

South Community Assembly

Thursday 10 January 2013 at 6.30 pm

**To be held at Anns Grove Primary
School, Anns Road, Sheffield, S2 3DJ**

The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend

Membership

Councillors Cate McDonald (Chair), Ian Auckland, Nikki Bond, Simon Clement-Jones, Anders Hanson, Qurban Hussain, Steve Jones, Bob McCann, Roy Munn, Denise Reaney, Tim Rippon and Clive Skelton

PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING

There are seven Community Assemblies which cover Sheffield; each is made up of the local Councillors from four wards. It is part of their remit to promote the local involvement of local people in the democratic process and to bring decision making closer to local people.

The formal meetings of the Community Assembly are open to the public and are the place where the Councillors make funding decisions as delegated by the Cabinet, relating to the priorities set out in the Community Plan and the Community Involvement Plan. They take place a minimum of 4 times per year, though more often, if required.

There is an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions and submit petitions at these meetings.

A copy of the agenda and reports is available on the Council's website at www.sheffield.gov.uk. You can also see the reports to be discussed at the meeting if you call at the First Point Reception, Town Hall, Pinstone Street entrance. The Reception is open between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Thursday and between 9.00 am and 4.45 pm. on Friday, or you can ring on telephone no. 2734552. You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain confidential information. These items are usually marked * on the agenda.

Community Assembly decisions are effective six working days after the meeting has taken place, unless called-in for scrutiny by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee, in which case the matter is normally resolved within the monthly cycle of meetings.

Further information on any of the agenda items can be obtained by speaking to either:

- Martin Hughes, Community Assembly Manager
Tel: 0114 2053281
Email: martin.hughes2@sheffield.gov.uk
- John Turner, Democratic Services
Tel: 0114 273 4096
Email: John.turner@sheffield.gov.uk

**SOUTH COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY AGENDA
10 JANUARY 2013**

Order of Business

- 1. Welcome and Housekeeping Arrangements**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Exclusion of Public and Press**
To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public.
- 4. Declarations of Interest**
Members to declare any interests they have in the business to be considered at the meeting.
- 5. Minutes of Previous Meeting**
To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Assembly held on 4th October, 2012.
- 6. Public Questions and Petitions**
To receive any questions or petitions from members of the public.
- 7. Petition - Parking Problems on Houghton Road, Woodseats**
Report of the Head of Transport and Highways.
- 8. Section 106 Agreements - Update**
Report of the Head of Parks and Countryside.
- 9. Date of Next Meeting**
To note that the next meeting of the Assembly will be held on Thursday, 21st March, 2013, from 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm, at a venue to be arranged.

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ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

New standards arrangements were introduced by the Localism Act 2011. The new regime made changes to the way that members' interests are registered and declared.

If you are present at a meeting of the Council, of its executive or any committee of the executive, or of any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** (DPI) relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

You **must**:

- leave the room (in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct)
- make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any DPI at any meeting at which you are present at which an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.
- declare it to the meeting and notify the Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days, if the DPI is not already registered.

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your **disclosable pecuniary interests** under the new national rules. You have a pecuniary interest if you, or your spouse or civil partner, have a pecuniary interest.

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner, undertakes.
- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period* in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

*The relevant period is the 12 months ending on the day when you tell the Monitoring Officer about your disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority -
 - under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
 - which has not been fully discharged.
- Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.
- Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.
- Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) -
 - the landlord is your council or authority; and
 - the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.
- Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -
 - (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
 - (b) either
 - the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
 - if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

Under the Council's Code of Conduct, members must act in accordance with the Seven Principles of Public Life (selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty; and leadership), including the principle of honesty, which says that 'holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest'.

If you attend a meeting at which any item of business is to be considered and you are aware that you have a **personal interest** in the matter which does not amount to a DPI, you must make verbal declaration of the existence and nature of that interest at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. You should leave the room if your continued presence is incompatible with the 7 Principles of Public Life.

You have a personal interest where –

- a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing (including interests in land and easements over land) of you or a member of your family or a person or an organisation with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the Council Tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Authority's administrative area, or
- it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests that are defined as DPs but are in respect of a member of your family (other than a partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.

Guidance on declarations of interest, incorporating regulations published by the Government in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, has been circulated to you previously, and has been published on the Council's website as a downloadable document at [-http://councillors.sheffield.gov.uk/councillors/register-of-councillors-interests](http://councillors.sheffield.gov.uk/councillors/register-of-councillors-interests)

You should identify any potential interest you may have relating to business to be considered at the meeting. This will help you and anyone that you ask for advice to fully consider all the circumstances before deciding what action you should take.

In certain circumstances the Council may grant a **dispensation** to permit a Member to take part in the business of the Authority even if the member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest relating to that business.

To obtain a dispensation, you must write to the Monitoring Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting in question, explaining why a dispensation is sought and desirable, and specifying the period of time for which it is sought. The Monitoring Officer may consult with the Independent Person or the Council's Standards Committee in relation to a request for dispensation.

Further advice can be obtained from Lynne Bird, Director of Legal Services on 0114 2734018 or email lynne.bird@sheffield.gov.uk

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South Community Assembly

Meeting held 4 October 2012

PRESENT: Councillors Cate McDonald (Chair), Ian Auckland, Nikki Bond, Simon Clement-Jones, Anders Hanson, Qurban Hussain, Steve Jones, Roy Munn, Denise Reaney, Tim Rippon and Clive Skelton

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

1.1 An apology for absence was received from Councillor Bob McCann.

2. FRANK TAYLOR

2.1 The Chair referred to the recent death of former Councillor Frank Taylor, who was a Member of the Community Assembly during the Municipal Years 2010/11 and 2011/12.

2.2 RESOLVED: That the sincere condolences of the Community Assembly be conveyed to Frank Taylor's family.

3. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

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

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4.1 There were no declarations of interest.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

5.1 The Community Assembly approved, as a correct record, the minutes of its meeting held on 5th July, 2012 and, arising therefrom:-

(a) the Community Assembly Manager reported that responses to questions raised at the last meeting were included on the Questions Log, which had been circulated at this meeting and, in addition to the response relating to the pavilion in Greenhill Park, he added that officers were meeting with the Friends of Greenhill Park the following week, to discuss future options; and

(b) Councillor Nikki Bond reported that (i) following the decision to retain the No.4 bus service, TM Travel had won the tender to operate the service and a new timetable was due out on 31st October, 2012 and (ii) a meeting had been held with relevant partner organisations on 21st September, 2012, to discuss the issues of

anti-social behaviour within the Abbeydale area and a further meeting had been planned on 2nd October to look at how the issues can be tackled using existing resources.

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

6.1 Petition

The Community Assembly received a petition submitted by Richard Shaw, containing 36 signatures, requesting the reinstatement of street lighting on the steps between Nicholson Road and Shirebrook Road.

RESOLVED: That:-

- (a) the receipt of the petition now reported be noted; and
- (b) the petition be referred to Amey, with a request that they visit the site and consider reinstating the street lighting.

6.2 Public Questions

Members of the public asked questions and responses were provided as follows:-

- (a) Chris Venables questioned:-
 - (i) what the Community Assembly was doing to ensure that Amey did not charge other voluntary community organisations impossibly high amounts as part of the road closure/diversion process for community events, such as the Nether Edge Markets.

The Chair stated that the Community Assembly had been very supportive of such events in the past, and had requested that any costs in terms of providing road signs for any road closures or diversions be kept to a minimum. The Community Assembly would not have any direct influence in terms of how much Amey could charge, but would request them to keep such charges to a minimum.

- (ii) what the Council could do to ensure that the Nether Edge Post Office facility remains accessible for all within the heart of the Nether Edge Shopping Centre.

Councillor Nikki Bond stated that she had spoken to the Post Office Network Manager on this issue, who appreciated the local concerns and the need to retain such a facility within Nether Edge, and would hopefully be discussing the issue with the Manager again shortly. The Community Assembly Lead Director stated that whilst there had been a commitment from the Post Office that there would be no further planned closures, in this situation, the Post Office would be dependent on an individual or business expressing an interest in running the service, and that she would pursue

this issue with local Councillors. The Post Office would have to assess the impact any move to new premises would have on the existing Post Office network. The Lead Director also agreed to contact the Post Office to clarify if the service would be restricted if a small local business was to house the facilities in their premises.

- (iii) what would happen to the mature trees in the City as part of the Streets Ahead Project.

Vernon Silcock, Community Assembly Amey Link Officer, stated that he had met with the Council's Tree Manager, who had informed him that the Tree Evaluation Survey would be completed by the end of November, 2012. He stated that any dead, dying or decaying trees would be dealt with on a priority basis under the Project, then Amey would follow the zonal method of dealing with the trees, in the same manner as the maintenance of the streets. Any trees posing a danger will be removed, and replaced with new trees which were more conducive to the highways streetscene. There would be a choice of trees to be planted, and local communities would be encouraged to take part in this process.

- (b) Mick Theaker questioned:-

- (i) when, following the successful trial, would the rest of Lowedges Road be truck paved and if it was not in the near future, whether it could be included as part of the Streets Ahead Project.
- (ii) whether the Council could look at implementing priority lanes on the Meadowhead roundabout, as the current layout was causing confusion and accidents.
- (iii) whether whoever was responsible could cut the hedges on the path next to the scout hut and barracks on Greenhill Main Road as they were very overgrown.

The Community Assembly Manager stated that he would forward the questions to relevant officers for a response and include such responses on the questions log at the next meeting.

- (c) Samuel Mitchell questioned what the Community Assembly's view was on the possibility of library closures.

The Chair stated that due to the significant cuts in Government funding, the Council had been forced to give careful consideration to how its budget was allocated. The Library Service was one of a number of services provided by the Council which was being reviewed in terms of its funding. A consultation process was currently taking place and any decisions on potential library closures would be taken after all results of the consultation had been carefully considered.

- (d) Neil Cutts questioned whether the Community Assembly supported the proposals in the Achieving Change document, which recommends reducing the

number of advice centres from 23 to three, with only one “merged” centre covering the whole of the South, South West and South East areas of the City.

The Chair stated that such proposals had not been put forward by the Council, but had been proposed in a report of the Community Legal Advice Service for South Yorkshire (CLASSY). She added that the recommendations do not reflect the service that the Community Assembly and the Council would like to see in Sheffield.

(e) Maxine Bowler stated that Heeley Advice Centre received the least amount of funding from the Council, but remained one of the busiest Advice Centres, and requested the Council considers this when reading the report of CLASSY.

(f) A resident of Blackstock Road questioned when additional trees would be planted on the former Hemsworth School site.

The Chair stated that the Council would be consulting on the future of this site very shortly, and that all residents would be kept informed of the process.

(g) Richard Shaw referred to the installation of the new play and fitness area in Meersbrook Park, in consultation with local community groups, and questioned why the Friends of Bishop House had not been consulted.

The Chair stated that this had been due to a misunderstanding and apologised for this.

7. SOUTH COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY DISCRETIONARY BUDGET 2012/13

The Community Assembly Manager submitted a report on the proposed allocation of the remaining funds from the Community Assembly’s Discretionary Budget 2012/13.

7.1 Public Questions

In response to a question from a member of the public relating to whether the public could contribute to the discussion on this item, the Chair stated that the issue had already been discussed at the Assembly’s partner panel and other local fora, therefore it would be the Assembly making the decision.

7.2 Decision Taken

RESOLVED: That the Community Assembly:-

(a) agrees the allocation of the remaining £34,112 of the Community Assembly’s Discretionary Budget 2012/13 to the following projects:-

- | | |
|---|--------|
| • Chancet Wood Playground | £3,000 |
| • Youth Shelter on Batemoor Open Space | £8,000 |
| • Bring Out Your Rubbish Days and Community | £5,612 |

- Skips
- Fuel Poverty and Affordable Warmth (South Yorkshire Energy Centre/Heeley City Farm) £7,500
 - Youth Service to Disengaged South Asian Girls (Roshni) £5,000
 - Adult Learning Bursaries (South Adult Learning Forum) £5,000
- (b) delegates authority to the Community Assembly Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Assembly, to (i) agree targets, outputs and outcomes for all funded activity with the identified service deliverer and ensure best value for money, (ii) vary the amount of these allocations by not more than 10% in each case, funding permitting and (iii) reallocate any further underspend in the Assembly's Discretionary Budget 2012/13 to projects that will tackle one or more priorities within the South Community Plan; and
- (c) 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 this 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 she considers appropriate.

7.3 Reasons for the Decision

The allocation of the remaining South Community Assembly Discretionary Budget 2012/13 will ensure activity takes place to address some of the priorities as identified in the South Community Assembly Plan, namely to:-

- Improve parks and open spaces
- Improve the streetscene
- Increase activities for children and young people
- Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour
- Promote initiatives and projects that improve cohesion in targeted areas
- Improve the health and wellbeing of older people
- Tackle inequalities in targeted neighbourhoods
- Provide increased opportunity for people to access learning, skills and employment
- Contribute to the development of the voluntary, community and faith sector.

7.4 Alternatives considered and rejected

As a result of the ongoing community consultation and Councillors' local intelligence and surgeries, a number of priorities/activities were identified for possible inclusion in the budget and consideration was given to:-

- Further improvements to other parks (e.g. Graves Park and Barbers Field)
- Development of allotment/community food growing sites
- Further funding for local food growing projects
- Tree planting initiatives

- Contribution to refurbishment (security shutters) of 191 Blackstock Road (which will host a Social Prescribing service and other community based services)
- Development of a Community Health Trainer service
- An Exercise Intervention Project at the Sloan Practice

One or more of the following factors have meant that all these alternative options have not been put forward as recommendations:-

- Unable to be delivered in the time frame (by March 2013)
- Previously received funding from the Community Assembly
- Could potentially be resourced from other funding
- Do not provide value for money

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 8.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Community Assembly would be held on Thursday, 10th January, 2013, from 6.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m., at a venue in the Gleadless Valley Ward.



SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL South Community Assembly Report

Report of: Director of Development Services

Date: 20 December 2012

Subject: Report on a Petition about Parking Problems on Houghton Road, Woodseats

Author of Report: Simon Botterill 2736167 / Nigel Robson 2736161

Summary: The purpose of the report is to assist the Assembly in order to provide a reply to the petitioners

Reasons for Recommendations:

The cost of narrowing the footways on Houghton Road would far exceed the current highway funds available to the Community Assembly.

Recommendations:

That the petitioners are thanked for bringing their concerns to the attention of the Council.

That the request to narrow the footways on Houghton Road be declined due to financial reasons.

That the petition organiser be advised of the decision of the Community Assembly.

Background Papers: NONE

Category of Report: OPEN

Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

Financial Implications
YES/NO Cleared by:
Legal Implications
YES Cleared by: Nadine Wynter
Equality of Opportunity Implications
YES/NO Cleared by:
Tackling Health Inequalities Implications
YES/NO
Human rights Implications
YES/NO:
Environmental and Sustainability implications
YES/NO
Economic impact
YES/NO
Community safety implications
YES/NO
Human resources implications
YES/NO
Property implications
YES/NO
Area(s) affected
Relevant Cabinet Portfolio Leader
Relevant Scrutiny Committee if decision called in
Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council?
YES/NO
Press release
YES/NO

REPORT TITLE

1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 To respond to petitioners requesting a solution to remedy the parking problems on Haughton Road.

2.0 WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR PEOPLE WITHIN THE SOUTH COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY AREA

- 2.1 If an option to promote measures is adopted by the Community Assembly the local highway scheme now proposed will assist local people in the control of vehicles (moving or stationary) in and around their area, adding to improved community safety.

3.0 OUTCOME AND SUSTAINABILITY

- 3.1 The funding and construction of local highways schemes contributes to meeting the 'Increase mobility and provide safer routes for pedestrians' priority in the South Community Assembly Plan. It also contributes to the Council's Corporate Plan "Standing Up for Sheffield", particularly the "Great Place to Live" and "Safe and Secure Communities" outcomes.
- 3.2 If the Community Assembly decides to take no action there will be no outcomes to report.

4.0 REPORT

- 4.1 A petition containing 104 signatures was received by Full Council in November 2011 and was considered by Cabinet Highways Committee in December 2011. Subsequently the petition was referred to the South Community Assembly in January 2012. The petition document asks the Council to "*remedy the hazardous conditions on Haughton Road*".
- 4.2 The petition organiser clarified the issues when the petition was received:
- The difficulty of finding a parking space;
 - The damage caused to vehicles caused by collisions; and,
 - The difficulty experienced by emergency vehicles trying to negotiate the narrow space between parked vehicles.
- 4.3 The solution put forward by the petitioners is the narrowing of the footways to effectively widen the road such that cars could be parked on each side and allow two-way traffic to pass. A number of other potential solutions were considered by residents and although each might relieve their problems, only the above would resolve the matter to the satisfaction of all the petitioners.
- 4.4 Haughton Road is located to the east of Woodseats District centre and

connects to Chesterfield Road. It is a narrow 6.5m wide residential road with terraced housing to each side. The footways are approximately 3.0m wide. The road connects to a number of other similar residential streets and carries little through traffic. A location plan is included in Appendix A.

- 4.5 Both of the footways on Haughton Road could be physically reduced by 1.05m to leave a 2.0m wide pavement between the new kerb and the houses. This is the minimum footway width stated in current Standards. The cost estimate for this would include £60,000 for the kerbing and carriageway construction, but the price for relocating three BT poles and five lamp columns would need to be added. In addition, it is very likely that underground services currently in the footway would have to be protected or moved, this would increase the cost significantly. Indeed, the cost of a service diversion or protection could possibly outweigh the physical cost of narrowing the footway.
- 4.6 A more accurate price could be obtained from Amey, the PFI highways maintenance contractor, if the Assembly were prepared to fund it.
- 4.7 The above cost exceeds the current highways allocation for the Assembly for 2012/13 and as such the request to narrow the footways could not be supported.
- 4.8 The highways PFI maintenance work is programmed for July to September 2013 for the zone that includes Haughton Road. It is likely that there would be some savings by combining the proposed footway narrowing with the maintenance work but the cost of any Statutory Undertakers works would be borne by the footway narrowing scheme. The contribution required to fund the additional work is still likely to be beyond the scope of the Assembly's highway budget.
- 4.9 The request could be added to the list of centrally funded schemes and scored using the priority assessment procedure. However, the request is unlikely to score highly and as such would not be addressed in the foreseeable future.

5.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 Pavement parking is an ongoing issue across all parts of the City. One solution is to formalise the existing practice of parking with two wheels on the footway and two wheels on the road. This would be one way of addressing the concerns raised in the petition. However, the cost of this at Haughton Road would include £15,000 for the kerbing works plus sums for the relocation of the BT poles, lamp columns and underground service protection/diversion works. Again, this would fall beyond the scope of the Assembly's highways budget.
- 5.2 Highways officers are preparing a report for Scrutiny Board about pavement parking issues based partly on a pilot project a few years ago.

On Derbyshire Lane, in 2009, an Experimental Traffic Order was promoted to allow a short length of pavement parking. Bays were marked and vehicles could park entirely on the footway, whilst leaving adequate space behind for pedestrian movement. Being a trial, the kerbing was not amended, leaving vehicles to bump up a vertical face. Additionally, the footway was not strengthened to prevent potential damage to underground services. During the trial, no objections to the trial were received and the arrangement was made permanent in December 2009. No retrospective changes were made to the road layout in making the arrangement permanent.

- 5.3 The petitioners have suggested that the cost of the footway narrowing scheme could be offset by selling the reclaimed kerbs. Amey are responsible for all highway maintenance works in the City and the benefits associated with the disposal of any stone kerbs would be theirs.

6.0 Financial Implications

The estimated cost for the footway narrowing exceeds the highways allocation for the South Community Assembly and would be beyond the scope of the available funding.

6.1 Legal Implications

The Council has no legal obligation to provide parking for residents. However, the Council does have a statutory duty to promote road safety and to ensure that any measures it promotes and implements are reasonably safe for all road users. In reaching decisions of this nature the Council must clearly take into account any road safety issues that may arise and follow the relevant legislation and guidance. Providing that it does so, it is acting lawfully, as it is doing in this case.

6.2 Equality of Opportunity Implications

There are no equality of opportunity implications associated with this report.

6.3 Human Resource implications

No significant implications are identified

6.4 Environmental and Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental and sustainability implications associated with this report.

7.0 **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 The cost of narrowing the footways on Haughton Road would far exceed

the current highway funds available to the Community Assembly.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 That the petitioners are thanked for bringing their concerns to the attention of the Council.
- 8.2 That the request to narrow the footways on Haughton Road be declined due to financial reasons.
- 8.3 That the petition organiser be advised of the decision of the Community Assembly.

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SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL South Community Assembly Report

Report of: South Community Assembly Manager

Date: 10th January 2013

Subject: Allocation of Open Space Section 106 Funds in the South Community Assembly Area

Author of Report: James Barnes: Projects Team Manager, Parks and Countryside

Summary:

Money has been received from developers for open space Section 106 Agreements in the South Community Assembly area. Members' agreement is now sought to allocate the funds to proposed sites where funding has been received.

Reasons for Recommendations:

Section 106 agreement funds need to be allocated to projects as soon as possible so that design and procurement work can commence. Developers may make a case for repayment if they can demonstrate that there are no plans to spend the money.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Community Assembly allocate the open space Section 106 agreements funds to proposed sites where funding has been received.

Background Papers:

None

Category of Report: OPEN

If Closed add – ‘Not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph... of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).’

* Delete as appropriate

Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

Financial Implications
YES Cleared by:
Legal Implications
YES Cleared by:
Equality of Opportunity Implications
YES (South Community Plan EIA) Cleared by:
Tackling Health Inequalities Implications
NO
Human rights Implications
NO:
Environmental and Sustainability implications
YES
Economic impact
NO
Community safety implications
YES
Human resources implications
YES
Property implications
YES
Area(s) affected
South Assembly
Relevant Cabinet Portfolio Leader
Relevant Scrutiny Committee if decision called in
Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council?
NO
Press release
NO

OPEN SPACE SECTION 106 AGREEMENTS

1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 Money has been received from developers for open space Section 106 Agreements in the South Community Assembly area. Members' agreement is now sought to allocate the funds to proposed sites where funding has been received.

2.0 WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR SHEFFIELD PEOPLE

- 2.1 There will be further investment in improving local open spaces in the South Community Assembly area.

3.0 OUTCOME AND SUSTAINABILITY

- 3.1 Improved open spaces contribute to a number of Sheffield City Council's 'City of Opportunity' Corporate Plan priorities including:
- Improving parks and open spaces
 - Increasing participation in sport and physical activity
 - Reducing anti social behaviour and crime
 - Improving children's health

4.0 FULL PROPOSAL

4.1.1 Allocation of agreements to project sites

Money has been received from developers for open space Section 106 Agreements in the South Community Assembly area. Members' agreement is now sought to allocate the funds to proposed sites where funding has been received.

Development Site	Project Site	Value
Unit A Centenary Works 150 Little London Road	Barbers Field: it is proposed the funding will contribute towards footpath lighting.	£9,250

285-317 Psalter Lane	Endcliffe Park: This agreement is in the South Community assembly. However, an agreement on Cowlshaw Road, which is in the South West, was allocated to Chelsea Park. The amounts are similar and this redresses the balance.	£5,562
Land at 26-30 Meadowhead Avenue	Barbers Field: it is proposed the funding will contribute towards footpath lighting.	£3,337

4.3 Financial Implications

Monies have been received for the agreements discussed in this report. Once project sites have been agreed, it will be necessary for approval for capital spend to be gained under the council's capital approval procedure.

4.4 Legal Implications

Section 106 Agreements are legally binding agreements between developers and the City Council made using powers under the Town and Country Planning Act. It is important that all aspects of agreements are adhered to since failure to do so may result in challenge by the developers and potential claw back of funds. Developers frequently contact the Planning Service to check if their funds have been spent and what they have been used for.

4.5 Equality of Opportunity Implications

Higher quality open spaces will result from using section 106 funds. This will bring a general benefit to most members of the community. Wherever possible, open space design attempts to improve safety and to improve accessibility for physically disabled people.

4.6 Human Resource Implications

Staff salaries in the Environmental Planning Design Team are partly funded by the fee element of Section 106 design work. Allocating funds to external organisations reduces the viability of the team.

4.7 Environmental and Sustainability Implications

Where open space projects are designed in house, care is always taken to use sustainably sourced materials and to provide solutions with low maintenance requirements. The two external organisations that may benefit from these funds are also known to adopt this approach.

4.8 Mitigation of risk

For in projects designed in house, a business plan and risk register is always prepared, the work is subject to the requirements of the corporate project management process, corporate procurement process and health and safety regulations. Where external organisations receive funds, the Environmental Planning Team manager works with them to ensure that the funds are used correctly and that the work is carried out in accordance with requirements.

5.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

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 Community Assembly area.

6.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 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.

7.0 REASONS FOR EXEMPTION (if a Closed report)

7.1 This report is not presented as an exempt item

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 It is recommended that the Community Assembly allocate the open space Section 106 agreements funds to proposed sites where funding has been received.

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