

**GROUNDWORKS TRUSTS PANEL  
WEDNESDAY, 13TH JULY, 2011**

Present:- Councillor Akhtar (in the Chair); Councillors Dalton, Rushforth, Sharman, Smith, Swift and Wyatt.

together with:-

Jamie Ferneyhough	Groundwork Dearne Valley
Carol Foster	Groundwork Dearne Valley
Alan Hartley	Groundwork Dearne Valley
Janet Johnson	Groundwork Dearne Valley
Rob Saw	Groundwork Dearne Valley
Caralynn Gale	Groundwork Creswell, Ashfield and Mansfield and Cresta Ltd
Nick Barnes	Greenspaces RMBC
Barry Deakin	Neighbourhood Services RMBC

**40. INTRODUCTIONS/APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Chair, Councillor Akhtar, welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Councillor Walker RMBC

**41. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE PANEL HELD ON 13TH APRIL, 2011**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2011 were agreed as a correct record.

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

Reference was made to the following:-

(i) Swimming complex in Dinnington

It was reported that this project was on-going but there was currently nothing further to report.

(ii) Groundwork Co-operation in Rotherham

It was reported that the issue of VAT was being discussed and when resolved the three Groundworks Trusts would move forward to establish joint working possibly through a joint venture company.

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

Caralynn Gale, Education Manager, Groundwork Creswell, Ashfield and Mansfield and Cresta Limited, introduced the quarterly report for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2011.

The following items were highlighted:-

- Harthill:- projects at Fir Vale Allotment and Woodall Lane were now complete
- Anston Stones Wood:- taking young people onto site to carry out general clearance and ground maintenance work
- Education and Training:- Community Task Force – last referrals on 1<sup>st</sup> June – approx 35 clients until September. Actively working on community related projects in Rotherham and improving relationship and perception of how the community see young people.
- Post 16 NEET working:- setting up of a programme in the Rotherham area, due to start in July, working with 16-18 year olds. Clients would work towards PECL qualification. This programme was supported by Connexions in Rotherham.

It was explained that local Councillors and community representatives put forward sites and projects for consideration on this programme. CTS Training (Rotherham branch) made referrals for 13 weeks mandatory training and engagement in community activities.

- Community Learning:- appointment of Owen Garrety to work in engaging and working alongside local community groups.

**It was agreed:-** That the officer from Groundwork Creswell, Ashfield and Mansfield and Cresta Limited, be thanked for their informative report and continued involvement in projects.

**44. QUARTERLY REPORT - GROUNDWORK DEARNE VALLEY**

Janet Johnson, Executive Director, Groundwork Dearne Valley, introduced the quarterly report covering the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> June, 2011.

The following items were highlighted:-

**Jamie reported on:-**

- **Regeneration Projects:-**

**Rawmarsh:-** Rosehill MUGA development successfully completed. Continued to support the Friends of Rosehill Victoria Park group to merge with the Rawmarsh and Parkgate Partnership. Progressing Fitting Future of the Fitz project along the canalside with funding from the Community Wildlife Big Lottery Fund. Providing support to Greenash TARA.

**Maltby:-** work continued with residents and the community in China Town to deliver environmental improvements and looking for opportunities to extend the project. Work had continued with Maltby Crags Infant School on the creation of a wildlife garden but there was an issue with contaminated land on the site.

- **Health Activity:-**

This was based in the Dearne Valley Eco-vision area around sustainable transport and improving the health of local people through encouraging physical exercise e.g. cycling and walking.

- **Rotherham in Root**

Supporting the Steering Group to bring forward further activity including presence at Rotherham Show and a second "Rotherham in Root" conference next Spring.

- **Allotments:-**

A meeting had been held with officers from Greenspaces and the Allotment Officer regarding how to add value and support the Council's allotment provision and also working with other agencies that owned and managed allotments including the Parish Councils.

- **Dearne Valley Eco-Vision:-**

Continued to develop working relationships with Sheffield City Regional Eco Vision team and other local partners to delivery 2 main projects:- (i) Green Doctors and (ii) Community Champions.

- **Outdoor Explorers:-**

This was new project in Rotherham based on the Trust's successful "CU in the Wild" project. The project aimed to increase access to the local natural environment through the use of technology e.g. GPS devices.

- **Gardens Projects:-**

In conjunction with Rotherham 2010, other Council officers and tenants to identify "demonstrator plots" involving clients on a re-engagement programme to run and maintain gardens, including growing vegetables etc.

- **Cadbury Spots v Stripes:-**

Linked to the 2012 Olympics and working in partnership with the Council's Green Spaces team to deliver activities and events.

- **Miscellaneous Regeneration Projects:-**

Brampton Bierlow BMX track sports development:- this project was now

into its third year of development grant and a “pump track” had been built alongside.

**Janet reported on:-**

- **Key Green Space Projects:-**

discussions with key Council staff were in the early stages in respect of new strands of activity and identifying specific sites, and about ways of adding value to them. Discussion were also involving Councillors.

- **Volunteering:-**

Currently an area of growth with the Trust having seven volunteering roles. The Trust had six volunteers from RCAT (Best Programme) engaged through the Cadbury SvS working as Games Volunteers and helping at numerous events. The roles/opportunities were advertised through VAR's website.

**Rob reported on:-**

- **Alternative Curriculum Programme:-**

Work continued with schools in Swinton with pupils working towards a horticultural qualification. Groundwork was looking at setting up a small transition programme using ESF 14-16 funding for youngsters not formally classified as NEET until the September Agreement kicked in. The youngsters would join the Horticultural project.

Cohorts 2 and 3 had completed and left the programme with the majority having secured further education, training or employment.

Groundwork was also actively looking at ways of engaging the harder to reach groups to persuade them to come on to a programme.

- **Future Jobs Fund:-**

Groundwork had recruited to the last cohort in April. Currently there were approximately 50/55 on programme. Work continued on a number of Council and some Parish Council sites.

- **Bikes4All:-**

Bikeability training continued at a number of schools through the Rawmarsh Schools Sports Partnership. Groundwork was currently seeking suitable premises to develop the cycle re-use and maintenance programme, and following a successful bid to the SYPTTE hoped to set up the Rotherham Bike Library.

- **Groundwork Environmental Services (Dearne Valley) Ltd:-**

No activity this quarter

**It was agreed:-** That officers from Groundwork Dearne Valley be thanked for their informative report, their excellent work and continued involvement in projects.

#### 45. PRESENTATION:- TURNING THE CORNER PROJECT

Carol Foster, Youth Worker, Groundwork Dearne Valley, spoke to a PowerPoint presentation in respect of the Turning the Corner project.

The presentation covered:-

- Aims of the project
- “Look Again” – to change people’s perception of young people
- Facts: made contact with 1446 young people over the last 12 months; 224 went on to be involved in the project; 31 local partners involved; 106 young people involved in further training of which 58 an accredited award
- Swinton Lock Activity Centre – Holiday Programme
- Rawmarsh Skatepark Support – worked along with the PCSO for 12 weeks
- Worked with Redroad to provide broadcasting experience
- Worked with British Cycling Talent Team Experience at Kimberworth and Brampton Bierlow
- Back to Nature Summer School
- Young people’s business and enterprise e.g. card craft
- Rise to the Challenge – worked with co-ordinators of after schools clubs on developing business and enterprise skills
- POD – providing supplies to garden centres; linked to the Ministry of Food and RCAT
- Charity CD: youngsters compiling, designing, selling with proceeds to Cancer Research
- Community Projects at the following:-
  - Alpine Shops, Rockingham: mural, garden and planting project
  - Fellowsfield Way, Kimberworth: mural, community clean up, community planting
  - Flandwerwell; mural; bin storage area; raised beds
  - Herringthorpe – Chaucer Road; art work on shop shutters
  - Kimberworth; art work on shop shutters
  - Rockingham 33 TARA: community social events and tea dances, including provision of transport
  - Wingfield: Business and Enterprise College: looking at a community volunteering accreditation
- Blooming Lovely:- using plants grown at the Horticultural Centre to provide planters and hanging baskets for local shops and businesses (at Greasbrough, Ferham, Bradgate, Kimberworth and Wingfield)
- Community clean ups organised, by Wingfield Business and Enterprise College, at Wingfield linked to Living Streets; also at Winterhill People’s Centre and Fellowsfield Way, Kimberworth

- Environmental work by youngsters from Winterhill Young People's Centre
- Residential breaks:- (i) at Crowden re: raising awareness of Gun and Knife Crime in conjunction with the Police, and (ii) at Rawmarsh re: exploring peer pressure.
- Young People's Forum: to share ideas and enjoy rewards

The positive outcomes of this Project were highlighted including improved relationship with the police and the development of community cohesion.

**It was agreed:-** That Groundwork staff be congratulated on this excellent work.

**46. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no further items of business.

**47. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE PANEL**

The following meeting dates were agreed:-

WEDNESDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2011 – 2.30 PM

WEDNESDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2012 – 2.30 PM

WEDNESDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2012 – 2.30 PM

WEDNESDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2012 – 2.30 PM