

## **SOUTH WEST COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY**

### **Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2012, at Nether Green Infant School**

PRESENT: Councillors Andrew Sangar (Chair), Sylvia Anginotti, Roger Davison, Keith Hill, Joe Otten, Colin Ross, Janice Sidebottom, Geoff Smith and Diana Stimely.

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

1.1 The Chair, Councillor Andrew Sangar, welcomed members of the public to the meeting. Members of the Assembly attending the meeting introduced themselves and the basic housekeeping and fire safety arrangements were outlined.

#### **2. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

2.1 There were no items identified where resolutions may be moved to exclude the public and press.

#### **3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY**

3.1 Apologies for absence were received from The Lord Mayor, (Councillor Sylvia Dunkley) and Councillors Brian Holmes and John Knight.

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

4.1 There were no declarations of interest made by Members of the Assembly.

#### **5. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

5.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Assembly held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2011, were approved as a correct record.

#### **6. KING EGBERT SCHOOL PRESENTATION**

6.1 The meeting received a presentation from Callum, Jack, Kai and Rhiannon who were Y9 pupils at King Egbert School. The pupils highlighted the need for a pedestrian crossing on Abbey Lane, to assist pedestrians crossing from one section of Ecclesall Woods to the other, in view of the high volumes of traffic. Their investigation involved interviewing the South Yorkshire Police, the public, highway officers and councillors. In their findings they concluded that people found crossing the road was noisy, intimidating, dangerous, with cars travelling too fast and that with the volume of traffic, people found it took too long.

6.2 In assessing their findings, they concluded that, whilst a controlled

crossing could be too expensive, a pedestrian refuge was a less expensive option, but would still aide people in being able to cross the road more safely and that the road was wide enough for the measure to be introduced.

- 6.3 RESOLVED: That Callum, Jack, Kai and Rhiannon be thanked for their thorough investigation, to assist pedestrians being able to cross Abbey Lane safely when walking through Ecclesall Woods and that their suggestion of a pedestrian refuge be appraised for inclusion in a future highway scheme.

## 7. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

### 7.1 Petitions

#### 7.1.1 Hallam Grange Primary School

The Assembly noted a petition referred by the Cabinet Highways Committee, at its meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2012, containing 26 signatures requesting road safety improvements for pedestrians in the roads surrounding Hallam Grange Primary School. In particular, the petitioners had requested double yellow lines to be installed at the blind bend of Hallam Grange Croft/Crescent and highlighted that an unofficial one way street was being created in the vicinity of the School and requested that this be formalised.

- 7.1.2 The petition organiser in addition stated orally that after further consideration, a formal one-way system may create further problems with vehicles speeding. It was further stated that a parking bay needed to be provided for the school bus, as it was on stopping the zig-zag lines at present and that consideration should be given to volunteer school staff and residents, to assist in alleviating the vehicle problems being encountered by residents.

- 7.1.3 In response, the petition organiser was informed that Highways officers needed to investigate the issues raised with residents and that, subject to the outcome of the prioritisation of highway schemes in the Assembly area, a decision would be made at the next meeting on schemes which would be able to be funded for the 2012/13 financial year. It was also stated that the School may be able to learn from the experiences of other schools, such as Nether Green Infant School, over a solution to the problems faced by residents.

### 7.2 Public Questions

#### 7.2.1 Sheffield Moors Partnership

With reference to a request at the meeting of the Assembly held on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2011 (Paragraph 8.4.1) concerning financial information being provided in respect of organisations involved with the Sheffield Moors Partnership, the meeting received a further request that the financial information with regard to the projected income for conservation organisations involved in the

Sheffield Moors Partnership be provided as a matter of urgency. The information requested related to grants, subsidies, heritage lottery funding and nature improvement grants and that it be provided prior to the Moors Masterplan being published. In response, it was stated that a further request would be made to Chris Heeley, Head of Countryside and Environment, to provide a written explanation as to the financial information that could be released. It was also stated that whilst a decision on proposals in the Sheffield Moors Masterplan would be taken by Cabinet, consideration would be given to the report on this matter being submitted to the Assembly prior to a decision being made.

7.2.2 Vicarage Lane, Dore

In response to a written question from a resident of Vicarage Lane, Dore over the need for a proposed Traffic Regulation Order to be introduced on the road, the meeting was informed that a ward councillor had been meeting with residents and that concerns over the request, which had been received from another resident, were being addressed. It was further stated that the proposed double yellow lines would not be progressed until a solution had been found which was acceptable to the residents.

7.2.3 Westminster Flats

With regard to concerns raised over why the carpets in the communal areas at Westminster Flats had been removed and not replaced, it was stated that a written response would be sought from Sheffield Homes in respect of this matter.

7.2.4 Blackbrook Avenue

A concern was raised over why residents of Blackbrook Avenue had not had a response, to their request for traffic restrictions to be introduced in the vicinity of Lodge Moor Surgery. In response, it was explained that requests for highway schemes had to be prioritised, in view of the budget allocated to the Assembly and that requests for measures could not be introduced if they did not score high enough against other scheme requests.

7.2.5 Canterbury Crescent

Following concerns raised over consultation being undertaken on the development of land off Canterbury Crescent, when other brownfield sites were available to developers, the meeting was informed that the number of sites identified for development was insufficient in the City. It was explained that Canterbury Crescent was just one of the additional sites being consulted upon and that residents would be able to submit objections to the proposals.

7.2.6 City Incinerator

With regard to a question over the cost to residents concerning a shutdown of the City's Energy Recovery Facility for over two weeks, it was stated that the matter would be raised with Councillor Leigh Bramall, Cabinet Member for Environment and

Transport to provide a response.

7.2.7 Solar Panels

In response to concerns raised over a resident's proposed planning application which would significantly change the roofline of their property, but also block light to the solar panels on a neighbouring resident's roof, it was stated that the matter would be raised with the Planning Service in relation to the Sheffield Development Framework concerning micro generation of renewable energy.

7.2.8 Carr Bank Close/Lane and Armthorpe Road

The Assembly received a request from a resident representing residents of Carr Bank Close/Lane and Armthorpe Road, seeking a meeting with Highways officers and local councillors on proposed revised plans for a Traffic Regulation Order for their roads. In response, it was stated that Highways officers would facilitate a meeting in the near future to discuss the revised proposals and that it was intended to introduce the measures in the next two to three months.

A resident also speaking on behalf of other residents on Carbrook Close, supported the proposed waiting restrictions around junctions to prevent cars parking in such places and which he considered would lead to an improvement in road safety.

7.2.9 Shepherd Wheel

A representative of the Friends of the Porter Valley informed the meeting that the Shepherd's Wheel project, after 3 years work, was now complete and would be open to the public over the Easter weekend. The restoration work undertaken on the Wheel was highlighted as good example of the local community and Area Panel/Community Assembly working jointly. It was further stated that fund raising would be commencing for work to be carried out on Forge Dam.

**8. SOUTH WEST COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS PROGRAMME**

- 8.1 The Director of Development Services submitted a report on the progress on the installation of this year's Assembly transport and highways schemes, the development of city-wide strategies for routing of heavy goods vehicles and the creation of 20 mph areas. The report also proposed a timescale for the development of the Assembly's 2012/13 transport and highways programme. He reported orally at the meeting that the budget allocation for 2012/13 would be reported to the next meeting, after the decision of the South Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority to allocate funding to each of its local authorities and once the cost of highway programmes were known following the appointment of the Council's Highway's Private Finance Initiative contractor. A presentation was also given showing examples of the highway work that had been

undertaken over the last two years in the south west area, as a result of the Assembly's Transport and Highways programme.

## 8.2 Public Questions

### 8.2.1 Heavy Goods Vehicle Routes Consultation

In response to a request for consultation maps to be made available, which showed the proposed Heavy Goods Vehicle routes around the City, the meeting was informed that it would be investigated to see if they could be placed on the Assembly's web site.

### 8.2.2 Pedestrian Dropped Crossings

Following concerns raised over the perceived danger to pedestrians walking on the smooth tarmac, which leads down to pedestrian dropped crossings, when covered in ice, it was stated that the matter would be raised with Highway Services.

### 8.2.3 Mayfield Valley

A petition organiser was informed that she would receive an update in respect of her concerns over speeding traffic in the Mayfield Valley. It was stated that the one-way along Carr Bridge had made a difference and that, once the preferred Heavy Goods Vehicle routes, which proposed to avoid the Mayfield Valley, had been confirmed, the vehicle operators would be informed to avoid the area.

### 8.2.4 Concern Over Tree Obscuring Drivers' Views

A member of the public who raised road safety concerns over a tree that leaned over the highway on a road between Ringinglow Road towards Fulwood, which obstructed drivers' views travelling from the Fulwood side, was informed that the matter would be raised with Parks and Countryside Services.

### 8.2.5 David Lane/Mayfield Road

An enquiry was made into Council plans to restore the footpath in the vicinity of David Lane and Mayfield Road. It was further stated that a public meeting was taking place at the Mayfield Chapel after Easter to discuss a restoration project. In response, it was stated that this matter would be investigated further, with the member of the public raising the issue being informed accordingly.

## 8.3 **RESOLVED:** That:-

(a) the progress on the installation of this year's Assembly transport and highways schemes, as outlined in the report now submitted, be noted;

(b) the work in progress regarding developing and implementing strategies for the routing of heavy goods vehicles and creation of 20 mph areas, as outlined in the report now submitted, be noted;

(c) the Assembly's proposed programme for transport and highways schemes in 2012/13 and for future management of the Assembly's Speed

Indicator Devices, be submitted to the next meeting of the Assembly; and

(d) Peter Bull be thanked for his support and the work undertaken as Highways Link Officer in the south west area and that the Assembly's best wishes be offered to him for his retirement following 32 years service with the City Council.

#### **8.4 Reasons For The Decision**

To keep councillors and members of the public informed of progress.

#### **8.5 Alternatives Considered And Rejected**

Alternative scheme priorities were considered by Members before deciding on the current programme.

### **9. SOUTH WEST COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY 2012/13 DISCRETIONARY BUDGET**

9.1 The Community Assembly Manager submitted a report containing recommendations regarding the allocation of funding from the Assembly's Discretionary Budget of £109,519, to organisations in the south west area for 2012/13. The Manager also reported orally at the meeting, that funding would be received from the Kids Can Do Positive Activities fund and that the amount allocated to the Assembly, would be included as part of the small grants budget allocation and made available for young people's activities.

#### **9.2 Public Questions**

##### **9.2.1 Consultation on the Budget**

Following a request for further consultation to be undertaken on the allocation of the Assembly budget, it was stated that public consultation was undertaken during the summer months to establish priorities in the south west area and which informed the Assembly's Plan. The budget was then allocated in accordance with the priorities identified within the Plan. With regard to further concerns raised over £5,000 allocated to a litter pick at the end of the University term in Crookes, it was explained that with the University, the Assembly was one of the partners along with other services that assisted with this work and that over the last two years it had been carried out, there was evidence from residents that they supported the work undertaken and that there was a need for it to continue.

##### **9.2.2 Green Space Project Officer**

In response to clarification requested over the delivery/management arrangements in respect of the Green Space Projects Officer, it was stated that, whilst the post needed to be based within the Parks and Countryside Service, a meeting was being held to ensure that there were clear lines of communication for the Project Officer to report back to the Assembly Manager and the public and to ensure the projects within the south west area were progressed. It was also mentioned that a record be kept by the

Project Officer/Assembly Manager on the time allocated to the projects in the south west area over the year.

9.2.3 Millhouses Park Festival

An enquiry was made into other Community Assemblies contributing towards events such as the Millhouses Park Festival, as it was an event that was open to all residents of Sheffield. In response, it was stated that the Friends of Millhouses Park could apply to other Assemblies "Small Grants Pots" for funding towards the event, however, it was felt that it would be unlikely that funding for an event in Millhouses Park would be a high priority for other Community Assembly areas.

9.2.4 Assembly Budget Setting

With regard to a request for information on the Assembly's budget setting process, it was explained how this work was undertaken in respect of various activities that were proposed to be funded, which involved elements of actual and estimated costs. The reason why the background information wasn't included in the report was outlined and it was further explained that, whilst budgets were subject to adjustment throughout the year, the information was available for inspection.

9.3 **RESOLVED:** That:-

- (a) regard having been had to the Sheffield City Strategy and to the relevant guidance of the Secretary of State, the South West Community Assembly confirms its belief that the granting of funding, as detailed in the report now submitted, would be likely to achieve the promotion and improvement of the social and environmental well-being of residents in the Community Assembly Area;
- (b) the 2012/13 Assembly Discretionary fund of £109,519 be allocated, as detailed in Paragraph 4.3 of the report now submitted;
- (c) authority be delegated to the South West Community Assembly Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Assembly, to work up and agree the details of the funding allocations and projects, as set out in Paragraph 4.3 of the report now submitted;
- (d) the Director of Community Services be authorised, in consultation with the Director of Legal Services, to agree the terms on which all funding 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 is considered appropriate; and
- (e) subject to confirmation, the funding to be received from the Kids Can Do Positive Activities fund, be added to the small grants budget and be considered for allocation to requests for young people's activities.

9.4 **Reasons For The Decision**

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

The South West Assembly Community Plan priorities are:

The Environment

- Ensure planning process protects and enhances the built and natural environment
- Promote sustainable lifestyles and reduce environmental impact
- Parks and Woodlands
- Improve the way people can move about the area
- Improve the appearance of neighbourhood Centres and local street scene

Community Safety

- Ensure the South West remains a safe place to live

Community Engagement

- Improve communication and use of available facilities, services and provision
- Ensure the local community have meaningful opportunities to inform the work of the Community Assembly

Children and Young People

- Develop provision for children and young people

Health and Wellbeing

- Vulnerable older people – establish older people's needs and provision

All the projects proposed for funding contribute to one or more of these priorities.

Members have to decide which projects will provide maximum impact and best value for money, in a context of reduced funds being available.

**9.5 Alternatives Considered And Rejected**

- 9.5.1 Several alternative projects have been considered, but are not currently recommended for funding.

- 9.5.2 **Project not currently recommended for support**                      **Cost**                      **Comments**



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| 9.5.3 | Allotment Ranger<br>(0.5FTE)                        | £17,000<br><br>12 months<br>inc on<br>costs | The South West Community Assembly has managed to make considerable improvements to allotment provision in the South West area over the last 3 years. A significant number of uncultivated plots have been re-tenanted, a new site has been developed at Mickley Lane and the waiting list for allotment in the area has been reduced. Given the reduction in funding available in 2012/13 and the fact that the Community Assembly has managed to implement the majority of its priorities relating to allotments the funding for a specific post has been removed and replaced with a small operational budget. |
| 9.5.4 | Activities for Older<br>People                      | £10,000 in<br>11/12                         | Projects working with vulnerable older people will be invited to apply to the Small Grants Pots.   |
| 9.5.5 | Parks and open<br>spaces – additional<br>allocation | £17,000                                     | Park improvements are always a high priority for local people. However, other funding sources are available e.g. S106.<br><br>Projects looking to improve Green and Open Spaces will also be invited to bid into the Small Grants Pot.   |
| 9.5.6 | Banner Cross<br>Neighbourhood<br>Centre             | £2,000                                      | The Group will be invited to bid into the Small Grants Pot.  |
|       | <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>£46,000</b>                              |  |

## 10. SOUTH WEST COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY - SECTION 106 FUNDING

10.1 The Director of Culture and Environment submitted a report containing recommendations for the allocation of monies for open spaces, which had been received from developers in respect of Planning Section 106 Agreements, for developments that had been approved in the South West Community Assembly area.

### 10.2 Public Questions

10.2.1 No public questions were received in respect of this item.

10.3 **RESOLVED:** That, subject to an amendment to reference DB 871 by

substitution of the name “Forge Dam” for the name “Endcliffe Park”, the open space Section 106 agreements funds, as detailed in Appendix 1, Section 2, of the report now submitted, be allocated to the sites where funding had been received, as follows:-

- DB No. 871 - Forge Dam/Porter Valley - £41,040
- DB No. 899 - Encliffe Park - £6,000
- DB No. 1002 - Endcliffe Park - £9,180

#### 10.4 **Reasons For The Decision**

- 10.4.1 Section 106 agreement funds need to be allocated to projects as soon as possible so that design and procurement work can commence. Although funds from the agreements which are the subject of this report have no specified clawback date, developers may make a case for repayment if they can demonstrate that there are no plans to spend the money.

#### 10.5 **Alternatives Considered And Rejected**

- 10.5.1 There are various open space sites in the vicinity of some of the S106 agreements, the sites suggested are those which are thought to be priority sites within the South West Community Assembly area.

### 11. **SOUTH WEST COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY CLIMATE CHANGE FUND**

- 11.1 The Assembly received a report of the Executive Director of Communities which had been submitted to the Executive Leader of the City Council, in respect of the allocation of Climate Change Funding. It was explained that the report proposed the South West Community Assembly’s recommendations for the allocation of funding for 2011/12 and that it had been necessary to seek the Executive Leader’s approval to the recommendations, as the funding timescales prevented the Assembly being able to consider the report at this meeting.

- 11.2 A supplementary report was circulated at the meeting, which detailed the allocation of £10,000 from the Climate Change Fund to schools in the Assembly area, to improve their climate change/environmental performance.

#### 11.3 Public Questions

- 11.3.1 There were no public questions on this item.

- 11.4 **RESOLVED:** That (a) the decision of the Executive Leader of the Council taken on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2012, in respect of the allocation of Climate Change Funding for organisations in the Assembly area, as detailed in Paragraph 13 of the report now submitted, be noted; and

(b) in accordance with the Executive Leader’s decision, to delegate to the Community Assembly Manager, in consultation with the Chair (Councillor Andrew Sangar) to allocate the £10,000 Eco –Schools funding element to projects, it be noted, as detailed in a supplementary report circulated at the

meeting, the schools in the south west area which had been allocated the funding.

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 12.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Assembly would be held on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2012, at 7.00 pm.

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