

BAMFORD AND OAKENROD AREA FORUM

Monday 5 August 2019
Bamford Chapel, Norden Road, Rochdale OL11 5PQ

MINUTES

Present: I. Sturrock (Chair) and nineteen members of public

Councillors: Jane Howard, Angela Smith and Pat Sullivan

Officers: Rochdale Borough Council: S. Hay (Township) and GMP: PC Giblin and PCSO Haider.

Apologies: Four members of public

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

2. CODE OF CONDUCT

A copy of the code of conduct was circulated with the papers and all were asked to abide by the code for the duration of the meeting.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 13 May 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and the following updates were given.

Potholes

Numerous dangerous potholes on Woodlands Road and Fieldhead Avenue have been repaired and both roads are scheduled for resurfacing between 26 August 2019 and 9 September 2019.

4. POLICE AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

PC Martin Giblin and PCSO Sana Haider provided the crime statistics from the date of the last forum on 13 May 2019 to 5 August 2019 and presented the following information:

	May	June	July	August	Total
Burglary residential	5	9	2	0	16 (18)
The M.O is opportunist burglaries where offenders are using implements to force entry or smash rear patio doors and windows. Most properties were vacant with the primary target area being the Bury Road, Martlet Avenue and Bamford Way corridor. Prime times were late evening and early hours of the morning.					
Community burglary	1	1	0	0	2(3)
Criminal damage	5	9	0	0	14 (28)
Primary target area was Bury Road and Roch Valley Way at various times and various targets - dwellings (stones) and vehicles.					
Theft from motor vehicle	9	11	0	0	20 (23)
Primary target area was Bury Road and War Office Road in the early hours of the morning from insecure vehicles.					
Theft of motor vehicle	6	0	0	0	6 (5)
Primary target area is Bolton Road and Sudden. Prime time late afternoon and early evening.					

Burglary

Officers have attained some CCTV from the incidents which although not evidential gave an indication that there were two separate teams working in the area and Officers are working with the Intelligence Analysts to identify the offenders.

The Neighbourhood Team will continue with high visibility patrols and leaflet cocooning in areas of demand at peak times, including the 'birdie estate'. In addition the team have provided updates and crime prevention advice to the area's Home watch Coordinators, Whats App Groups, and via GMP social media. This action is particularly important with many of the incidents occurring when occupants have just left their premises or they are away on holiday.

****Residents were reminded that due to the nature of the burglaries consideration should be given to changing their routines. In addition they should review their home security, particularly access points, lighting, alarms and ensuring all keys are kept in a safe place****

Theft from motor vehicle

Two offenders were arrested and charged after committing the offence in the Bury Road area at the end of June.

Pulse Policing

Pulse policing is now in full effect. It is an Operation used when the Police are on evening shifts, whereby they 'bus up' to visit various areas which may be having problems regarding issues such as ASB, burglaries or TFMV. This initiative enables the Police to utilise more Officers on foot in an area to combat the problem.

Parking issues

PCSO Haider revisited the Springbank Road and Bagslate Moor Road areas. Councillor Smith has highlighted a similar problem on Wordsworth Way and the Police agreed to address the issues.

Planned action

A Safe for Summer campaign will involve the Police visiting key locations and providing crime prevention advice.

Operation Considerate is a traffic operation during the autumn period with partner agencies.

Neighbourhood speed watch initiatives.

One incident on York Avenue was raised as not being opportunist. Four males wearing ski masks were in the area for twenty minutes trying vehicle doors and they were not bothered about lights coming on. CCTV footage was good for intelligence purposes despite the lack of facial recognition.

A tradesperson had all his tools stolen from his van whilst working in a house. It was suggested that residents could remind tradespersons to lock their vehicles whilst undertaking work.

On bin day a person was seen trying someone's front door on Newhouse Crescent and then going around the back through an unlocked side gate. Residents were reminded to lock up when putting bins out.

The next GMP Newsletter will cover the period 15 July 2019 to 15 August 2019.

5. OPEN FORUM

Planning application 19/00643/FUL

Nigel Morrell outlined a resubmission of a Planning Application to build a 711 square foot dwelling on Green Belt Land near Bamford Hall in Norden. The application reference is 19/00643/FUL and it is virtually the same as previously failed applications to which many detailed and erudite objections were made. Those objections will not apply to this new application and any new objections need to

be submitted against this application to prevent incursion on the Green Belt. The closing date is 28 days from validation date which was 24 July 2019. The Planning Officer dealing with this application is Michael Atkinson Smith. The application to build on Green Belt land will be considered at the Planning and Licensing Committee.

Carwood site

The old Carwood site has been purchased and it is proposed to demolish the two cottages with an intention to develop it. No information is available at this stage about the development. Popular belief is that the site should be included in the Conservation Area which is quarter of a mile away.

Norden Road footpath overgrown hedge

Highways were congratulated for their work on the Norden Road footpaths, however, the hedge is overgrown and obstructing the footpath. Councillor Sullivan has requested Environmental Management to contact the owners about cutting the hedge back and they will be given the requisite time to do so. Environmental Management will cut the hedge and invoice the owners if they do not comply with the request.

Burnthorpe Close with Murrayfield junction road surface

Concerns were raised about the resurfacing work carried out at the junction of Burnthorpe Close with Murrayfield. It is uneven with pot holes and water is accumulating which will cause further damage. Highways will be asked to inspect and complete any necessary work.

Bamford In Bloom

Councillor Smith accompanied the North West In Bloom judges last Wednesday 31 July 2019 on the It's Your Neighbourhood Bamford In Bloom. The judges commented favourably on the improvements made from last year's inaugural entry which commendably achieved a level three award. Sound advice and tips were given by the judges and they were very impressed at the genuine community involvement and use of volunteers. The saddle planters provided by Environmental Management are magnificent throughout the entire Borough, but it was noted from now on groups would be required to pay for them. Environmental Management were thanked for all the work they do with a request to highlight special praise and thanks to management for the massive effort, help and support Tracy Hibbert has put in over the last decade to the In Bloom scheme.

Friends of Bamford

The Friends of Bamford group are very active and they have organised a Fun Dog Show and Family Fun Day between 2pm and 4pm next Saturday 10 August 2019 on Bamford Green. All are welcome to enjoy the numerous activities on offer and refreshments. All proceeds from the event will contribute to community projects in Bamford.

Community Coffee Morning

Every Thursday a Community Coffee Morning is held at Bamford Chapel and last week the previous Mayor Mohammed Zaman attended and presented a cheque for £350 from his Mayor's Charity to fund the Dementia Café which was most welcome and needed.

Bamford Ward Councillors hold a surgery from 10.30am to 11.30am on the first Thursday of each month in Bamford Chapel, although they often go beyond 11am. Ward Councillors contact details are available on the Council 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 Borough Council Officers:

Stuart Hay, Township 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. DATES AND TIMES OF THE MEETINGS FOR 2019-20

Mondays at 6.30pm in Bamford Chapel
28 October 2019
20 January 2020