

Joint Working Group

RMBC and Parish and Town Councils

2ND June 2010, Room 2, Bailey House, Rotherham

Present:-

Councillor Mahroof Hussain (Chair)
Councillor Gary Cooper (GC)
Councillor Ted Kelsey (TK)
Councillor Pat Wade
Councillor Richard Swann (RS)
Paul Griffiths (PG)

AGENDA	ACTION
<p>1. Apologies</p> <p>Councillor Eric Shaw (ES)</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</p> <p><u>Joint Working with Area Assemblies</u></p> <p>PG informed the group that due to a poor response to the recent consultation this item will be removed from the June Parish Network meeting schedule.</p> <p>The group requested that a reminder be sent out to all Parish Councils and that the item be rescheduled for the September meeting of the Network.</p> <p><u>Standards Board</u></p> <p>The group requested that they are kept up to date with developments around the ethical standards survey and that, if possible, this is reported to the September Parish Network meeting.</p> <p><u>Proud Theme Board</u></p> <p>PG advised that he had had further discussions with Michael Clark around moving forward an understanding of the role of parish and town councils amongst the Rotherham Partnership structure. Voluntary Action Rotherham have recently carried out an exercise to establish exactly how voluntary groups contribute to the targets in the local area agreement. It was agreed that a similar exercise could be done for parish councils as a starting point for promoting their role within the strategic partnership.</p>	

<p><u>Councillor Jane Austen</u></p> <p>MH announced that Councillor Austen had decided that she would no longer be attending the group in order to concentrate on her scrutiny role.</p> <p>A letter of thanks would be drafted for Councillor Austen. The group agreed that her contribution would be missed and wished her well for the future.</p>	
<p>3. Temporary vacancy on the Working Group</p> <p>PG reported to the group that the clerk at Whiston Parish Council had been in contact to advise that Cllr A Bryden was willing to attend the group in the absence of Eric Shaw.</p> <p>The group agreed to except this offer for a three month period covering two meetings whilst Eric was recovering.</p> <p>It was also requested that a get well soon card was sent to Eric on behalf of the joint working group.</p>	
<p>4. Planning for the Parish Network meeting</p> <p>PG confirmed the two presentation for the June Parish Network meeting as:-</p> <p>Helen Sleight – Joint Working with Parishes for the next round of consultation on the LDF.</p> <p>Amanda Kent - Developing Parish and Community Plans.</p> <p>Both issues are interlinked and will hopefully stimulate some debate amongst attendees.</p>	
<p>5. Any other Business</p> <p><u>Parish Boundary Review</u></p> <p>MH updated the group on the final recommendations from the Parish Boundary review. All the recommendations have been adopted by the Council apart from further consultation to be carried out with regard to proposals put forward by Dalton and Brinsworth Parish Councils.</p> <p>MH advised only one new Parish is to be created in Hellaby. Of the other original proposals there was a lack of public support at Thorpe Hesley and contradictory evidence at Laughton Common which meant that the Council did not feel a clear mandate had been given by local communities.</p> <p>MH requested that the email link be sent to all working group members so they are able to access the report.</p>	

<p><u>Councillor Kelsey</u></p> <p>Councillor Kelsey announced that he will be travelling to South Africa on the 28th September 2010 and will be away for a substantial period and will be missing several of the groups meetings.</p> <p><u>Rotherham Show</u></p> <p>Rotherham Show will be held on the 11th and 12th of September this year. The group indicated that it would like a prescecne at the show promoting the work of parish councils along similar lines to previous years. PG advised that is already clear that only a very small budget, if any, would be available and as such the group agreed that last year's display would be used.</p>	
<p>8. Any other Business</p> <p>MH requested that until the Town Hall refurbishment is complete future meetings of the group be held at the Eric Manns building. The group agreed that as a general rule Wednesday and Thursday remains the best day for the meetings to be held.</p>	
<p>9. Date and Time of Next Meeting</p> <p>To be confirmed.</p>	