

BRIMROD, MARLAND AND SUDDEN AREA FORUM

Thursday 14 September 2017
Brimrod Methodist Church, Roch Valley Way,
Rochdale

MINUTES

Present: B. Hudson (Chair), B. Frost, D. Frost, D. Hall, G. Birch, K. Huggett, K. Khan, B. Goodwin, M. Davies, L. Stansfield and J. Welby

Councillors: Pat Sullivan

Officers: Rochdale Borough Council: S. Hay (Townships), C. Schroder (Community Safety) and D. Lodwig (Public Realm Inspector)

Apologies: Councillor Ian Duckworth, Councillor Jane Howard, M. Hamer, F. Hamer, L. Bamford and G. Crossley

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 22 June 2017 were agreed and the following updates were given.

Fly tipping

Numerous reports of continuing fly tipping around Holborn Street had again been reported and removed since the last meeting. Currently the area is clean and tidy and thanks were given to Diane Lodwig for both cleaning the area up and engaging with residents.

Road surfaces

The poor state of the road surface on Holborn Street at the junction with Mayfair Gardens was marked out and some of it repaired to a high standard, but the rest left marked out. Highways have been asked to complete the works. The repainting of the road markings at the junction of Holborn Street and Finsbury Street was requested some time ago and it has been chased up by Councillor Sullivan.

Overgrown weeds on Cotton Lane

Cotton Lane has been cleared of overgrown weeds and nettles.

4. POLICE AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

Crime figures since the last meeting on 22 June 2017 are improved.

- Four burglary dwellings have taken place (two of which were attempts and one at an empty property where nothing was stolen).

- Two thefts from motor vehicles where items were left on display and three thefts of motor vehicle (two of the vehicles were stolen in a burglary on Lime Street). A prolific vehicle crime offender has been arrested and charged and is currently being monitored on a Tag Curfew awaiting a trial date.
- Two criminal damages (one where a taxi was kicked).
- A number of complaints about youths playing football and being verbally abusive to Brimrod Lane residents are being dealt with in conjunction with Rochdale Boroughwide Housing.

Emergency Services in Greater Manchester have teamed up to help young people aged at least sixteen stay safe on the roads in a Safe Drive Stay Alive Campaign. New drivers with friends are invited to attend an emotionally engaging road safety performance based around a series of short films and presentations on Thursday 9 November 2017 from 7pm to 8.30pm at the Middleton Arena. The event is completely free and there is a chance to win an iPad. Details are available on the website www.SafeDriveGM.co.uk or book a place at safedrivegm@manchesterfire.gov.uk

The Dutch Reach technique of safely opening vehicle doors to avoid hitting cyclists was praised and highlighted.

A discussion on the best method to telephone the Police took place with examples given and circumstances when to use the 101 non-emergency number as opposed to 999 emergencies only number.

5. OPEN FORUM

Community Coordinator

Carlo Schroder, Rochdale Borough Council Community Coordinator from Neighbourhood Services, outlined his Home Office funded role to positively bring communities together and counter extremism and he raised awareness of Hate Crime reporting.

Green belt land

An update was provided on the latest Greater Manchester Combined Authority Spatial Framework from 16 August 2017 in which it gave thanks to members of the public for the 27,000 responses to their initial consultation on the initial draft of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework. The next stages of the process will start in September 2017 with the publication of some of those responses. This activity will be followed later in the year by the publication of data and associated sources of information that will help inform the next draft such as population estimates. The second draft of the plan will then be developed in the new year with a view to be published in June 2018. This re-write will take into account concerns raised in the consultation by aiming to make the most of Greater Manchester's brownfield sites and reduce the impact on the green belt and there will be a further twelve week consultation with the public.

The Bamford Greenbelt Action Group have identified and submitted to Rochdale Borough Council twenty one brownfield sites in the Borough suitable for development (only one of which is in Bamford at the rear of 91 Norden Road, for which there is already a planning application in from McCarthy and Stone Retirement Lifestyles Limited to demolish 91 Norden Road and develop a thirty apartment building with access and parking). The application is still open for public comment.

Block gullies

Councillor Sullivan expressed the need for residents to report blocked gullies, especially with the autumn leaf fall where gullies and drains can become blocked very quickly. From this month, Rochdale Council crews will be clearing leaves to stop pavements and roads becoming slippery/messy and to prevent road gullies becoming blocked. Although there is a programme of work, reports from local residents are very useful and will help the Council to prioritise the cleaning and lower the number that get missed. Well maintained gullies help to ensure the drainage is working as effectively as possible. Blocked gullies and drains should be reported to the Council online or telephone 0300 303 8879. Gullies reported will be added to a prioritised work list and attended to.

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

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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
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6. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Thursday 7 December 2017 at 6.30pm in Brimrod Methodist Church