

Agenda Item 6

CENTRAL COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY

Meeting held 21st June 2012 at the Quaker Meeting House, St James' Street

PRESENT: Councillors Ben Curran (Chair), Janet Bragg, Jillian Creasy, Jayne Dunn, Neale Gibson, Bob Johnson, George Lindars-Hammond, Mohammad Maroof, Shaffaq Mohammed, Rob Murphy, Nikki Sharpe and Stuart Wattam.

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1. **WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING ARRANGEMENTS**

1.1 The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting and outlined basic housekeeping and fire safety arrangements.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY**

2.1 No apologies for absence were received.

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. **APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIR**

5.1 RESOLVED: That Councillor Janet Bragg be appointed Deputy Chair of the Community Assembly for the Municipal Year 2012/13.

6. **HIGHWAYS PRIVATE FINANCE INITIATIVE (PFI) PROGRAMME – ROAD IMPROVEMENTS**

6.1 The Community Assembly received a presentation from Steve Robinson, Head of Highway Maintenance, Sheffield City Council, and Graeme Symonds, Network Director, Amey Construction, on the Streets Ahead Project, the programme of works to be undertaken under the Highways Private Finance Initiative (PFI).

6.2 Steve Robinson reported on the highway works to be undertaken under the Project, which included trees (planting and maintenance), traffic signals, footpaths, roads names, lamp posts, kerbs, street furniture (benches, grit bins and litter bins) and road surfaces. He also referred to those elements of work

which would not be undertaken under the Project, which included traffic management and regulation, the M1 motorway, the Tinsley Viaduct and Stocksbridge Bypass, works on unadopted roads, works to private structures such as Network Rail bridges, the making of any decisions on highway improvement schemes and any grounds maintenance of public realm land.

6.3 Graeme Symonds reported on the volume of works to be undertaken under the Project within the first five years of the contract, which were planned to be completed by 2017. In terms of the delivery approach, he stated that the 1,900 km of carriageway would be split into two zones, with the A zone comprising primary and secondary networks, of which there were 27 in total, and the B zone comprising link, C-class and local roads, of which there were 81. It was planned that, at any one time, works would be undertaken to two or three A zones and five B zones, with all the different elements of work being completed in one go. Mr Symonds stated that residents would be kept fully informed in terms of the plans and timetable of works under the Project.

6.4 Members of the public raised questions and the following responses were provided:-

- The Streets Ahead Project under the PFI Programme would result in all streets in the City being repaired, including the roads leading off South Road to Langsett Road, which had been reported as being in a very poor condition. 70% of the City's roads would receive the full package of works.
- The period of the contract was 25 years. There was no information available in terms of how much profit Amey Construction would make during the period of the contract.
- All the Councillors of the Broomhill Ward had confirmed the need for consultation with the local community prior to the work commencing in the Broomhill area. A named contact from Amey Construction would be appointed for each area of the City and the Community Assembly Manager would try to arrange an early meeting with the contact for the Central Community Assembly area.
- Any maintenance works for alterations under the Project would be carried out on a like for like basis, therefore any features of the Broomhill Conservation Area would be safeguarded.
- It was planned that any engagement with local residents would be undertaken through the Community Assembly. There were plans to hold a roadshow prior to commencing work on specific zones, where the proposed works would be clearly displayed on plans and at which, local residents would be able to make comments.
- Amey were in consultation with Yorkshire Water in connection with the utility company's planned works.

- There were plans to replace approximately 6,000 gully grates under the Project, which would improve the drainage of rainwater from streets, and there were also plans to change the profile of the streets to ensure that rainwater ran off more effectively into the gullies.
- As part of the community engagement, local residents would be encouraged to inform Amey Construction of specific issues in their communities.
- Whilst there were no plans at the present time with regard to how cars would be moved off streets prior to works commencing, plans for this would be devised as part of the consultation process.
- Amey Construction had been chosen by the Council as the preferred Bidder for the Highways PFI Programme following a thorough procurement process, and had been considered the most suitable company.
- As well as the zonal communications plans prior to the commencement of works, there was also a City-wide communications plan, which would give consideration to any planned events in the City and how the proposed works would impact on such events.
- There were numerous treatments that could be used as part of the resurfacing of the roads and it was in Amey's interest to make sure that the resurfacing works were carried out to the best possible specification so as to reduce the need for repair works in the future.
- Although safeguards in terms of value for money had been included in the contract, the Council would be carrying out regular value for money assessments during the 25 year period of the contract. Any additional or repair works required would be carried out by Amey at the company's expense.
- There would be approximately 700 employees working on the Project, with 480 transferring to Amey from Street Force, and a further 170 local people to be employed.
- In terms of a precedent for similar work, Amey had commenced a project of highway works in Birmingham approximately 2½ years ago.

6.5 RESOLVED: That the Community Assembly:-

- (a) notes the information reported as part of the presentation, together with the responses to the questions raised;
- (b) welcomes the proposed works to be undertaken as part of the Project, which would hopefully transform the City's road network and street scene; and

- (c) thanked Steve Robinson and Graeme Symonds for the presentation now made.

7. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

7.1 Public Questions

Members of the public raised questions and the following responses were provided:-

- (a) The Broomhill Forum and University Student Union were concerned by the implications of the proposed fortnightly bin collections on shared student households (HMOs). Many of these houses only had one wheelie bin serving six or more adults. There was rarely space for more than one bin anyway, but neighbours were regularly confronted by overflowing bins and litter all over the road. Veolia had informed the Student Union that they may provide additional wheelie bins and would review the position, but at present, there was no clarity or certainty. What plans were there to deal with these potential problems?

The Community Assembly Manager stated that she would ask, on behalf of the Community Assembly, for a six-month review of the operation regarding fortnightly wheelie bin collections. She added that if there were problems, as suggested by the Broomhill Forum and University Student Union, these would become obvious from the outset of the new arrangement, and Veolia would have to look at some form of alternative arrangements in terms of such households.

- (b) Gina McLennan referred to the plans to build houses on the former Crown Sash Works site, Whitehouse Lane, and questioned why, despite the fact assurances had been given to Langsett Tenants and Residents Association (TARA) that it was to be consulted on any new proposals for the site, it had not yet been informed?

The Chair stated that the developers were Places for People, who were believed to be working with the Council, in building affordable housing on this site. He added that he would see if it was possible for someone from the Company to attend a future meeting of the Langsett TARA to report on the plans.

- (c) Jenny Carpenter questioned whether a report on the Walkley Traffic Review could be submitted to a future meeting of the Community Assembly, as had been promised at the Assembly's meeting in March 2012.

The Community Assembly Manager stated that a report on the review had been considered at a Members' Briefing and that arrangements would be made for an update on this to be circulated to members of the public on the Community Assembly contact list, for information.

- (d) Jean Cromar referred to the decision by the First bus operator to cease the operation of the No. 4 bus service from the City Centre to Millhouses, via Cemetery Road and Psalter Lane. She stated that this would mean that there would be no service along Cemetery Road and the whole of Psalter Lane and referred specifically to the service the No. 4 provided to elderly people at South Croft Residential Home, the Salvation Army and the GP practice on Cemetery Road, as well as the increasingly elderly population in that area, and questioned what action would be taken to provide a bus service for residents of this area?

The Community Assembly Manager stated that, although the bottom half of Cemetery Road would still be served by the No. 22 service, she would write to the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, on behalf of the Community Assembly, requesting the continuation of the No. 4 service.

- (e) Richard Attwood questioned:-
- (i) whether the Community Assembly could provide an update on the Walkley Active Corridor scheme.

The Community Assembly Manager stated that she would meet with Richard Attwood to discuss the scheme.

- (ii) whether each Community Assembly had an amount of money to allocate to a 20 mph scheme of its choice.

The Community Assembly Manager stated that this issue would be picked up as part of the consideration of the Community Assembly Highways Budget report.

8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

8.1 22nd March 2012

The minutes of the meeting of the Community Assembly held on 22nd March 2012, were approved as a correct record and, arising therefrom, it was reported that:-

- (a) although a report on the results of the Central Walkley Traffic Survey had not been submitted to the Community Assembly Members' Briefing meeting on 19th April 2012, Members had given consideration to this issue at that meeting; and
- (b) following the reduction in the number of posts of Safer Neighbourhood Officers from ten to seven, the three Officers previously assigned to this Community Assembly had secured posts and whilst they were to be based in a centralised Safer Neighbourhood Team, each of the seven Officers would be assigned to a Community Assembly with effect from August 2012.

8.2 16th May 2012

The minutes of the meeting of the Community Assembly held on 16th May 2012, were approved as a correct record.

9. **CENTRAL COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY HIGHWAYS BUDGET 2012/13**

The Community Assembly Manager and the Community Assembly Highways Link Manager submitted a joint report containing proposed allocations from the Central Community Assembly Highways Budget 2012/13.

9.1 **Public Questions**

Members of the public raised questions and the following responses were provided:-

- Burnaby Crescent was included in one of the proposed 20 mph zones.
- Whilst Parking Services staff generally finished work in the evenings, there was a Night-time Enforcement Team working in Hillsborough, who would be able to undertake enforcement duties after normal working hours.

9.2 **Decision Taken**

RESOLVED: That the Community Assembly:-

- (a) notes the information on the proposed allocations from the Central Community Assembly's Highways Budget 2012/13, as detailed in the report now submitted;
- (b) regard having been had to the Sheffield City Strategy and to the relevant guidance of the Secretary of State, confirms its belief that the granting of funding as envisaged in this report is likely to achieve the promotion and improvement of the social and environmental wellbeing of residents of the Central Community Assembly area;
- (c) allocates the following sums from the Central Community Assembly Highways Budget 2012/13:-

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount (£)</u>
Speed Indication Device Rotation and New Sites	2,664.00 plus 415 for each new site
Walkley Traffic Review – Implementation	12,500
Bundle of yellow lines	Up to 10,000

Minor 20 mph Zone Works 5,000

PFI-related complementary work Up to 9,500; and

- (d) delegates authority to the Community Assembly Highways Link Officer and Community Assembly Manager to adjust the precise sums within the areas of spend outlined in paragraph (c) above, and to apply any underspend from 2011/12 to the same projects.

9.3 **Reasons For The Decision**

The purpose of the Highways Budget is to respond to local requests for highway improvements. Traffic and parking is one of the Central Community Assembly Plan priorities. The 2012/13 budget of £40,000 will only allow for small schemes to be implemented in this financial year, but the proposals set out in the report respond to requests from local residents, and build on the work carried out through the Walkley Traffic Review last year.

9.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

Several alternative options for spend had been considered, but had not currently been recommended for funding, including an additional Speed Indication Device at a cost of £7,000, alternative sites for locating Speed Indication Devices and alternative sites for yellow line markings.

10. **CENTRAL COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY DISCRETIONARY BUDGET 2012/13**

The Community Assembly Manager submitted a report containing proposals with regard to the allocation of the remaining amounts of funding from the Central Community Assembly's Discretionary Budget 2012/13.

10.1 **Public Questions**

Members of the public raised questions and the following responses were provided:-

- The reason why the project relating to the Sheffield General Cemetery Trust had not been recommended for support at this time was due to the fact that it was viewed to be a City-wide resource and not a community resource. The Community Assembly Manager however, would contact the South Community Assembly Manager to see if the Assemblies could look to allocate a shared sum towards this project in the future.
- An application for Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) funding had been made in respect of the provision of a security gate at Walkley Library. The Community Assembly was also aware of the local residents' desire for a security gate at the rear of the rehabilitation centre at Uppertorpe, but the Assembly's Safer Neighbourhood Officer was still investigating the provision of the gate. It was noted that the site was owned by the Primary Care Trust, who should be responsible for funding such a gate.

- A noticeboard at the Bolehills Recreation Ground could potentially be funded from Section 106 monies or Community First.

10.2 Decision Taken

RESOLVED: That the Community Assembly:-

- notes the information on the allocations of the remaining funding from the Central Community Assembly's Discretionary Budget 2012/13, as detailed in the report now submitted;
- allocates the following sums from the Central Community Assembly's Discretionary Budget and carry forward:-

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount (£)</u>
Mobile CCTV Camera	4,000
Sharrow Community Forum	6,000;

- agrees the recommendation not to fund the projects listed in Section 11 of the report now submitted at this time;
- delegates authority to the Community Assembly Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Community Assembly, to:-
 - work up and agree the details of the proposed allocations and projects set out in paragraph (b) above; and
 - agree the utilisation of the remaining funds from the Discretionary Budget, totalling £26,130, plus £2,000 of carry-forward, including the power to revisit those projects in Section 11 of the report;
- 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; and
- notes the specific allocations of additional youth provision funding outlined in the report.

10.3 Reasons For The Decision

The purpose of the Discretionary Budget is to help fulfil the priorities of the Central Community Assembly Plan, which had been identified through consultation with local residents, groups and partners, namely:-

- Things for young people to do
- Education, jobs and incomes
- The environment
- Good shops and local services
- Traffic and parking
- Community sport and people getting on together
- Health
- Community safety

10.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

Several alternative projects had been considered, but had not currently been recommended for funding as they were not deemed a priority at this time, as follows:-

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount (£)</u>
Sheffield General Cemetery Trust	5,000
Winn Gardens Boiler	7,300 (plus 2,000 match funding from Parks and Countryside)
Digital Inclusion Outreach Project (Heeley Development Trust)	4,000
Security gate for Walkley Library	900
Grit Bins – Bolehills and Thoresby Road	249 for purchase/ installation/initial fill and 2,054 commuted sum for ongoing maintenance
Notice Boards for Bolehills/Walkley	To be determined

11. NOMINATION OF COUNCILLORS TO SHEFFIELD HOMES CENTRAL AND NORTH WEST AREA BOARDS

The Community Assembly Manager reported on the proposed nomination of Councillors from the Community Assembly to the Sheffield Homes Central and North West Area Boards.

11.1 Decision Taken

RESOLVED: That the Community Assembly:-

- (a) having regard to the positive views expressed by the Cabinet Member

for Homes and Neighbourhoods about the proposal to nominate Councillor Mohammed Maroof to Sheffield Homes Central Area Board and Councillor Bob Johnson to the Sheffield Homes North West Area Board, nominates those two Members of the Assembly to these positions;

- (b) requests the Director of Modern Governance to report these nominations to full Council at the earliest opportunity; and
- (c) subject to Council approval, requests the Community Assembly Manager to complete the necessary paperwork to effect these appointments, in consultation with the Director of Legal Services.

11.2 Reasons For The Decision

The Central Community Assembly has been requested to nominate two Sheffield City Council appointees, one to the Central Area Board and one to the North West Area Board, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods.

11.3 Alternatives Considered And Rejected

The Community Assembly could consider alternative appointees to the Councillors who are proposed.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 12.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Community Assembly would be held on Thursday, 27th September 2012, from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm, at the Quaker Meeting House, St James' Street.