

BRIMROD, MARLAND AND SUDDEN AREA FORUM

Thursday 21 February 2019
Brimrod Methodist Church, Roch Valley Way,
Rochdale

MINUTES

Present: B. Hudson (Chair), F. Hamer, M. Hamer, D. Frost, B. Frost, K. Huggett, K. Khan, B. Goodwin, J. Welby, R. Coles, L. Stansfield and D. Hall

Councillors: Jane Howard, Angela Smith and Pat Sullivan

Officers: Rochdale Borough Council: S. Hay (Townships)

Apologies: Councillor James Gartside, Hon Alderman Jane Gartside J.P, Shirley Marsh, PC Martin Giblin and PCSO Sana Haider

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

Introductions were made and all were welcomed to the meeting.

2. CODE OF CONDUCT

The Chair referred to the code of conduct and asked all to abide by the code for the duration of the meeting.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the previous meeting on Thursday 22 November 2018 were agreed and the following updates were given.

Fly tipping

Public Realm Inspector, Diane Lodwig, has continued to remove all reported fly tipping from around the Holborn Street area and the location is clean at the moment. Diane has recently been allocated new areas of responsibility and she has been replaced by Mick Ball, who is very experienced in enforcement and he has worked in this area previously. Thanks were given to Diane for her hard work.

Manchester Road planter

Environmental Management will move the street sign on old Manchester Road being obstructed by the planter to a more prominent place.

Cotton Lane overgrowth

The nettles and shrubbery obstructing the lower end of Cotton Lane, where it is narrow from Lancashire Wallpapers up to where it widens, were not cut back but have died down.

4. POLICE AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

PC Martin Giblin was unable to attend and supplied the crime statistics from 19 November 2018 to

18 February 2019 together with the following information:

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Total
Burglary residential	4	9	6	3	22 (33)
The M.O is opportunist burglaries whereby occupants have just left their premises. Offender(s) smashed rear patio doors and windows. Prime time was between 1100 hours and 1700 hours and the primary target area was the Bury Road, Norden Road and Bagslate Moor Road corridor. Various items were stolen including jewellery and vehicles. Three of the properties were insecure.					
Theft in dwelling	1	1	1	0	3 (2)
All offenders were known to the victims.					
Criminal damage	6	5	13	4	28 (25)
Primary target area was Brimrod and Marland at various times and various targets - dwellings (stones) and vehicles.					
Theft from motor vehicle	4	11	8	0	23 (17)
Primary target area was Bury Road and Brimrod: 8 vehicles having their number plates stolen, 7 vehicles being insecure and various items stolen. Prime time is 2200 hours to 0600 hours.					
Theft of motor vehicle	0	1	2	2	5 (5)
Primary target area is Brimrod. Roch Valley Way at various times. 2 vehicles having been stolen via scanner devices.					
Robbery (residential)	1	1	0	1	3
Victims in one case were an elderly couple, a knife point robbery. Male was locked in the bathroom. Couple have since been moved onto warden controlled premises with partner agency work carried out such as Victim Support and Rochdale Boroughwide Housing. Enquiries are ongoing.					

Burglary

A reduction in the number of burglaries was reported. One local male juvenile offender, responsible for burglaries and theft from motor vehicles in the Rochdale area, was arrested in January and is serving a nine month custodial sentence. Another prolific burglar has just received a four year custodial sentence. No stolen property from these offenders was recovered and any information regards handlers is being sought.

The Neighbourhood Team will continue with high visibility patrols, leaflet cocooning in areas of demand at peak times, covert operations and targeting known offenders. In addition, the team have provided updates and crime prevention advice to the area, Home Watch Coordinators, Whats App Groups, and GMP social media. GMP would like to remind residents that due to the nature of the burglaries consideration should be given to changing their routines. In addition, review their home security, in particularly access points, lighting, alarms and ensuring all keys are kept in a safe place.

New Neighbourhood Inspector

Inspector Andrew Fern is the new Area Inspector. He is very experienced, worked Rochdale for many years and he is very proactive.

Drones

The potential use of drones was raised by residents at the last forum. At the current time, Rochdale Police Station does not have its own designated drone, but has access to the GMP force wide drone which is deployed incident specific. It is still unknown if Rochdale will have its own drone, but does have one drone trained Officer.

INITIATIVES

Safe Plate

Due to the high volume of number plates being stolen a 'Safe Plate' initiative is being held on Saturday 23 February 2019 10am to 12 noon at Norden County Primary School, Shawfield Lane, Norden.

Speeding

Between 14 January 2019 and 27 January 2019, Greater Manchester Police participated in the National Police Chiefs' Council January Speed Campaign. The main objectives were to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads, tackle irresponsible and dangerous drivers committing speeding offences, inform drivers of the risk, both to themselves and to other road users associated with inappropriate speed and encourage drivers to drive at speeds safe for the road environment and to obey speed limits.

A Community Speed Watch initiative was carried out with local residents and Councillors on Saturday 16 February 2019 along Norden Road. The highest recorded speed was 38mph. Officers plan to carry out further initiatives over the coming months. The Division is considering purchasing its own calibrated speed gun.

Pubwatch

The Neighbourhood Team are to reintroduce the scheme with the first meeting being held later this month. Licensees have been invited from both the Norden and Bamford wards and the uptake has been very high. The intention is to also reintroduce visits to licenced premises.

PCSO 70838 Sana Haider requested her email be available to all on the minutes:
Sana.Haider@gmp.police.uk

5. OPEN FORUM

Brimrod Lane parking

Feedback was given on the picket fences that have been installed by Rochdale Boroughwide Housing on Brimrod Lane Green. The fences seems to have stopped the parking on the Green but it has created an even bigger parking problem on the Highway, particularly in the evening with double parking and obstruction of the footpaths. Residents say they were not consulted and repeated requests for some of the Green to be tarmacked or have grasscrete installed to ease the parking problem. The question was asked if it is the intention of Rochdale Boroughwide Housing to install the same on Holborn Street between numbers 66 to 48 as the parking on Holborn Street towards Mayfair Gardens is a problem with vehicles, vans and motor homes all double parked. Rochdale Boroughwide Housing will be informed.

Dog fouling

Specific details of residents letting their dogs foul on the Holborn Street Green and not picking it up were given and this information will be passed on to Rochdale Council's Enforcement Team. A request was made for notices to be put up on lampposts and this issue would be raised with Environmental Management.

Fly tipping

A large amount of rubbish is still being dumped at the end of Brimrod Lane and rubbish is also being thrown down the hill at the rear of number 54 Holborn Street. It was acknowledged clearances are being made which are costly to the Council and enforcement should be carried out whenever possible or measures taken to prevent access for fly tippers. Environmental Management will be informed.

New residents on Mayfair Gardens are leaving items on the street such as a washing machine and oven which have been removed and an electric fan heater which is still awaiting removal. Also there is a settee in their back yard and they are leaving black bags in the alley which is attracting rats. Environmental Management will be informed.

Black bags have been dumped on Dixon Street, off Law Street, Sudden and need to be removed. Environmental Management will be informed.

Cotton Lane trees

The trees on Cotton Lane at the top end near Rouse Street look diseased and unsafe. One tree on the left hand side of the Cotton Lane path looking down from Rouse Street is up against the Sub

Station fence and growing in to the Sub Station. The tree could potentially damage the fence. The trees in the small copse on the opposite side of the path are in a poor state of health with branches growing over the path that need cutting back.

Law Street/Manchester Road junction parking

Vehicles are still parking in contravention of the parking restrictions at the junction of Law Street and Manchester Road and also around the vicinity of Marland Hill School. Rochdale Council's Parking Enforcement will be asked to attend the location and GMP will be informed of obstructions where there are no parking regulations.

Bench relocation

Ward Councillors consulted the meeting on locations to re-site a used bench, and the only suggestion made was to put it in Derrick Walker Court Gardens which was agreed.

Marland Golf Course

Bamford Ward Councillors are campaigning to save Marland Golf Course. There are plans to close it, with no consultation whatsoever, at the end of March 2019 despite viable proposals to keep it running. The Golf Course is a wonderful asset to the Borough and concerns are understandable as to any future plans to develop or use this large recreational area if released.

Ward Councillors contact details are available on the Council's website:

Councillor Jane Howard
Telephone: 07870 172144
Email: jane.howard@rochdale.gov.uk

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

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

Rochdale Council Officers:

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

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

PCSO 70838 Sana Haider
Email: sana.haider@gmp.police.uk

6. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETINGS IN 2019-20

Thursdays at 6.30pm in Brimrod Methodist Church
30 May 2019
22 August 2019
14 November 2019
6 February 2020