

**SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL**

**South East Community Assembly**

**Meeting held 10 January 2013**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Ray Satur (Chair), David Barker (Deputy Chair), Isobel Bowler, Tony Downing, Denise Fox, Bryan Lodge, Karen McGowan, Helen Mirfin-Boukouris, Mick Rooney, Chris Rosling-Josephs and Ian Saunders

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**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

1.1 An apology for absence was received from Councillor Jackie Satur.

**2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

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

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

4.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Assembly held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2012, were approved as a correct record. Arising from their consideration, it was noted that the Citizens' Advice Bureau in Mosborough could possibly be relocated to the Housing Office in Woodhouse and that its operation could also be affected by a review of advice provision in the City, which was presently taking place.

**5. BURGLARIES IN THE FRECHEVILLE AREA**

5.1 Inspector Jason Booth, South Yorkshire Police, reported that a series of burglaries had taken place in the Frecheville area between late December 2012 and the previous weekend. He indicated that burglaries were not usually a problem in the South East area and went on to describe the actions which the Police had taken in response. These included additional officers being deployed, extra patrols being made by the Road Crime Team and the Safer Neighbourhoods Team, and the offer of the Smartwater forensic kit to residents of the affected areas. Inspector Booth explained that the Smartwater forensic kit enabled people to mark their property in a unique manner, thus making it difficult to sell on, and this was supported by the use of window stickers to indicate its deployment to potential burglars. As a result of these measures, there had been no burglaries in the last few days and he asked people to be mindful of misinformation which was circulating on social media and creating fear in the community.

5.2 Responses were provided to public questions as follows:-

- There had been no reports of a burglary the previous day on Longstone Crescent and the Smartwater team were targeting Youlgreave Drive which was located in the East Community Assembly area.
- The Police had received good information in relation to the possible perpetrators of the burglaries in the Frecheville area.
- It was not thought that the perpetrators were from the Frecheville area and positive lines of enquiry were being pursued with the hope of some progress by the following week. Residents could receive updates via Facebook or through their Councillors or the media. The screens in doctors' surgeries were also used to circulate information.
- It appeared that there were two main times when burglaries were taking place, those being between 3.30 pm and 4.00 pm when it was going dark, and between 8.00 pm and 9.00 pm which mainly seemed to be as a result of unsecure doors. The majority of early morning burglaries appeared to be for car keys where high quality vehicles were parked in people's drives. The importance of keeping car keys out of sight and setting alarms was emphasised.
- Whilst there had been a couple of burglaries reported in Hackenthorpe, it didn't appear that the area was being targeted.
- There had been some vigilante activity in Frecheville which was not helpful. What was important was that people remain observant and report anything suspicious.
- People could report incidents using the 101 number or via Crimestoppers.
- If people became suspicious of individuals sitting in cars parked outside their houses for extended periods of time, they could report this to the Police who would be able to confirm whether or not it was a plain-clothes Police officer.
- Anyone interested in obtaining a Smartwater kit should leave their contact details on the sheet which was being circulated at the meeting.

5.3 RESOLVED: That the South East Community Assembly:-

- (a) thanks Inspector Jason Booth for attending the meeting and reassuring the public; and

(b) notes the information reported.

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

### **6.1 Petitions**

There were no petitions received.

### **6.2 Public Questions**

#### **6.2.1 Citizens' Advice Bureaux**

The Chair, Councillor Ray Satur, confirmed that the Assembly had made a donation to the Citizens' Advice Bureau last year and that each Bureau provided their services in a way which they saw as being most appropriate. He added that the operation of the Citizens' Advice Bureaux throughout the City was under review.

## **EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS DECISION**

### **7. SOUTH EAST LARGE HIGHWAYS SCHEMES**

7.1 The South East Community Assembly Manager submitted a report which outlined the current position with the allocation of Large Highways Schemes funds for the South East Community Assembly.

#### **7.2 Decision Taken**

RESOLVED: That the South East Community Assembly:-

- (a) requests that further assessment be given to the potential for the installation of:-
  - (i) a one way system at Skelton Lane, Woodhouse; and
  - (ii) crossing improvements at the junction of Springwater Avenue and Birley Spa Lane, Hackenthorpe; and
- (b) delegates the decision on which work to progress to the Community Assembly Manager, in conjunction with the Community Assembly Chair and Highways Link Officer, following the provision of further information on both schemes to all South East Community Assembly Members.

#### **7.3 Reasons for Decision**

The Community Assembly's Highways budget needs to be allocated in the 2012-13 financial year. It is currently assessing the possibilities and merits of two schemes and thus needs to delegate the final decision in order to meet funding deadlines.

#### 7.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

The report outlined two different possible areas for work, one at Woodhouse (Skelton Lane/Spa Lane), where there were two different options under consideration, a one way system and waiting restrictions, and one at Hackenthorpe (Springwater Avenue/Birley Spa Lane). Members were not pursuing information on any other large highways schemes at this time.

### 8. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

8.1 Dave Luck, Community Assembly Manager, reported as follows:-

- The Skate Park at Occupation Lane was to be installed around April 2013 and would include a Mocam, together with a new gate. It should be noted that the equipment was removable and that a review meeting would be held after the first few months of operation.
- Tommy Rush had been employed as an Enforcement Officer and was in post until the end of March 2013. He had undertaken proactive patrols in connection with dog fouling, littering and fly-tipping, and had undertaken specific pieces of work in connection with the Birley Spa Lane shops and the Frecheville Hotel.
- 700 responses had been received to the Community Assembly consultation mail-out which had seen leaflets delivered to all homes in the South East Community Assembly area. These responses would provide a basis for the 2013/14 Community Assembly Plan alongside statistical area profiles. Top priorities identified in the consultation were road and pavement repairs, clean streets, crime and anti-social behaviour, activities for teenagers, parks and open spaces, and services for older people. The next stages in the Community Assembly Plan were an analysis of surveys and area profile and meetings with local stakeholders, with a draft version to be shared with Assembly Members for presentation to the next Community Assembly meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

8.2 **RESOLVED:** That the South East Community Assembly:-

- (a) notes the information reported; and
- (b) thanks Steve Robinson, Principal, Birley Community College, and his staff, for the excellent facilities provided for the meeting.

### 9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

9.1 The Assembly noted that its next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2013, at 7.00 pm at a venue to be arranged.

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

DRAFT