

# Public Document Pack

## SPOTLAND AND FALINGE AREA FORUM

Thursday, 24 August 2017

### MINUTES

**Present:** D. Kay, H. Kay, K. Rickards, John & Jennifer Fleming, N. Morrell, M. Oliver, S. Ashworth, H. Barlow, K. Lawrence, J. Moss, Mr & Mrs Forden, B. Fitton, D. Holden, P. Massey (Chair), M. Coats, R. Le Monnier, R. Heap, Mr & Mrs Somerville, B. Patterson, C. Dodgson, A. Thomas, N. Brierley, J. Brierley, John & Jacqueline Ashworth, J. Heap, C. Faulkner, B. Holden and J. Hayes.

**Officers:** PCSO K. Vohra, PC P. Jones, C. Schroder (Community Co-ordinator) and G. Finch (Township & Engagement Officer)

**Councillors:** W. Cocks, C. Biant & S. Biant

**Apologies:** J. Molyneux, M. Rashid, Mr and Mrs Rawsterne and Jason Addy.

#### 83 **WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, APOLOGIES AND CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested that the Forum respect the Code of Conduct for the duration of the meeting.

Apologies had been received from J. Molyneux, M. Rashid, Mr and Mrs Rawsterne and Jason Addy.

Carlo Schroder, Community Co-ordinator introduced himself to the Forum.

#### 84 **GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE INCLUDING PACT MEETING**

PC P. Jones and PCSO K. Vohra attended the meeting for this item.

The Forum was informed that anti-social behaviour and criminal damage had slightly increased over recent weeks. However this was attributed to the fact that young people were off school due to the school holidays.

Burglaries and incidents of theft from motor vehicles and theft of motor vehicles had reduced.

The Forum was also informed that a recently held 'off road bike' initiative was a success. GMP has also established an off road bike team.

More information about off-road bikes can be found via the link below.

[Off-road bikes in your community](http://democracy.rochdale.gov.uk/documents/s57110/Off%20Road%20Bikes%20Information.pdf)

<http://democracy.rochdale.gov.uk/documents/s57110/Off%20Road%20Bikes%20Information.pdf>

Residents raised concerns about speeding in the area; Cutgate Road and Longfield Road being identified as problem areas.

#### 85 **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING/MATTERS ARISING/UPDATES**

The minutes of the Area Forum held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017 were approved as a correct record.

A resident asked for clarification on which residents' representatives have been involved in the development of the emergency response plan for the TBA site.

The Township and Engagement Officer agreed to investigate this.

The following updates were provided:

### 1. Meanwood School Fencing

The Forum was informed that Friends of Denehurst Park had declined the offer to install the fencing in the park. As a consequence it would be necessary to identify other appropriate sites within the Ward. Ideas put forward included Spotland Bridge, Catley Lane Head and Beaufort Street.

The resident who is proposing to restore the fencing asked if it would be possible to obtain a fence panel to undertake restoration work.

The Township and Engagement Officer agreed to investigate this further.

### 2. Safety Barrier - Junction of Sandy Lane / Viking Street

Following the receipt of a number of complaints about the above safety barrier Highways had provided the following statement;

Why was the barrier installed?

The barrier was installed as a Township Committee approved safety initiative following a high speed car accident that had occurred at this junction in winter 2016.

Was there any public consultation regarding the barrier?

The barrier installation was discussed at the Spotland and Failinge Area Forum on at least two occasions and the decision to go ahead with the installation was made at the Rochdale Township Action and Resources Delegated Sub Committee on the 07/03/2017.

What type of barrier has been used?

Armco barrier has been used in this location due to its ability to absorb impacts and deflect vehicles away from the footpath in the event of an accident. Other barrier types were not suitable at this location due to the high speed of previous accidents.

Safety Issues

The barrier has been installed to the specification for Armco however we do take on board comments around the exposed blunt edges and we are currently working with the contractor to come up with a solution to eliminate any risks that these may pose to pedestrians.

Parking issues

In response to the barrier taking up parking spaces, The Highway Code states that motorists should not park on the public footpath unless there are signs permitting this as this can cause obstructions and inconveniences to pedestrians. As the barrier is wholly placed within the footpath it is not deemed that any genuine parking facilities have been lost.

A local Ward Councillor also advised the Forum that Highways had declined the request to progress the installation of a barrier on the corner of Edenfield Road / Sandy Lane because it would not be suitable on safety grounds.

### 3. Section 106 Funds

The Township and Engagement Officer circulated information which explained the process for modifying Section 106 agreements. A link to this is below.

[Policy background](http://democracy.rochdale.gov.uk/documents/s57111/Policy%20background.pdf)

<http://democracy.rochdale.gov.uk/documents/s57111/Policy%20background.pdf>

It was also explained that the Ings Lane play area development has not progressed because a fully costed scheme is required before Section 106 funds can be sought.

#### 4. TBA Questionnaire

A response to the TBA questionnaire that was submitted at the last forum meeting was circulated. A link to this is below.

#### [Response to TBA questionnaire](http://democracy.rochdale.gov.uk/documents/s57112/Response%20to%20TBA%20questionnaire.pdf)

<http://democracy.rochdale.gov.uk/documents/s57112/Response%20to%20TBA%20questionnaire.pdf>

#### 5. Cutgate Road

Forum members were informed that financial support for the introduction of traffic calming and a 20mph zone scheme on Cutgate Road was agreed at Rochdale Township Action and Resources Delegated Sub-Committee on the 28<sup>th</sup> June 2016. It is understood that the consultation process in relation to this scheme will start within the next month.

It was also advised that consultation will take the form of a notice in the press and information posted on lamp posts.

#### 6. Dog Fouling

Alleygated area on Belvoir Street - this had been reported.

#### 7. Trees

Problems caused on Dellar Street because of overhanging trees had been addressed.

#### 8. Pot Holes

Tenby Street – this had been reported.

#### 9. Traffic Regulation Orders and Planning Applications

A resident asked if it would be possible to circulate notification of Traffic Regulation Orders and Planning Applications relevant to the Spotland and Falinge Ward via the Forum database.

The Township and Engagement Officer agreed to investigate this.

### 86 MEMBERS/WARD FUNDS

The Forum was informed that £8000 was available in Ward Funds.

Nigel Morrell, Chair of Norden Area Forum and Chair of Rochdale In Bloom explained the concept of the 'In Bloom' competition and the work undertaken by the Rochdale In Bloom Group. Congratulations were offered to the work undertaken in Spotland and Falinge Ward to support this year's 'In Bloom' competition and Forum members were encouraged to join the In Bloom Group. Councillors Cecile Biant and Cocks agreed to this together with residents P. Massey, Monica Oliver and Katie Lawrence.

Following discussion it was agreed to allocate £2000 from Ward Funds to support future 'in bloom' projects in the Ward.

Financial support had been allocated to the following projects from 2017/2018 Members Funds:

Councillor Cecile Biant

Rochdale Sports Club - £499  
Spotland Church Fridge Freezer - £401.98  
Spotland Church Sound System - £243.97

Funds remaining - £855.05

Councillor Surinder Biant

Rooley Moor Neighbourhood Forum – Community Consultation Event - £1000

Funds remaining - £1000

Councillor Wendy Cocks

Rooley Moor Neighbourhood Forum – Display Equipment - £1000

Funds remaining £1000

#### 87 **COUNCILLOR UPDATES/NEWS**

Each of the Ward Councillors provided a written update regarding current work issues. A link to each of these updates is provided below.

##### [Councillor Updates](http://democracy.rochdale.gov.uk/documents/s57113/Councillor%20Updates.pdf)

<http://democracy.rochdale.gov.uk/documents/s57113/Councillor%20Updates.pdf>

The Forum was also informed that an International Food Festival will be taking place on the 9<sup>th</sup> September in Falinge Park. The event is being organised by Vintage Worx.

The Chair also thanked the local Ward Councillors for the work they undertake in the Ward.

#### 88 **OPEN FORUM - AN OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS TO COMMENT ON ISSUES IN THE WARD**

Prior to the commencement of the Open Forum the Chair proposed that an additional meeting should be organised to deal with the findings of the TBA perimeter air sampling survey results. The Forum agreed to this.

The Township and Engagement Officer agreed to organise this meeting as soon as possible.

Residents raised the following issues:

##### 1. Events

The Chair informed the Forum that the next meeting of The Friends of Denehurst Park will be held on Thursday 21st September 2017 at Spotland Library commencing 6.30pm. He also informed the Forum that he had received information regarding events at Spotland Library and Spotland Community Association. It was agreed that this information should be circulated via the Forum database.

##### 2. Overgrown Hedges / Trees

Concerns were raised about overhanging trees / hedges on Beaufort Street and Woodland Road.

##### 3. Meanwood School – Roof Tiles

A resident asked why the ornate roof tiles had not been replaced on Meanwood School following the completion of the building work.

#### 4. Stop Signs

Safety concerns were raised about the junction at Spotland Bridge and if stop signs could be introduced.

#### 5. Barrier

A resident asked if the barrier between Bridgefold Road and Pits Farm Avenue could be re-opened.

#### 6. Installation of gates

A resident asked if gates could be installed within the two perimeter fences that divide Innes Close and the open space on Ings Lane.

#### 7. Alleygates

A resident asked why alleygates could not be installed on land adjacent to his property on Rupert Street.

#### 8. Churchill Street Footway

A resident raised concerns about the condition of the footway on Churchill Street

It was explained that a two year maintenance programme is in place and it will be checked if Churchill Street is on the list. The Township and Engagement Officer was also asked to provide copies of the maintenance programme for the next Area Forum meeting.

#### 9. Potholes – Cutgate Precinct Car Park

A resident commented that the above had not been repaired.

#### 10. Ings Lane Open Space

A resident asked if monies had been received from the building contractor for the use of part of the above land as a site compound.

The Township and Engagement Officer agreed to investigate this further.

#### 11. TBA

A discussion took place about the lack of information being provided regarding TBA and the lack of progress being made with the site. Residents expressed the view that they were dissatisfied, angry and frustrated with the current situation.

A resident asked if a representative from the land owners could attend the meeting that is to be organised once the perimeter air sampling survey results are known.

The Township and Engagement Officer agreed to raise this issue.

#### 12. Section 106 Agreement Modification

A resident informed the Forum that he had attended the Planning and Licensing Committee meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> August 2017 which agreed to modify the planning obligations contained within the Section 106 Agreement pertinent to the development on the former Alexander Drew Site, Mellor Street, Rochdale.

The resident informed the Forum that by taking this action the Local Authority had significantly reduced the financial contributions of the contractor towards off-site local open space, outdoor sports provision and junction improvement works. The resident also commented that he did not agree with some of the data within the report relating to reduced traffic flow in the area. He also commented that he was disappointed with the level of debate at the meeting and the lack of scrutiny of the evidence presented.

Councillor Surinder Biant who is a member of the Planning and Licensing Committee explained that issues of this nature are taken very seriously and a great deal of time and effort is afforded to understand the issues being discussed. It was explained that in making this decision all factors had to be taken into account including the advice provided by Officers at the meeting. Other Ward Councillors present concurred with this view.

#### **89 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of Spotland & Falinge Area Forum is planned for Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at 7pm (including Annual General Meeting) at Spotland Methodist Church.

The additional meeting of Spotland & Falinge Area Forum requested and agreed at the Forum meeting on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2017 will be organised as soon as possible.