

**GROUNDWORKS TRUSTS PANEL  
WEDNESDAY, 18TH JANUARY, 2012**

Present:- Councillor Akhtar (in the Chair); Councillors Dalton, Sharman, Smith and Swift; together with

Alan Hartley	Groundwork Dearne Valley
Lucy Cheetham	Groundwork Dearne Valley
Jamie Ferneyhough	Groundwork Dearne Valley
Janet Johnson	Groundwork Dearne Valley
Caralynn Gale	Groundwork Creswell Ashfield and Mansfield
Nick Barnes	Green Spaces, RMBC

**55. INTRODUCTIONS/APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made. Apologies for absence were received from The Mayor (Councillor Wright), from Councillor Rushforth and from Rob Saw (Groundwork Dearne Valley).

**56. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE PANEL HELD ON 12TH OCTOBER, 2011**

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Groundworks Trusts Panel, held on 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2011 were agreed as a correct record.

**57. GROUNDWORK DEARNE VALLEY - COMMUNITY PROJECT WORK IN WENTWORTH VALLEY**

Lucy Cheetham (Community Project Officer, Groundwork Dearne Valley) gave a presentation about community work taking place in the Maltby area of Wentworth Valley, including the housing estate known as Chinatown.

Details of the project are:-

: The area is a known area of absentee landlords; therefore much of the project work took place in partnership with the local Tenants' and Residents' Association (TARA) and a group of 25 young people;

: Litter, etc. has been a long-term problem, spoiling the appearance of the area; there is an identified need for cleaner, greener streets and a better sense of community cohesion;

: bulb planting has been successful;

: Safer Neighbourhood Team has provided grant funding for some of the work;

: the Maltby 'big clean up' project has involved RMBC Streetpride, local primary schools and businesses;

: There has been partnership working with IGEN – who work with young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs);

: Maltby Town Council and the Police Community Support Officers have also been involved;

: Attempts to involve the Maltby Academy, via the School Council; presentations and film project work have taken place;

: More clean-ups will happen in the schools' half-term week (February 2012), especially on the Birks Holt estate, Chinatown, the White City and the Model Village;

: further similar environmental projects are planned for Flanderwell and Wickersley;

: Groundwork Dearne Valley provide neighbourhood consultation, funding advice and accredited training activities.

The Panel thanked Lucy for her very interesting presentation.

#### **58. QUARTER 3 PROGRESS REPORT - GROUNDWORK DEARNE VALLEY**

Janet Johnson and Jamie Ferneyhough (Groundwork Dearne Valley) reported on the progress of the following project work:-

**Rawmarsh and Other Areas Regeneration:**

Site meetings regarding installing street furniture on the Fitting Future for the Fitz project.

Continued to support the Rawmarsh and Parkgate Partnership.

Met with Rowan Centre staff about developing a sensory garden project.

**Maltby Regeneration:**

Met with RMBC officers regarding improving Coronation Park's play facilities.

Carried out Maltby Big Clean Up with help from IGEN and RMBC Green Spaces, Wentworth Valley Area Assembly, PCSOs and local community groups and schools.

Worked with Bramley Parish Council and a group of young people to develop the Bramley BMX Project.

**Key Green Space Projects:**

Continued to meet with RMBC staff to identify a number of priority green space projects throughout the Borough.

Begun discussions with the Greenlands TARA with a view of developing proposals for footpath project in Greenlands Park, North Anston.

Development and submission of a funding application to Biffaward, for the Greenlands Park project.

**Health Activity:**

Links made with Alzheimer's Society for a walking group  
Dearne Valley College interest in developing lunchtime walking sessions

**Rotherham in Root:**

Group set up to develop this campaign to get more Rotherham residents growing their own food.

**Allotments:**

Supporting Borough Council and Parish Council initiatives to enable more Rotherham residents to take up allotments.

**Dearne Valley Eco-Vision:**

Community Champions meeting held.  
Tree planting event at Dearne Valley College.  
Green Doctors installing energy saving equipment in Brampton Bierlow.

**Turning the Corner (Youth Work):**

Continued delivery of the 'Bloomin Lovely' project working with shop owners.

Completed phase 1 of Alpine Shops improvements. The funding of £8,000 has now been secured to complete the second phase and work will begin on 30th January 2012 to redevelop the central soft landscaped area.

Delivery of two 'Charity CD' projects with young people from the Wingfield and Winterhill Comprehensive Schools.

Continued delivery of the social enterprise project with young people called Inspiration, now being delivered in Winterhill School and Young People's Centre, in addition to Wingfield School.

Development of proposals for a new art mural programme on the Fitzwilliam Estate in Swinton.

The development of art murals which were painted to brighten up the new Risky Business Facility at Chatham Villas.

**Volunteering:**

Continue to seek and recruit volunteers into numerous roles within the Trust.

**Outdoor Explorers:**

Currently investigating the feasibility of delivery of an 'outdoor explorers' project in Rotherham, aimed at young people and their families.

**Cadbury Spots v Stripes:**

Throughout the quarter held twelve Spots V Stripes Events across the Rotherham Borough area.

Worked with several partners to draw up events for the future.

**Miscellaneous Regeneration projects:**

Lodge Lane Primary Wildlife Garden- Initial discussions have taken place with the Area Assembly and the Aston TARA.

Supporting the Brampton Bierlow BMX Track (seeking funding for further events)

Alternative Curriculum Activity:

Continue the work in partnership with Swinton Comprehensive School. Also undertaking cycle mechanics training with Rawmarsh Community School

Rotherham ESF 14 - 19 Funded Activity:

Following our re-approval to deliver to the above contract we have now started delivery to both the 14-16 and 16-18 programmes.

Agreed:- That the contents of the report be noted and the progress being made be welcomed.

#### **59. QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT - GROUNDWORK CRESWELL**

Caralynn Gale (Groundwork Creswell) reported on the progress of the following project work:-

One World Schools – Youth Re-engagement Programme

Groundwork Creswell Facilitators continue to take their pre-16 NEET groups to Anston Stones and continue with the maintenance of the site.

Education and Training

The Foundation Learning Programme completed its first cohort in December 2011. Young people from the Rotherham area attended the Groundwork Centre on three full days per week. The group worked towards their PEI Qualification (Preparation into Employment in the Construction Industry) on two of those days each week, which included Job Search Workshops. On the third day, the group completed tasks for local community groups to improve their practical skills. Attendance was maintained at over 95% throughout.

As a result of the success of this first cohort, a new group started in January, 2012. Nine NEETs young people and this group will attend over a longer time of 18 weeks (instead of 15 weeks) and on four full days per week. Groundwork Creswell is a Registered Centre to deliver Literacy and Numeracy Functional Skills and future cohorts will be supported in gaining accreditation in Functional Skills. A third cohort (to date there are eleven starts) are due to begin in February 2012.

Community Learning

Groundwork Creswell continues to promote its community relationships and is often approached by Parish Councils for support with projects.

Agreed:- That the contents of the report be noted and the progress being made be welcomed.

#### **60. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Agreed:- That the next meeting of the Groundwork Trusts Panel take place at the Town Hall, Rotherham on Wednesday, 11th April, 2012, commencing at 2.30 p.m.