

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

East Community Assembly

Meeting held 13 December 2012

PRESENT: Councillors Pat Midgley (Chair), Terry Fox, Harry Harpham, Martin Lawton, Mary Lea, John Robson and Lynn Rooney

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors John Campbell, Julie Dore, Mazher Iqbal and Jack Scott.

2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

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

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. COMMUNITY PRESENTATION

4.1 RESOLVED: That the thanks and appreciation of the Community Assembly be extended to the following people, for the hard work undertaken by them in the local community, and they be presented with a gift in appreciation of such work:-

- (a) Dot Slingsby 'Woman of Steel' – worked as a crane driver during the Second World War and still very active in the community;
- (b) Ruby Gascoigne 'Woman of Steel' – worked as a lathe operator during the Second World War and still very active in the community; and
- (c) Debjani Chatterjee – Olympic Torch Bearer, organiser of a support group for cancer sufferers and active member of the local community.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

Petitions

There were no petitions submitted to the meeting.

Public Questions

- (a) Marjorie Allen questioned:-
 - (i) whether any action could be taken in respect of the railings near St. John's Church, Bernard Street, which had been damaged.

Andy McKie, Community Assembly Highways Link Officer, stated that, on the basis that there was insufficient room to put any form of barrier in front of the railings, an advanced bend warning sign, which appeared to be of an appropriate size and sited at a suitable location, was already in place. The condition of the carriageway at this location had been tested in 2011 and the skid resistance of the surface was found to be acceptable. The skid resistance will be tested again in 2013. Amey were aware of the issues and would give it consideration as part of its future highway maintenance programme.

- (ii) whether any action could be taken in respect of the dangers being caused by parked cars at the junction of Stafford Road and Norfolk Road.

Andy McKie stated that officers from Transport and Highways had visited this location on a number of different days and times and indicated that, in his opinion, in the light of the low level of evidence of danger to motorists or pedestrians, he would not recommend the provision of any additional road safety measures at this time.

- (iii) whether there was any update in terms of the property at 84 Norfolk Road.

The Community Assembly Manager stated that it was believed that the owner had planning permission for converting the property into community use and that the Police were aware of problems of trespassing on the site in the past and had requested that any further incidents be reported to them or Council officers.

- (b) Graham Wroe questioned whether the Council could reconsider installing better pedestrian crossing facilities outside the Trades and Labour Club, at the junction of Bernard Street and Duke Street, on the basis that it was very difficult for pedestrians to cross.

Andy McKie concurred with Mr Wroe's views and stated that he understood that the Better Buses project would result in improvements being made to this junction in the next two years. In addition, the Streets Ahead project would also be responsible for further highway maintenance measures.

6. PARK HILL FLATS - UPDATE

- 6.1 In the absence of Amanda James, Sheffield City Council Regeneration Team, Councillor Harry Harpham provided an update on the redevelopment of Park Hill Flats.
- 6.2 He reported that the refurbished flats would be ready for occupation in January 2013, and work was continuing on the landscaping around the flats. 26 flats would be available for social rent and would be managed by the Great Places

Housing Group, who would be the managing agent for the whole building, and 24 residents and their families, currently living at Park Hill, had been nominated to move in. The City Council's Regeneration Team and Sheffield Homes were working with other social landlords in the area with the aim of accommodating other residents in the flats. The Council and Sheffield Homes were continuing to manage the security of the flats and surrounding area, with additional Police patrols having been organised. Councillor Harpham stated that those residents and families who had been moved out of Park Hill following demolition would have first choice to return if they requested this and concluded by stating that 24 flats had been purchased on the open market.

- 6.3 In response to a question raised by Graham Wroe, Councillor Harpham stated that he was not sure whether there were still plans for the construction of a multi-storey car park on Duke Street, as detailed on the original plans, and that he would look into this issue and respond to Mr Wroe.
- 6.4 The Chair stated that it was hoped that the Grace Owen Nursery would be incorporated into the newly developed area in September 2013.
- 6.5 The Community Assembly noted the information now reported, together with the comments now made.

7. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 7.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Assembly held on 27th September 2012, were approved as a correct record and, arising therefrom, it was noted that:-
- (a) Councillor Jack Scott, Cabinet Member for Environment, Recycling and Street Scene, had looked into the issue regarding the poor condition of the land between Castle Court and Manor Oaks Gardens, following concerns raised by a member of the public, and would provide an update at the next meeting of the Assembly; and
 - (b) following a query raised at the last meeting, and further to the concerns expressed by the Assembly, the new Trainee Development Worker for the Richmond Ward had been requested to look into the issue relating to the provision of free safeguarding training for voluntary groups.

8. EAST COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY DISCRETIONARY BUDGET 2012/13 - UPDATE

The Community Assembly Manager submitted a report on the allocation of the remaining amount of £58,600 from the Community Assembly's Discretionary Budget 2012/13, which had been delegated to the Community Assembly Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Community Assembly.

8.1 Decision Taken

RESOLVED: That the East Community Assembly notes the allocations of the remaining £58,600 from its Discretionary Budget 2012/13, which had been

delegated to the Community Assembly Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Community Assembly.

8.2 **Reasons for Decision**

At its meeting held on 27th September 2012, the Community Assembly had requested the Community Assembly Manager to report back to the Assembly's December meeting with details of all allocations of funding made under the delegation of authority conferred on her at that meeting.

8.3 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

The priorities of the Community Assembly were agreed in September 2011, and the Community Assembly Manager had regular discussions with partners and the community about ideas for possible projects. Those that met the priorities of the Assembly were worked up into a project proposal and all the worked up proposals had been approved for funding. Other projects may be considered in the future if additional funds become available, and they meet the priorities of the Assembly.

8.4 **Any Interest Declared or Dispensation Granted**

None declared.

9. **EAST COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY LOCAL HIGHWAY SCHEMES - UPDATE**

The Head of Transport and Highways submitted a report containing a summary of the progress made in terms of advancing both small and large highway schemes requested by the Community Assembly.

9.1 **Public Questions**

In response to a question from a member of the public, Andy McKie, Community Assembly Highways Link Officer, stated that the reasoning behind not having a uniform pattern in terms of the number of speed reduction bumps was to make sure motorists were forced to think about their movement and speed as opposed to knowing precisely where the bumps were positioned, which provided a potential for speeding.

9.2 **Decision Taken**

RESOLVED: That the Community Assembly notes:-

- (a) the current budgetary position regarding funding availability for small and large highway schemes;
- (b) details of proposals to amend the hours of operation of the Duke Street bus gate;
- (c) the progress being made with the scheme on East Bank Road, specifically

the entry of the scheme into the Amey design and build programme;

- (d) the need for Ward nominations for small scheme improvements to a total cost of £5,000 per Ward;
- (e) as part of the Streets Ahead Contract, the Manor Estate, Base Green and Wybourn zones were programmed to be improved in 2013; and
- (f) that a contribution of £6500 from the Assembly's Discretionary Budget 2012/13 will be made towards the overall cost of the Woodthorpe 20 mph speed limit zone, with the remaining amount being funded mainly from central budgets.

9.3 **Reasons for Decision**

The East Community Assembly supports and funds highway schemes at the locations of the highest number of child accidents. The Community Assembly and Transport and Highways Teams, in discussion with Ward Members, had analysed the requests from local residents and undertaken some preliminary feasibility work on a provisional list of potential projects. That work had enabled the identification of a list of schemes, which could be implemented in 2013.

9.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

- 9.4.1 The programme of local highway schemes could be updated and added to as the year progressed, reflecting new priorities identified by local people. The full list of requests for local highway schemes in the East Community Assembly area could be found in a new register, now available on the Council's website. This register would act as the central source of all requests for projects which would be assessed by Transport and Highways staff for feasibility and then provided the basis for selecting future schemes in partnership with the local community, and reflecting the Assembly's Community Plan.
- 9.4.2 Consultation with local residents on individual schemes would continue to be an important way of looking at specific problems within approved schemes. Each of the schemes now submitted for approval would be the subject of a separate detailed public consultation process, as part of the normal design process, to ensure local people were comfortable with the proposals and to address anything else that arose.

9.5 **Any Interest Declared or Dispensation Granted**

None declared.

10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 10.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Community Assembly would be held on Thursday, 21st March 2013, from 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm at the Church of Christ, Station Road, Darnall, Sheffield, S9 4JU.