

## **BRIGHTMET AREA FORUM**

WEDNESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018

Present: 8 members of the public attended the meeting

|                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Councillor John Byrne   | - Brightmet Ward |
| Councillor Adele Warren | - Brightmet Ward |

### Also in attendance

|                   |                             |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| John Shannon      | - Area Co-ordinator         |
| Jane Bickerstaffe | - Business Support Officer  |
| Nick Maher        | - Department of Place       |
| Vanessa Hamnett   | - Bolton at Home            |
| PC Dave Perry     | - Greater Manchester Police |
| PCSO Hindley      | - Greater Manchester Police |
| PCSO Sharratt     | - Greater Manchester Police |

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Sir David Crausby MP and Councillor Debbie Newall.

Councillor John Byrne in the Chair

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

Councillor Byrne welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Councillor Adele Warren and the Officers in attendance. Councillor Byrne obtained the consent of those present for the meeting to be videoed by a resident.

Councillor Byrne then thanked everyone involved with the organisation of the community engagement event held prior to the main meeting and those who had attended.

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

Councillor Warren declared an interest in item 4 on the agenda as she is a member of the Bolton NEWT Project.

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

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

### **4. UPDATE ON AREA FORUM BUDGETS**

Councillor Byrne introduced John Shannon, Area Coordinator, who gave an update on budgets devolved to the Area Forum as follows;

#### **Area Forum Budget Allocation for 2015/17**

##### **Highways Maintenance Budget;**

Allocation - £19,200      Balance - £0

##### **Area Forum Flat Rate Budget;**

Allocation - £9,375      Balance - £0

Decisions made since the last meeting were;

| <b>Project</b>  | <b>Amount</b> |
|---|---------------|
| Cost of "cul-de-sac" signs at Lorton Avenue and Skelton Grove (initially approved as £500 reduced to £310 on actual cost) | £310          |
| Award to Brightmet Residents Group (Defibrillator Box)  | £479          |
| Award to Age Well in Brightmet Project  | £236          |

#### **Area Forum Budget Allocation for 2017/18**

##### **Highways Maintenance Budget;**

Allocation - £9,600      Balance - £0

##### **Area Forum Flat Rate;**

Allocation - £3,750      Balance - £3,569

Decisions made since the last meeting were;

| <b>Project</b>   | <b>Amount</b> |
|--|---------------|
| Award to Age Well in Brightmet Project                   | £31           |
| Award to Bolton NEWT (North East Wildlife Trail) Project | £150          |

Councillor Byrne asked if there were any questions regarding the budget report.

Q1 A resident who was involved with the request for funding for the Bolton NEWT Project's proposed community event days asked; Why was it that when the bid was for £1,000 they were only granted £150?

A Councillor Byrne said the bid had been received at short notice and it wasn't clear from the breakdown of the bid that the request was for the full £1,000, so the Councillors had approved £150 towards the cost of the events. He also explained, that when requests are received they are considered on a case by case basis and do not always receive 100% of the requested amount. However, it was agreed that this bid would be reconsidered.

Nick Maher then informed the meeting that groups can also apply to the CVS for funding support.

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

## **5. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SESSION**

Councillor Byrne introduced this item on the agenda and invited those in attendance to ask questions or put forward any comments they had regarding issues and concerns in the Ward.

Q1 A resident raised his concern regarding an email message between Bolton Council and Bolton at Home that contained personal data about him, which he considered to be a breach of data protection and he wanted to know why had this happened?

A This would be referred to Bolton Council's Legal Department and a response given to the resident.

Q2 A resident asked for it to be noted that he'd really enjoyed the earlier community event and thought it would be good to hold a similar event on a Saturday afternoon (to hopefully encourage more attendees) to be held in early 2019, but in a different part of the ward.

A The resident was thanked for his suggestion and a representative from Bolton at Home said they would be happy to discuss this with anyone interested in taking part in such an event.

Q3 A resident wished to congratulate Bolton Council on their new website design, as they thought was much improved and easier to use.

A The resident was thanked for their comments.

Resolved – That the questions be noted and any not answered on the night be referred to the appropriate service for response.

## **7. CLOSING REMARKS**

Councillor Byrne concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for attending. He advised that the date of the next meeting had not yet been set, however residents would be notified through the usual channels.

(The meeting began at 4.30pm and ended at 5.05pm.)