

# **NORDEN AREA FORUM**

**Tuesday 21 May 2019  
Norden Methodist Church, Edenfield Road  
Norden, Rochdale**

## **MINUTES**

**Present:** N. Morrell (Chair) and approx.15 members of the public

**Councillors:** Councillors Gartside, Holly and Winkler

**Officers:** R. Hudson (Rochdale Council, Townships & Engagement Officer)  
M. Reynolds (Rochdale Council, Community Safety ASB Officer)  
PC M. Giblin (GMP)

**Apologies:** 2 members of the public

### **1. INTRODUCTIONS, APOLOGIES AND CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Chair introduced himself and officers present, and welcomed all to the meeting. He referred to the code of conduct and he 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 5 March 2019 were approved as a correct record.

### **MATTERS ARISING**

#### **Local Elections**

Congratulations were given to Councillor Winkler by the Chair on behalf of the forum for the recent local election success.

#### **Hutchinson Road Allotments**

Councillor Winkler informed the forum of a proposal to turn the recreational ground at Hutchinson Road into allotments. A public meeting is arranged on 4 June 2019 at 7.30pm to be held at St Paul's Parish Hall so people can voice their opinions.

#### **Norden Carnival**

Norden Carnival will be held on Saturday 15 June 2019 between 1-4.30pm and take the usual route. All welcome to attend and indeed volunteer as the event always needs support. See Norden Carnival's Facebook page for more details. GMP will be in attendance at this event.

#### **Peel Holdings & Scout Moor**

Councillor Winkler advised residents that he wrote to Peel Holdings on 22 February 2019 to ask for possible monetary support for GMP's Operation Dragster. He received a response from Peel Holdings stating they cannot assist as they sold their interest to MEAG in October 2012 so they no longer own or operate Scout Moor Wind Farm.

#### **CCTV**

Councillor Winkler advised the forum he had held meetings with the relevant officers regarding CCTV for the village. Installation to be on either a lamppost or standalone column on the street to

pan both ways up and down Edenfield Road. This scheme will hopefully be installed sometime this year.

### **Edenfield Road Surface**

First phase of works on Edenfield Road now complete with patching. The road will be fully surfaced over the summer holidays when the roads are less busy. A resident commented that the contractors had done a good job and managed the traffic well.

### **Rooley Moor Road**

A Rawsterne advised that the application for the neighbourhood plan is awaiting officer's observations.

### **Great British Spring Clean**

This event achieved a great turnout with the Mayor also in attendance. Thanks from the Chair to the organisers.

## **3. GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE**

PC Giblin advised on the following crime statistics since the last forum:

### **Residential burglaries**

12 reported in total. Most burglaries were via patio doors in areas around Seven Acres and Keepers Drive.

### **Business burglaries**

4 were reported.

### **Theft from motor vehicle**

9 reported in total. Most thefts involved vehicles left insecure at different times of the day.

### **Taking of motor vehicle**

5 reported in total.

### **Interfering with vehicle**

3 reported in total.

## **UPDATES**

A male juvenile from outside the area was arrested last month in connection with the theft of a motor vehicle from Norden. He is now on remand. GMP advised that they are still patrolling areas and reminded residents to keep their property and vehicles secure and keep all valuables out of sight.

GMP advised 'pulse-policing' will be carried out on foot by officers in the evening shift pattern in nominated hotspots/areas where anti-social behaviour has been highlighted; recently this initiative has been used at the toddler's park on Caldershaw Road after a report of ASB.

### **Safe for Summer**

This initiative is arranged in collaboration with GMFRS and it involves officers visiting children in secondary schools to advise on safe practices to adopt in their holidays, for example around reservoirs and safe play.

### **Neighbourhood Speed Watch**

A Neighbourhood Speed Watch initiative, subject to volunteers, will be scheduled in the Norden ward sometime in the future.

### **Pub watch**

A meeting will be held in June at The Grapes, Bamford.

### **Operation Dragster**

This operation was carried out on Saturday 11 May 2019 and two bikes were confiscated and warnings given out. Another operation will take place over the summer.

GMP took questions from residents about the recent spike in the theft of catalytic converters in the borough and also a request that the Homewatch newsletter drafted by GMP is more specific with detailing the areas of concern when crimes occur.

Residents also requested that PC Giblin arrange for GMP's speed van to attend earlier in a morning (8am approx.) instead of the time of 11am-12 noon as more vehicles are witnessed on the roads around that time.

**Action 1: PC Giblin (GMP) to arrange for the traffic unit to attend earlier in the day.**

Councillor Winkler spoke about discovering a bag of drug paraphernalia, including nitrous oxide canisters, dumped near a refuse bin on the Harewood estate. PC Giblin advised the 'pulse-policing' approach could be used to patrol areas of concern and if a member of the community had concerns they should ring 101 or email him regarding this or any other issues.

### **4. WARD FUND**

A query was raised by a resident at the last forum regarding the Norden Ward Fund and a request made for regular updates on projects and expenditure. The new allocations/amounts for the Members and Ward Funds are not yet known as they will be discussed at the first Township Committee, but details will be reported back to residents at the next area forum. The Chair advised the forum that the ward funding sub group had met twice in the past financial year to discuss several projects/proposals and the following had been agreed/funded:

CCTV for the village

Boulders to stop off-road biking at Birtle Quarry

Environmental improvements at Furbarn Road

Environmental improvements at Cheesden Dip

Litter bins for Ashworth Road

Motorbike inhibitors for the bridleway at Woodtop

Interpretation boards at two locations in Norden

### **5. COUNCILLOR UPDATE**

#### **Councillor Gartside**

The forum were informed that GMP officers will be attending the Norden Carnival on 15 June 2019 and they will be putting a pod at Norden Community Primary School to interact with the community

Although the drug paraphernalia was found in the village, Councillor Gartside feels there isn't an inherent problem in Norden village.

#### **Councillor Holly**

Currently three traffic regulation orders are planned in the ward and the legal process can be lengthy, but they are necessary for the safety of the village. An example is the TRO for Elbut Lane/Bury & Rochdale Old Road to assist concerns for safety at the island. Councillor Holly called for residents' patience concerning the timescale to implement a TRO.

A beat survey by Highways in the village is now scheduled to take place in June 2019. The Chair of the forum requested officers also consider the area at the end of Hutchinson Road where traffic turn left onto Edenfield Road.

#### **Councillor Winkler**

Councillor Winkler confirmed he will raise the repainting of lines after the resurfacing of Edenfield Road.

He has written to the Planning Department to seek clarification regarding the decommissioning of the wind turbines on Scout Moor and queried five concerns in particular:

- Who is responsible for the decommissioning of Scout Moor Wind Farm?
- What measures have the Council taken to ensure its decommissioning?
- Does the Council have a fund to decommission SMWF?
- Does the Council have a detailed strategy for its decommissioning?
- What measures will the Council take to ensure the return of the eco system at the area of the wind farm to its prior state, remove the concrete bases and reinstate the road networks?

## **6. OPEN FORUM**

### **Rochdale in Bloom**

The ward has again been entered into the Rochdale in Bloom competition and judging takes place in July 2019. Volunteers have started work in Norden to spruce areas up including the Jubilee Park rockery and the War Memorial. Participation from the general public is always welcomed and appreciated. New projects will be revealed soon; up to date information is available on Rochdale in Bloom's Instagram/Facebook/Twitter/Website feeds.

Congratulations to P. Ellison who is now an ambassador for Keep Britain Tidy and he has been made a 'Litter Hero'.

### **Taylor Park**

Thanks to N. Morrell, P. Ellison, Councillor Winkler, C. McHugh, Rochdale Council's Environmental Department and also approx. 25 members of the public who recently undertook a full clear-up and cut-back in Taylor Park.

### **Norden Crufts**

A dog show will be held at Norden Community Primary School on Saturday 27 July 2019 at 11am – 4pm.

### **Rochdale Harriers Event**

The 25<sup>th</sup> Rochdale Harriers Three Day Event will take place on the weekend of Friday 7 June to Sunday 9 June 2019 with the Brown Cow Public House acting as race HQ.

Friday 7 June 2019 – The 6 mile road race will start at the bus terminus at 7.15pm and follow the usual route along Edenfield Road, Ashworth Road, School Lane, Clay Lane, Bagslate Moor Road, Edenfield Road and finishing on Blackpits Road. All junctions will be marshalled and signs will be in place to warn that the event is taking place.

Saturday 8 June 2019 – The 6 mile multi-terrain race will start on Ashbourne Street at 11am and follow a lapped route through Naden Valley, exiting the valley at Wolstenholme Fold and finishing at Norden Jubilee Park. The route will be marshalled and signage placed in advance to warn other users that the event is taking place.

Sunday 9 June 2019 – Knowl Hill Fell Race starts on Woodhouse Lane at 11am and follows an off road route around Naden Reservoirs and over Knowl Hill before finishing on Greenbooth Road. The route will be marshalled and signage placed to warn other users that the event is taking place.

It is understood that Knowl Hill Fell Race is sufficiently popular to cause parking pressures in the village. Guidance will be given to runners and officials in advance of the event to minimise the impact of parking.

All races are licenced and insured by UK Athletics.

### **Norden Carnival**

Saturday 15 June 2019 at 1-4pm.

**PACT Meeting**

Tuesday 28 May 2019 at 6.30pm in Norden Old Library.

**7. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 17 Sept 2019 at 7.00pm

Norden Methodist Church, Edenfield Road, Norden