

NORTHERN COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY

Meeting held on Tuesday, 27th March 2012
at the Lomas Hall, Church Street, Stannington

PRESENT: Councillors Trevor Bagshaw (Chair), David Baker, Alison Brelsford, Kathleen Chadwick, Jack Clarkson, Arthur Dunworth, Alf Meade, Vickie Priestley, Colin Taylor, Garry Weatherall and Philip Wood
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1. WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING ARRANGEMENTS

The Chair, Councillor Trevor Bagshaw, welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined basic housekeeping and fire safety arrangements.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

There were no apologies for absence.

3. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

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

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. CHAIR'S ITEM

5.1 The Chair, Councillor Trevor Bagshaw, reported as follows:-

(a) He extended the Assembly's best wishes for a speedy recovery to Derek Martin, Lead Director, who was seriously ill and presently off work. Vince Roberts, Head of Locality Management, was to replace him on a temporary basis, but was unable to attend that evening due to illness.

(b) This was to be the final Assembly meeting for Councillors Kathleen Chadwick and Arthur Dunworth who were not seeking re-election at the forthcoming Council elections. They had each been Members of the Council since May 1992 and had also served as Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress. The Chair thanked them for their contribution to the Community Assembly and the former Area Panel which was greatly appreciated. Councillor David Baker added that he had worked alongside Councillor Dunworth as a Member for the Stannington Ward and owed him a debt of gratitude for his support over the years. He also commended Councillor Dunworth's skill in liaising with officers.

- (c) The Ecclesfield Conservation Society had produced a leaflet and erected an information board on the history of the working part of Ecclesfield. It was also reported that an event had taken place to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Westwood Colliery Disaster which had involved the Parish Councils, community groups and schools, and which had been recorded on video and could possibly be shown in an edited form at a future meeting.
- (d) The Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust had raised £½ m to enable it to purchase Greno Woods. However, concern was expressed at the amount of rubbish being tipped in the woods and he encouraged anyone with information on this to telephone the Police 101 number. He added that the Police were also investigating the holding of raves in the woods.
- (e) Any groups wishing to light a beacon to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on 4th June 2012, should contact either of the Community Assembly Managers before the end of the week.

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

6.1 Public Questions

Responses were provided to public questions as follows:-

6.1.1 Cricket Field Site – Behind the Hare and Hounds Public House

The Chair, Councillor Trevor Bagshaw, asked the questioner to leave her contact details and he would check the position with regard to the development of the cricket field site. He added that those with internet access could check on the progress of planning applications on the Council's website.

6.1.2 Wheel Lane

Andy McKie, Highways Officer, indicated that an assessment of 8 weeks' data from the Speed Indication Device (SID) which had been situated on Wheel Lane had shown that traffic speeds had been affected. This was reinforced by monitoring following its removal which showed traffic speeds to be marginally faster. It was hoped that this would be further supported by the data collected by the Safety Camera Partnership and, if this was the case, then enforcement could be recommended. The Chair added that it was intended to have a further meeting with residents in May/June, when all the data had been assessed, to discuss the practicalities of any recommended action.

7. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the Assembly held on 6th December 2011, were approved as a correct record.

8. **POLICE BOUNDARIES REVIEW**

8.1 Sergeant Richard Hammond, South Yorkshire Police, reported on the revised Safer Neighbourhood boundaries and explained that the Northern Safer Neighbourhood Team area matched that of the Assembly area. He added that Police Constables would each have a beat area with a thematic lead and that Police Community Support Officers would be assigned to areas and would be concerned with community engagement, crime prevention and local issues. The changes would be publicised using posters and e-mails, the Police website would be updated and a Northern Safer Neighbourhood Team Facebook site would be available. The Team would be based at the Ecclesfield Safer Neighbourhood Area Office and at the Deepcar Police Station base. It was hoped that the Team would link with community issues in the relevant areas, with established partnership links remaining and any gaps in service being identified. In addition there would be regular meetings with the community. In conclusion, Sergeant Hammond informed the Assembly that a bid had been made for two handheld speed guns which could be deployed where there were specific speeding issues.

8.2 Public Question

In response to a public question, Sergeant Hammond confirmed that the Northern Safer Neighbourhood Team would cover the entire area of the Northern Community Assembly.

8.3 RESOLVED: That the Northern Community Assembly (a) thanks Sergeant Richard Hammond for his report; and (b) notes the information reported.

9. **PARKS – ALLOTMENTS UPDATES**

9.1 Ceri Ashton, Allotment Officer, gave a presentation to update the Assembly on issues relating to local allotments. She made particular reference to the newly created Bracken Moor allotment site and provided details of the reasons for its creation, how it had been identified and developed, and the process for the allocation of plots. She also reported on improvement work at the Roscoe Bank allotments which had been funded by the Assembly.

9.2 Public Question

In response to a public question, Ceri Ashton indicated that the charge for the largest sized allotment plot for 2011/12 was £48.90 per annum and that this included the provision of a water supply. The charge for plots at Bracken Moor in 2011/12 would have been £23.60 including a water supply, as these were smaller. Charges would be slightly increased next year, with larger increases the year after.

9.3 RESOLVED: That the Northern Community Assembly (a) thanks Ceri Ashton for her presentation; and (b) notes the information reported.

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS DECISIONS

10. EVA RATCLIFFE CARE HOME: PETITION REPORT

The Director of Development Services submitted a report in response to a petition from the residents of the Eva Ratcliffe Care Home requesting the provision of traffic calming measures on Yew Lane and Stocks Hill near the care home.

10.1 Decision Taken

RESOLVED: That the Northern Community Assembly:-

- (a) asks that the request be investigated and assessed as a large highway scheme which will be considered for construction when sufficient funds are available; and
- (b) thanks the petitioners for bringing this matter to the attention of the Council.

10.2 Reasons For The Decision

This request would be investigated to identify its merits and to see if it is feasible. It would then be scored, along with other requests, using the assessment procedure. The prioritised list of scored requests would then be considered by the Northern Community Assembly to identify a programme of large highway schemes for the 2012/13 financial year, subject to funding becoming available.

10.3 Alternative Options Considered

The average driver speed on the wider section of Yew Lane is 28 mph, it follows that there will be an element of drivers who are travelling at speeds greater than the 30mph limit. The provision of a Speed Indication Device (SID) would encourage more compliance of the speed limit and Members may consider amending the rotation schedule of their two SIDs to include this location.

11. CLOUGH GROVE, OUGHTIBRIDGE: PETITION REPORT

The Director of Development Services submitted a report in response to a petition from the residents of Clough Grove, Oughtibridge, requesting the provision of a 20 mph speed limit on their estate.

11.1 Decision Taken

RESOLVED: That the Northern Community Assembly:-

- (a) agrees to funding the installation of two non-illuminated 20 mph speed limit signs at the entrance to Clough Grove; and

- (b) thanks the petitioners for bringing this matter to the attention of the Council.

11.2 **Reasons For The Decision**

The combination of the traffic calming and road layout of Clough Grove has resulted in the average driver speed being 14 mph. It follows that the estate is being treated as a self regulating 20 mph zone by residents. Consequently, two non-illuminated 20 mph speed limit signs at the entrance to Clough Grove would formalise this situation.

11.3 **Alternative Options Considered**

A strategy is currently being developed about delivery of a City-wide 20 mph limit including prioritisation of the areas starting with those around schools. This strategy was reported to Cabinet Highways Committee in March 2012 for approval. The outcome of the Cabinet report may influence future decisions about such requests.

12. **NORTHERN COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY 2012/13 BUDGET ALLOCATION**

The Community Assembly Manager submitted a report containing recommendations regarding the allocation of funding from the Assembly's Discretionary Budget for 2012/13.

12.1 **Public Questions**

Responses were provided to public questions as follows:-

1. Tom Hughes, Activity Sheffield, stated that Activity Sheffield were willing to provide activities for residents of private sector sheltered housing schemes and residential centres, but the operating organisations would need to buy in any such service.
2. The Chair, Councillor Trevor Bagshaw, stated that the £100 allocated to South Yorkshire Police from each of the East and West Ecclesfield Ward Pots 2011/12 was a contribution towards the provision of non-standard Police issue equipment for the bike patrols in those Wards.

12.2 **Decision Taken**

RESOLVED: That the Northern Community Assembly:-

- (a) notes the content of the report;
- (b) regard having been had to the Sheffield City Strategy and to the relevant guidance issued by the Secretary of State, confirms its belief that the allocation of funding as envisaged in the report is likely to achieve the promotion and improvement of the economic, social and/or

environmental wellbeing of residents of the Wards of East and West Ecclesfield, Stocksbridge and Upper Don and Stannington;

- (c) agrees the proposed allocations of funding, as further described in section 4 of the report, to the following activities:

Support the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector	£5,000
Community Participation and Involvement Pot	£7,000
Ward Pot	£36,000
Small Grants	£20,000
Northern Community Assembly Office Costs	£10,000
Activities for Children and Young People	£50,000
Healthy Living and Woodland Establishment	£2,500
Thornccliffe Masterplan Technical Studies	£5000
Environmental Work	£15,000
Neighbourhood Action Group's Partnership Work Support	£6000

Total £156,500

- (d) subject to the following recommendation, requests and authorises the Northern Community Assembly Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Northern Community Assembly and the Director of Legal Services, and with regard to any recommendations that may be made by Assembly Members, to allocate funds within the allocations agreed above, on such terms as she considers appropriate; and
- (e) requests and authorises the Northern Community Assembly Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Northern Community Assembly and the Director of Legal Services, to agree appropriate procedures for the selection of projects for funding within the Ward pot and Small Grants pot.

12.3 Reasons For The Decision

12.3.1 The Northern Community Assembly has a discretionary budget allocation of £178,488 for 2012 - 2013.

12.3.2 The recommendations within this report link clearly to the Northern Community Assembly Community Plan priorities. The proposals from this report will:

- Support services, partner agencies and community organisations receiving funding to deliver and spend over the maximum 12 months;
- Identify areas of work that are priority for the Assembly; and
- Identify, based on the priorities within the Northern Community Assembly Community Plan, funding allocations to be made from the 2012/2013 Discretionary budget.

12.4 **Alternative Options Considered**

Annex 2 to the report shows alternative options considered by the Northern Community Assembly. The themes and projects proposed are in line with the Assembly Plan.

13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Assembly noted that its next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 10th July 2012, at 6.30 p.m. at the Venue, Stocksbridge.

(NOTE: These minutes are subject to approval at a future meeting).

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