

NORDEN AREA FORUM

Tuesday 6 March 2018
Norden Methodist Church, Edenfield Road
Norden, Rochdale

MINUTES

Present: N. Morrell (Chair), C. McHugh, M. Newnham, S & J Kershaw, M. Steward, A. Rawsterne, J. Oliver, I. Sturrock, C. Entwistle, P. Roberts, J. Lingard, D. Lawthron, D. Hilton, P. Massey and I. Pope

Councillors: Councillors Gartside, Holly and Winkler

Officers: R. Hudson (Rochdale Council - Townships) and D. Lodwig (Rochdale Council - Public Realm Inspector)

Apologies: PCSO N. Haille (GMP), S. Davison, M. Plane and J. Atkinson

1. INTRODUCTIONS, APOLOGIES AND CODE OF CONDUCT

The Chair introduced him and officers present, and welcomed all to the meeting. He referred to the code of conduct and asked all to abide by the code for the duration of the meeting.

2. MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 12 December 2017 were approved as a correct record.

Edenfield Road Grit Bin

Thanks given to local Ward Councillors for their purchase of grit bins at the locations of Edenfield Road and Bronte Close. The bin placed opposite St. Paul's Church had been well used during the recent bad weather.

Scout Moor Wind Farm

A resident posed a question to the Council's Planning Department at the previous forum which was escalated. No response has been given.

Woodhouse Lane

Residents previously advised a bollard had been knocked over at the entrance to Woodhouse Lane and needed resetting. This matter has been resolved.

Former Turner Brothers Site

Thanks from the Chair to Phil Massey in arranging meetings to seek answers to questions for members of the community.

Neighbourhood Plan

Meeting arranged for Saturday 31 March 2018 at 1pm in Norden Old Library. Further information can be found at www.nordenneighbourhoodforum.org.uk

Heritage Green

Decision on the Heritage Green is being determined by East Cheshire Council's Planning Department and it is due on 12 March 2018.

Forsyth Street

Residents previously reported anti-social behaviour problems on Forsyth Street and this matter has now been resolved. Thanks to all who assisted.

Elbut Lane

Highways have arranged for their contractor to infill the missing section of double yellow lines to deter vehicles from parking by the end of this week, however, this is weather dependant.

Woodhouse Lane

The refresh of the remaining road markings on Woodhouse Lane will take place this year. There is currently a backlog of lining works due to the wet weather, so at present, a definitive date for these works cannot be given.

The Norden Arms & Moorland Avenue

A funding request has been submitted to the Rochdale Township Action and Resources Sub Committee on 13 March 2018 to introduce waiting restrictions at the junction of Elmsfield Avenue and Edenfield Road. Highways are attempting to also include the junction of Moorland Avenue and Edenfield Road.

Rooley Moor Neighbourhood Forum Update

A Rawsterne attended and advised Rooley Moor Neighbourhood Forum had recently received a Heritage Lottery grant along with partnership funding from the Council for an initiative to record the history and heritage of the area. A meeting to be held on Sunday 18 March at 3.30pm in Healey Dell Tearooms and Norden residents are welcome to attend. No update is available on the Shawfield Turbine.

3. GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE

Apologies were received from N. Haille (GMP). Update given via the Chair for the period 14 December 2017 to 6 March 2018:

Anti-social behaviour: 4
Burglary (residential dwelling): 14
Commercial burglary: 1
Theft from motor vehicle: 7
Theft of motor vehicle: 2

Operation Dragster: (28 January 2018) 2 motorcycles and 2 4x4's were seized. 14 Section 56 warnings were issued.

Speed Operation: 11 automatic fines were generated.

PACT - Priorities agreed:

1. Burglary
2. YCA
3. Drugs

Residents discussed waiting times for response on the 101 line. Residents urged to persevere with the line. Councillor Winkler advised it is possible to 'live chat' over the GMP website. The Chair emphasised the need for residents to ensure that incidents they see are properly noted and a crime number given, where necessary. This action is very important in the era of "intelligence led policing".

Any issues/matters to be reported to the Police by ringing 101.

4. COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Caldershaw Play Area

Councillor Holly gave an update on the additional features of hopscotch, snakes and ladders and also a dice spinner to the development, stating those should be installed hopefully by the end of April. The knee-high fencing around the park to deter vehicular access has now been completed.

Woodyard Service Station (Planning Application)

A planning application submitted for an extension of the opening hours to make it 24 hours a day, 7 days a week was rejected recently and the owners are appealing the decision. Ward Councillors have been meeting with Planning Officers since their decision to gain further information for local residents on the appeal's process. Anyone who has previously submitted correspondence on the matter is advised that this will go before the Inspector and no further action is required from them in respect of this, they will also have been informed of this via a letter. Anyone who did not submit correspondence, who wishes to do so, can send it to the Planning Inspectorate; details of which are on the Council's website under the planning section. The process may take several months and residents were informed that the next update will be the Inspector's decision as there will not be any public enquiry/meeting held about this matter.

Taylor Park

Monies have recently been granted from Township via the local Ward Councillors and also from the Rochdale Township Clean & Green Priority Group to fund fencing (to deter vehicular access) and also a contribution to purchasing refuse bins for the park.

Flag pole

A flag pole has recently been installed in Norden Memorial Gardens funded by Rochdale Township's Armed Forces Fund via local Ward Councillors. A clean-up of the Memorial Gardens will also be carried out.

Grit/Salt Bins

New grit bins have been installed at Bronte Close and Edenfield Road locations funded by local Ward Councillors.

Redfearn Wood Barriers

Local Ward Councillors have addressed the concerns raised by residents and stopped cars gaining access to an open grassed area as an unauthorised cut-through. They have funded the installation of barriers to prevent cars posing a danger to children and also damaging the grassed area.

Norden Spring Clean-up

This clean-up will be held on Saturday 10 March 2018 between 10am-12pm at Jubilee Park, Norden.

5. OPEN FORUM

Rochdale Harriers – 3 day event

P. Roberts attended and advised that the 3 day event will be held on 8, 9 and 10 June this year. The event has gone from strength to strength each year and thanks were given to Rochdale Council's J. Simpson, Footpaths Officer, for being instrumental in restoring the right of way near the Millcroft Tea Gardens which is on the route. The Chair thanked Mr Roberts and his colleagues for their commitment to a great event which brings a large number of visitors to the Village each year.

Operation Dragster and ASB/off-road biking on the Moors

The Chair advised the forum of the recent joint efforts by local Ward Councillors to install barriers to deter unauthorised access to an entrance on Ashworth Valley. Discussion ensued regarding the recent social media backlash to GMP's Operation Dragster.

Mrs Pope from Rochdale and Bury Bridleways Association explained her personal experiences of the dangers and difficulties whilst riding her horse, when confronted with 4x4 vehicles approaching

her at speed over the moorland. Irresponsible use of these vehicles had spooked her horse and she and her mount had been very lucky to avoid serious injury. It was suggested that landowners also need to do their bit to tackle the rising problem as GMP is experiencing increasing cuts to their budget. United Utilities assist the funding of Operation Dragster as they have a vested interest in the land in the case of the water supply getting contaminated/polluted. The Chair thanked United Utilities for their continued commitment to public safety on the Moors and urged the other landowners on the Moors to follow the example set by them.

Hutchinson Road TRO/Restrictions

The TRO will be considered at the Rochdale Township Action and Resources Sub Committee on 13 March 2018. Local Ward Councillors attempted to negotiate changes for Ashbourne Street and modifications for the area near to the Bridge Chip Shop. The Chair stated there needs to be more of a dialogue with the Council's Highways Department. Forum members expressed their disappointment that none of the modifications to this TRO suggested at the December Forum are in the document before the Rochdale Township Action and Resources Sub Committee. A discussion took place and a resident requested that the Forum vote on the following proposition; "This Forum urges that TRO H60/1182 should be withdrawn and be rejected by the relevant Committees." 12 of 17 attendees voted in favour of the withdrawal of the Order.

School Lane adjacent to Scott House

The bannister is now demolished with the wood being taken and poses a risk to anyone using the steps.

Action: D. Ludwig (Public Realm Inspector) to enquire with the Council's Environmental Management Department.

Furbarn Lane – Swing gate at the end of the kissing gate/tiger trap

The wall has broken away and therefore could give unauthorised access to motorbikes or cyclists.

Action: D. Ludwig (Public Realm Inspector) to enquire with the Council's Environmental Management Department.

Fly tipping

A query was raised by the Forum regarding the cost per tonne to the Council to remove fly tipping.

Action: D. Ludwig (Public Realm Inspector) to enquire with the Council's Environmental Management Department.

Thanks from the Chair

- M. Widdup, Director, and other Council officers for their level of commitment to the community in the snow.
- J. Simpson, Rights of Way Officer, for attention to footpaths.
- Local Ward Councillors for installation of grit bins for the ward and the new flag pole.

6. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 12 June 2018 at 7.00pm

Norden Methodist Church, Edenfield Road, Norden