

WESTHOUGHTON WITH CHEW MOOR AREA FORUM

MEETING, THURSDAY 3RD MARCH, 2016

Present – 17 members of the public attended the meeting

Councillor David Chadwick	- Westhoughton South
Councillor Martyn Cox	- Westhoughton North and Chew Moor
Councillor Kevan Jones	- Westhoughton South
Councillor Zoe Kirk-Robinson	- Westhoughton North and Chew Moor
Councillor Anna-Marie Watters	- Westhoughton South

Also in attendance

John Shannon	- Area Co-ordinator
Jane Bickerstaffe	- Business Support Officer
Laura Swann	- Department of Place
Anne Burns	- Bolton at Home

Councillor Cox in the Chair

8. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME.

Councillor Cox welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced fellow Councillors and Council Officers.

9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Councillor Jones declared an interest in item 11, the update on the Introduction of Slimmer Grey Bins, as he is a member of the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority.

10. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 1st October, 2015 were agreed and approved as a correct record.

11. PRESENTATION - INTRODUCTION OF SLIMMER GREY BINS

Councillor Cox introduced Laura Swann, Assistant Head of Waste and Fleet Strategy, Department of Place, who gave a presentation on the introduction of slimmer grey bins. The main points were as follows:

- Why Recycle? And what goes in which bin; a leaflet was now available on what should and should not be put in the burgundy bin
- There were no other changes, collection days and frequency would remain the same
- Larger items – collection service
- What can be recycled at the local centres
- Savings needed on cost of collection and disposal
- What other authorities in Greater Manchester are doing
- Advantage of slimmer bin over less frequent collections
- The introduction schedule and preparing for the change
- Phased container exchange
- The new waste audit policy if you are unable to manage
- More information at:
<http://www.bolton.gov.uk/website/pages/Binsandrecycling.aspx>

It was also noted that the compost generated from the green bin collections was available to purchase at a reasonable cost from the two recycling centres and Heaton Fold:

- Raikes Lane (Hurstwood Court), Bolton BL3 2NP
 - Open 8am-6pm Monday - Sunday
- Over Hulton, Salford Road, Over Hulton BL5 1DG
 - Open 8am-6pm Monday – Saturday
 - Sunday and Bank Holidays 10am – 4pm
- Heaton Fold Garden Centre, Overdale Drive, Bolton BL1 5BU
 - Tel: 01204 336848
 - Website: www.heatonfold.co.uk

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

12. UPDATE ON BUDGETS AND PROJECTS

Councillor Cox introduced John Shannon, Area Co-ordinator, who gave an update on budgets and projects devolved to the Area Forum.

Area Forum Budget Update 2013/14 and 2014/15

Westhoughton North & Chew Moor:

Highways Maintenance Budget;

- Allocation - £19,200 Balance - £6,351

Area Forum Flat Rate Budget;

- Allocation - £13,750 Balance - £4,518

Approvals since last meeting;

- £236 for relocation of name plate at Dixon Street

Westhoughton South:

Highways Maintenance Budget;

- Allocation - £19,200 Balance - £19,200

Area Forum Flat Rate budget;

- Allocation - £13,750 Balance - £3,347

Approvals since last meeting;

- £250 for additional bollard at Allenby Close

Area Forum Budget Update 2015/16 and 2016/17

Westhoughton North and Chew Moor

- Area Forum Flat Rate - £9,375
- Highways Maintenance Budget - £19,200
- Targeted Budget (narrowing the gap) - £2,900

Westhoughton South

- Area Forum Flat Rate - £9,375
- Highways Maintenance Budget - £19,200
- Targeted Budget (narrowing the gap) - £10,602

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

13. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Councillor Cox 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 Westhoughton

with Chew Moor area. One written question was received prior to the meeting and was read out first;

Q1 What arrangements have been made for temporary parking while the proposed new Aldi store is being constructed, will the number of parking spaces for residents at the new site be the same as at the Bolton Road site. Also, will there be a time limit on these spaces and will there still be parking spaces in Library Street?

A These questions would be referred to the Planning Department.

Q2 A resident stated that people used to be able to park on an area of land at the junction of Mill Street and Park Road. Are there any plans for the council to re-use this land for car parking?

A There were no plans to pursue use of this land for car parking due to limited funds.

Q3 A resident commented on the large number of pot-holes throughout Westhoughton that had not been repaired and in particular the ones on Clough Avenue that fill up with rainwater in bad weather and are then more hazardous to road users.

A Road regulation checks are made regularly and road surface problems are noted and any repairs are usually carried out within four weeks. However, if any member of the public notices a problem with the roads they can report this on the Bolton Council website.

Q4 A resident asked why drains and gullies are not cleaned out as regularly as they used to be? He said that Leigh Road was particularly bad.

A The gully cleaners do go out regularly, but often cars are parked blocking the roadside and the gullies are not able to be properly cleaned.

Q5 1. Why is the matrix traffic information sign on Manchester Road outside Wingates Church obscured by a police camera?

2. Why had the bus shelter on Chorley Road that was demolished by a car, not been replaced?

3. Street lights at Lock Lane had been replaced but three were not working?

- A 1. The Highways Agency would be asked to look at this.
 2. Transport for Greater Manchester would be asked about this.
 3. The issue would be referred to Highways Services.

Q6 Was there an update on the review of services at the Community Learning Centre on Central Drive?

- A The review consultation was ongoing; college users and residents were advised to make comments as the aim of the review was to tailor services and courses to local demand.

Q7 Why are the Area Forums being cut to one a year?

- A There was currently a review/consultation in process, residents could make comments to the Council website.

Q8 A resident said that there was graffiti on the side of number 446 Leigh Road and on an electricity distribution box on the corner of Leigh Road, which had been reported to the Community Police, but nothing had been done about it and it was still there.

- A The resident's concerns would be followed up. Councillor Jones added that there had been a few incidents of anti-social behaviour recently in Daisy Hill, but the police are regularly patrolling and speaking to people in the area.

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

14. CLOSE OF MEETING

Councillor Cox informed everyone that Anne Burns from Bolton at Home was retiring thus making this her last Area Forum meeting and on behalf of those attending he wished her well for the future.

Councillor Cox then thanked everyone for attending the meeting and advised that the date of the next Westhoughton with Chew Moor Area Forum had not been decided. However, residents on the emailing list would receive invitations and the meeting would also be made available on the Councils website.

(Meeting commenced at 7.00pm and ended at 8.10pm)