

## **TONGE WITH THE HAULGH AREA FORUM**

MEETING, 14<sup>th</sup> January 2009

Present – 11 members of the public attended the meeting.

Councillor Sherrington (Chair)	- Tonge with the Haulgh Ward
Councillor Peel	- Tonge with the Haulgh Ward
Councillor White	- Tonge with the Haulgh Ward

### Also in attendance

Idris Jeewa	- Area Co-ordinator
Nicole Buhagiar	- Area Working Support Officer
Andrew Donaldson	- Assistant Director, Policy, Improvement and Area Working
Peter Marsh	- Assistant Director Corporate Property Services
Richard White	- Safer Neighbourhood Officer, Adult Services
Jon Gorton	- Sport and Recreation Asset Manager, Environmental Services
Esther Steel	- Royal Bolton Hospital
Sergeant Paul Ellis	- Greater Manchester Police
J. Cahill	- Greater Manchester Police
J. Winrow	- Greater Manchester Police
C. Kirkman	- Greater Manchester Police

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of P.C. Mike Jennings and P.C.S.O. Andy Seddon

Councillor Sherrington in the Chair.

## **12. INTRODUCTION**

Councillor Sherrington welcomed everyone and introduced Councillor Peel, Councillor White and Idris Jeewa, Area Co-ordinator. She also introduced Jim Sherrington, Governor of the Foundation Trust for the Tonge with the Haulgh Ward. Prior to the start of the meeting Councillor Sherrington conducted a minutes silence as a mark of respect for local resident Walter Scott who had sadly passed away recently.

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

The minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2008 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

## **14. BUDGET UPDATE**

Idris Jeewa, Area Co-ordinator , gave a presentation on the subject of budgets and grants available to the Tonge with the Haulgh Ward. He explained that there were four areas to consider:

- Highways Maintenance Budget - £10,245
- Area Based Grant - £19,060
- Area Forum Budget - £25,000
- Voluntary Sector Grant - £2,000

Mr. Jeewa explained that the funding available was used to benefit the Tonge with the Haulgh Ward and the decisions as to where these budgets and grants were allocated was at the discretion of the Ward Councillors. The Area Co-ordinator informed the Forum that £10,000 of the Area Based Grant had been allocated to the Designated Public Places Order (D.P.P.O.) in order to stop on street drinking around Union Road and Starkie Road. The Regulation and Licensing Committee had passed this ban on January 13<sup>th</sup> 2009 and it would come into place on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2009 after the signs had been installed. The remainder of the Area Based Grant would be put towards the installation of pallisade fencing between Leverhulme Park and Tonge Cemetery, mainly on Edditch

Street. One of the reasons for this decision was to try and prevent the area being used for drug dealing and storage of stolen property.

Mr. Jeewa then explained that £1612 of the Area Forum Budget would be allocated towards the installation of barriers on Skipton Street in order to prevent motorbikes from accessing Red Rose Park. The remainder of this budget would be allocated in the near future at the discretion of the Ward Councillors.

The Highways Maintenance Budget would be used for two different projects. £6000 would be allocated to the completion of the resurfacing work on Eldon Street, with the remaining £4245 to be used to resurface the land at the back of Bury Road.

The Area Co-ordinator then informed the Forum of the money allocated to voluntary and community groups so far this financial year:

Voluntary Sector Grants for Tonge with the Haulgh  
Budget 2008/9

Less grants awarded to date this year under delegated arrangements detailed in the Council's Scheme of Delegation

Firwood and Moorfield Estate Residents Association - £500

Haulgh Community Partnership - £500

Moorgate Court Residents Association - £368

Moorgate Court Residents Association – Refund to Bolton  
Council of £228

Eldon Street Residents Association - £500

Balance to spend - £360

Mr. Jeewa explained that Moorgate Court Residents Association had returned £228 of their Voluntary Sector Grant as they had not spent the money, therefore this was returned to the Tonge with the Haulgh funds. This left £360 which voluntary and community groups were welcome to apply for

and this money needed to be allocated by the end of March 2009.

Resolved – That the report be noted

## **15. PLAY FACILITIES IN TONGE WITH THE HAULGH**

Jon Gorton, Sport and Recreation Asset Manager, gave a presentation on children's play areas in the Tonge with the Haulgh Ward. He explained the background, the progress so far and the next steps to be taken. Mr. Gorton informed the Forum that there were 136 play areas across the borough of varying sizes and quality. There were over 30 new or refurbished sites and the proposals were to build two new play areas in the Ward next year which would be situated at:

- Norbreck Street
- The land by the Parish Church School

The Sport and Recreation Asset Manager explained how the Council had enlisted the help of children to assist in the design of these play areas in order to ensure the young residents would be involved in the process and the outcome would be what they wanted. He also explained that as the children had been involved in the design, the chance of vandalism occurring would lessen as it was partly their own work.

Following the presentation a number of questions were put to Mr. Gorton and answered on the night. These included:

- Would the Parish Church Park be ready in 2010?
- Would local children be involved in the design of the two new parks?
- Would it be possible to build a play area on a piece of land between Union Road and Castle Hill?
- Would there be enough land on the play areas to play ball games?

Resolved – That the report be noted.

## **16. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SESSION**

Councillor Sherrington introduced this item on the agenda and invited residents to ask any questions or put forward any comments they had regarding issues and concerns in the Tonge with the Haulgh Ward. Idris Jeewa, Area Co-ordinator began with the written questions:

- Could anything be done about the subsidence at the back of Ainsworth Lane?
- Some back streets had been resurfaced that were in much better condition than the back of Ainsworth Lane – why was this?
- Could funding for the back of Ainsworth Lane be allocated from Highways?
- Rather than using funding for Eldon Street, could this money be used to resurface Stone Street?
- Could the ring road be completed from Crompton Way to the Royal Bolton Hospital?

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

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

Councillor Sherrington concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and emphasised that it was the resident's meeting and all feedback was greatly appreciated. She announced that the next Tonge with the Haulgh Area Forum would take place on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at the Tonge UCAN Centre.

(The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 7.35pm)