

BAMFORD AND OAKENROD AREA FORUM

**Monday 14 March 2016
Bamford Chapel, Norden Road, Rochdale**

MINUTES

Present: I. Sturrock (Chair), Dr. J. Pearsall, B. Colligan, H. M. Colligan, J.S. Taylor, J. M. Taylor, J. Stevenson, D. Stevenson, K. Flett, K. Riley, I. Plant, M. Arshad, W. E. Griffiths, M. Burton, J. Warner, J. Howard, S. Williams, A. Khan, S. Doyle and A. Teuton

Officers: Rochdale Council: S. Hay, Townships and GMP: PC 4409 K. Wynne

Councillors: Ian Duckworth, Jane Gartside and Pat Sullivan

Apologies: Diane Lodwig, Paul Ellison, Ruth Doyle and Anne Shorrock

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 7 December 2015 were agreed as an accurate record and the following updates were given.

Bamford Green

Environmental Management is managing the installation of the bird beak fencing around the large part of Bamford Green. The concrete maintenance strip has been fitted and the works should be completed soon. Steve Williams, who originally suggested the bird beak fencing as an alternative to boulders, criticised the workmanship of the concrete strip and asked questions about the cost, approval of the contract, specifications of the contract and the guarantee. He was assured the contract was tendered and awarded to the cheapest quote for exactly the same specifications, and his questions will be submitted to Environmental Management for direct answers to him.

Rochdale Council cut down a damaged tree and left the debris on the Green. A resident has moved the large branches and a request for the area to be cleaned will be made.

Blocked drains

The drains on Bury Road from Norden Road to Queens Park Road have been cleaned and scheduled to be cleaned again in June 2016. Also drains on War Office Road at the junction of Bury Road near The Winston Churchill have been cleaned and will be cleaned again in June 2016. A full drainage survey has been ordered on Norden Road and part of Bagslate Moor Road following the Boxing Day floods and will show any defects on these gullies. The report back from the maintenance contractor is awaited.

The road gully at the junction with Norden Road and Bagslate Moor Road is on the list to be

repaired and will be done when funding is available.

Residents of Porritt Close are satisfied with Rochdale Council's actions.

Bamford Precinct

The Mojitos Wine Bar planning appeal failed and was dismissed thanks to the residents' efforts with the support of the Ward Councillors, the proposed extension will not go ahead.

4. POLICE AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

PC Kathryn Wynne reported on the crime statistics for December 2015 to March 2016 and a handout was made available to all.

Burglary dwellings had increased by five to twenty eight and of these, one third were attempts where no entry was gained or property stolen.

Thefts from motor vehicles were down to seven, four of which were thefts from insecure vehicles.

Two significant arrests had been made for a burglary on Mansfield Road and a further two for a serious burglary on Linnell Drive in which a vehicle was stolen and rammed into a Police vehicle injuring an Officer. One of the offenders was from Whitworth, the other from Rochdale, and both are remanded in custody for trial charged with burglary, aggravated vehicle taking, wounding and disqualified driving one was only just out of prison.

Access to a house on Camberley Drive was via an upper window gained by climbing on to a flat roof.

A positive fingerprint identification has come back for a burglary on Ford Gardens which is to be followed up.

High visibility speeding initiatives have been conducted on Norden Road where in a thirty minute period 150 vehicles passed of which four were travelling in excess of 30mph and on War Office Road where out of 56 vehicles two were in excess of 30mph, one at 35 and one at 38. It was accepted that due to the high visibility drivers slow down but legislation requires Officers to be in high visibility. The areas will be revisited including evening time and an initiative will be carried out on Bury Road. The criterion for the installation of static speed cameras was discussed.

From May this year, Rochdale Police are reorganising their resources to make them more effective. PC Wynne will be permanently teamed up with PCSOs Taylor and Whelan and dedicated to the area and they will be working the same shifts as the Castleton and Norden Teams and can join up to tackle problems. PC Wynne had attended the meeting in her own time as she was on a rest day and was thanked for her commitment and effort.

5. ROCHDALE BOROUGH TIME BANK

Rochdale Borough Time Bank will attend the next forum on Monday 13 June 2016.

6. OPEN FORUM

Rochdale Solutions

A representative from Rochdale Solutions was to attend the forum to give a presentation as the new provider of community opportunities in the Borough for adult residents. Rochdale Solutions will be invited to the next forum as it was pointed out Bamford and Norden Wards have by far a larger number of elderly and lonely residents than other parts of the Borough.

Rochdale Circle meet weekly every Monday morning 11am to 12 noon in the Old Norden Library and none members are welcome. The attendance is usually disappointing. Organisations and professional attend to offer help and advice.

Noted there is a community coffee morning every Thursday at the Bamford Chapel.

Consultation on Draft Guidelines and Standards for Residential Development Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) February 2016

The purpose of the proposed Guidelines and Standards for Residential Development Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is to assist in the process of ensuring high quality residential development throughout the Borough. It provides detailed guidance on:

- Specific aspects of new residential development, such as bin storage and car parking space requirements;
- Space standards for new residential developments, such as minimum distances between windows of neighbouring properties;
- Extensions to existing dwellings;
- Specific kinds of residential development such as barn conversions.

It is important in developing the final version of the Guidelines & Standards for Residential Development SPD to have the views of local residents, key stakeholders and other interested parties. A public consultation on the draft document is taking place from 8 February to 1 April 2016.

Where to view and how to comment

The draft document can be viewed electronically on the Council's website at <http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/consultations>. Printed copies of the draft SPD are available in any of the Borough's libraries. Views on the draft SPD are required by **Friday 1 April 2016**. Using the online form on the website is the easiest way to respond; alternatively

Email comments to: LDF.consultation@rochdale.gov.uk

Post comments to: Strategic Planning Services, Number One Riverside, Smith Street, Rochdale OL16 1XU

Any queries or problems in responding, contact Strategic Planning emailing LDF.consultation@rochdale.gov.uk or telephone on 01706 924252.

Land on Swift Road and Cut Lane

Councillor Sullivan reported the good news about two pieces of land Rochdale Council was considering disposing of on Swift Road and Cut Lane have been lifted from sale and will not be disposed of; this is again due to the efforts of the residents with the support of Ward Councillors. Residents have taken further steps to protect the land by applying for Village Green status which will be considered by another Authority.

Ashworth Road area fly tipping

Fly tipping in the Ashworth Road area was reported, ie rubbish, settees, fridges and even drugs paraphernalia. Norden Ward Councillors are aware and arranging a clean-up.

Bamford Mews bins

Bamford Mews residents, a thirty two house complex, highlighted they do not have any brown bins and consequently it was agreed to empty their waste bins on a weekly basis. Residents reported this is not occurring and they need brown bins. It was noted that Rochdale Council has improved recycling rates massively which is saving money.

Action: Request Participation Officer to contact residents to resolve (Stuart Hay)

Bury Road damaged culvert

The culvert on land adjacent to 662 Bury Road is damaged and contaminated, and it is to be investigated using a camera. A request will be made for an update report and any proposed action. The land is overgrown with brambles and needs cutting back as it is attracting rubbish and rats.

It was confirmed that the missing bins on Bury Road will be replaced shortly with some additional ones.

Action: Request an update on the culvert and request clearance of shrubbery (Stuart Hay)

Council Tax bills

The Council Tax bills for 2016/17 are in the process of being sent out; some residents have already received their bill. A discussion on the 2% rise for Adult Care took place and one resident stated the standard of explanation of costs is not as good or informative as previous. Councillor Duckworth will contact the resident direct and give a full explanation. It was noted that there had been no increase in Council Tax for four years and comment made that services had been cut in that time.

Wood Top Avenue trees

The trees on the green on Wood Top Avenue have finally been planted and it was agreed they are looking very good.

Bamford Chapel

The forum was informed a lot of work is ongoing at Bamford Chapel and it is looking marvellous. An open morning has been arranged this Saturday 19 March 2016 between 10am and 12 noon, all welcome.

Councillor Jane Gartside

The Chair thanked Councillor Jane Gartside for her magnificent hard work and sterling effort over thirty three years of public service to the Community and presented her with a bunch of flowers in total appreciation.

The Ward Councillors hold a Surgery from 10am to 11am on the first Thursday of each month in Bamford Chapel, although they often go beyond 11am. 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 Gartside
Telephone: 01706 658443 or 07812 228281
Email: jane.gartside@rochdale.gov.uk

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

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

7. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 13 June 2016 at 6.30pm
Bamford Chapel