

## **CABINET**

**Venue: Bailey Suite, Bailey  
House, Rawmarsh Road,  
Rotherham**

**Date: Wednesday, 10 February 2010**

**Time: 10.30 a.m.**

## **A G E N D A**

1. To consider questions from Members of the Public.
2. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
3. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.
4. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 20th January, 2010 (copy supplied separately)
5. Minutes of a meeting of the Groundworks Trusts Panel held on 20th January, 2010 (copy herewith) (Pages 1 - 8)
  - Chief Executive to report.
6. Minutes of a meeting of the Members' Training and Development Panel held on 21st January, 2010 (herewith) (Pages 9 - 13)
  - Chief Executive to report.
7. Local Authority Business Growth Incentive - Rotherham South Area Assemblies Devolved Budget Proposals (report herewith) (Pages 14 - 16)
  - Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods and Adult Services to report.
8. Exclusion of Press and Public.  
The following items are likely to be considered in the absence of the press and public as being exempt under Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended March 2006) (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular individual (including the Council)):-
9. Land to rear of 28, 33 and 35 Thorpefield Close, Thorpe Hesley (report herewith) (Pages 17 - 21)
  - Strategic Director of Environment and Development Services to report.

**ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

1.	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>CABINET</b>
2.	<b>Date:</b>	<b>24<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2010</b>
3.	<b>Title:</b>	<b>GROUNDWORK TRUSTS PANEL – MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 20<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2010</b>
4.	<b>Programme Area:</b>	<b>CORPORATE</b>

**5. Summary**

Minutes of the quarterly meetings with the Groundwork Trusts Panel are submitted to Cabinet for consideration.

**6. Recommendation:-**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Groundwork Trusts Panel held on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2010, be received, and the continued excellent partnership work of both Groundwork Trusts be noted.

## **7. Proposals and Details**

The Panel was established in March 2000 to provide a forum to discuss the on-going partnership between the Council and the two Groundwork Trusts in pursuit of the economic, social and environmental regeneration of the Borough.

The two Groundwork Trusts – Groundwork Dearne Valley and Groundwork Creswell - are able to use the quarterly meetings to raise and discuss issues with Councillors and officers.

The Groundwork Trusts make an important contribution to the regeneration of the Borough and to individual local communities. The Groundwork Trusts Panel provides an important opportunity to exchange ideas and experiences, and co-ordinate actions to maximise impact and efficiency.

## **8. Finance**

A small fund was established to enable community groups to access third party funding in support of WREN bids. The partnership working arrangements with the two Trusts enables the delivery of a wide range of projects and initiatives.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

Without the partnership working with the two Trusts many community based and environmental projects would not be able to be delivered.

## **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

Sustainability is the heart of the work and operations of the two Groundwork Trusts. The Council and Groundwork Dearne Valley jointly fund a Local Action 21 officer for example.

The joint working of the Council and the Groundwork Trusts provides effective environmental protection, addresses social needs and creates employment opportunities for local people.

## **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

A copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Groundwork Trusts Panel held on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2010, is attached.

Contacts:-

Karl Battersby, Strategic Director, Environment and Development Services, ext 3801

**GROUNDWORKS TRUSTS PANEL  
WEDNESDAY, 20TH JANUARY, 2010**

Present:-

Councillor Sharman	IN THE CHAIR
Councillor St. John	Cabinet Member for Cultural Services and Sport
Councillor Swift	Vice-Chair, Regeneration Scrutiny Panel

together with:-

Janet Johnson	Executive Director, Groundwork Dearne Valley
Alan Hartley	Chairman, Groundwork Dearne Valley
Rob Saw	Development Manager, Groundwork Dearne Valley
Alex Evans	Rotherham/Doncaster Team Leader
Darren Pollard	Groundwork Creswell
George Griffith	Chairman, Groundwork Creswell
Wendy Foster	RMBC Place Shaping Officer

**1. INTRODUCTIONS/APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Chairman welcomed everyone present and introductions were made.

Janet Johnson, Executive Director, Groundwork Dearne Valley, introduced Alex Evans, Rotherham/Doncaster Team Leader, who had taken over from Kevin Burke.

**It was agreed:-** That a letter of thanks from the Panel be sent to Kevin.

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Councillor Burton	
Councillor Falvey	
Councillor R. S. Russell	
Councillor Smith	
Councillor Wyatt	
Nick Barnes	Principal Project Development Officer
Tom Bell	Neighbourhood Investment Manager
John Bracewell	Groundworks Yorkshire and the Humber
Steve Mellard	Landscape Delivery Manager

**2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE PANEL HELD ON 14TH OCTOBER, 2009**

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2009, were agreed as a correct record.

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The following issues were raised:-

- (i) John Bracewell, Regional Manager, Groundwork Yorkshire and the Humber, would be leaving to take up another job.

**It was agreed:-** That a letter of thanks from the Panel be sent to John.

- (ii) Liaison with the Area Assemblies

Janet Johnson reported that Groundwork Dearne Valley was continuing to meet as frequently as possible with the Area Assemblies, and in particular with those where Groundwork was involved in the village programmes e.g. Maltby and Rawmarsh.

#### **4. QUARTERLY REPORT - GROUNDWORK CRESWELL, ASHFIELD AND MANSFIELD AND CRESTA LIMITED**

Darren Pollard introduced the quarterly report which covered the period 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2009.

The following items were highlighted:-

- (i) maintenance:- a joint meeting with Groundwork Dearne Valley and the Council was proposed to look at next year's maintenance and budgets. Groundwork Dearne Valley confirmed that they had been contacted and had already provided some information.
- (ii) work on 2 play areas: Groundwork Creswell had won a couple of small scale playground related projects at Woodhall Lane, Harthill and Skipton Road, Swallownest. It was pointed out, however, that works would not commence until the weather and conditions at the sites improved. Proposed installation was scheduled for February.
- (iii) Education and Training:- Winterhill and Aston High Schools had expressed interest in vocational schools programme and intensive specialist support for looked after children. More information would be reported to the next Panel meeting.

It was reported that Sam Upton, Education Manager, would be working closely with more schools in the area.

- (iv) Construction Services:- it was explained that the offer of £10,000 funding had been withdrawn due to narrow timescales. This funding had been made available by Groundwork UK for CO2 savings. Darren agreed to find out if anything would be available in the next financial year.
- (v) Projects active/worked on:- It was confirmed that Groundwork

Creswell had worked on the SSSI site at Anston Stone Woods for a number of years. It was agreed that their work at this site needed more publicity.

- (vi) Community Development:- it was reported that Groundwork Creswell had started liaison with the Area Assemblies.

**It was agreed:-** (1) That the contents of the report be noted.

(2) That Groundwork Creswell be thanked for their informative report and continued involvement in projects.

## 5. QUARTERLY REPORT - GROUNDWORK DEARNE VALLEY

Janet Johnson, Alex Evans and Rob Saw introduced the quarterly report which covered the period 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2009.

The following issues were highlighted:-

Rawmarsh:- progress on the Rosehill skatepark noting that the location had now been agreed and the majority of funding agreed apart from Community Cash Back. 3<sup>rd</sup> party funding for the skatepark had enabled devolved budget to be allocated to the scheme.

Work continued with 'V' kids re: further planting sessions. Also the NEETS team had completed the 'Banana plantation' at Victoria Road.

Elise Munby, Community Project Officer, had been recruited and would be taking over the Rawmarsh programme.

The Cabinet Member for Cultural Services and Sport added that following advice from officers he had agreed the location of the skatepark. Also he pointed out that it was highly likely that Rosehill Park would be used again in 2010 for Rotherham Show.

Maltby:- half term activities on Manor Fields included "Extreme Wheels", "Bikes for All" and "Dr. Bike". Tree planting was also carried out as part of National Tree week linking with staff from Tesco. Another planting event had also taken place as part of the Play Pathfinder project.

Abbey Reach Garden Improvement Project involved the community house and 13 residents' gardens.

Work to install an entrance feature was progressing well with funding secured from the Area Assembly. It was noted that the deadline was March 2010.

Other community events included:- clean up at Maltby Craggs/Woodlee Common

Outputs from the programme were detailed in the table set out in the submitted report .

Chesterhill:- noting reduced input due to changeovers in staff. However, clearance work had been carried out by volunteers at the school, pupils on Groundworks's alternative curriculum programme and the NEETS team to create a wildlife garden at St. Gerard's primary school.

Work on the ecological survey on the Green Corridor had identified the presence of protected water vole species along the Dalton stream.

An arts project relating to the housing work in the area was being progressed.

Play Pathfinder:- it was explained that Groundwork had seconded Jenny Yates (nee Harrison) to the Council to carry out site by site consultation.

Disruption due to recent weather had meant that most projects are delayed and some items of work would be delayed until after the year end until sites had dried out.

It was reported that proposals for Brampton Bierlow had been replaced by a site at Winterhill.

Adventure Playground:- it was reported that the application to Groundwork UK for an M&S Greener Living Spaces grant had been successful and this would provide match funding. Work would continue in the next quarter on consultation and opening event.

Those present discussed the issue of handover of sites and future security and maintenance. It was agreed that this was desirable and easier in areas where there were interested local groups e.g. 'Friends of'. Representatives of the Council added that there were discussions about extending the role of Area Assemblies to take on community projects.

Rob Saw reported on:-

Local Action 21:- work had continued on ecological foot-printing sessions with Dearne Valley College students and representation at Sheffield EcoSchools conference. A bid to ABC Fund on behalf of Friends of Austen Park had been successful and this would involve local schools in a community project and Sustainable Schools.

Green Check had continued with Abbey, Wath CofE, Dalton Faljambe, Aston Cof E, Rawmarsh Ashwood, Rosehill, Thorpe Hesley and Swallownest. More work was also being done with the secondary schools.

Next quarter audits/action plans at EMAS/Green Check schools would be implemented and it was hoped to sign up Swinton Fitzwilliam Primary and

Rawmarsh and Swinton Community Schools.

It was also reported that the Rotherham ESD Partnership meeting was scheduled for 9<sup>th</sup> February and possibly include a visit to the Earth Centre Open Day consultation

Alex Evans reported on:-

Brampton BMX Track Sports Development:- success of weekly Bikeability sessions funded by Barclays. Planning was taking place around Year 2 Developments.

Swinton Playing Fields:- responses to the consultation were still being collected and a report was being produced for mid January.

Rob Saw reported on:-

Alternative Curriculum Programme:- continued work with Milton and Wath Comprehensive Schools. Groundworks had also taken up work at Swinton Community School to assist completion of NVQ work.

NEETS:- the first cohort had completed NVQ Level 1 and were now undertaking further training towards Level 2. Participants had left school and were provided with 3 days on the job training, half a day information and advice guidance, and key skills and portfolio development.

Future Jobs Fund:- success of a bid, through National Groundwork Bid, for 50 participants on the programme. 43 of the vacancies had been filled. The remaining 7 places had been advertised for the 'Green Doctor' programme within the Dearne Valley Eco Vision area.

3 teams were currently working at Brampton, Maltby and Thrybergh Country Park.

Janet added that 12 candidates had been put forward for the Green Doctor places. There could be an amalgamation of NEETS and Future Jobs. It was also pointed out that there had been no absenteeism during the recent severe weather.

Bikes4All:- this programme had been delivered at Brampton Bierlow, and at Maltby in conjunction with Bikeability.

Bikeability:- would be delivering national standard Bikeability cycle training to children in schools in Rawmarsh.

Dr. Bike:- the project would deliver a mobile cycle inspection and repair service, and promote cycling in the wider community.

Dearne Valley EcoVision:- involvement had developed in conjunction with Groundwork UK and other trusts in the region combining specialisms



across the region. Dearne Valley had attended the Core Group meetings and had been invited to join both Environment and Economy Task Groups.

It was also reported that Dearne Valley had secured funding to appoint a full time Groundwork EcoVision Co-ordinator who was now in post. The Community Consultation and Involvement post had also been filled to work to raise awareness of the EcoVision goals and engage the local community.

Work had now commenced to roll out the Green Doctor Programme across South Yorkshire. Initially the aim was to use Future Job fund places to create Green Doctor posts to work with Housing Associations to provide free home energy advice etc.

Cycling for Business:- this was a free cycling programme for employees of business in Rotherham and the Rotherham part of the Dearne Valley.

Groundwork Environmental Services (Dearne Valley) Ltd:- maintenance work under the Play Pathfinder Programme had now been completed.

New Project Proposals:- Steps to Nature - working in partnership with RMBC Greenspaces and NHS Rotherham Public Health on small scale physical site improvements to commence in September. The post of Project Officer was currently out to advert.

Turning the Corner:- this was a joint project funded from the BIG Lottery Young Peoples Fund 2 programme. Funding had been secured to employ a full time 'Turning the Corner' youth worker in South Yorkshire to help young people foster positive relationships with the community e.g. shop owners and to implement small scale physical projects. Once the post was filled activity would commence within the next 2 months.

It was agreed:- (1) That the report be received and contents noted.

(2) That the officers from Groundwork Dearne Valley be thanked for their informative report and continued involvement in projects.

## **6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Groundwork Dearne Valley asked that future agendas and reports be provided by email.

## **7. DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Panel would take place on WEDNESDAY, 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2010 at 2.30 p.m. in Rooms 3/4, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Bailey House, Rawmarsh Road, Rotherham. S60 1TD.

**ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>CABINET</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>10<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2010</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>MEMBERS' TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PANEL – MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY, 2010.</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S</b>

**5. Summary**

To consider Members' training matters.

**6. Recommendations**

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Members' Training and Development Panel held on 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2010.

**7. Proposals and Details**

To ensure implementation of the Council's Training and Development Policy in accordance with the meeting's Terms of Reference.

**8. Finance**

The Panel has its own training budget.

**9. Risks and Uncertainties**

Without proper training and support being in place there is a risk that Members' capacity to make decisions is not soundly based.

**10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

To consider best practice in relation to Member training and development.

The aim is for every Elected Member to be given suitable opportunities for development and training to help support all aspects of their role.

**11. Background Papers and Consultation**

A copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Members' Training and Development Panel held on 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2010, is attached.

**Contact Name** : Cath Saltis, Head of Scrutiny and Member Services, Chief Executive's Directorate – Tel. 01709 822779 [cath.saltis@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:cath.saltis@rotherham.gov.uk)

**MEMBERS' TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PANEL  
THURSDAY, 21ST JANUARY, 2010**

Present:- Councillor Gosling (in the Chair); Councillors Austen, Dodson, McNeely, Pickering, G. A. Russell, Smith, St. John and Turner.

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Cutts, Hughes, Lakin, Littleboy, Sangster, Sharman, Whelbourn, Wootton, Whysall and Mrs. Carol Cockayne (Parish Representative).

**37. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 17TH DECEMBER, 2009**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2009 were agreed as a correct record.

Councillor Smith referred to Minute No. 33 (Media Training – Feedback) and asked when the update report would be submitted to this Panel.

This was noted and would be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

**38. INDUCTION 2010**

Sioned-Mair Richards, Scrutiny Adviser, welcomed ideas from Elected Members to assist with the 2010 induction process for new Councillors and asked if this should be over the two week period following election or a longer term.

Discussion ensued on the induction process and it was unanimous that this should continue over the two week period following the election to assist with new Councillors' integration and understanding of how the Council worked.

It was also suggested that the induction process focus on safeguarding and corporate parenting, with some insight into the role of a Cabinet Member. Councillor St. John was happy to be involved.

**39. BE A COUNCILLOR DVD & TASTER SESSIONS**

Sioned-Mair Richards, Scrutiny Adviser, reported on the background to the "Be a Councillor" DVD and the script that had been agreed.

Following the presentation of this Panel's previous minutes to Cabinet on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2010, Cabinet Members expressed some concern about the impact this DVD may have leading up to the forthcoming election. It was, therefore, suggested that the release date of the DVD be delayed and that this be incorporated into the induction process to provide some insight into the work of Elected Members.

On completion of this DVD further editions were proposed showing some insight into the roles of a Member of Parliament, the Mayor and Parish Councillors.

Discussion ensued on the target audience for the DVD and how widely it would be disseminated. It was suggested that this be subject to further discussion once the DVD had been completed.

**40. COMMUNITY COHESION TRAINING – UPDATE**

Sioned-Mair Richards, Scrutiny Adviser, reported on the plans for further training, which were subject to a further meeting regarding the details.

Discussion ensued on the content of the training, target audience, the barriers to overcome and how the subject matter was to be delivered for specific areas.

Further information was to be provided in due course.

**41. I&DEA LOCAL POLITICAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2009 “THE COUNCILLOR OF THE 21ST CENTURY” - FEEDBACK**

Sioned-Mair Richards, Scrutiny Adviser, presented the report of the I&DeA Local Political Leadership Conference 2009 “The Councillor of the 21st Century” attended by Councillors Austen and Sharman on the 5th November, 2009.

The report provided some insight into the workshops available and their content.

Discussion ensued on the access to information by Members via officers and the difficulties facing some Members locating specific services within Departments. It was suggested that some form of chart be made available showing static officers and their contact details.

Councillor Austen welcomed the opportunity to present this report and referred to the Post Graduate Certificate in Local Governance for Councillors and Representatives she had been pursuing through the University of Huddersfield. Councillor Austen explained that she was now considering continuing with the Post Graduate Diploma this year and asked permission to pursue primary research through this Council into participatory budgeting from a political and financial dimension by way of in-depth interviews.

Councillor Boyes had also contacted the Scrutiny Team regarding the launch of the new Council website and asked if anyone had found access more difficult. She welcomed any further information.

Agreed:- That Councillor Austen be supported in her work towards the

Post Graduate Diploma.

**42. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Agreed:- That the next meeting of the Members' Training and Development Panel take place on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 at 2.00 p.m.

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO CABINET</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Cabinet</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> February, 2010</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Local Authority Business Growth Incentive - Rotherham South Area Assemblies Devolved Budget proposals</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Neighbourhoods and Adult Services</b>

### **5. Summary**

This report provides an update on the proposals from the Rotherham South Area Assembly Co ordinating Group for projects identified to be funded through Local Authority Business Growth Incentive (LABGI) within the 09/10 financial year.

These proposals were approved on 18th January 2010 by the Cabinet Member for Housing and Neighbourhoods for recommendation to Cabinet on 20th January 2010.

These proposals support the corporate objective of devolved decision-making in the Borough through Area Assemblies and the delivery of local projects and actions which meet Corporate Objectives and community priorities as identified in the Area Plans of the Area Assemblies.

### **6. Recommendations**

#### **That Cabinet**

- i. Approves the project proposals to be funded from LABGI.**

## 7. Proposals and Details

In 2009 the Rotherham South Area Assembly submitted a bid for 23k to the Area Assemblies Devolved Budget for a project to fund Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) from their LABGI funding. The objective of this proposal at the time was to maintain the number of PCSOs in Rotherham South Area Assembly/SNT. However as 2009 progressed it became clear that the proposed funding was not needed in Rotherham South as no PCSO funding was or is to be reduced during the term the LABGI Funding is available.

Rotherham South Area Assembly Coordinating Group therefore agreed to withdraw the PCSO funding and instead fund four additional projects from their LABGI funding.

The bids are the result of partnership working between the Area Assembly, the Elected Members, South Yorkshire Police and Youth Services and although the same eligibility criteria and application process has been used to submit these projects they are as a result of direct bids to the coordinating group. Because of timescales and the fact that LABGI funding ceases in 2010 the project proposals have not been through any element of public voting. The projects submitted for approval by Cabinet are detailed below.

Project and Project Sponsor	Ward	Cost	Strategic Link	Link to Area Plan	Timescale
South Yorkshire Police PS3 Club project	Rotherham East and Boston Castle	10,500	Safe	Reduce perception and fear of crime. Children and young people activities	Apr 09 - Mar 10
RMBC Youth Service - operation coverage	All	5,000	Safe	Community Safety/anti social behaviour	Jan 2010 to Dec 2010
RMBC CCTV maintenance	All	5,500	Safe	Community Safety/anti social behaviour	Jan 2010 - ongoing
Whiston Cinema Club	Sitwell ward	2,000	Safe, alive and proud	Community Safety/ anti social behaviour	Jan 2010 to March 2011
		23k			



## 8. Finance

Local Authority Business Growth Incentive (LABGI) awarded over two years 2008/09 and 2009/10. Each Area Assembly was allocated £100,000 to be spent approximately £35,000 in 2008/09 and £65,000 in 2009/10.

## 9. Risks and Uncertainties

Risks around the timescales and delivery of projects have been managed and through auditing and monitoring of the Area Assemblies Devolved Budget have resulted in the withdrawal of the funding for the Rotherham South PCSO and the subsequent replacement projects. If the project proposals are not approved then this may result in the LABGI funding being underutilised.

## 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The development of devolved budgets for Area Assemblies has clear linkages with the key Corporate Strategic Themes and contributes towards the aims of Strategic Objective 1 of the NAS Service Plan 2008-11

To **provide integrated local services** so that;

- People can exercise choice, retain their independence, be offered protection and have equality of access.
- Communities are active and shape local services to meet their characteristics and needs.
- Neighborhoods are safe, free from crime and places to be proud of.

The development of devolved budgets for Area Assemblies is a key driver in meeting element three of the Outcomes Framework - **Making a Positive Contribution** by engaging residents and community groups in discussing and identifying community/area/spending priorities and participating in the proposals for the development of projects.

## 11. Background Papers and Consultation

The Community Empowerment White Paper: Communities in Control: Real People, Real Power: July 08

Local Government White Paper: Strong and Prosperous Communities 2006

Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

**Contact Name:** Jan Leyland, Neighbourhood Partnership Team Manager Ext 3102

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted