

BRIMROD, MARLAND AND SUDDEN AREA FORUM

Thursday 30 May 2019
Brimrod Methodist Church, Roch Valley Way,
Rochdale OL11 4PZ

MINUTES

Present: Seven members of public

Councillors: Angela Smith

Officers: Rochdale Borough Council: S. Hay (Townships) and GMP: PC 18257 Richard Marvell and PCSO 70838 Sana Haider

Apologies: Councillor Pat Sullivan, Councillor Jane Howard and four members of public

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 21 February 2019 were agreed and the following updates were given.

Brimrod Lane parking

Rochdale Boroughwide Housing have provided a response concerning the picket fencing installed on Brimrod Lane Green: "This work was carried out in response to a high number of complaints from residents about people using the green area for parking. Our Neighbourhood Action Plan also identifies that despite being a neighbourhood made up of almost entirely of family homes, there was little or no space for children to play. We have to consider the neighbourhood as a whole and unfortunately, we sometimes make decisions which don't please everyone. The grassed area should never have been used by residents for parking on and was always intended to be used as a 'green'. As far as the Neighbourhoods Team go, there are no current plans to do the same work on Holborn Street. If you would like to pass on the details of the tenants who raised this at the meeting, we will contact them directly to explain".

Details were passed on following which a further response was received: "To summarise his complaints and our response to him. The Neighbourhood Action Plan identified requirement for children's space to play. Brimrod is a neighbourhood of family housing. We have to consider the whole neighbourhood, not just those with a car. He wasn't consulted – I advised him that the NAPs are available to our tenant members for consultation (he's an Owner Occupier) but that said, we don't have to consult on every decision we make for our land. We haven't removed any parking spaces, we have just made the land suitable for the purpose its intended, ie a green space. I said

I'd speak to Asset Management about doing a driveway programme for tenants – he said that won't solve any issues it will cause further problems with people blocking driveways. There is very little parking in Brimrod – advised him we are not responsible for the infrastructure and roads but that he could approach a Councillor about that issue (I think Highways or Street Planning would have to look at that). He quite rightly said that the double parking means that the access for emergency services could be impeded (we will raise that issue with our fire officer when he returns to work, however, the result may be double yellow lines down one side of the road if they feel it will cause them a problem). He is our only complainant, we haven't received any complaints from anyone else, in fact there have been a couple of passing compliments from our tenants. He advised us that he is having his own driveway built on his property, we think that's an excellent idea and have given permission to one of our tenants to do the same”.

Rochdale Boroughwide Housing would not further meet with the resident to go over the same issues.

Dog fouling

A letter was sent to the suspect offending dog owners concerning the dog fouling on Holborn Street Green and 'No Dog Fouling' stickers put up on various lampposts from 28 Holborn Street to 120 Holborn Street and also around the Green and Brimrod Lane area.

Fly tipping

The fly tipping at the end of Brimrod Lane was removed. Hit Teams attended the location and searched for evidence. If and when evidence is found, Enforcement Officers will write to the offender and ask them to come in for interview, and if they do not attend then a process is followed and the offender will be prosecuted. If they attend the interview and admit the offence then the offender will be fined or pay costs and receive a caution. Fixed Penalty amount is £400 reduced to £250 if paid within first 7 days. If the issue proceeds to Court, the maximum fine is £50,000.

The black bags dumped on Dixon Street were examined by the Hit Team. No evidence was found and the bags were removed.

Cotton Lane trees

The diseased and unsafe trees on Cotton Lane at the top end near Rouse Street have all been cut and cleared and some logs were left behind to rot down for ecological reasons.

Marland Golf Course

Bamford Ward Councillors' campaign to save Marland Golf Course was effective in changing minds and resulted in an agreement to have it run by a professional for a full year to make it successful. The future is looking good for the Golf Course with take up and free classes for children. Ward Councillors continue their support.

4. POLICE AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

PC Giblin was dealing with a prisoner in custody and unable to attend. PC Richard Marvell and PCSO Sana Haider provided the crime statistics from the date of the last forum on 21 February 2019 to 29 May 2019 which showed a reduction in all categories, and presented the following information:

	Feb	March	April	May	Total
Burglary residential	0	4	2	2	8 (18)
The M.O is opportunist burglaries where offenders are using implements to force entry or smash rear patio doors and windows. Prime times were between 1400 hours and 2200 hours and the primary target area was Holborn Street, Marland Fold and Roch Mills Crescent. Various items were stolen including jewellery and vehicles.					
Theft in dwelling	1	1	1	0	3 (3)
All offenders were known to the victims.					

Criminal damage	0	3	1	2	6 (19)
Primary target area was Brimrod Primary School, Brimrod Lane and Convent Grove at various times and various targets - dwellings (stones) and vehicles.					
Theft from motor vehicle	3	3	2	1	9(14)
Primary target area was Bolton Road, Marland Fold and Roch Valley Way. Three vehicles being insecure. The prime time is 1500 hours to 2200 hours.					
Theft of motor vehicle	0	1	0	2	3 (5)
Primary target area is Bolton Road and Roch Valley Way at various times.					

The Neighbourhood Team will continue a burglary initiative with high visibility patrols and leaflet cocooning and involve Home Watch Schemes. Anyone interested in setting up a Home Watch Scheme or WhatsApp Group can contact Sana who will gladly assist. With summer almost upon us and the weather improving, all are asked to consider reviewing home security and be mindful of not leaving doors and windows open.

One male juvenile has been arrested and remanded in custody for the theft of motor vehicles in the Bamford area.

Given the very high percentage of thefts from motor vehicles being from insecure vehicles, residents are reminded to fully secure their vehicles.

Pulse Policing Operation will continue, where officers bus up and deployed carry out foot patrols in various hot spot areas at key times for issues such as burglary, anti-social behaviour and drug dealing. Springfield Park is one of the target areas.

A knife crime initiative was carried out over a week during which many stop and searches were conducted aimed at preventing the carrying of knives. No knives were recovered during that week, however, some knives have since been recovered and removed from the streets.

Operation Dragster to catch off road bikers was carried out on 11 May 2019 during which one bike was seized and one Section 59 Warning issued. It was pointed out that some of these bikes are being used not only off road but also along the Highway. Police are gathering intelligence and targeting known addresses and locations.

Speeding along a circuit of Law Street, Southdown Crescent, Marland Hill Road and Rouse Street was highlighted and the area will be patrolled including directly after this meeting.

Speeding enforcement will take place on Bolton Road and Roch Valley Way.

Speeding is a recognised borough wide problem and a group of Elected Members are working with Highways with a view to tackling the issue.

Criminals are using devices to access remote keys to steal or get into vehicles. One incident in Bamford caught on CCTV was an offender accessed a vehicle on the driveway of a house with the keys being inside the house within thirteen seconds. Residents were advised to stop this happening, the keys can be put in a tin or placed in the microwave when not in use.

A Safeplate initiative will be organised and publicised.

Sana is available for anyone to contact for feedback.

5. OPEN FORUM

Cotton Lane access

Cotton Lane is overgrown with nettles and weeds and it is impassable in places. Environmental Management will be asked to clear the entire lane.

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

Stuart Hay, Townships & Engagement Officer
Telephone: 01706 922230
Email: stuart.hay@rochdale.gov.uk

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

Mark Reynolds, Community Safety, Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour Officer
Telephone: 01706 924979
Email: mark.reynolds@rochdale.gov.uk

Greater Manchester Police

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
22 August 2019
14 November 2019
6 February 2020