

## **LITTLE LEVER AND DARCY LEVER AREA FORUM**

MEETING, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2009

Present – 61 members of the public attended the meeting.

Councillor Hornby(Chair)	- Little Lever and Darcy Lever Ward
Councillor Woodward	- Little Lever and Darcy Lever Ward

### Also in attendance

Adrian Wolstenholme	- Area Co-ordinator
John Rowlands	- Chief Officer
David Spencer	- Area Working Support Officer
Steve Arnfield	- Director of Corporate Resources
Chris Lord	- Environmental Services
Denise Luczka	- Children's Services
Beverley Andrew	- Royal Bolton Hospital
Esther Steel	- Royal Bolton Hospital
Eric Hyde	- Royal Bolton Hospital
Karen Rowe	- Connections (LLYC)
G O'Hara	- Connections (LLYC)
Inspector Stuart Wrudd	- Greater Manchester Police
Inspector Spruce	- Greater Manchester Police
Lesley Beach	- Greater Manchester Police
Sgt Gill Winter	- Greater Manchester Police
PC Armson	- Greater Manchester Police
PC Westwell	- Greater Manchester Police

Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillor Connell, Dr B Iddon MP and Janet Sheddon.

Councillor Hornby in the Chair.

#### **14. INTRODUCTION**

Councillor Hornby welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced himself, Councillor Woodward, Bolton Council officers and partners.

#### **15. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2008 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

#### **16. ROYAL BOLTON HOSPITAL NHS TRUST**

Beverley Andrew, Director of Corporate Service, Bolton Hospital, gave a brief presentation on the Foundation Trust Service. She explained that they had been authorised by Monitor as a Foundation Trust on October 1<sup>st</sup> 2008 but were still part of the NHS and publicly owned. The Foundation Trust was a new form of organisation accountable to local stakeholders including staff, patients and the public and they had greater financial and legal freedom than NHS trusts.

Ms. Andrew explained the benefits of becoming a member of the NHS Foundation Trust as they would have a real say in how their local NHS Foundation Trust was run. She introduced the governor for the Little Lever and Darcy Lever ward, Eric Hyde and announced that they would be attending future Little Lever and Darcy Lever Forums.

Resolved – That the report be noted

#### **17. LITTLE LEVER YOUTH COUNCIL PRESENTATION**

Young people from the Little Lever Youth Council gave a short presentation on who they were and what type of projects they were working on.

They were set up in August/September 2007 and were working towards bringing the community of young and old people of

Little Lever and Darcy Lever together.

Following the presentation the Little Lever Youth Council were awarded a grant of £500 to help towards delivering their projects.

Resolved – That the report be noted

## **18. BOLTON COUNCIL BUDGETS 2009/10**

Steve Arnfield, Director of Corporate Resources, gave a presentation on the Bolton Council's budgets for 2009/10. He explained how the council were consulting in order to set the budget for the next financial year by:

- Presentations at several forums
- Article in Bolton Scene
- Presentation to voluntary sector and business ratepayers
- Article on Council's Website
- Questionnaire to all the above
- Will provide feedback in next cycle of Area Forums

He then gave an overview on what monies the Council spent over the past 12 months, the current budget position and the issues the Council would be considering when deciding on the final budget in February 2009.

Following his presentation an opportunity was given for any questions to be asked these included:

1. What are the Council's reserves?
2. Why does the Council have reserves?
3. This seems to be a lot to have in reserve?
4. Is the money that is in reserve safe?

Resolved – That the questions be noted and the questions that have not been answered at the meeting be directed to the appropriate Council Department or external agency.

## **19. GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE PRESENTATION**

Sergeant Winter from Greater Manchester Police gave a presentation on the call handling procedures of the Greater Manchester Police. This included a detailed explanation of what happens when the police receive a call. The presentation also covered categorisation of crime and response times and advised that over a 12 month period the 4 operation communication rooms received around 3,700,000 calls.

Following this Bolton South Area Inspector Stuart Wrudd gave an overview of the police performance in Little Lever and Darcy Lever and explained the successes that the police have had in tackling crime and Anti-Social Behaviour.

Following the presentation the following question was asked:

1. Are attack alarms and home watch stickers still available?

Resolved – That the questions be noted and the questions that have not been answered at the meeting be directed to the appropriate Council Department or external agency.

## **20. UPDATE ON BUDGETS**

Adrian Wolstenholme, Area Co-ordinator, gave a presentation on the subject of budgets and grants available to the Little Lever and Darcy Lever Ward. He explained that there were four areas to consider:

- Highways Maintenance Budget - £10,245
- Area Forum Budget - £12,500
- Area Based Grant - £5,060
- Voluntary Sector Grant - £2,045.84

Adrian clarified that the funding available was used to benefit the Little Lever and Darcy Lever wards and the decisions as to where these budgets and grants were allocated was at the

discretion of the Ward Councillors to meet the priority of the council and community needs.

Voluntary Sector Grants for Little Lever and Darcy Lever

Current Balance £1,245.84

Less grants awarded to date this year

Darcy Lever Football Club £250

St Matthews Coffee Shop £250

Little Lever West £230

Balance to spend - £515.84

Resolved – That the report be noted and that the following grant of be awarded £250 be awarded to Darcy Lever Football club; £250 St Matthews Coffee Shop and £230 Little Lever West.

## **21. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SESSION**

The following questions were asked at the meeting.

1. Cars parking illegally outside Village chippy and cant get vehicles though possibility of traffic order being introduced?
2. Dog fouling outside RBS bank, Aintree Road, York Avenue and back path to Three Crowns Public House, St Matthews.
3. If you write to your local MP what is reasonable time scale to expect a reply?
4. Possibility of Traffic calming on Stopes Road?
5. When will Martin Avenue be resurfaced?
6. Speed humps on Redcar Road why were they removed?
7. Speeding vehicles Victory Road & Lord Street needs looking at?
8. Dog Fouling down Hayward Avenue and down by the canal needs cleaning?
9. Parking issues on Settle Street

Resolved – That the questions be noted and the questions that have not been answered at the meeting be directed to the appropriate Council Department or external agency

## **22. CHAIR'S CLOSING REMARKS**

Councillor Hornby concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and announced that the next Little Lever and Darcy Lever Area Forum would be held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2009 6.30pm at St Matthews Primary School.

(The meeting started at 7.00pm and finished at 9.25pm)