

## **SOUTH AREA FORUM**

MEETING, 20TH JUNE, 2007

Present – 14 Members of the public attended the meeting.

Councillor Williamson (Chairman)	- Harper Green Ward
Councillor Adia	- Rumworth Ward
Councillor Kay	- Rumworth Ward
Councillor Ibrahim	- Rumworth Ward
Councillor Clare	- Harper Green Ward
Councillor Hussain	- Great Lever Ward
Councillor Ayub	- Great Lever Ward

11 Officers attended the meeting

### **1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME BY THE CHAIR**

Councillor Williamson welcomed and introduced everybody to the meeting.

### **2. MINUTES**

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Forum held on 7th March, 2007 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

### **3. FEEDBACK SESSION OF ISSUES RAISED AT PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Area Co-ordinator circulated an information leaflet which updated members on events since the last meeting and gave feedback on issues raised previously.

Resolved – That the update be noted.

### **4. PRESENTATION: GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE – NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING**

PC Phil Martland, Community Beat Manager, Great Lever, gave a presentation which outlined the valuable work being undertaken within the South area by the Police and the Police Community Support Officers.

PC Martland informed members of the Safer Neighbourhoods Scheme which was being introduced nationwide and had been adopted in the Forum area. Safer Neighbourhoods was a style of policing aimed at strengthening the relationship between the police and organisations which tackle crime and local issues.

PC Martland went on to detail some of the work that was currently being carried out by the Neighbourhood Police Team in the South area. This included working with Trading Standards to target Off Licences that sold alcohol to underage youths.

Various questions and comments were responded to.

Resolved – That PC Martland and the Police Community Support Officers be thanked for their work in the Forum areas.

## **5. PRESENTATION: TRANSPORT INNOVATION FUND**

The Assistant Chief Executive, Mr. D. Winstanley, gave a presentation on a proposed bid to the Government by the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Authority, in conjunction with the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities, for funding to improve the transport infrastructure across Greater Manchester.

The bid, if successful, would result in a £2.9 billion investment in the Greater Manchester infrastructure which would be made up of:-

- £1.2 - £1.8 billion from the Government; and
- the remainder from the introduction of Congestion Charging.

The bid would be put together as a package which would deliver a range of environmental, social and economic outcomes and avoid transport becoming a constraint on the delivery of economic growth. Benefits of the package would be:-

- the largest ever local transport investment programme outside London of up to £2.9 billion; and
- an increase in public transport capacity in the morning peak by some 40% along the corridors affected by the charge.

The Government would decide on the Bid and, if Greater Manchester was successful, it would mean:-

- extended metrolinks;
- additional rail rolling stock and platform lengthening;
- new interchanges;

- more park and ride spaces;
- a step change in travel information; and
- a behavioural change programme.

Mr. Winstanley then went on the outline the proposed charges to be introduced which, in summary, were as follows:-

A     Two charge points on corridors to regional centre:-

- outer charge point – at/close to M60; and
- inner charge point – at/close to intermediate ring road.

B     Charge only during peaks and in peak periods:-

- inbound - 7.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. (A.M. Peak); and
- outbound - 4.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. (P.M. Peak).
- inbound - £2 (M60) and £1 (Ring Road)
- outbound - £1 (M60) and £1 (Ring Road)
- round trip to centre and back - £5.00.

C     Range of choices for traveller:-

- change time of trip;
- change mode of travel; and
- consolidate trips.

There would be no charge until the majority of the investment was in place.

Following his presentation, Mr. Winstanley invited and responded to questions from the Forum and encouraged members to give feedback on the proposals.

A number of issues were raised, as follows:-

- a)     the need for wider consultation across Bolton;

Members were assured that a cross section of the community would be consulted and everybody would be encouraged to put forward their view.

- b)     concerns were raised that the majority of public transport improvements would be in central Manchester with the outlying areas being largely unchanged;

In order for the Bid to be successful it was a requirement that the public transport infrastructure was improved across the whole of Greater Manchester and not just central Manchester.

- c) what provision would be made for disabled drivers.

This would need to be looked at as part of the detailed scheme if the Bid was successful.

Mr. Winstanley thanked people in attendance for their input and agreed to pass the feedback on to the GMPTA.

Resolved – That Mr. Winstanley be thanked for his informative presentation.

## **6. OPEN FORUM**

Verbal and written questions were received which detailed the following issues:

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- a) Concerns were raised as to the safety of members of the public when leaving the last meeting of this Forum.

PC Martland agreed to investigate the issue further.

- b) The plans for the traffic calming measures on Morris Green Lane.

The Area Co-ordinator agreed to investigate the issue further.

- c) Poor street lighting on the Paulhan Street Estate.

The Area Co-ordinator agreed to pass on the concerns to the relevant Department.

- d) Concern at the removal of the number 12 bus service and the 570 service only running every hour.

The Area Co-ordinator agreed to pass on the concerns to the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Authority (GMPTA).

Councillor Clare volunteered to put forward the views of local people to the GMPTA in her capacity as Bolton's representative.

- e) When would private sector renewal be appearing on an agenda for this Forum.

The Area Co-ordinator agreed to investigate the matter further with a view to private sector renewal appearing on a future agenda of this Forum.

- f) Haywood School leavers need improved public transport when they go on to attend Sixth Form College on Queen Street.

The Area Co-ordinator agreed to investigate the matter further.

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.

## **7. VOLUNTARY SECTOR GRANTS**

Ms. L. Whitworth, Area Working Officer, advised members that the Forum had been granted £6,000 for Voluntary Sector Grants for the 2007/2008 municipal year. In addition to this there was also £109.09 to be carried over from the 2006/2007 Voluntary Sector Grant budget.

The area co-ordinator advised that there had been an application for Voluntary Sector Grant, as follows:-

Harper Green Amateur	-	£500 towards the purchase of goal
Football Club		posts and netting.

If the application was approved there would be a sum of £5,609.09 remaining to be allocated.

Resolved – That the application from Harper Green Amateur Football Club be approved.

## **8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Forum would be held on 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2007.

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

The Chairman thanked members, officers and the public for their attendance and the views expressed during the course of the meeting.

(The meeting started at 7.00 p.m. and finished at 8.30 p.m.)