

## **KEARSLEY AREA FORUM**

MONDAY 30<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2017

Present –23 members of the public attended the meeting

Councillor Derek Burrows	- Kearsley Ward
Councillor Mark Cunningham	- Kearsley Ward
Councillor Liam Irving	- Kearsley Ward

### Also in attendance

John Pye	- Neighbourhood Manager
Marion Griffin	- Chief Executive's Department
David Hashdi	- Department of Place
Helen Shearer	- Children's Services
Jan Robinson	- Children's Services
PC Aimee Abram	- Greater Manchester Police
Sgt Alex Metcalfe	- Greater Manchester Police

Apologies were received from Yasmin Qureshi MP

Councillor Liam Irving in the Chair.

### **1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Councillor Liam Irving welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the other Councillors and Officers in attendance.

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

There were no Declarations of Interest.

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

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

#### **4. PRESENTATION – FUNDED EARLY YEARS AND CHILDCARE ENTITLEMENTS**

Councillor Liam Irving introduced Helen Shearer and Jan Robinson from Children's Services who gave a presentation on the Funded Early Years and Childcare Entitlements.

##### **The main points were:**

Government support for parents with childcare costs including:

- Tax free childcare
- Tax credits
- Universal credit
- Childcare vouchers
- Care to learn
- Funded Early years entitlement
- Information available from the Local Authority for families including Childcare costs
- My life in Bolton – information and advice

A number of questions followed the presentation and were answered at the meeting.

Resolved – That the presentation be noted.

#### **5. AREA FORUM BUDGET UPDATE**

Councillor Liam Irving introduced John Pye, Neighbourhood Manager who gave a brief overview on budgets for 2015-17 and 2017-18.

##### **Area Forum Budget 2015-17**

<b>Amount remaining since last meeting</b>	<b>£1,835</b>
Gifts for children at Christmas event	£150
Gate for Disabled access to Farnworth cemetery	£200
Kearsley in Bloom - 2017	£500
Grosvenor Estate Residents Event	£500
BHAI Christmas Party	£100
Kearsley Health Walkers Challenge walk - 2017	£500

**Balance to carry forward** **£0**

### **Area Forum Budget 2017-18**

**Amount remaining since last meeting** **£3750**

Kearsley in Bloom 2017 £500

Grosvenor Residents Association Activities 2017 £500

Kearsley Mount Cottage Extension of Wheelchair access path £1,000

Kearsley Health Walkers Challenge event £250

Material for planters at the war memorial £80

**Balance to carry forward** **£1,420**

Highways Maintenance Budget for the same period of £9,600 has been allocated to carriageway patching between Tong Street and PJH Group building on Slackey Brow.

**Balance to carry forward:** **£0**

Resolved – That the report, and those projects listed above approved under the Council's Scheme of Delegation be noted.

## **6. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SESSION**

Councillor Liam Irving 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 Ward

Q1. A resident raised concerns about the level of investment in Kearsley compared to other wards and gave the example of a £600,000 investment in the Carnegie Library in Great Lever. Were there any plans for investment in local services in Kearsley?

A1. Councillor Liam Irving gave examples of a number of potential developments that the Council may be bringing forward in the ward and explained constraints on budgets. Councillor Mark Cunningham also commented on budgets.

Q2. Could we have a larger sign placed outside the access road to St John Fisher Methodist Church which would help people find their way here?

A2. Councillor Liam Irving would take forward.

Q3. Ten years ago Tesco applied to build a store in Farnworth and funds for the work to improve Farnworth Market to be completed by 2017. Nothing has been completed; what has happened to the funds?

A3. John Pye, Neighbourhood Manager explained that this subject on the re-development of Farnworth Town Centre is to be discussed at the Farnworth Area Forum on 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2017.

Resolved – That the questions be noted and those that were not answered be directed to the appropriate departments or partner agencies.

## **8. CLOSE OF MEETING**

Councillor Liam Irving concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for attending. He advised that the next forum was still to be confirmed and that residents would be informed through the usual channels.

(The meeting started at 7.00pm and finished at 7.45pm)