

Joint Working Group

RMBC and Parish and Town Councils

10th November 2011, Town Hall, Rotherham

Present:-

Councillor Mahroof Hussain (Chair)

Councillor Pat Wade (PW)

Councillor Richard Swann (RS)

Councillor Ted Kelsey (TK)

Councillor Jo Burton (JB)

Councillor Dominic Beck (DB)

Peter Baker (PB)

Paul Griffiths (PG)

AGENDA	ACTION
<p>1. Apologies</p> <p>No apologies were received.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</p> <p><u>Grounds Maintenance</u></p> <p>RS asked if there was any further update on the grounds maintenance issue discussed at the last meeting. The group were aware that this had been fully discussed at the Parish Council/EDS meeting on the 18th of October. A number of parish councils had presented a written statement objecting to the proposals and suggesting that spirit of the joint working charter had been breached. However since the meeting the group were unaware of any further communication on the issue.</p> <p>MH advised that discussions were continuing within the Council on the way forward. He would have further discussions regarding the present situation and update members of the group.</p>	<p>MH to update group at next meeting</p>
<p>3.Planning for the next Parish Network</p> <p>The group agreed on the following agenda items for the next Parish Network meeting to be held on the 5th of January 2012 at 5.30pm in the Town Hall.</p> <p>Code of Conduct/Changes from the Localism Bill (Richard Waller)</p> <p>Local approaches to crime (Peter Baker)</p>	

<p>Participatory Budgeting (Rural Action Yorkshire)</p> <p>Invites to be sent out as soon as the speakers have confirmed their attendance.</p> <p>The group briefly discussed the need to re-visit the joint charter as part of ongoing discussions around improving joint working. It was agreed that this would be started through the formation of a small working group of senior RMBC officers and members of the joint working group with the first meeting to be held in Dec/Jan.</p>	<p>PG to arrange meeting date.</p>
<p>4. Rotherham Magistrates</p> <p>Peter Baker attended the meeting representing Rotherham Magistrates. PB explained that he is currently in the process of engaging with community groups, area assemblies etc with a view to listening and responding to local opinion around local approaches to crime, how justice works and the court process.</p> <p>As part of this PB felt it was important to talk to parish and town councils and requested the opportunity to come to a meeting of several of the parishes to lead a discussion.</p> <p>A number of initiatives are currently ongoing involving the local magistrates court including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role play sessions held in schools aimed at preventing children being involved with the police and court system • Joint working with Lifewise in Hellaby schools. • Invitations to community groups to visit the magistrates court. <p>The group welcomed the initiative and the opportunity for parish and town councils to comment on issues such as sentencing and the local process of justice. PB was invited to present information to the next Parish Network meeting in January 2012.</p> <p>DB suggested that Lifewise should be invited to attend the meeting and contribute towards the content of the presentation as this would enhance the information.</p>	<p>PG to confirm dates and times with PB</p>
<p>5. Nominations to the Joint Working Group</p> <p>PG advised that he has written to all parish and town councils requesting nominations to a larger joint working group. So far 7 nominations has been received with the deadline being the 30th November 2011.</p> <p>The group hoped that further nominations would come from the north of the borough to ensure some balance in representation and requested that a reminder be sent out.</p>	

<p>Given the current number of nominations it was agreed that a ballot be held and that arrangements for this to take place as soon as possible following the nomination deadline.</p>	<p>PG to arrange ballot</p>
<p>6. Distribution of the groups minutes</p> <p>PG outlined a suggestions received from Wentworth Parish Council that the groups minutes be distributed to the Area Assembly meetings. This is to ensure that key information reaches the widest audience.</p> <p>PG has discussed this with the Area Partnership Managers who welcomed it as a positive move.</p> <p>The group approved of this request and asked that the minutes be distributed for the next round of meetings.</p>	<p>PG to arrange distribution of minutes</p>
<p>9. Date and Time of Next Meeting</p> <p>15th of December 2011 at 4.30pm in the Town Hall.</p>	