

## **RUMWORTH AREA FORUM**

MEETING – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2014

Present – 11 members of the public attended the meeting.

Councillor Rosa Kay	- Rumworth Ward
Councillor Ismail Ibrahim	- Rumworth Ward

### Also in attendance:

Pauline Dixon	- Rumworth Neighbourhood Manager
Andrew Bolan	- Environmental Education and Enforcement Manager, Environmental Services
Sergeant Andrea Ennis	- Greater Manchester Police
PCSO Jennifer Rainford	- Greater Manchester Police
PCSO Mark Harrison	- Greater Manchester Police
PCSO Michael Farrell	- Greater Manchester Police
PCSO Melanie Jackson	- Greater Manchester Police
PCSO Kelly Pojunas	- Greater Manchester Police
Marion Griffin	- Business Support Officer, Chief Executives Department

Councillor Ismail Ibrahim in the Chair

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Yasmin Qureshi MP and Councillor Ebrahim Adia

## **11. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME**

Councillor Ibrahim welcomed everyone and introduced Councillor Rosa Kay; Pauline Dixon, Neighbourhood Manager and other Council and partner officers present.

## **12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

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

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2013 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

### **14. TACKLING CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN RUMWORTH**

Sergeant Ennis introduced herself and the Rumworth Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) and provided an update on crime and anti-social behaviour in Rumworth.

#### **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**

PCSO Mick Farrell reported that at the moment ASB figures in Rumworth were low however residents do need to report any ASB incidents to the Police

He also described an intervention whereby the police had worked with Targeted Youth Support and other services with a number of young people to try to stop them behaving in an antisocial way. Previous work had demonstrated that there was a high success rate of diverting young people into positive activities and had reduced anti-social behaviour.

#### **Burglaries**

PCSO Mark Harrison updated the Forum on burglaries in Rumworth and also the fact that a number of burglaries had been due to doors left unlocked and windows opened all night.

The Police are asking residents to be vigilant and lock all windows and doors.

If a burglary has been committed then residents will be visited by a member of the NPT and they will be provided with Burglary information pack, the victim will also be eligible to receive a Free Security Homecheck. In addition to this, all properties in the immediate vicinity, at the back and front of the victim's property will receive Burglary Information Packs.

## **Vehicle Crime**

In January 2014 there have been quite a number of incidents of Vehicle Crime, which involved taking of motor vehicles and theft from motor vehicles.

The Police emphasised the importance on not leaving valuables on display in cars.

## **Second-hand shops**

PCSO Jennifer Rainford had made weekly visits to second hand shops in the Rumworth area. These are places where stolen items in the main mobile phones are sold on. There is a good rate of detection of stolen mobile phones using this method.

## **Street Engagement Campaign**

PC Melanie Jackson had been involved with the recent 'Street Engagement' campaign. This is where the NPT and other partner agencies will door knock in an area of Rumworth to ask residents if they have any concerns and provide other information to residents as appropriate.

Following this consultation the Police have provided feedback to the residents on any issues brought up during the day.

A number of questions were raised and answered on the night.

Resolved – That the presentation be noted

## **15. UPDATE ON BUDGETS DEVOLVED TO THE AREA FORUM**

Pauline Dixon, Neighbourhood Manager gave a brief update regarding the devolved budgets available for 2013-15.

Budgets for 2013/15 devolved to the Area Forum are as follows:

**Highways Maintenance Budget annual allocation - £19,200**

This budget funds repairs and maintenance to the highway asset.

The Area Forum has allocated £4,695 to repair the top of Oriel Street.

Balance remaining: £14,505.

### **Allocation based on ward - flat rate - £13,750**

To fund activities providing benefit to Rumworth Ward.  
Balance £0.

Resolved – That the update, together with those projects approved under the Council's Scheme of Delegation, be noted.

## **16. QUESTIONS AND ANSWER SESSION**

Councillor Ibrahim introduced this agenda item and invited all forum attendees to ask any questions they may have regarding issues in the Rumworth Ward.

Q1. Cars are driving through Bella Street and Woodford Gardens, through the garden areas and footpath. We need bollards or a staggered area as children often play in this area.

A1. Pauline Dixon would look into this issue would be looked into.

Q2. Deane Church Lane is currently being resurfaced and local residents would prefer that the speed humps were not replaced.

A2. Pauline Dixon will make enquiries with the Council's Highways department and place on the feedback sheet.

Q3. There is flytipping in Blackledge Street every week.

A3. Andy Bolan, Environmental Services, explained that when a report of fly-tipping is received it is investigated. If possible the culprit would be prosecuted.

Q4. On Blackledge Street opposite Alexandra Children's Centre there are a number of factory units. On this privately owned land the grass is extremely long and unkempt. Could something be done about tidying up the land?

A4. Andy Bolan and Pauline Dixon would check with Planning and Enforcement to see what could be done.

Q6. Are funds available to enable the area around Shurmer Street to be smartened up; perhaps hanging baskets would be nice?

A6. Pauline Dixon asked the residents to develop a proposal which Council members would consider against other priorities.

Q7. A local resident asked if he could start a Home watch in his area.

A7. Yes this would need to be discussed with the NPT.

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

Councillor Ibrahim concluded the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. He confirmed that the next Area Forum would be in the Summer 2014 and would be advertised in the Bolton News and on Bolton Council's website.

(The meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 7.05pm)