

HULTON AREA FORUM

MEETING – Thursday 5th February, 2015

Present – 18 members of the public attended the meeting

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| Councillor Phil Ashcroft | - Hulton Ward |
| Councillor Diane Parkinson | - Hulton Ward |
| Councillor Alan Walsh | - Hulton Ward |

Also in attendance

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|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| John Shannon | - Area Co-ordinator |
| Jane Bickerstaffe | - Business Support Officer |
| Joe Fox | - Environmental Services |
| Chloe Poole | - Community Safety Officer |
| Sgt Coralie Bailey | - Greater Manchester Police |
| PCSO Chris Knott | - Greater Manchester Police |
| PCSO Katherine Gray | - Greater Manchester Police |

Apologies for absence were submitted by Yasmin Qureshi MP and Pauline Dixon, Neighbourhood Manager.

Councillor Parkinson in the Chair

8. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

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

9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS

There were no Declarations of Interest.

10. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17th July, 2014 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

11. COMMUNITY SAFETY/POLICE UPDATE

Councillor Parkinson introduced PCSO Chris Knott from the Hulton Neighbourhood Policing Team, who gave an update on community safety issues in the area. The main points were:

Current Issues:

- Burglary and shed breaks
 - Over the past three months there has been an increase in the number of burglaries, with 41 burglaries reported in the Hulton area.
- Bogus workmen
 - Report rogue traders to Trading Standards on 08454 040506
 - Report suspicious or bogus callers to the Police on 101 (Emergency: 999)
 - Do not deal with traders who call uninvited.
- Anti-social Behaviour (ASB)
 - Anti-social behaviour impacts on individuals, families and whole communities. It can include nuisance neighbours, vandalism, graffiti, drunken or rowdy behaviour, harassment/ intimidation/ threats.
 - There was a reduction in anti-social behaviour in Hulton between October to December 2014, compared to the previous three month period.
 - ASB remains one of the highest priorities.
 - GMP work closely with partner agencies and residents to tackle issues that impact on the quality of life of our communities.
- Neighbour nuisance – if you are having problems with your neighbours;
 - Talk to them about it. Often the most effective way to deal with neighbour disputes is to speak to them about it yourself, as they may not be aware of how it is affecting you?
 - You should not approach the person if you feel frightened or intimidated by them.
 - If your neighbour is a tenant you can contact their landlord.
 - You could use mediation services if raising the issue informally doesn't work.

- For more advice visit www.gov.uk/how-to-resolve-neighbour-disputes

Supporting Our Community:

Christmas "Cash for Kids" Toy appeal

- Young people from the Hulton area were amongst those who benefited from this year's Cash for Kids Toy appeal when members of the public and local businesses donate toys for underprivileged children across Manchester.
- Local officers visited 6 children's homes throughout the area and nominated 20 teenage children in care to receive a much needed Christmas gift, as donated by local officers.

How to contact your local neighbourhood policing team:

Telephone - 0161 856 5608

Email: Boltonsouth.neighbourhoodteam@gmp.police.uk

For non-emergencies or to report a crime, please call the non-emergency number – 101

Follow us on:

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

One resident suggested that those on the Community Payback Scheme should carry out their reparation in the area where they offended, therefore giving something back to that community.

PCSO Knott thanked the resident for his suggestion and said this did occur sometimes; he would follow up the suggestion with the Probation Service.

Resolved – That the presentation be noted.

12. UPDATE ON BUDGETS AND PROJECTS

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

Budgets for 2013/14 and 2014/15 are as follows;
Budgets devolved to the Area Forum

Area Forum Flat Rate Budget; Allocation - £13,750
Balance - £2,674 (includes set aside)

- Approved at last meeting
 - £2,981; contribution to cost of highway resurface at Longfield Road
- Set aside since last meeting
 - £8,095; contribution to cost of footway resurface at Broadway

Highways Maintenance Budget; Allocation - £19,200
Balance - £0 (includes set aside)

- Approved since last meeting
 - £7,295; to cover cost of footway repair and resurface at Cressingham Road
- Set aside since last meeting
 - £11,905; contribution to cost of footway resurface at Broadway

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

13. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SESSION

Councillor Parkinson 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 Hulton Ward.

Q1 After reading a Council notice on a post near the Pretoria Pit memorial, a resident was concerned that as she could not clearly understand what the notice meant, and also that she had heard rumours about an application for fracking in the area, that this could be what the notice was about. Another resident added that he knew of two other such notices on Salford Road and Plodder Lane and believed they related to the Growth and Infrastructure Act 2013 and sought the suspension of the right to declare village green status.

- A The Councillors assured residents that they were not aware of any applications for fracking in the area, but said they would make enquiries to the Planning Department and Public Rights of Way regarding these notices and what they referred to.

Resolved – That the question be noted.

14. CHAIR'S CLOSING REMARKS

Councillor Walsh, as a member of the liaison group, had received an email from Chris Davidson (Harworth Estates) regarding the Logistics North development at Cutacre. The main points were as follows;

- Mr Davidson apologised that the proposed visit to the site had not yet taken place and said that anyone still interested in visiting would be welcome. Those present at the meeting consented to their email address being passed to Chris Davidson for an invite to this visit.
- The development is progressing well with two land sales completed and two other deals at legal stage.
- In respect of the Country Park, 22 hectares of tree planting are about to commence on the mounds to the west of the site. The planting should be complete by end March.
- Subject to Bolton, Salford and Wigan Councils approval to the Country Park Strategies, a start will be made on the country park. This could be by April and continue not only with Phase 1, but the Phase 2 as well. Harworths are very keen to involve the local community and make sure there is a consistent message around what they are doing. If people want to hear more about the plans, then the site visit will be ideal to present this.
- It is planned to remove the hoarding on the A6 around March /April and make the front of the site more presentable.

Councillor Parkinson thanked everyone for attending the meeting and advised that the date and venue of the next Hulton Area Forum meeting was yet to be confirmed. However, residents on the e-mailing list would receive invites

and the meeting would also be advertised on the Councils website and in the Bolton News.

(The meeting started at 7.04pm and finished at 8.10pm)