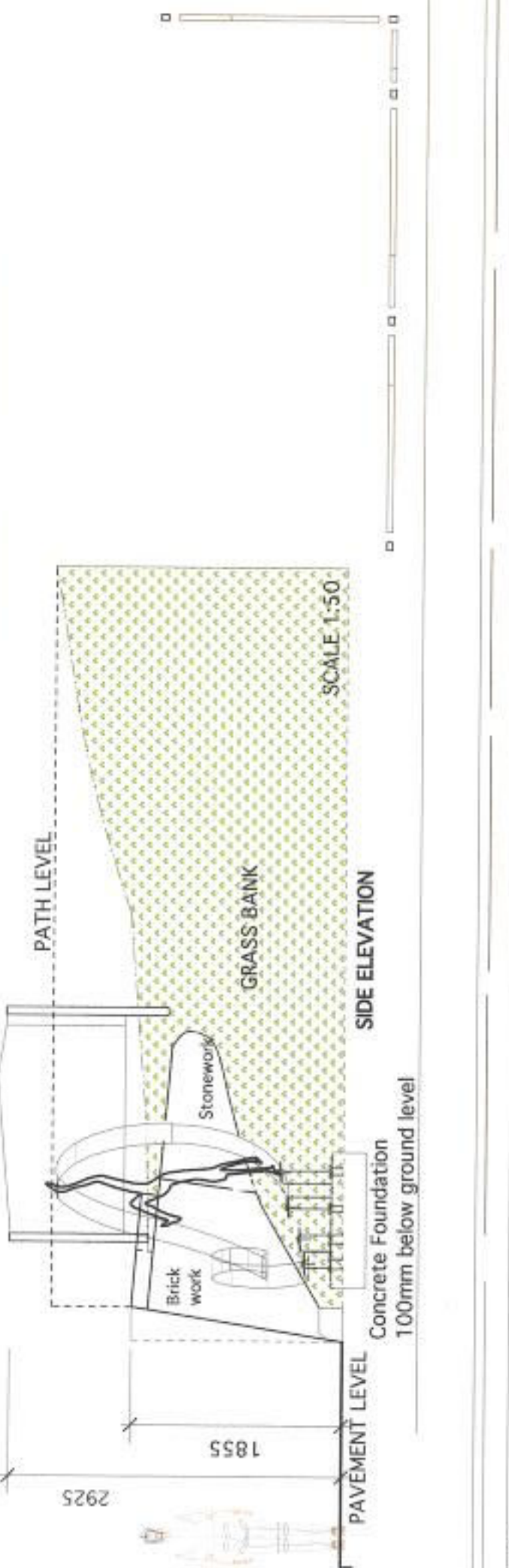
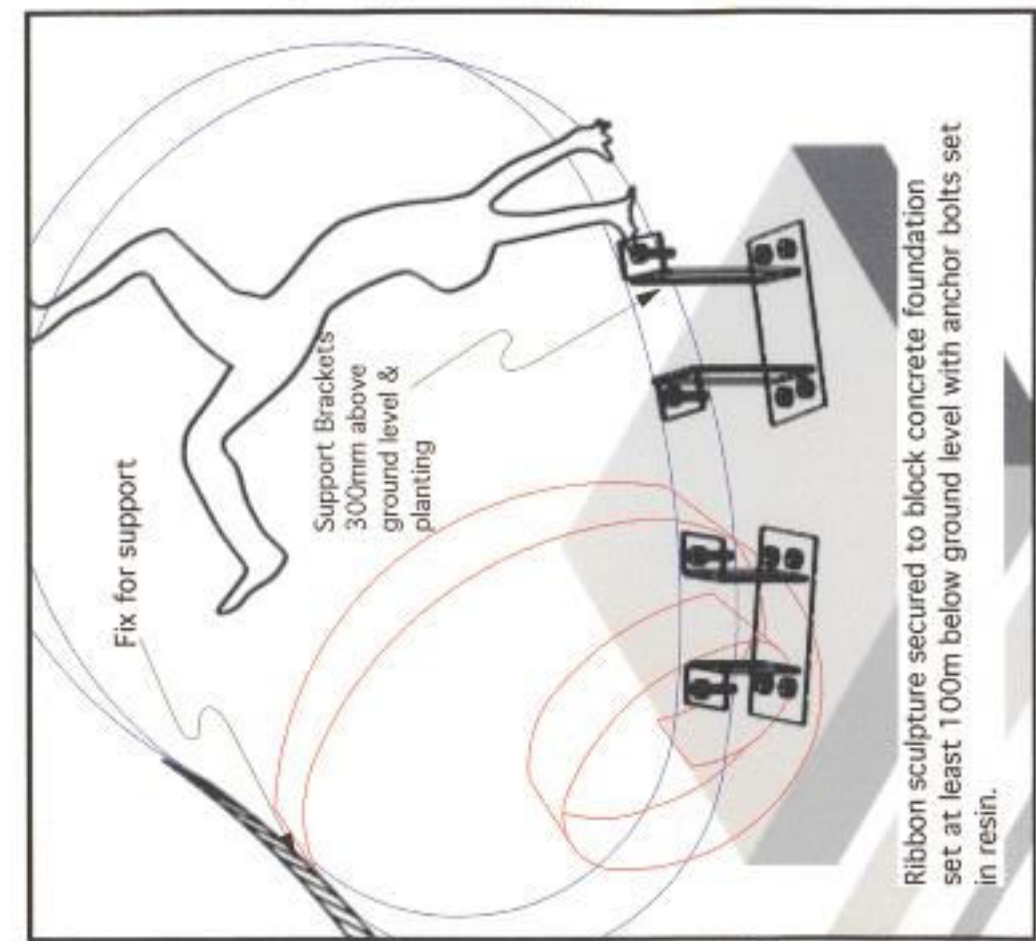
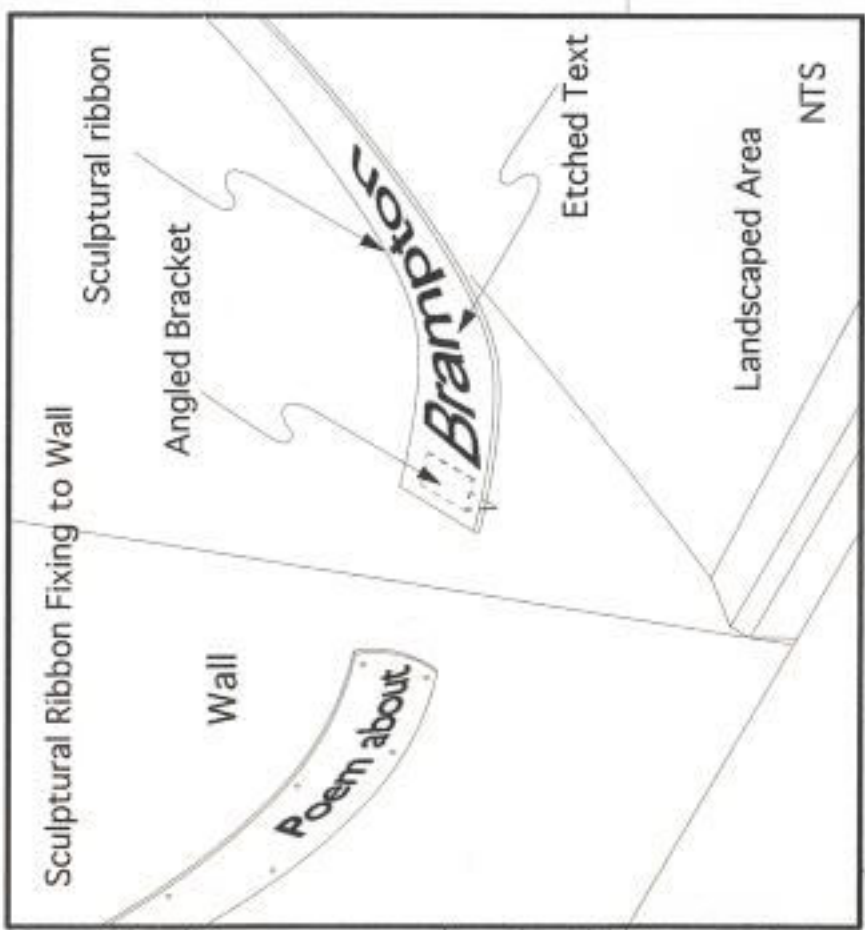


Figure Panel 6 Panel 7 Panel 5 Panel 4 Panel 3 Panel 2 Panel 1



FRONT FACING WALL

1580

LEVEL

28900

14475

KNOLLBECK LANE

TOWARDS ROTHERHAM



Existing Site

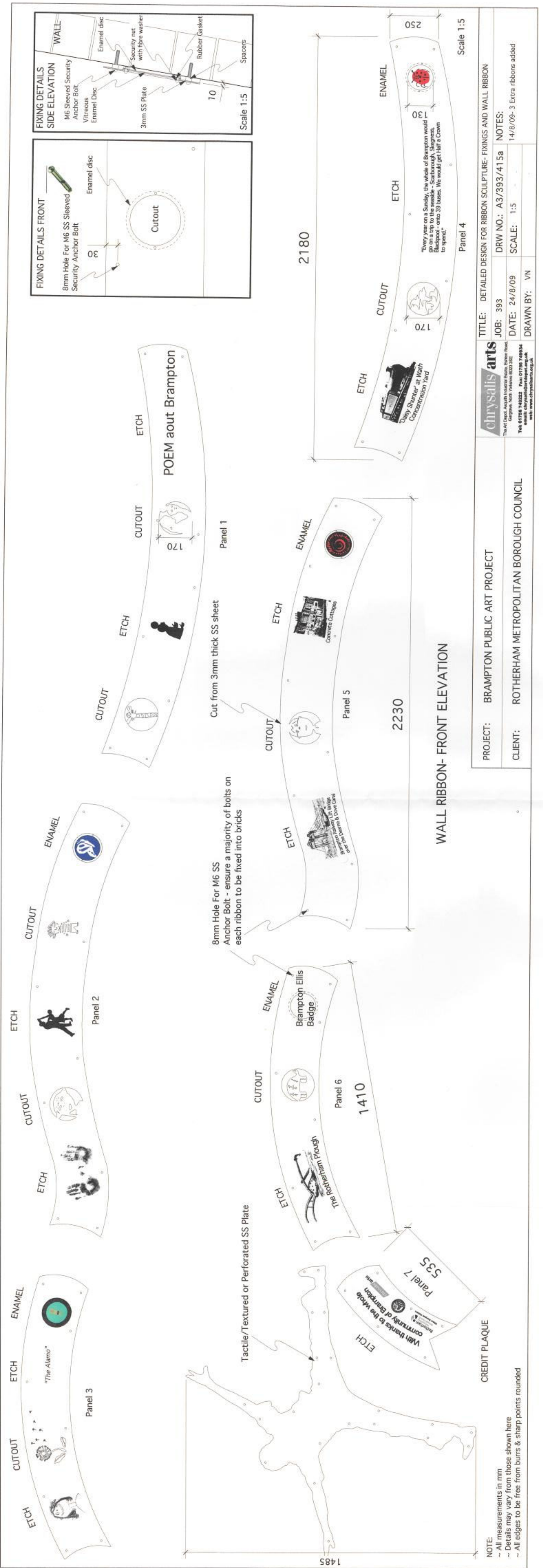
chrysalis arts
 The Art Depot, Aspath Industrial Estate, Eborac Road,
 Cleghow, North Yorkshire YO23 3SE
 Tel: 01758 748222 Fax: 01758 748934
 Email: info@chrysalisarts.org.uk
 Web: www.chrysalisarts.org.uk

TITLE: DETAILED DESIGN FOR RIBBON SCULPTURE - LAYOUT
 JOB: 393
 DATE: 24/8/09
 DRAWN BY: VN

PROJECT: BRAMPTON PUBLIC ART PROJECT
 CLIENT: ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

DRW NO.: A3/393/414a
 SCALE: 1:50
 NOTES: 14/8/09- 3 Extra ribbons added

- NOTE:
- ~ All measurements in mm
 - ~ Details may vary from those shown here
 - ~ All edges to be free from burrs & sharp points rounded



**Planning application for Public Artwork on Knollbeck Lane
September 2009
Appendix 2 Consultation.**

Background

This application is for an artwork to be installed as part of the Gateway Improvement Programme and utilising funding from the Housing Market Renewal Area (HMRA) Programme.

The work has been managed by the Implementation team, Andy Newton and Lesley Shepherd, working with colleagues in the Council's Community Arts Service and comprising the introduction of a public art feature onto a retaining wall on Knollbeck Lane.

The proposed feature comprises 6 ribbon shapes affixed to the wall, made from stainless steel and incorporating images generated with local residents, young people and school children about local heritage features and their aspirations. The ribbons are preceded and followed by cart-wheeling figures based on local young people, to symbolize moving energetically and with hope from the past into the future. The end figure is framed within a continuation of the metal ribbon, on the grassy knoll next to the wall, and will be surrounded by landscaping works.

The work has been conducted with consultation and collaboration with the local community throughout.

Consultation

The project began with a consultation / display at a Christmas open event at the local nearby Fire Station at which was very well attended and from which a list of local interested people was collected. A Steering Group of local people, including local Councillors, undertook to oversee the work, and formed the interview panel who selected the artists to create the work.

The artist they selected was Van Nong, working with Chrysalis Arts, who then gave a presentation at the Parish Hall about their work and to generate interest in taking part in a workshop. All households in the area were leafleted with information about this local consultation event, and about workshops to contribute to the work.

Van Nong then conducted research and design workshops with various community groups, at Cortonwood Comeback Centre, Bierlow Close Community Room and the Parish Hall, including with the Luncheon club and with local young people. In June he led two workshops with local schools Brampton Ellis and Brampton Cortonwood Infants. He also had displays to consult with a variety of other groups, including the Dancing group and a Slimming Club at the Parish Hall.

Topics that stimulated local interest ranged from the history of the Ellis family, local landscape and geology, heritage, local agriculture and inventions, through to leisure activities today and remembering traditional community

seaside outings. There was also an interest in using high quality materials to complement recent works in the area.

In July Van took a display of the possible options for the work to the Steering Group and to the Parish Council. Two options for consultation were chosen. Van then worked up these options into a model and display, and the options were displayed in Cortonwood Comeback Centre, Bierlow Close Community Room and the Parish Hall. An article was printed in the Parish Magazine.

The displays included stickers to vote for the preferred option, and comments forms if people wished to make a comment or contribute to the design. The design has since been extended to include more work from the community, and to cover more of the wall space and conform to the original brief. No adverse comments were received.

All households were leafleted about the consultation, and Van and members of Rotherham MBC attended publicised sessions at each venue to be on hand to answer questions. Van also visited local people living close to the work and spoke to people in the street.

The favoured option from the consultation was then taken back to the Steering Group and Parish Council to approve to go forward to apply for planning permission.