

# **BAMFORD AND OAKENROD AREA FORUM**

**Monday 13 June 2016**  
**Bamford Chapel, Norden Road, Rochdale**

## **MINUTES**

**Present:** I. Sturrock (Chair), N. Kirby, K. Riley, S. Williams, D. Moss, P. Moss, R. Mallinder, B. Taylor, J. Silverwood, R. Silverwood, C. Lord, B. Griffiths, A. Shorrocks, G. Whitehead, B. Colligan, H.M. Colligan, R. Doyle, B. Langan, J. Langan, J. Pearsall, S. Grindrod, C. Reid and L. Reid

**Officers:** Rochdale Council: S. Hay, Townships and GMP: PCSOs Martin Smith and Ashley Phillips

**Councillors:** Ian Duckworth and Jane Howard

**Apologies:** Councillor James Gartside, Councillor Pat Sullivan, D. Lodwig, Mr and Mrs Akhtar

### **1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

### **2. CODE OF CONDUCT**

A copy of the code of conduct was circulated with the papers, and all were asked to abide by the code for the duration of the meeting.

### **3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING**

The minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 14 March 2016 were agreed as an accurate record and the following updates were provided.

#### **Bamford Green fencing**

The bird beak fencing has been installed around Bamford Green and is looking good. The mound is still to be flattened and trench filled in.

#### **Bamford Mews bins**

Environmental Management's Participation Officer has contacted residents of Bamford Mews to resolve the bin collection problem.

#### **Blocked drains**

The Officer dealing with the Bury Road culvert issue has contacted the resident direct and the Clean and Green Team has cleaned up the area. The resident requested that the Officer forward his Action Plan and he asked for the brambles to be further cut back.

**Action: Forward Officer Action Plan to resident and request cutting back of brambles (Stuart Hay)**

### **4. POLICE AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER**

PCSOs Martin Smith and Ashley Phillips provided a summary of the crime statistics for the last quarter.

Sixteen burglary dwellings, along the Bury Road corridor, have occurred with the method of entry

via smashing the rear doors or windows. The pattern suggested homes where the occupiers had gone away were targeted. There was one burglary where the occupier was at home and the offender ran off. A burglary had occurred on Inchfield Close where the house was gutted by fire. Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service and GMP are continuing to investigate the cause.

Two prolific offenders had been very recently arrested, one of whom was on a Prison Licence and went straight back to prison. The forum was advised there is substantial evidence on both for numerous offences. Another offender was arrested and charged with a burglary on Cambridge Avenue. Burglary remains the Policing priority and operations are ongoing.

The speed awareness van had been deployed in the area on Bury Road.

Two off road motor bikes had been seized last week on Mandale Park and an operation to combat the issue is due to take place.

## **5. TREE OF TIME: ROCHDALE BOROUGH TIMEBANK**

Natasha Kirby, Senior Development Officer from Rochdale Solutions, outlined the purpose of Rochdale Borough Timebank. The Timebank is a way for organisations, groups, enterprises and individuals to share resources, skills and knowledge without money changing hands. The scheme is commissioned until August. Full safeguarding checks are in place and a Timebank coordinator is always in attendance. A leaflet explaining the Timebank was made available to all together with a skills exchange questionnaire and an application form.

## **6. GP CARE SERVICES**

Gail Whitehead, Chief Officer of GP Care Services, gave a presentation about the Boroughwide service, commissioned by HMR Clinical Commissioning Group as a pilot scheme lasting until March 2017 and she made literature available to all. The service is intended to give additional access to primary care, namely GPs and Practice Nurses, as not all people for a variety of reasons can attend GPs Surgeries during core hours (normally 0830 to 1800 hours). The additional service is available from 1830 to 2100 hours Monday to Friday, 0800 to 1800 on Saturdays and 1000 to 1300 hours on Sundays. A scoping exercise was carried out in the Borough and as a result four Surgeries were selected, Birtle View in Heywood, Peterloo in Middleton, Littleborough Group Practice and the Kingsway Practice.

The additional service can be accessed either by ringing one's own Practice or ringing the single point of contact number managed by BARDOC. The service is aimed at non urgent complaints and will be triaged by BARDOC (you will not necessarily get to see your own GP or Practice Nurse, but your medical records will be available to whichever Doctor or Nurse you see provided you consent and your own GP can view any consultation you have). Diagnostics can be done through blood test and ECGs.

All thirty three GP Surgeries in the Borough are covered and appointments can be booked up to a month in advance. Receptionists have a list of the nearest available Chemists to dispense any prescriptions.

It is expected that by the end of the pilot scheme GP Surgeries will stay open later, although there is a shortage of GPs coming through the system.

## **7. OPEN FORUM**

Councillor Jane Howard was introduced and thanked for her hard work already.

### **Parking near Bamford Primary School**

Vehicles are being parked indiscriminately (both where parking regulations are in force and where there are none) causing obstructions at school dropping off and picking up times in the vicinity of Bamford Primary School, particularly on Plover Close, Martlet Avenue and Curlew Close.

**Action: Request civilian enforcement visits and Police attention (Stuart Hay)**

### **Japanese Knotweed problem**

Japanese Knotweed has been reported on the banks of the River Roch between the Harrow Drive area and the footbridge at the back of Springfield Park, and on the footpath off Edenfield Road next to Lower Green Cottage and the Golf Club entrance, down to the club. The knotweed is spreading in the valley and Rochdale Council will treat any found on its own land. Himalayan Balsam is also rife.

**Action: Arrange treatment on any Rochdale Council land (Stuart Hay)**

### **Oulder Hill Drive trees**

Two of the Rowan trees planted on Oulder Hill Drive are dead and need replacing.

**Action: Request removal and replacement (Stuart Hay)**

### **Roch Valley Way Litter Bins**

A lack of litter bins on Roch Valley Way was reported and a request made for the area to be assessed and the necessary bins installed.

**Action: Request assessment of bin requirements (Stuart Hay)**

### **Murrayfield Potholes**

Three very large holes in the road on Murrayfield that have been repaired several times and are now worse than ever need a proper patch repair as opposed to simply filling them in. One hole is at the entrance to Murrayfield on Norden Road, the other two are going towards War Office Road near the end of the bushes and are very obvious.

**Action: Request inspection and proper patch repairs (Stuart Hay)**

### **Queens Park Road/Bury and Rochdale Old Road Traffic Lights**

The traffic lights at the Queens Park Road and Bury and Rochdale Old Road are not working and will be reported.

### **Rochdale Town Centre Improvements**

The opening up of the River in Rochdale Town Centre is looking fantastic, is a great asset and well worth a visit and the new fully refurbished restaurant in the Town Hall is excellent.

### **Blocked drain on Clay Lane**

The drain near the Water Treatment plant on Clay Lane is blocked again and a request was made for it be inspected and cleared. Councillor Howard is exploring the possibility of resurrecting the scheme to install expansion tanks under The Green.

**Action: Request inspection and clearance of drain (Stuart Hay)**

### **Mojito's**

Mojito's are again spilling out on to and obstructing the footpaths with people, tables and chairs together with the associated noise. Some obstructions may be on private property.

**Action: Request Head of Licencing to conduct visits and deal with the issues (Stuart Hay)**

Ward Councillors hold a surgery from 1000 hours to 1100 hours on the first Thursday of each month in Bamford Chapel (although they often go beyond 1100 hours).

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

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Councillor Jane Howard  
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Councillor Pat Sullivan  
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Township Officer Stuart Hay  
Telephone: 01706 922230  
Email: stuart.hay@rochdale.gov.uk

**8. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 5 September 2016 at 6.30pm  
Bamford Chapel