

# **BAMFORD AREA FORUM**

**Monday 21 August 2023  
Bamford Chapel Norden Road,  
Rochdale OL11 5PQ**

## **MINUTES**

**Present:** K Smith (Chair) and 15 members of the public

**Councillors:** Councillor A Smith

**Officers:** R Hudson (Townships, Rochdale Borough Council)  
C Cordingley (Community Safety, Rochdale Borough Council)

**Apologies:** Councillor P Sullivan, Councillor S Anstee, GMP and 3 members of the public

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

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. Thanks and best wishes were expressed by the Chair, Councillors and all members of the area forum to Stuart Hay, Township Officer, for his excellent work and commitment over many years. He has recently retired from his position within the Council and he will be greatly missed by all.

### **2. CODE OF CONDUCT AND TERMS OF REFERENCE**

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.

Attention was also drawn to the Terms of Reference document for all non-constituted local area forums in the Rochdale area.

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

The minutes of the last area forum held on Wednesday 31 May 2023 were agreed with the following matters arising.

#### **Matters Arising**

##### **Norden Road interactive speed signs**

Highways have now confirmed that the interactive speed signs are not working due to malfunctions with the interactive units. An application for funding will be heard at the next Rochdale South Delegated Sub-Committee for replacement signs to be installed.

##### **Oulder Hill - Penalty charges notices served**

A request was previously made for information about the number of tickets issued by Rochdale Borough Council Parking Services in the area. It was confirmed that the total number of penalty charges notices served between the dates of 1 December 2022 to 31 May 2023 was 48.

##### **Bamford Way fly-tipped waste**

A resident had raised a query at the last forum regarding a fly-tipped builder's bag/sack left outside a property on Bamford Way after rebuilding works were finished to the property and they asked could it be removed. Townships requested the waste to be collected and disposed of by the Council's Environmental Management Department. It was reported that the bag/sack is still in situ but the building works are actually ongoing at the property.

#### **4. GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE**

Apologies were received from GMP prior to the meeting, due to the annual leave of officers.

Councillor Anstee previously requested that the new PC's contact details are emailed to the Township Officer so that they can be added to the minutes.

**Action: GMP to update the Township Officer with PC Peter Smith Emanuel's contact details to add to the minutes**

The forum previously requested GMP provide figures on how many tickets have been issued since the warning signs to deter indiscriminate parking were erected near the Oulder Hill businesses area.

**Action: GMP to provide stats on how many tickets have been issued near the Oulder Hill businesses area since signs erected**

#### **'Bee in the Loop'**

This is a new initiative by GMP which is a messaging service, in addition to their social media channels, to communicate with residents/businesses in each area regarding incidents/emergencies, to pass on crime prevention advice and to help shape local priorities for officers to concentrate on. Residents can sign up to it via the website [www.beeintheloop.co.uk](http://www.beeintheloop.co.uk)

#### **5. SAVE BAMFORD GREENBELT ACTION GROUP - UPDATE**

The Chair agreed this additional item to be added to the agenda and an update was provided by A Ripley on behalf of the group with a recap of all actions up to present day. The hearings have now taken place and a team of three planning inspectors considered all consultation responses received. No report has been produced as of yet from the hearings and GMCA now will have to resubmit their plan with modifications to each of the 9 Councils in September. It is highly likely that the plan will be accepted and will then again go out to consultation by the public for the period of 8 weeks around the time of November to December 2023. The action group will of course be putting forward another strong case against the development. All responses received will be analysed and compiled into a report again. It was explained that all the current efforts are regarding a plan and not a planning application, therefore, all efforts are regarding assessing it from a procedural angle and the inspection is purely to determine whether it has been compiled properly and trying to prove otherwise. The Chair expressed thanks to the group members for all of their dedicated time, effort and commitment to the cause over the past few years.

A query was raised regarding the Crimble Mill Development of 150 apartments which will be heard by the Planning Committee this Thursday.

#### **6. COUNCILLOR UPDATES**

Councillor Smith provided the update to the forum as follows.

- Councillor Smith advised that she still intends to pursue GMP officers for a response on previous concerns raised regarding speeding on Bury Road first thing in the morning, speeding along Battersby Street and also vehicles accessing Half Acre Lane from both ends of the one way street.
- Concerns about anti-social behaviour on Bamford Green will also be raised with GMP as it has again been a regular occurrence during the summer months with youths gathering and damaging planters, destroying flowers and littering.
- Residents have also reported drug dealing at the top of Battersby Street at the junction with Half Acre Road. This issue will be escalated to GMP.
- A new litter bin has been installed at the end of Norden Road.
- Bury Road/Moorgate Avenue has now been resurfaced and it has taken three days. Feedback from residents has been very positive.
- Double yellow lines at the junction of Chepstow and Clay Lane have been approved but not yet installed.

- Roch Valley Way junction improvement works are still not confirmed with a start date, much to the disappointment of the local Ward Councillors. Highways have advised they are awaiting confirmation from TfGM regarding a design on the layout of the junction. Councillor Anstee expressed major concerns to the Chair of Rochdale South Township about the continued delay to the start of this scheme and he is worried the funding, which is only in place until the end of this year, will elapse. He requested Highways confirm a definite start date and chase TfGM.
- Your local Ward Councillors are always pleased to meet with residents for a chat or to hear their concerns. Surgeries are the first Thursday of each month, Bamford Chapel from 10am to 11am and Brimrod Methodist Church from 11.15am to 12 noon.

## **7. OPEN FORUM**

### **Bury Road resurfacing**

A resident enquired when the rest of Bury Road will be resurfaced. Councillor Smith advised that Highways have it planned out in sections over the next few years.

### **Woodtop Avenue pothole**

A large pothole was reported situated outside 6 Woodtop Avenue measuring 45" long, 20" wide and 6" deep. It has apparently been marked up for 6 to 8 weeks but nothing has been done and it is causing problems to drivers along the road who are having to swerve to avoid damage to their cars.

**Action: Councillor Smith to raise the issue with the Council's Highways Department**

### **Bamford/Bury Road Parking Campaign Group – Update**

A representative from the group advised the forum that they have requested a meeting with GMP and they have held a meeting with the new cabinet member, Councillor Wazir, to discuss their ongoing concerns. There is also a meeting arranged for the end of September at Number One Riverside with stakeholders, members of the group, Councillors and Highways. Councillor Smith advised that Councillors are attempting to get a walk-around and more pop-up meetings secured with GMP for Bamford.

### **Beeline Cycle Lane – Contact details**

It was requested by residents to include in the minutes the contact details of the Highways officer who is dealing with enquiries regarding the scheme – Alex Whittaker 01706 924534

[alex.whittaker@rochdale.gov.uk](mailto:alex.whittaker@rochdale.gov.uk)

## **8. MEMBERS/WARD FUNDS**

Residents were advised that the current Township funds for this financial year are now available and any ideas or initiatives to improve the local area or give benefit to any community groups or associations are always welcome. Discuss with your local Ward Councillors or the Township Officer.

### **Bamford Ward Councillors hold the following surgeries:**

Bamford Chapel URC

Norden Road, Bamford, Rochdale OL11 5PQ

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month 10.00am - 11.00am

Brimrod Methodist Church

Roch Valley Way, Rochdale OL11 4PZ

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month 11.15am - 12pm

### **Ward Councillors**

Councillor Stephen Anstee

Telephone: 07870 172144

Email: [stephen.anstee@rochdale.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.anstee@rochdale.gov.uk)

Councillor Angela Smith  
Telephone: 07710 297377  
Email: angela.smith@rochdale.gov.uk

Councillor Pat Sullivan  
Telephone: 07967 985240  
Email: patricia.sullivan@rochdale.gov.uk

**Rochdale Borough Council Officers**

Rachel Hudson, Township Officer  
Telephone: 01706 924343  
Email: rachel.hudson@rochdale.gov.uk

Mick Ball, Public Realm Inspector  
Telephone: 01706 922634  
Email: mick.ball@rochdale.gov.uk

Charles Cordingley, Community Safety, Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour Officer  
Telephone: 01706 924984  
Email: charles.cordingley@rochdale.gov.uk

**Greater Manchester Police**

PC Tim McCluskey  
Telephone: 07393 782312  
Email: timothy.mccluskey@gmp.police.uk

PCSO 72831 Kiran Kazmi  
Telephone: 07814 072902  
Email: 72831@gmp.police.uk

**9. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 23 November 2023 at 6.30pm