

MINUTES		MEETING:	Parish Council Network Meeting			
		DATE:	10.08.2022, 6pm-8pm			
		VENUE:	The Lyric Theatre, Dinnington			
		CHAIR:	Cllr Sarah Allen			
		MINUTE TAKER:	Sam Kendall (RMBC – Neight Support Officer)	oourhood		
In Atten	In Attendance					
Cllr Sarah Allen		RMBC, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods				
Jo Brown		RMBC, Assistant Chief Executive				
Martin Hughes		RMBC Head of Neighbourhoods				
Sam Kendall		RMBC, Neighbourhoods				
David Rowley		Ravenfield Parish Council				
Chris Pilkington		Anston Parish Council				
Carolynn Ogden		Wales Parish Council				
Joanne Holsey		Dalton Parish Council				
Rebecca Thompson		Bramley, Hellaby & Letwell Parish Councils				
Malcolm Brown		Bramley Parish Council				
Donna Bushby		Rotherham Allotment Alliance				
Jan Loftus		Dinnington St Johns Town Council				
Bill Loftus		Dinnington St Johns Town Council				
Jill Dixon		Todwick Parish Council				
Steve Foster		Dinnington St Johns Town Council				
Richard Swann		Woodsetts Parish Council				
Kevin Downing		Laughton Parish Council				
Apologies						
Catherine Oxtoby		RMBC, Parish Council Liaison				
Clive Jepson		Anston Parish Council				
Julie James		Treeton Parish Council				
Terry Craven		Thrybergh Parish Council				
Carol Lavell-Smith Wickersley Parish Council Brian Steele Rotherham Allotment Alliance						
Item			nt Alliance	Action		
item	Subject / Discussi	On		Action		
1.	Welcome & Introd	uctions				
	Cllr Allen welcomed all to the meeting					
	Cllr Allen welcomed all to the meeting.					
2.	Notes from Previous Meeting (11 <sup>th</sup> May 2022)					
	MH updated following the discussions around youth provision which					
	took place at the previous meeting. This was a good example of					
	Whiston Parish Council & Active Regen working together to look at					
	different models for Youth Provision and a successful outcome of the					
	Network Meeting.					

MH stated he would soon be sending information regarding a new potential funding stream for Youth Provision from Central Government to Clerks. Carolynn Ogden, Wales PC asked for this information to be sent directly to her as well. Her email address is caznharv@yahoo.co.uk.				
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Action; MH to send info to Clerks and CO.

## 3. Council Plan – Jo Brown (ACE Rotherham Council) Fiona Boden (Head of Policy, Performance & Intelligence, Rotherham Council)

JB introduced the Council Plan, a core document that sets out the Council's vision and the outcomes it is looking to achieve over the next 3 years.

The document was produced following public consultation and was agreed at Full Council in January 2022. The Council Plan is split into themes; Every neighbourhood thriving, People are safe, healthy and live well, Every child able to fulfil their potential, Expanding economic opportunity, A cleaner, greener local environment.

The Plan covers the period 2022 – 25 and is accompanied by the Year Ahead Delivery Plan which sets out the key actions required to help us achieve the outcomes and commitments in the Council Plan. Altogether there are 26 outcomes and 47 commitments in the 3-year plan.

### **Questions/Thoughts:**

## Cllr Loftus, Dinnington TC:

Concerned that the Dinnington Town Council Plan was not taken in to account when producing the wider Council Plan.

 MH said that many of the priorities in the Neighbourhood Plan were reflected in the Ward Plan, which was looked at when producing the wider Council Plan.

Asked whether the Actions from the Council Plan, and the 25 Ward Plans had been published.

 MH said that all Ward Plans had been published and sent to all Clerks. The Actions could also be sent to Clerks.

#### Cllr Smith, Dinnington TC:

Concerned that there had been no direct consultation with Dinnington Town Council when producing the Council Plan. Cllr Smith felt the plan did not address the problems faced in Dinnington, such as low life expectancy, poor school Ofsted reports and building on Green Belt land. As a result, Dinnington Town Council had drawn up its own plan.

- Cllr Allen said that the Council Plan is a high-level document that doesn't seek to cover any area in particular.
- Cllr Allen suggested that Dinnington Town Council may wish to meet with Ward Members and other relevant staff to discuss Dinnington's specific issues.

## Joanne Holsey, Dalton PC

Dalton PC were approached by their local Borough Council and had the opportunity to feed in to their Ward Priorities.

Action; MH to arrange for Council Plan Actions to be sent to all Clerks. Cllr Rowley, Ravenfield PC

Questioned how success is measured in relation to the Council Plan.

• JB said it was done by the Overview/Scrutiny Committee Cllr Rowley also raised the issue of poor public transport in Ravenfield in relation to the environmental aspect of the plan.

Cllr Foster, Dinnington TC

Cllr Foster felt that ideas seem to appear but nothing comes to fruition. Agrees that there is a focus on Rotherham Town Centre.

Cllr Pilkington, Anston PC

Keen to see vegetation cut back and bins emptied. Cllr Pilkington raised the issue of a resident receiving different information from different areas of RMBC.

Also raised the issue of funds not being passed to local Councils, as is the case in Leeds.

Action; Cllr Allen to look in to.

Cllr Brown, Bramley PC

Raised issues with the state of wildflowers in the central reservation.

 Cllr Allen said Grounds Maintenance were looking at ways to avoid 2<sup>nd</sup> year fallow period. Action; JB to pick up/feedback with Grounds Maintenance.

Cllr Downing, Laughton en le Morthern PC Asked whether there was any way of Parish Councillors have fast track access to Streetpride.

Action; JB to look in to.

MH summarised by saying that all Clerks were asked to contribute to Ward Plan priorities.

When consultation for the wider Council Plan was being held an invitation to contribute went to every Clerk of Parish and Town Councils.

Some points re more detailed consultation taken on board.

# 4. Rotherham Allotment Alliance – Donna Bushby & Brian Steele (Rotherham Allotment Alliance)

On Cllr Allen's recent tour of Parish/Town Councils, many raised the issue of management of allotments. Donna was therefore invited to explain the work of Rotherham Allotments Alliance.

Donna explained the Alliance had been setup as a separate entity from the Council. It was set up following consultation and is answerable to the Council, however it can also apply for external funding. When the Alliance was set up the Council provided £100k Capital funding for works.

Guidance comes from a central point, the National Allotment Society, on what an allotment can be used for. This is defined in law. The Alliance is about to take on a 99-year lease on 30 sites, and are continuing to seek to establish Allotment Societies as the most preferable way of managing the sites across the Borough.

Some privately owned sites but all RAA look after are on RMBC land

	Cllr Loftus, Dinnington TC	
	Asked how rents were collected.	Action; DB to
	DB explained that the Alliance do collect rents on sites directly	have separate
	managed by them, but on sites managed by an allotment	conversation
	society the rent is collected by the society and paid to the	with DTC re
	Alliance in one lump sum.	management
	Asked about long-term goals in terms of proliferation.	of Allotments
	DB said the Alliance is keen to develop the number of sites	currently
	and that the Council still had some land available for statutory	managed by DTC.
	allotment provision.	DIC.
	Cllr Pilkington, Anston PC	
	Asked what the policy/process was for reviewing rents charged on	
	directly managed sites.	
	The Alliance adopted what the Council was charging, 26p per	
	square metre.	
	<ul> <li>Society sites can afford to offer lower rents as they pay the</li> </ul>	
	Council a lesser amount per sq metre and are offered a 10%	
	discount if they pay on time. Many also have an on-site shop	
	whose profits subsidise rent.	
	Cllr Dixon, Todwick PC	
	Asked what the process was for sourcing contractors.	
	Had proven difficult in some cases, but putting the offer out	
	publicly and using local trader had worked in the past.	
	Rotherham Allotment Alliance can be contacted by phone 07714	Action; MH to
	300334 or via e-mail admin@rotherhamallotments.org.uk.	share Clerk's details with
		Donna.
5.	AOB	
	Janice Curran will not be returning to her Parish Council Liaison role,	
	as she has secured a new role with Migration. The post will therefore	
	go out to advertisement and Catherine Oxtoby will continue to cover	
	in the meantime.	
	There will be vacancies on the Joint Working Group which require	Action; CO to
	filling shortly.	send out
		forms upon
		her return
		from holiday.
	Empty Houses and Emergency Planning were suggested as items for	
	discussion at the next meeting, along with Climate Change.	
6.	Date and Time of the Next Meeting	
	9 <sup>th</sup> November 6.00-8.00pm	
	Venue tbc	
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