

## **BROMLEY CROSS AREA FORUM**

MEETING – 2 July 2014

Present – 13 members of the public attended the meeting

Councillor Norman Critchley	- Bromley Cross Ward
Councillor David Greenhalgh	- Bromley Cross Ward
Councillor Alan Wilkinson	- Bromley Cross Ward

### Also in attendance

John Pye	- Neighbourhood Manager
Stephen Rowson	- Chief Executives Department
Vivienne Morris	- Environmental Services
Sharon Pendlebury	- Community Safety Team
Sharon Knowles	- Bolton Community Transport
PCSO Daniel Worthington	- Greater Manchester Police

Apologies for absence were submitted by David Crausby MP.

Councillor Alan Wilkinson in the Chair

### **1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS**

Councillor Wilkinson welcomed everyone and introduced himself, Councillors and other Officers in attendance.

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

There were no Declarations of Interest.

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

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 5 March 2014 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

#### 4. HOME SAFETY

Councillor Wilkinson introduced Sharon Pendlebury from the Community Safety Team who gave a presentation on Home Safety.

The main points were:

- Protecting the most vulnerable in their home – Do's and Don'ts
- Keeping your home safe this summer
- Your shed is at risk-SECURE IT!
- Statistics from Greater Manchester Fire Service
- Wheelie bin safety
- The following contacts were provided:
  - Police reporting:
    - Non-emergency crimes – Ring: 101
    - Emergency crimes – Ring: 999 threat to life or a crime in progress
    - Crimestoppers – 0800 555 111
    - [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)
    - [www.facebook.com/GMPboltoneast](https://www.facebook.com/GMPboltoneast)
    - On Twitter: @gmpboltoneast
  - Booking a Home Safety Check – Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service:
    - Call 0800 555 815
    - Visit: [www.manchesterfire.gov.uk](http://www.manchesterfire.gov.uk)
    - On Twitter: @manchesterfire
    - And Facebook at Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (MFRS)
  - Nuisance communications – Preference services these are **Free of Charge**:
    - Phone – (TPS) Telephone preference service
      - To register - 0845 070 0707
      - Or Website - [www.tpsonline.org.uk](http://www.tpsonline.org.uk)
    - Postal – (MPS) Mailing preference service
      - Or Website - [www.mpsonline.org.uk](http://www.mpsonline.org.uk)
    - Also for advise on Spam Emails –
      - Go to the BBC Website - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/webwise/guides/stopping-spam-emails>

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

Resolved – That the presentation be noted

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

Neighbourhood Manager John Pye gave an update on current balances for budgets and grants devolved to the Area Forum for 2013-15 financial years as follows;

Area Forum Flat Rate Budget (AFB)	£6,235.00
Highways Maintenance Budget (HMB)	£17,450.00

The following points were noted:-

- Further to the notice at the last meeting of a reduction in funding from the forum to the 2014 Summer Fayre, this funding had now been reduced to zero.
- The Area Forum Budget was available to fund activities which provided a benefit to the ward
- The Highways Maintenance Budget was available to fund asset improvement work covering any of the following activities; Reconstruction, Refurbishment, Patching and Slurry seal works.

Resolved –

- i. That the report be noted;
- ii. That it be noted that the following schemes had been awarded a grant under the Council's Scheme of Delegation from the 2013-15 budget:

<b><u>Grant</u></b>	<b><u>Scheme</u></b>	<b><u>Award</u></b>
<b><u>Pot</u></b>		
AFB	Turton High School Hire of Gymnasium an extra	£1,300.00
AFB	Back Turton Road Tree Pruning	£305.00

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

Councillor Wilkinson 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.

The questions were as follows:

- Q1 Had anything further been done to prevent the puddle of water at the zebra crossing?
- A Attempts had been made in the past to rectify this problem with little success, a further attempt would be made and an investigation of the gullies in the area would also be undertaken.
- Q2 What was happening with the site of the Green Bengal now that it had been demolished?
- A The planning application had been refused and the applicant was appealing, the issue was currently in the hands of the inspectors.
- Q3 What was happening with the plans to build a bigger Mosque on Blackburn Road and the redevelopment of the former All Souls Church?
- A This was to go before planning tomorrow Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2014. Further information could be found on this and any planning application via the council's website via a home computer or access was also available via local libraries. Members agreed to have a look to see what they could find out about All Souls.
- Q4 Had traffic calming measures been agreed for Hospital Road?
- A Speed cameras had been sited on the road but no traffic calming had been agreed.
- Q5 Should the gates of Birtenshaw School not be locked after school hours? The grounds were being used late at night and into the early hours by large numbers of youths for skateboarding etc.

- A It was believed the Head was allowing this but the council's Community Safety Team had received complaints on this issue, in light of this the team would speak with the school and make recommendations.
- Q6 Issues were raised about anti-social behaviour in the Rose Hill Drive area, this mainly related to privately rented property occupiers and their visitors drinking, being noisy and verbally abusive.
- A Sharon Pendlebury from the Community Safety Team said they were aware of the issues and could speak with the private landlords and take action if necessary, she gave her email address for residents to contact her direct on this matter – [sharon.pendlebury@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:sharon.pendlebury@bolton.gov.uk)
- Q7 New street lighting had been installed on Timberbottom but the old lighting had not been removed and was still operational despite calls to ask this be removed.
- A Street lighting were replacing lighting and removing the old ones as quickly as possible but were dependent on Electricity Northwest for power connections.
- Q8 Could something be done about the issues of works vans and cars blocking access on Timberbottom? Deliveries were regularly turning away as they could not access the street. Concern was also noted about access for emergency services.
- A Members would look at the street but were open to suggestions. People should report obstruction issues to the police on 101, even if no immediate response came each call would be logged and could result in intervention further down the line as an ongoing issue. Residents were reassured that emergency vehicles would force their way through parked vehicles where deemed necessary.

Following the questions residents were advised of the following:

- If residents did not need the capacity of a large grey bin they could now contact the council who would replace it with a smaller version free of charge.

- Members were trying to publish a directory of local groups and organisations, residents were asked to let them know of groups and organisations local to the area especially any members were not likely to know about.

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

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

Councillor Wilkinson thanked everyone for attending and advised that the next meeting of the Bromley Cross Area Forum would be Wednesday 4 March 2015 starting with a drop-in at 6.30pm and the main meeting at 7pm, the venue would be Bromley Cross Library.

(The meeting started at 7.00pm and finished at 8.15pm)