

**GROUNDWORKS TRUSTS PANEL
WEDNESDAY, 10TH APRIL, 2013**

Present:- Councillors Andrews, Beck, Sharman and Swift; together with:-

Jamie Ferneyhough	Groundwork Dearne Valley
Janet Johnson	Groundwork Dearne Valley
Caralynn Gale	Groundwork Creswell, Ashfield and Mansfield and Crestra Ltd
Katie	Groundwork Creswell, Ashfield and Mansfield and Crestra Ltd
Nick Barnes	Greenspaces RMBC

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Akhtar, Clark, Rushforth, Smith and Whysall; and from Messrs A. Hartley and R. Saw (Groundwork Dearne Valley).

19. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

In the absence of the Deputy Leader, it was agreed that Councillor Sharman be appointed Chair of this meeting

(Councillor Sharman in the Chair)

20. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE PANEL HELD ON 16TH JANUARY, 2013

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th January, 2013 were agreed as a correct record.

21. QUARTERLY REPORT - GROUNDWORK CRESWELL, ASHFIELD AND MANSFIELD AND CRESTRA LIMITED

Caralynn Gale and Katie (Groundwork Creswell, Ashfield and Mansfield and Crestra Limited) reported on the quarterly progress of the various projects for the period 1st January to 31st March, 2013, which included:-

(a) partnership working with CTS Training on the Foundation Learning Programme, including accredited learning and a range of community related projects (eg: hedge planting; allotments maintenance; painting of buildings);

(b) apprenticeships are centred upon young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs) and the current year's apprentices are on target to achieve their qualifications; the new intake of apprentices will study and work on either construction or horticulture;

(c) Lifeline – this project provides help and advice for people seeking treatment to help them recover from substance misuse; advice is also provided about housing, employment, training and education and about

peer support groups; Specific provision from Groundwork CAM includes practical tuition about environmental and conservation projects, focusing on health and well-being;

(d) continuing to promote the Groundworks Trusts in the Rotherham Borough area and with Parish Councils; the key services promoted are : construction, youth engagement, nature conservation, landscape design and build and also health lifestyles;

(e) Crestra Construction have completed the installation of a Colliery Wheel on the site of the former Silverwood Colliery at Hollings Lane, Thrybergh (this project is being carried out in partnership with the Parish Councils in that area); other construction projects are being planned at Ulley and at Treeton;

(f) Groundwork CAM is keen to offer support to communities on health promotion, including food labelling, growing vegetables and healthy food preparation on a limited budget.

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

22. QUARTERLY REPORT - GROUNDWORK DEARNE VALLEY

Janet Johnson and Jamie Fernyhough, Groundwork Dearne Valley, described the progress of projects for the period 1st January to 31st March, 2013, as set out in detail in the submitted report, which included:-

(a) Neighbourhood Regeneration

: Coronation Park, Maltby – work with young people at the Maltby Academy to complete the eight art boards.

: West Maltby Play Area - discussions with the new 'Active Tots' group about the creation of a play facility in the west area of Maltby.

: Dalton Skate Park - discussions with Dalton Parish Council in order to create a sketch plan for a skate park for the Dalton/Herringthorpe/Thrybergh area.

: Aston Pond, Lodge Lane – the Landscape Design Team has completed a design for the development of a community garden; working in Partnership with Ulley Countryside Rangers, the local TARA and Area Assembly.

: Rowan Centre, Rawmarsh – the Landscape Design Team has completed a design for a community garden; working in partnership with Barnados.

(b) Community Well-Being

: a scheme with Rotherfed and the Borough Council, to deliver a planting event at Herringthorpe involving young people from the High Greave Primary School as part of the Rotherham Cleaner/Greener Project.

: continuing work with Maltby Town Council on the Maltby Neighbourhood Plan project; a workshop was held with the Town Councillors and Wentworth Valley Area Assembly to look at the results of the consultation to draw up priorities for Maltby, the first draft of the plan has been completed.

(c) Young People

: further development of the Brampton BMX cycling project, continuing to support the development of the Brampton BMX club and oversee coaching activities with young people.

: Rotherham BMX Club – development of funding application to Sport England (concerning land at Little Common Lane, Kimberworth).

: Involvement in the new National Citizenship Programme, which has begun during January, 2013.

: developing the Junior Wardens scheme with primary schools at Maltby.

(d) Dearne Valley Eco-Vision

: delivery of Community Engagement functions on behalf of the Sheffield City Region.

: recruitment of volunteers as part of the Community Champions project.

: development of activities around the Hidden Gems project.

(e) Local Food

: continuing with delivery of the Borough-wide Rotherham in Root campaign and progressing a number of initiatives to raise awareness; a small start-up grant has been obtained via the South Yorkshire Community Foundation.

(f) Biodiversity

: Bat boxes installed on selected trees adjacent to the Fitzwilliam Canal, Parkgate, during the community Bat Action Day; clearance of overgrown vegetation also took place;

: leaflet being prepared to issue to schools, offering assistance to improve school grounds in the Nature Improvement Area, for the benefit of local wildlife.

(g) Health Activity

: Health walks have taken place in Wath upon Dearne, as part of the Eco-Vision Hidden Gems project.

: continue to support the Rotherham Heart Town initiative.

(h) Green Infrastructure and Development

: continued support to the Friends of Greenlands Park, North Anston.

: obtained £20,000 Landfill Tax credits funding from Lafarge Aggregates.

(i) Volunteering

: continue to recruit volunteers into numerous roles within the Trust, including volunteering opportunities for young people; working with the Voluntary Action Rotherham volunteer co-ordinators forum.

(j) Rotherham ESF 14 - 19 Funded Activity

: continued delivery to both the 14-16 and 16-18 programmes.

(k) Alternative Curriculum Activity

: continue to work towards horticultural qualifications in partnership with local Comprehensive Schools.

: undertaking cycle mechanics training with local schools.

(l) Introduction to Horticulture

: a new undertaking in partnership with Dearne Valley College, delivering qualifications to young people who are likely to become NEET (ie: not in employment, education or training); importance of ensuring a full cohort of places.

(m) Apprenticeships

: a new Apprenticeship programme has begun in partnership with Dearne Valley College.

Agreed:- (1) That the contents of the report be noted and the progress being made be welcomed.

(2) That the Groundworks Trusts Panel places on record its thanks to Lucy Cheetham (who has recently left Groundwork Dearne Valley, having obtained other employment) for her work in the Rotherham Borough area, especially her assistance in progressing the Maltby Town Plan.

23. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Groundworks Trusts Panel received copies of the Winter 2012/13 issue of the newsletter published by Groundwork Creswell, Ashfield and Mansfield.

24. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Groundworks Trusts Panel be held at the Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham on Wednesday, 17th July, 2013, commencing at 2.30 p.m.