

FARNWORTH AREA FORUM

MEETING Monday 16th July 2014

Present - 31 members of the public attended the meeting

Councillor Noel Spencer - Farnworth Ward

Councillor Jean Gillies - Farnworth Ward

Also in attendance

John Pye	-	Farnworth Neighbourhood Manager
Chris Lloyd	-	Environmental Services, Bolton Council
Tim Hill	-	Development & Regeneration, Bolton Council
Graham Langley	-	Environmental Services, Bolton Council
Inspector Chris Evans	-	Greater Manchester Police
PCSO Darren Bratby	-	Greater Manchester Police
PCSO Mark Stanton	-	Greater Manchester Police
PC Claire Lindop	-	Greater Manchester Police
Kanta Kerai	-	Bolton at Home
Marion Griffin	-	Business Support Officer, Bolton Council

Apologies for absence were received from Yasmin Qureshi MP and Councillor Ibrahim.

Councillor Gillies in the Chair

1. INTRODUCTION

Councillor Gillies welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced herself, Councillor Spencer, Bolton Council officers and partners.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10th February were submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. TRANSPORT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SITES

Councillor Gillies introduced Tim Hill and Graham Langley, Development and Regeneration, Bolton Council, who gave a presentation on the Transport to Economic Development sites.

A number of questions were asked and answered on the night

Resolved – That the presentation and the questions be noted.

5. BUDGET UPDATE

Neighbourhood Manager, John Pye gave a brief update on budgets available for 2013 – 2015.

Since the last meeting, the following schemes had been approved under the Council's Scheme of Delegation:

Area Forum Budget 2013 – 15

Amount Remaining 1 April 2013	£11,580
Farnworth park war memorial ramp access	£2,500
New Bury Youth club	£1,600
Farnworth Parents' group	£ 900
Balance to carry forward	£6,580

Area Forum Highways Maintenance Budget

Amount remaining as at 1 April 2013	£19,200
Balance to carry Forward	£19,200

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

Resolved – That the report, together with those projects approved under the Council's Scheme of Delegation, and those questions asked and answered on the night be noted.

6. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

Councillor Gillies invited residents to ask any questions or put forward comments regarding issues and concerns in the Farnworth ward.

Q1. Is there any action taken where residents allow their hedges to grow across the footpaths on the public highways and is so what?	A1. The policy is that where a private hedge is across the public footpath, and if it leaves one and a half metres less for the public to pass, then it needs to be cut back. The Council can serve a notice on the resident to get the hedge cutback.
Q2. I have reported the garden from the Old Vicarage in Central Avenue twice last year but nothing has been done	A2. John Pye will take the issue forward.
Q3 What is happening with the progress of Farnworth Market? Is there a date when the plan will be complete?	A3. St Modwen's are still working on the plans. An outline plan has been presented to the forum, but the planning application has not been made yet, as there is still a great deal of work to be done. Timescale is on target for Summer 2014.

<p>Q4. Before the plan goes to planning the Area Forum residents would like to see the application.</p> <p>As our next Area Forum is not until February 2015, this is too late.</p>	<p>A4. The normal process is via public consultation first, followed by a press notice in the Bolton News and the residents who it affects, those who live nearest will receive letters.</p> <p>There will not be a public meeting, however, a resident can write or email their views and opinions to Bolton Council, Planning Department, and these will be considered by the planning committee in the normal way.</p> <p>Councillor Gillies and Councillor Noel Spencer will ask for the view of the residents of Farnworth Area Forum before the above happens.</p>
<p>Q5. As there is 17k in the Highways budget is work still ongoing with regard to the potholes in Plodder Lane?</p>	<p>A5. Yes it is, more funding is ongoing and this will be added to the Highways budget of £17k.</p>

Resolved – That the questions and answers be noted and those that had not been answered on the night be forwarded to the appropriate department and reported back to the next Area Forum.

7. CLOSE OF MEETING

Councillor Gillies concluded the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

(The meeting started at 7.00pm and finished at 7.55 pm).