

## **HULTON AREA FORUM**

MEETING – 27<sup>th</sup> February 2014

Present – 18 members of the public attended the meeting

Councillor Phil Ashcroft	Hulton Ward
Councillor Andrew Morgan	Hulton Ward
Councillor Alan Walsh	Hulton Ward

### Also in attendance

Pauline Dixon	- Neighbourhood Manager Rumworth/Area Working Lead
Stephen Rowson	- Chief Executives Department
John Davies	- Environmental Services
Andy Hurst	- Community Safety
Inspector Chris Evans	- Greater Manchester Police
PCSO Chris Knott	- Greater Manchester Police
PCSO John Nicholson	- Greater Manchester Police

Apologies for absence were submitted by Yasmin Qureshi MP.

Councillor Alan Walsh in the Chair

### **8. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS**

Councillor Walsh welcomed everyone and introduced himself, Councillors and other 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 18 June 2013 were submitted and approved as a correct record

## **11. COMMUNITY SAFETY AND POLICING UPDATE**

The neighbourhood policing team and Andy Hurst from Environmental Services gave an update on community safety and policing.

The main points were:

### **Police Restructure:**

- Integrated CID / Neighbourhood
- Information Sharing (PCSO / CID)
- Daily Tasking Meeting
- Greater Coverage

### **Priorities we have addressed:**

- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Making Hulton a safer environment
- Burglaries
- Vehicle Crimes

### **Anti-Social Behaviour:**

- Joined up work with positive activities for young people providers
- ASB Pathway for those that will not engage
- Working with Neighbourhood Manager and developing links with key stakeholders
- Targeted Youth Support

### **Robbery:**

- There had been numerous business robberies in the Wigan Road and Deane Church Road areas.
- We had a number of motorway networks and close boundaries with Wigan and Salford.

### **What businesses can do?**

- Improve their own security i.e. CCTV
- Report anything suspicious via 101
- Give the police a detailed account on the situation, descriptions, vehicle details including make/model and registration.

**Contacting Your Team:**

- P.A.C.T. meetings – the next would be on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at St Andrew's Church, Crescent Avenue
- Email: [boltonsouth@gmp.police.uk](mailto:boltonsouth@gmp.police.uk)
- Telephone: 101
- Follow us on twitter: @gmpboltonsouth

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

Resolved – That the presentation be noted.

**12. UPDATE ON BUDGETS AND PROJECTS**

Neighbourhood Manager Rumworth/Area Working Lead  
Pauline Dixon 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)	£13,750.00
Highways Maintenance Budget (HMB)	£19,200.00

It was noted that there also remained £3814 to spend from the 2012-13 Flat rate Budget.

The following points were noted:-

- 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 2012-13 budget:

<b><u>Grant</u></b>	<b><u>Scheme</u></b>	<b><u>Award</u></b>
<b><u>Pot</u></b>		
AFB	Support for St Andrews PTA Summer Fair	£500.00
AFB	Support cost of replacement litter bin at Hurst Street	£450.00

### **13. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SESSION**

Councillor Walsh 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.

Four questions had been submitted in advance of the forum and responses were provided at the meeting as follows:

- Q1 Would it be possible to have a permanent litter collector on the A6 (Salford road) due to the amount of litter created by vehicles travelling to and from the waste transfer loading station/household recycling centre. Since it's opening. Rats have already been seen along this road, and I personally counted 49 plastic bottles on the pavement/grass verge in a 600 mtr stretch, less than 10% where drinking bottles, most had been squashed or flattened.
- A No, there are no resources available to increase the current frequency of cleaning on Salford Road which takes place 4 times/year during planned operations involving lane closures and traffic calming.
- Q2 Why is there not a full length rubber sheet hanging from top to bottom and fastened on the council owned refuse collection vehicles to prevent refuse from blowing out.
- A All our refuse collection vehicles have full length curtains fitted to prevent spillage from coming out of the rear of the vehicle. The condition of the curtains are checked each day by the drivers and every 6 weeks by the Councils Transport Section when vehicles are being serviced. Vehicles are not used if the curtains are damaged or missing.

In order to provide a full response we would need the fleet number of the vehicle that appears to have been seen without curtains. Independent checks carried out last week have not identified any vehicles with curtains missing. Many private operated waste collection vehicles do not have dust curtains fitted and these vehicles look similar to our own fleet from a distance.

Q3 What has happened to the bond money provided by UK coal for the restoration of the Cutacre country park. Why has the Country park not been started.

A "The Council is currently finalising the details of the approval of the planning application for the Country Park associated with the Logistics North Bolton scheme, including the necessary legal agreements. These will make provision for an appropriate bond to cover the works required to construct the country park. The existing bond is in place until December 2014.

While some works to create and plant the landforms in the country park have already taken place under the previously-agreed restoration scheme, a detailed specification for the country park, including habitats for wildlife, and phasing, will be agreed by the three Councils. This is expected to be in place in the next few months; however it may be that some preliminary works would be agreed and undertaken in advance."

Q4 Now that the hedges between 105 Salford road and the property known as Breamar have finally been cut back, and the undergrowth removed, is it now possible to have the remainder of the A6 done to match.

A Bolton Council do not own this land and therefore have no responsibility to clear the land.

Following this the resident questioned some of the answers and expanded on some. It was agreed that further investigation would be conducted and a response would be sent back directly to the resident. Following this questions were opened to the floor and were as follows:

Q5 At a previous forum meeting at the Sutton Trust a member of the policing team agreed to monitor cyclists using the

footpath instead of the road on the A6, no action appeared to have been taken.

- A The police had to prioritise work load and many crime issues took precedence, however the residents concerns were noted and the police agreed to monitor the area for this issue when they pass that way but could not dedicate separate resources to it.

- Q6 If council employees in the course of traveling for duty or otherwise see such things as bollards knocked over or potholes report these back to the council for action?

- A Employees are encouraged to do this and many do.

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

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

Councillor Walsh thanked everyone for attending and advised that the next meeting of the Hulton Area Forum had not been set yet but residents would be notified in the usual way.

(The meeting started at 7.04pm and finished at 8.04pm)