

COMMUNITY PLAN FOR MALTBY BRIEF

March 2001

INTRODUCTION

Community Planning will allow the people of Maltby to define their needs and aspirations rather than being on the receiving end of what others may decide for them. Local people will have the confidence to be the driving force to make sure those needs are met. Community Planning will also support agencies working for the benefit of the community so that their work is given recognition.

A range of organisations in Maltby have recognised the need for a Community Plan. A broad-based project group has worked on this brief for the Plan. This document explains what will be in the plan and how it will be written. It will help local people plan together for the social and economic regeneration of Maltby, whilst being an opportunity for agencies and funding bodies to hear the authentic voice of local people.

The Community Plan will be an important opportunity to:

- Bring together past and concurrent local audits, and address any further research needs.
- Produce a plan based on the experiences and aspirations of people who live and work in Maltby.
- Explore with local people and others, participative approaches to local planning.
- Develop networks between the diverse organisations that make up Maltby, eg Churches, traders and businesses, services for young, old, and people with special needs, schools (including children), youth groups, community organisations, ethnic minority groupings, and local healthcare provision.
- Be developed alongside the work of the Objective 1 Team, who will produce an Integrated Development Plan, which deals with economic regeneration issues, so that this information is dovetailed into the Community Plan.
- Identify the community-based organisations needed to carry forward planning and regeneration, for example a local Forum, partnerships or a development trust.
- Build relationships with potential partners based on local priorities.
- Prepare Maltby's contribution to Rotherham's Community Strategy.

THE WIDER PICTURE

The principle of "define the problem and decide on the solution" is so common that it does not need explanation. The Local Government Act 2000 adopts this simple but effective approach to addressing the needs of local communities.

The Act places a duty on all local authorities to draw up a Community Strategy for their area. There is wide discretion about how the strategy is arrived at; eg some authorities have drawn up a strategic plan in which only a few organisations have played a part. Rotherham has adopted a different approach. It is working from the bottom up – so when the plan for Maltby is complete it will serve two purposes – (a) it will allow local people to define their needs, and (b) form one piece of the Rotherham Community Strategy jigsaw.

THE INITIAL STAGES

The following groups sent members to the group that has written this Community Planning Brief:

- Maltby Amalgamated Community Associations, MACA (2)
- Maltby Churches (1)
- Maltby Environmental Group, MEG (1)

- Maltby Health Forum MHF (1)
- Maltby Parish Council, MPC (2)

The group is serviced by the Area Assembly Officer, the Community Development Worker for Maltby, and the Clerk & Financial Officer to Maltby Parish Council.

The Steering Group proposes to see the implementation of this brief through to its conclusion and has produced this draft for approval by the 5 parent organisations.

THE PROCESS

Community Planning in Maltby will produce the following documents:

1. An Audit of the current situation in Maltby including some or all of its :
 - geographical position
 - environmental concerns
 - demographic, social and health statistics
 - business and commerce
 - levels of unemployment and provision for unemployed
 - community, voluntary and statutory organisations
 - buildings available for community use
 - provision for children and young people
 - recreation and leisure facilities
 - provision for the elderly
 - other issues identified as the plan progresses

These issues will require prioritising during the community planning.

2. An action plan which
 - (a) arises from participatory appraisal conducted by local people and groups
 - (b) arises from and informs the Audit
 - (c) identifies issues local people are concerned about and prioritises them
 - (d) identifies how preferred options are to be delivered
 - (e) identifies partners able to support the action plan
 - (f) includes a system of monitoring and evaluating what has/has not happened,
 - (g) includes a system of reviewing and updating the information to ensure that the process remains current.

What does Participatory Appraisal mean?

Participatory Appraisal

- consists of three activities: research, education and collective action.
- values local knowledge,
- obtains information through participation between people rather than just extracting it from individuals
- checks out each stage by use of a variety of methods
- requires the full involvement of local people
- means that outsiders will regard local people as the main contributors to research, planning, implementation and evaluation.

This means there should be: -

- Respect for local views and choices
- A focus on the application of the research for future improvements to the area
- The use of visual material rather than just written material
- An emphasis on the importance of feedback
- A recognition that the information gathered belongs to local people.

Use of participatory appraisal in Maltby will offer local people an opportunity to set their own agendas and decide how they will be met. It is a cost-effective approach that can easily be

adopted by any local group to carry out their own research or to develop their group. It will also benefit service providers seeking funding for initiatives in Maltby as it will provide evidence of genuine local commitment to change.

WHO IS INVOLVED?

- Local people will complete the Action Plan after relevant training and development.
- Consultants under the direction of a Steering Group will undertake the audit.
- The Action Plan will determine who will carry out the remaining steps including monitoring and review.

THE AREA COVERED BY THE PLAN

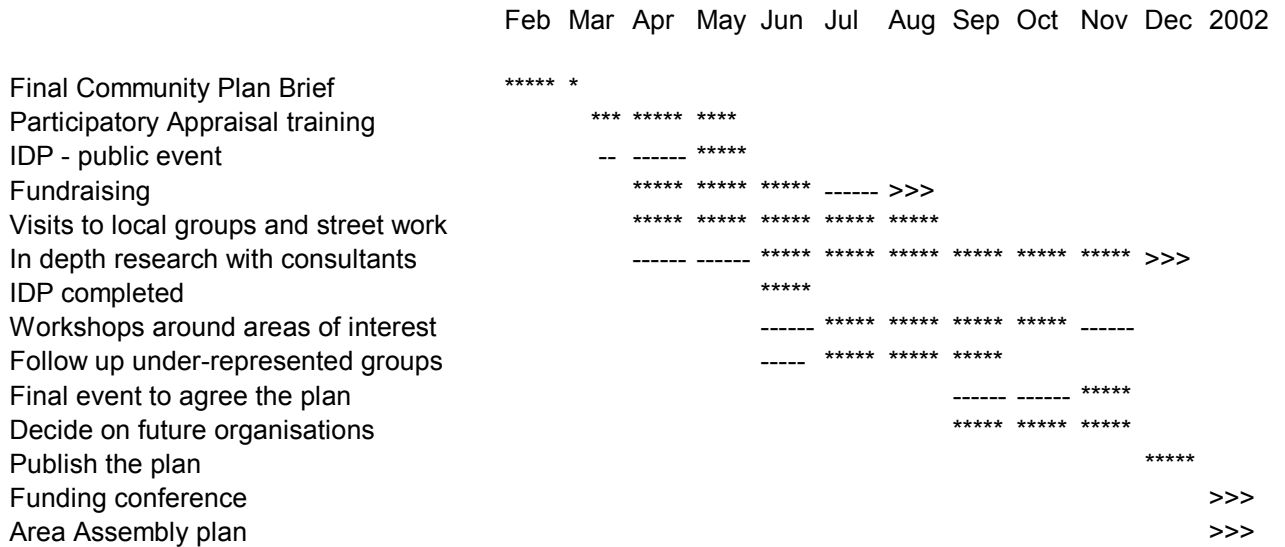
The Steering Group recommend that the boundary of Rotherham Ward 14 is used for compiling the Community Plan, which includes the heavily populated areas of Maltby plus the outlying hamlets of Stone and Sandbeck.

PROPOSED ACTION

Activity	Aim	Resources	Outcomes
Participatory Appraisal (PA) Training for local people Duration: A few day or evening sessions (total 30 hours) with practical experience between.	To equip local people with the means to carry out research and community development.	Costs of training Participants Opportunities to practice PA	Learning by doing – by the end of formal training, participants will have had considerable experience and this will count towards the plan.
Use of PA with local groups and in other contexts, including paid workers based in Maltby, eg health workers, teachers	To involve everyone who lives or works in Maltby who can be reached through visits to groups, street work and other suitable locations.	Mailings to groups Materials and tools for PA	Most groups in Maltby visited Each group will have ideas from PA New people involved in PA and local groups
Workshops around areas of mutual interest	Opportunity for groups with common interests to get together, identify options and priorities.	Costs including lunches! Materials and PA tools Facilitators	Opportunities to involve partners Build up to big workshop for final plan Ideas for implementation of plan
Consultants to carry out in depth research	Consultants will work alongside local people to carry out in depth work the results of which will inform the PA.	Finance for consultants Results of PA so far	Groups able to revisit their ideas with more information Baseline data for project development
Publish the plan	To make the plan known and start implementation		

TIMESCALES

Maltby Community Plan - Critical Path 2001



Key: IDP = Integrated Development Plan
 ----- = preparation for activity
 ***** = duration of activity
 >>> = Future activity

FUNDING STRATEGY

Requirements	Estimated costs	Suggested action	Added Value for Maltby
Training and development – participatory appraisal	£2 000 plus expenses and resources. Maltby will probably be expected to make a 50% contribution.	Thurcroft have SRB funding for PA training and Maltby will be able to join with them.	Will directly improve performance of local groups. PA is a good way of developing more effective and enjoyable meetings.
Payments to the community for participatory appraisal work.	£4 000	Optional So far, funding for this activity has not been identified.	Pay community groups for contribution made by their members. Pay people to encourage involvement in local activities.
Workshops – several of these to bring local people together around shared areas of interest and to finalise the plan. Opportunity to involve outside agencies as workshops develop. This could lead to local partnerships.	£8 000	This money is from SRB5 and Objective 1 for development of partnerships including one for the IDP.	This will pay for local venues, services and small-scale research, eg visitors to address areas of interest.
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			Maltby
Consultancy fees – this could be done in two ways. (1) Appoint consultant to identify and fill gaps on the audit list, or (2) Wait for issue based workshops to identify where they need additional information.	As we identify pieces of work, we can seek funding to cover them.	Some funding sources specific to areas of interest, eg <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 1 Priority 4b, • Sure Start baseline data, • Key Fund • Lifelong Learning – Judith Dey • Community Involvement Fund – Carol Newman • Active Communities • Neighbourhood Renewal Funds (Community Chest and empowerment fund) 	This information will be of value to local groups who wish to find out about Maltby for funding applications, lobbying, planning projects, etc. Wherever possible suitably experienced local people will be engaged to carry out this work.
Publishing, printing and publicity	£4 000		
Administration	£5 000	Covered through area assembly and other officer salaries.	

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

A fundamental principle of participatory appraisal is that information belongs to its originators and that it will not be taken or used without its owners' permission. The options for use of information will be explained before information is taken away. When information is taken away it shall be returned in its original state. Also any copies, especially electronic copies will be made available to its owners.

The Community Plan will use the South Rotherham Electronic Community Magazine (The Hub) which will store information and make it available on the Internet. People will be able to say whether they agree to it being stored this way. Information on flip chart paper can be photographed and distributed as computer files. If most people agree to these arrangements the information will be widely available. It will also be possible to make paper copies for groups who wish to carry out further work.

The final plan and audit will, if local people agree, go to the Rother Valley East Area Assembly, where it will be adapted with Thurcroft and Whiston's plan into a plan for the area. This in its turn will become part of Rotherham's Community Strategy. The format of these plans will be standardised through the council and further information will be available in May 2001. The local documents will of course be made available to all the people who take part in the Community Planning in paper and electronic formats.

LINKS

The proposal links to the following:

- RMBC Community Strategy
- Thurcroft and Whiston Community Plans through the Area Assembly
- Maltby Parish Council Forward Planning Process
- Objective 1, Priority 4b Integrated Development Plan

- Maltby Community Health Needs Assessment
- Other research taking place in Maltby eg for Sure Start, Youth Inclusion Programme, Social Capital Survey.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The Steering Group has acknowledged that the lead organisation should be Maltby Parish Council. The Project Officer will be Mr D J Morton, Clerk & Financial Officer, Maltby Parish Council, The Edward Dunn Memorial Hall, Tickhill Road, Maltby, Rotherham, S66 7NQ – Telephone 01709 814060, Fax 01709 818944, Email maltbypc@ukonline.co.uk