

BROMLEY CROSS AREA FORUM

MEETING – WEDNESDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 2016

Present – 30 members of the public attended the meeting

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

Also in attendance

Idris Jeewa - Area Coordinator
Sue Vickers - Business Support Officer
Chris Lloyd - Department of Place
PCSO Helen Thorburn - Greater Manchester Police

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillor Alan Wilkinson and David Crausby MP.

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS

Councillor Greenhalgh welcomed everyone and introduced himself, Councillor Critchley 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 meeting held on 2nd March 2016 were submitted and agreed as a correct record.

4. BUDGET UPDATE

Councillor Critchley introduced Idris Jeewa, Area Co-ordinator, who explained the purposes of the 2 budgets and gave a brief update on current balances for budgets devolved to the Area Forum for 2015-17 as follows:

After the last meeting, the following amounts remained in the budgets:

- Flat Rate - £8,675
- Highways - £19,200

Since then, Members have made the following allocations from the Flat Rate budget:

- £2,800 for the continuation of children's play provision up to the end of March 2017
- £200 to Eagley Infants for their Tatton Flower Show Exhibition
- Therefore, the balance remaining is £5,675.

Councillor Greenhalgh updated the Forum on current and future playscheme proposals and congratulated the children of Eagley Infants on gaining an award from the Royal Horticultural Society and on their Tatton Park exhibition around the character Shrek.

With regards to the Highways Budget, Members have not allocated anything as yet as they are awaiting information from the Highways Department.

As and when decisions are made on these funds, this will be reported back to future area forums.

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

5. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SESSION

Councillor Greenhalgh 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, starting with any written questions.

Q1 Can steps be taken to prevent motor bikes being ridden on land adjacent to the Last Drop Hotel?

A The Area Co-ordinator, Idris Jeewa, informed that this had been passed to Community Safety Officer, Sharon Pendlebury, who had produced an information bulletin available to all present. Both Councillors commented that they had received anonymous complaints on the same topic but would need more specific detail in order to act.

- Q2 What action can be taken to oppose the application to develop in the vicinity of the Last Drop Hotel?
- A The Councillors reminded the Forum that a dedicated meeting had been arranged for Monday 7th November 2016 to discuss this application in more detail. They explained the implications of this proposal and also the potential impact of the wider Greater Manchester Spatial Framework on Bromley Cross. Both Councillors advised on constructive ways to oppose the Last Drop proposal and urged the community to engage in the consultation process.
- Q3 Can anything be done to ensure that the out of hours service at Waters Meeting Road isn't closed?
- A Councillor Greenhalgh acknowledged that this is a protracted situation that has been afforded little consultation. He advised that the matter will come before the Health Scrutiny Committee where Members from all parties will have a view. However, he stated that the final outcome would not be a decision for Bolton Council.
- Q4 Can action be taken to prevent double parking on Rosehill Avenue, as residents cars are being damaged? Also can something be done to prevent blocking in of the garages to the rear of Toppings Barn?
- A The Councillors advised that 20mph signs will be shortly installed, which should hopefully reduce the speed of vehicles travelling. Councillors also agreed to hold a meeting with residents and the Police to discuss the situation in more detail.
- Q5 There are problems with parking on double yellow lines, double parking and cutting through on:
- Chetwyn Avenue
 - Queens Avenue
 - Gill Street
 - Turton School opposite Chapeltown Road
- A This will be referred to the appropriate Department. A contact number for Parking Enforcement was made available and Councillor Greenhalgh assured the Forum he will speak to Turton School.

- Q6 A problem was reported with trees and bushes obstructing the pavements and highway on Queens Avenue, Shady Lane and Higher Shady Lane.
- A This will be referred to the appropriate Department.
- Q7 Last year's Christmas lights caused the Pelican crossing at the Co-op to fail. Can this be prevented this year?
- A This will be referred to the appropriate Department.
- Q8 A delivery vehicle knocked down signs at the Co-op entrance 8 weeks ago. The Co-op states it has been reported to the Council but they have still not been reinstated.
- A The Councillors will advise the Co-op that it is their responsibility to reinstate.
- Q9 A resident asked whose responsibility it is to repair the pavement outside Sainsbury's?
- A There is a new development taking place next to the store, once this is complete the pavement will be repaired.
- Q10 A number of questions were raised regarding the closure of the Village Hall. The general debate was around viability of co-working between the Church and the community and the future of the building itself.
- A A lengthy discussion took place which included the following:
- Both Councillors expressed their intention to maintain a community space within the village.
 - Reverend Philip Belli, representing the Church, explained their position.
 - Although the Church wanted to keep the facility open, this was just not possible due to finances and lack of people attending.
 - The requirement of the Charities Commission on how the buildings would need to be sold, i.e. under market conditions.
 - The process the Methodist Church would need to follow.
 - Councillor Greenhalgh thanked Reverend Belli and asked that the Councillors be kept updated on progress.

Q11 A resident asked if the Councillors would approve the report to close Children's Centres?

A Both Councillors stressed that no Children's Centres were to close. The Councillors assured the Forum that if the final report indicates closure of Children's Centres, they will oppose it.

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

7. CHAIR'S CLOSING REMARKS

Councillor Greenhalgh thanked everyone for attending, as the date of the next meeting had not been set yet, people will be informed in due course through the usual channels.

(The meeting started at 7.00pm and finished at 8. 49pm)