

SPOTLAND AND FALINGE AREA FORUM

Thursday, 23 August 2018

MINUTES

Present: A. Foster, M. Rashid, J. Moss, M. Coats, P. Knowles, N. Morrell, R. Heap, C. Dodgson, K. Lawrence, R. Le Monnier, Mr and Mrs Forden, D. Holden, B. Holden, C. Faulkner, S. Ashworth, J. Sherlock, Mr and Mrs A. Somerville, P. Massey (Chair), J. Ashworth, R. Down, S. Down and R. Morrow.

Officers: PC P. Jones, PCSO D. Smout, PCSO P. Robinson and G. Finch (Township & Engagement Officer)

Councillors: Councillor C. Biant

Apologies: Councillors Cocks and Rana, D. Sugden, A. Rawsterne, J. Newcombe, M. Oliver, J. Addy, J. Ingham and T. Powers.

117 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 Councillors Cocks and Rana, D. Sugden, A. Rawsterne, J. Newcombe, M. Oliver, J. Addy, J. Ingham and T. Powers.

118 GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE INCLUDING PACT MEETING

PC Jones, PCSO Robinson and PCSO Smout attended the meeting for this item.

The Forum was informed of the following issues;

1. PCSO Robinson was introduced to the Forum. He is a new PCSO to the area. PCSO Smout is in the process of becoming a Police Officer.
2. The Forum was informed that the online surgery was trialled recently and was a success. As a consequence this initiative will be used again.
3. A prolific burglar in the area has been remanded in custody and will hopefully receive a long custodial sentence.
4. Residents were informed that the Neighbourhood Team cannot prioritise or devote time to speeding at present as members of the team would need to undertake training and purchase a speed gun to facilitate enforcement. Requests for traffic operations have been made, unfortunately due to resource and capacity issues this is not possible.

Although the Forum was sympathetic with the views being expressed, following discussion it was agreed that speeding should remain one of the Ward priorities at present.

5. It was commented that reports of anti-social behaviour have increased in the Ward. The Greave Estate is causing particular concern and GMP is exploring options to target troublemakers. Other hot spots have been identified which will hopefully result in increased patrols; resources and capacity permitting.

6. Reports of damage to the Trolls in Denehurst Park has been received. CCTV footage is available and when the schools return GMP will be undertaking investigations to identify the youths.
7. Numerous reports of anti-social behaviour relating to the old Parklands House Nursing Home have been received. GMP is working closely with the owner to implement measures to eradicate this problem.
8. GMP are aware of drug dealing in certain parts of the Ward and investigations / surveillance are ongoing. Residents were encouraged to continue reporting incidents of this nature either to the 101 number or Crimestoppers – 0800 555 111.
9. The Forum was informed that a recent off-road bike operation on Rooley Moor had resulted in several motorcycles being seized together with a number of warnings being issued.

GMP also commented that talks are ongoing with the landowner to see if the moorland can be better secured to avoid larger vehicles accessing the site. It was also reported that the off-road bike nuisance that was reported at the last Forum meeting had resulted in the bike being seized.

The Forum thanked GMP for their efforts throughout the Ward.

119 **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING/MATTERS ARISING/UPDATES**

The minutes of the Spotland and Falinge Area Forum held on Thursday 31st May were approved as a correct record.

The following matters relating to the minutes were raised:

Minute 114 – Councillor Faisal Rana

A discussion took place about Councillor Faisal Rana accepting a Police Caution for an electoral offence.

Comments in support and critical of Councillor Rana were expressed.

Minute 114 – Cutgate Road Area Traffic Calming and introduction of 20mph zone.

The Forum was informed that an indicative start date for this project was the first week in October 2018.

Minute 115 – TBA

A resident informed the Forum that he had written to the Chief Executive regarding the TBA site and had received a response.

It was also asked if the Council could set up a meeting with the representatives of the land owners and the residents affected by the TBA site.

In response to this a resident thanked Nicola Rogers for her continued work in dealing with issues in connection with TBA and suggested that another approach be adopted by residents in their attempts to progress matters in relation to the site. The land was privately owned therefore Rochdale BC was limited to what it could do.

Minute 115 – Rooley Moor Road Route Study

A resident expressed his concerns about the above, stating that if additional parking restrictions are introduced as a result of the investigation, speeding on Rooley Moor Road could potentially become more problematical. Parked cars on Rooley Moor Road at present deter drivers from speeding. It was also stated that a traffic survey undertaken on Rooley Moor Road for one week in March 2017 found that over 600 cars travelled at over 40mph.

The Councillor present at the meeting stated that the study had been requested following complaints from residents about speeding on the road.

Following discussion it was acknowledged and generally accepted that the route study had already been commissioned and should go ahead as planned. Residents would have the opportunity to comment at a later date on any proposals put forward.

An update had been provided prior to the meeting in relation to issues / actions that had been previously raised at Area Forum meetings. A link to this update is provided below.

120 **COUNCILLOR UPDATES/NEWS**

Councillor Cocks and Biant provided the attached updates / news.

Councillor Cocks.

Councillor Biant.

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

The following issues were raised:

1. The Forum was informed of a 'Bee Inspired Open Day' that was launching the Bee Inspired Community Gardens. The gardens are on Martin Lane, Cutgate, near Tesco Express. The event will be on Sunday 26th August 2018, commencing 1pm.
2. The Chair informed the Forum that the recent judging of 'In Bloom' in Rochdale had been received very well and a great deal of excellent work had been carried out by Environmental Management and volunteers. Specific reference was given to the projects and initiatives that had been undertaken in the Spotland & Falinge Ward - Denehurst Park, Alleygating Schemes (Edenfield Road), Wonderwall, Planters (Sandy Lane), Walking Trail (Ings Lane) and Stoney Hill Biodiversity Meadow.
3. Councillor Biant thanked John Wantling and the other volunteers who do an excellent job cleaning up the Ward.
4. The Forum was asked if they would be willing to support a bulky waste amnesty in the Ward. The project which would be organised by Environmental Management using Orchard Recycling would provide residents with the opportunity to dispose of three items per household. All residents who take up the service would need to leave their waste outside on the edge of their property on the day of collection. Residents will be able to book a collection on a first come first served basis. It is planned to distribute leaflets to 4200 households in the Ward. Collections will be made from thirty households per day on 3 days over a three week period and will also include vehicle and resources for collections, leaflet design and print and leaflet distribution to households.

The cost of this project would be £1758.20 plus waste disposal charges which are currently £300 per tonne. A precise figure for this exercise will not be known until bulky items have been collected. The Forum agreed that Ward Funds could be used to support this initiative.

5. A resident asked the following question:

'Could anyone tell me why our litter bin on Willbutts Lane, near to the new houses has been taken away. In view of schools restarting in September, it would be helpful if it could be returned.

The Township and Engagement Officer agreed to investigate this matter.

6. The following questions were submitted by a resident prior to the meeting:

- Teenagers still in churchyard most nights and leaving lots of mess including broken bottles etc on Tenby Street and in churchyard. One night they were playing football at 11.30 p.m. in Tenby Street.
- Mopeds still a nuisance around Trengrove Street and Tenby Street at great speed some nights.
- Potholes on Tenby Street which I understand may be filled in but we wonder when as they are really getting worse.
- Wonder why bus shelters get replaced with glass ones again and again when they are smashed (regularly) and why something permanent that can't be smashed could be installed.
- Is there a chance that a 'no through road' sign could be placed at the end of either Trengrove Street or Tenby Street as often cars come up here and then struggle to turn round when they find they cannot get out.
- We struggle to get out of Tenby Street and wonder if a big mirror could be put near the bus stop (near the new barbers shop) as it is very awkward trying to see past the paper shop and also the speed of cars down Rooley Moor Road.
- Each time I come up and/or down Rooley Moor Road at junction with Edenfield Road - the cars from Edenfield Road NEVER stop to give way to the right and my heart is in my mouth trying to drive up Rooley Moor Road (even though I have right of way) and wonder if bigger signs/a camera could be installed at Edenfield Road end or something else could be done before a major accident really happens.

7. A resident asked if a 5mph sign could be installed on the lane that joins Dellar Street and Churchill Street.

The Township and Engagement Officer agreed to investigate this matter.

8. A resident commented that:

- The footway on Churchill Street was in poor condition.
- The hedges on Ings Lane were in need of cutting back.
- Areas of Spotland Bridge are rusty
- A bin on Churchill Street, adjacent to the school had been removed

In addition it was asked where the stone pillars from Spotland Bridge had gone.

9. A resident asked if any update was available of the current status of the old Dexine site.

No update was available.

10. It was reported that the ridge tiles that were removed from Meanwood School during the work that was undertaken on the building are being returned.

- 11 A resident commented that the process for pot-hole repairs would be more effective if residents could be informed when work is to be undertaken. This potentially would enable residents to remove their cars from streets.

It was commented that to provide a service of this nature would be resource intensive and could potentially result in confusion if the work could not be undertaken when originally planned.

- 12 Residents reported that dog fouling was problematical in certain parts of the Ward. The alleygated area between Beaufort Street and Belvoir Street was identified as a particular problem area.

It was stated that this would be reported

122 **DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

15 November 2018 at Spotland Methodist Church, commencing 7pm. This meeting will incorporate the Annual General Meeting.