

BRIMROD, MARLAND AND SUDDEN AREA FORUM

Thursday 8 March 2018
Brimrod Methodist Church, Roch Valley Way,
Rochdale

MINUTES

Present M. Hamer, F. Hamer, D. Frost, B. Frost, R. Coles, K. Huggett, D. Hall, L. Stansfield, J. Welby and J. Gartside.

Councillors: Pat Sullivan

Officers: Rochdale Borough Council: S. Hay (Townships) and D. Lodwig (Public Realm Inspector)

Apologies: Beryl Hudson, Councillor Ian Duckworth, Councillor Jane Howard, Marjorie Davies, Shirley Marsh and Kam Khan

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

Introductions were made and all were welcomed to the meeting.

2. CODE OF CONDUCT

The Chair referred to the code of conduct and asked all to abide by the code for the duration of the meeting.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the previous meeting on Thursday 7 December 2017 were agreed and the following update was given.

Fly tipping

Fly tipping on Holborn Street, Chelsea Street and Manchester Road has been all removed. A large amount of fly tipping was dumped and cleared up several times since the last meeting. Public Realm Inspectors, Diane Lodwig and Lee Wardle, proactively ensure the estate is cleaned up supplemented by weekly litter picks and attendance of mechanical street sweepers. A large number of rubbish bags dumped on Dixon Fold was reported. Diane will remove it and explained that the bin men do not remove such bags as a properly equipped team does and evidence is sought rather than simply throwing them in to a bin wagon.

Road surfaces

Refreshed road markings at the junction of Holborn Street and Finsbury Street are still awaited.

Cotton Lane water problem

Councillor Howard arranged a clean-up of Cotton Lane and chippings to be put down. The work has been delayed due to bad weather and will be chased up.

Potholes

A National Press article referred to a recently agreed Greater Manchester Highway Safety Inspection Framework policy document that addresses safety inspections and intervention criteria. This document identifies 40mm level difference in the highway as the defect investigatory level which requires the street inspector to undertake a risk assessment of the pothole and identify a priority repair response time for the pothole based upon the outcome of the risk assessment. Currently, Rochdale Borough Council is operating at a lower level of 35mm difference investigatory level. The risk assessment and repairs response times are the same apart from for a category 1, which the Greater Manchester document identifies as needing a response within 2 hours and Rochdale's is currently 1 hour.

The Greater Manchester policy identifies the minimum investigatory levels and response times. Rochdale has more onerous investigatory levels and response times and currently there are no plans to revise the existing policy on dealing with potholes.

Rochdale Borough Council is committing a £12million budget to resurface the roads and repair footpaths over the next three years.

Mayfair Gardens gullies

Mayfair Gardens has been swept and cleaned.

Roch Valley Way speed survey

The speed survey on Roch Valley Way is being conducted at this moment. Results will be shared with the forum. Councillor Sullivan would like to organise Community Speed Checks. The Police are willing to facilitate it and the high visibility nature required for health and safety certainly acts as a deterrent.

Transport for Greater Manchester confirm via their Urban Traffic Control Team that the CCTV camera covering the Manchester Road bus lane, Sudden is for monitoring only and is not used at all for enforcement and no Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued.

4. POLICE AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

Greater Manchester Police Inspector Robert MacGregor introduced himself to this Monday's Bamford and Oakenrod Area Forum as the new Neighbourhood Inspector responsible for the Bamford area, amongst others. He was unable to make this meeting, but he is clear on his desire to work with the community and wanted his contact details circulating
Robert.MacGregor@gmp.pnn.police.uk

No other Police Officer from the P1 Neighbourhood Team could make the meeting, but PCSO Nick Haile (who is currently covering Bamford Ward as well as Norden and Castleton due to the absence of PCSO Colin Taylor) had provided the crime figures for this area since the last meeting. There had been five residential burglaries. Entry was gained by windows and patio doors and in one of the cases by an open window. One of the burglaries was from a garage. Nine thefts from motor vehicles were reported with four thefts from left insecure vehicles and two thefts of motor vehicles. There had been five reports on anti-social behaviour. Nick asked for any concerns or issues to be sent to him at nicholas.haile@gmp.police.uk

Police And Community Together priorities are burglary and theft of motor vehicle.

Nick urges all to please be aware of security and lock their properties and vehicles and not to leave valuables on show.

A bogus male caller posing as a Council worker in a high visibility jacket obtained £60 from an elderly resident in Heywood to remove rubbish bags which he dumped around the corner. Diane Ludwig offered to conduct crime prevention surveys.

5. OPEN FORUM

Street Cleaning Customer Satisfaction Survey

Rochdale Borough Council's Street Cleaning Service Customer Satisfaction Survey was explained and available to all to complete. Two further surveys will follow later in the year; one on Refuse Collection Services and the other on Parks, Open Spaces and Horticultural Services. Several surveys were handed in at the end of the meeting.

Holborn Street fly tipping

Fly tipping has been reported in the ginnel in the vicinity of 70 Holborn Street and a massive amount on the land at the rear of that row of houses. Diane Lodwig will check for evidence and then have it cleaned up.

Brimrod Lane damaged grass verge

The grassed area on Brimrod Lane has been seriously damaged by vehicles driving and parking on to it. Rochdale Boroughwide Housing will be asked to make it good and also consider measures to either provide hard standing car parking or grasscrete or prevent vehicles from driving on to it, which has been asked previously but no funding was available at that time.

Blocked drains

Drains on old Manchester Road in Sudden Village are completely blocked and clearly packed solid to the top. It is a persistent problem with them blocking and a request was made to have them cleaned and investigated.

Rochdale In Bloom

Dan Hall asked for volunteers to help in any way they can with In Bloom to brighten up the area with planting schemes. The four baskets are to be returned to the village green near the Mini.

Ward Councillors contact details are available on the Council's website:

Councillor Ian Duckworth
Telephone: 01706 648393
Email: ian.duckworth@rochdale.gov.uk

Councillor Jane Howard
Telephone: 07870 172144
Email: jane.howard@rochdale.gov.uk

Councillor Pat Sullivan
Telephone: 0161 762 1129 or 07967 985240
Email: patricia.sullivan@rochdale.gov.uk

Rochdale Council Officers:

Township Officer - Stuart Hay
Telephone: 01706 922230
Email: stuart.hay@rochdale.gov.uk

Public Realm Inspector - Diane Lodwig
Telephone: 01706 922226
Email: diane.lodwig@rochdale.gov.uk

6. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Thursday 31 May 2018 at 6.30pm in Brimrod Methodist Church.