

# SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

## North East Community Assembly

### Meeting held 11 July 2012

**PRESENT:** Councillors Peter Price (Chair), Leigh Bramall, Shelia Constance, Jackie Drayton, Talib Hussain, Alan Law, Sioned-Mair Richards, Peter Rippon and Chris Weldon

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#### **1. WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING ARRANGEMENTS**

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined basic housekeeping and fire safety arrangements.

#### **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY**

2.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Tony Damms, Gill Furniss and Ibrar Hussain.

#### **3. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

3.1 No items were identified where resolutions may be made to exclude the press and public.

#### **4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

4.1 There were no declarations of interest.

#### **5. APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY CHAIR OF THE ASSEMBLY**

5.1 RESOLVED: That Councillor Ibrar Hussain be appointed as the Deputy Chair of the North East Community Assembly for the Municipal Year 2012/13.

#### **6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS**

##### **6.1 Petitions**

6.1.1 The Assembly received a petition containing 1050 signatures requesting the Council to provide safe access between Wincobank and Meadowhall by implementing further road safety improvements on Tyler Street and Barrow Road. This was in response to a Wincobank resident that was struck by a speeding car on Tyler Street on 4 July 2012.

6.1.2 Bridget Ingle (the petitioner organiser) and a relative of the Wincobank resident spoke in support of the petition and requested the Council to take action.

6.1.3 RESOLVED: That the petition now received be submitted to the next Full Council Meeting on 5 September 2012.

6.2 Public Questions

6.2.1 Responses were provided to public questions as follows:-

(a) Roman Ridge

Concerns were raised at the length of time a road had been closed due to drainage work and the short notice given to residents that access to the car park at Roman Ridge would not be available.

It was noted that this issue would be raised with relevant officers in Development Services and local Councillors would be kept informed.

(b) Tree Maintenance at Norwood and Bishopholme

An issue was raised that tree maintenance work at Norwood and Bishopholme had not been carried out on the correct trees and the trees were still causing problems.

Alison Rayner (Community Assembly Manager) stated that she would raise this issue with officers and ask that they provided a response to Jean Shutt.

(c) Tree Problem on Fairbank Road

Alison Rayner (Community Assembly Manager) stated that she would raise with officers the problem with the tree outside the property now mentioned on Fairbank Road and ask that they provided a response to Norma Hallatt.

(d) Children's Heart Unit in Leeds

It was noted that there was a website to support the campaign for the Children's Heart Unit to remain in Leeds.

Councillor Jackie Drayton stated that the City Council had supported the Unit staying in Leeds and she referred to the piece of work undertaken by the Council's Healthier Communities and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee on the location of the Regional Heart Surgery Centre of Excellence.

(e) Open Spaces/Tree Maintenance

Councillor Peter Price stated that the condition of the parks and open spaces was better than ten years ago. It was for the Council and local communities to work together and make the best use of the funding available.

Councillor Sheila Constance stated that officers would clear the area of open space now mentioned and the trees at the flats would also be trimmed.

(f) Shiregreen Road -Safe Cycle Route

Councillor Jackie Drayton stated that she would raise with Highway Officers the suggestion of a cycle/pedestrian pathway on Shiregreen Road.

(g) Activity Sheffield Job Advertisements

Alison Rayner (Community Assembly Manager) stated that the Activity Sheffield posts were appointed until 31 March 2013 as they were part funded by the Community Assembly and the funding was approved on an annual basis.

Councillor Peter Price indicated that there would be a report back on Activity Sheffield activities in the area to a future meeting of the Assembly.

(h) Sandstone Road Planning Application

It was noted that the application for housing development on Sandstone Road had been refused by the West and North Planning and Highways Area Committee.

(i) Barnsley Road

Councillor Alan Law stated that he would reply to Mr Ibbotson on the issue now raised relating to Barnsley Road.

## **7. HIGHWAYS PRIVATE FINANCE INITIATIVE**

7.1 The Community Assembly received a presentation from Steve Robinson, (Head of Highway Maintenance, City Council) and Graeme Symonds (Network Director, Amey Construction) on the Streets Ahead Project, the programme of works to be undertaken under the Highways Private Finance Initiative (PFI). Anita Dell (Communications Officer) also attended for this item.

7.2 Steve Robinson reported on the highway works to be undertaken under the Project, which included trees (planting and maintenance), traffic signals, footpaths, roads names, lamp posts, kerbs, street furniture (benches, grit bins and litter bins) and road surfaces. He

also referred to those elements of work which would not be undertaken under the Project, which included traffic management and regulation, the M1 motorway, the Tinsley Viaduct and Stocksbridge Bypass, works on unadopted roads, works to private structures such as Network Rail bridges, the making of any decisions on highway improvement schemes and any grounds maintenance of public realm land.

7.3 Graeme Symonds referred to the challenge of delivering the project whilst minimising congestion. In outlining details of the Project, he made the following points:

- The model was based on a zonal approach with the City divided into 108 zones. The works would be completed in a zone before moving onto another zone.
- The works in each zone would be delivered in a sequence. (e.g. lighting columns, tree replacement, resurface footway/carrageway, drainage, gullies/level manholes, lay new tarmac etc)
- Once the project had been completed, there would no further work undertaken for 12/15 years except for any necessary maintenance.
- 700 people would be employed with 400 transferred from Street Force.
- The first zone would be in Shiregreen and involve completing the road surfacing arising from the Sanctuary Housing project. A roadshow would be held at the Shiregreen Neighbourhood Centre on 25 July 2012 from 4-8 pm. The plans would be on display and there would be an opportunity to ask questions.

#### 7.4 Public Questions

7.4.1 Steve Robinson and Graeme Symonds responded to public questions as follows

- (a) The Project would start from mid-August 2012 to 2017.
- (b) Amey would ensure that grit bins were full and would be working with Community Assemblies on the location of additional bins.
- (c) The preference was not to use grass verges to provide a hardstanding for car parking as it could add to flooding problems.
- (d) The works proposed for Shiregreen in the first zone were for resurfacing. The street lighting would be undertaken later in the

programme.

- (e) When a street was being treated it would be closed for safety reasons. However, as the work was done fairly quickly, residents may only be unable to exit their properties for approximately 30 minutes. Arrangements would be made for residents needing to use their vehicles for hospital appointments etc.
- (f) The Project would allow the utility companies to be informed in advance when Amey would be working in a particular area. The utility companies would be required to undertake any work before Amey began their work. Once an area had been treated, the utility companies could not do any work in that area for 5 years but would still be able to carry out emergency repairs or make new connections.
- (g) Amey would be responsible for emptying gullies. They would also be replacing 6000 gullies.
- (h) The same standard of work would apply across the City.
- (i) There would be public meetings in each area before work started.
- (j) Some pavements may be replaced by a tarmac footway and this would give a smoother texture.
- (k) The intention was to retain any heritage or conservation interest in a street e.g. an old street nameplate.
- (l) The Council would welcome the offer to work with Cycle Sheffield.
- (m) There would be consultation on the replacement of highway trees through the roadshows and other means of contact. Residents would be given a list of trees to choose from. The intention was to replace about 18,000 of the 36,000 trees over a 25 year period on a street by street basis. Amey would be responsible for tree maintenance.
- (n) The provision of dog fouling bins was outside the scope of the contract and was an Environmental Health service.
- (o) Grass would be kept to a certain height under the contract.

7.5 In response to questions from Members of the Assembly, officers indicated that:

- (i) In terms of the new street lighting, Sheffield would have the first

full LED illuminated highway. This would provide greater clarity, 11% less lighting columns were required and there would be a 40% saving in electricity.

- (ii) The cable television companies had received details of the 5 year programme of works.
- (iii) Each Community Assembly had a Steward to ensure that each area was fully informed. Any service requests during the works should be made through the Customer First call centre (0114 273 4567 or [streetsahead@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:streetsahead@sheffield.gov.uk)).
- (iv) Amey were committed to employing Sheffield people and the vast majority of the 700 staff would be from the City. Apprentice roadshows had been held and there would be 27 new apprenticeships every two year.

7.6 RESOLVED: That the Community Assembly:-

- (A) notes the information reported as part of the presentation on the Streets Ahead Project, together with the responses to the questions raised; and
- (B) thanks Steve Robinson and Graeme Symonds for the presentation now made.

## **EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS DECISIONS**

### **8. NORTH EAST COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATION ON SHEFFIELD HOMES BOARDS**

8.1 The Community Assembly Manager submitted a report on the proposed nomination of a Member of the Community Assembly to serve on the Sheffield Homes North Area Board and Sheffield Homes East Area Board respectively.

#### **8.2 Decision Taken**

8.2.1 RESOLVED: That the North East Community Assembly:-

- (a) having regard to the views expressed by the Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods about the proposal to nominate Councillor Alan Law to the Sheffield Homes North Area Board, and Councillor Ibrar Hussain to the Sheffield Homes East Area Board, nominates those two Members of the Assembly to these positions;
- (b) requests the Director of Modern Governance to refer these nominations to Full Council at the earliest opportunity; and

- (c) requests the Community Assembly Manager to complete the necessary paperwork to effect these appointments, in consultation with the Director of Legal Services.

### **8.3 Reasons for the Decision**

- 8.3.1 The North East Community Assembly has been requested to nominate two Sheffield City Council appointees, one to the Sheffield Homes North Area Board and one to the Sheffield Homes East Area Board.

### **8.4 Alternative Options Considered and Rejected**

- 8.4.1 The North East Community Assembly could have considered alternative nominees to the Councillors proposed.

## **9. NORTH EAST ASSEMBLY HIGHWAYS BUDGET 2012/13**

- 9.1 The Highways Link Manager and North East Community Assembly Manager submitted a joint report which set out the principles for the allocation of £40,000 for highways schemes in the Assembly area in 2012/13. Simon Botterill (Highways Link Manager) gave a presentation on the proposals.

### **9.2 Public Questions**

- 9.2.1 In responses to questions from a member of the public, Simon Botterill indicated that the location of the first 20 mph zone in the Assembly area would be decided by the Cabinet Highways Committee based on a recommendation from Assembly Members. There would be an opportunity to comment on the Traffic Regulation Order for that scheme. The schemes for the first two years would be agreed shortly, after which the 20 mph zones would be decided on a 'worst first' accident basis.

### **9.3 Decision Taken**

- 9.3.1 **RESOLVED:** That the North East Community Assembly delegates authority to the Assembly Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Assembly, and having regard to recommendations made by Ward Councillors, to allocate the Highways Budget of £40,000 in 2012/13.

### **9.4 Reasons For The Decision**

- 9.4.1 The purpose of the Highways Budget is to respond to local requests for Highways improvements. The 2012/13 budget of £40,000 will only allow for small schemes to be implemented in this financial year and these require further discussion to ensure maximum value for money is received by combining with the Highways Private Finance Initiative

work.

## 9.5 **Alternative Options Considered and Rejected**

- 9.5.1 Funding one scheme within the whole Assembly area was considered but it was felt that with the funding available, more residents of the Assembly area would benefit from funding smaller schemes across the Wards.

## 10. **NORTH EAST ASSEMBLY DISCRETIONARY BUDGET**

- 10.1 The Community Assembly Manager submitted a report containing proposals for the allocation of the remaining funds in the Assembly's 2012/13 Discretionary Budget.

### 10.2 Public Question

- 10.2.1 In response to a question from a member of the public, the Community Assembly Manager indicated that the funding was not drawn from any other budgets but was unallocated funding from the Discretionary Budget.

### 10.3 **Decision Taken**

- 10.3.1 RESOLVED: That the North East Community Assembly:-
- (a) allocates funding from the Assembly's 2012/13 Discretionary Budget to the following:
    - £9,436 from the Assembly-wide allocation pot to be placed into an area-wide Quick Wins fund;
    - £13,334 from the Burngreave Ward to be allocated into the Ward's Quick Wins Pot;
    - £13,251 from the Firth Park Ward to be allocated into the Ward's Quick Wins Pot;
  - (b) delegates authority to the Assembly Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Assembly and having regard to any views expressed by Ward Councillors, to allocate funding from the Assembly-wide Quick Wins Pot and the Quick Wins Pot from all four Wards;
  - (c) delegates authority to the Assembly Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Assembly, to allocate funding to further the Assembly's Community Plan priorities as identified within the report where, in the opinion of the Assembly Manager, such funding needs to be provided before the Assembly meeting in October 2012 to allow sufficient time for the project/service to be delivered; and



- (d) authorises the Director of Community Services, in consultation with the Director of Legal Services, to agree the terms on which all funding referred to in the report is made available and to enter into such funding agreements with recipients of the funding and any other related agreements or arrangements, and on such terms, that the Director considers appropriate.

#### **10.4 Reasons for The Decision**

10.4.1 The purpose of the Discretionary Budget is to help fulfil the priorities of the North East Assembly Community Plan, which have been identified through consultation with local residents, groups and partners.

10.4.2 The North East Assembly Community Plan priorities are:

- Clean, tidy, green streets to be proud of
- Improved parks and green open spaces
- Community support and people getting on together
- More things for children and young people to do
- Neighbourhoods where people feel safe
- Improved roads and public transport
- Improved local housing and the built environment
- Reducing health inequalities: add years to life and life to years
- Getting people out of poverty and into work
- Increase educational attainment and aspiration, and reduce school exclusions.

10.4.3 All the projects to which funding will be made available from the Assembly wide or Ward pots will contribute to one or more of these priorities. Allocating funding to Quick Wins Pots allows flexibility in the awarding of grants.

#### **10.5 Alternative Options Considered**

10.5.1 It was considered to allocate funding to specific projects but allocating to Quick Wins Pots gives the flexibility to vary levels of funding between different projects depending on need.

### **11. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

11.1 The minutes of the meetings of the Assembly held on 21 March and 16 May 2012, were approved as correct records.

### **12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

12.1 The Assembly noted that its next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 31 October 2012, at 6.00 pm at the Shirecliffe Community Centre.