

**Notes of: RAWTENSTALL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM**

**Venue: Hardman's Mill, Rawtenstall**

**Date of Meeting: 24<sup>th</sup> September 2007**

**PRESENT: Councillor Anthony Swain (in the Chair)  
Councillors Graham, Tickner, Forshaw, Gill and Ruddick.**

**PS Paul Lee, Lancashire Constabulary  
PC Gareth Henderson, Lancashire Constabulary  
David Whiteman, NEAT Manager RBC  
Joanne Smith, Elections Manager RBC**

**3 members of the public and 1 representative from the press attended the meeting.**

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## **1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair welcomed members of the public to the meeting.

## **2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted from Inspector Dave Hodson, Lancashire Constabulary.

## **3. NOTES OF LAST MEETING**

The notes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2007 were agreed as a correct record.

In response to a question by a member of the public about overgrown shrubs on Oaklands Drive David Whiteman reported that the pruning of shrubs was the responsibility of Lancashire County Council and their programme of works was behind schedule due to wet weather conditions.

PC Gareth Henderson reported that additional speed cameras were to be sited in the borough, although specific locations were not confirmed.

Councillor Forshaw expressed her concern about the disturbance and refuse left on highway verges by contractors in Rawtenstall. She requested a list of council staff associated with cleansing, in job title order, so that she would know who to contact regarding similar issues.

IT WAS AGREED - That the Chair would ensure a staff list, detailing job responsibilities, was circulated to all members.

#### 4. POLICE UPDATE

Paul Lee, Community Sgt at Rawtenstall, updated the Forum on policing in Rawtenstall.

He informed that there had been reductions in all crime in Rawtenstall, including criminal damage, antisocial and violent behaviour. Operation vault was currently underway and targeted cash in transit robberies. Operation summer nights had now finished.

In response to a question by a member of the public, Sgt Lee explained that the new operations unit was expected to be based at Waterfoot and a base for Community Officers would be retained in Rawtenstall.

In response to questions by Councillors, Sgt Lee informed that policing levels in the evening would be adjusted and targeted in response to police intelligence. He further informed that where there were problems with loading outside businesses in the town centre the police would issue fines where this was possible, but that there may also be planning matters that are the remit of the Council.

#### 5. Hot Topic – Determining of Grant Allocations

Councillor Swain reported that the Working Group had met to consider the applications for Neighbourhood Forum funding. He informed the meeting that £3.5K had been allocated and the remainder of the funding (£3.76K) would be allocated at future meetings. The Working Group was recommending approval of the following:

NEAT Manager Consulted	Organisation Name	£ Requested	Purpose of Grant	Granted (Yes or No) If No, state reason for refusal	Funding Granted
Alec Tattersall	Water Village Trust	750.00	Purchase of new goal posts and nets for proposed football area.	Deferred to next Forum - applicants to be asked to provide further information on prices for goalposts and nets.	Nil
None Given	Rosendale Rubicon	750.00	Funding requested to purchase photocopier, software, camera, storage equipment, stationery and promotional material for provision of mental health daycare services.	No - more appropriate for this to go to the Voluntary Sector Grants Advisory Group - if not obtained please re-apply.	Nil

Heidi Finlay	Edgeside & District Residents Association (1)	750.00	Improvement of Taylor Ave Woods to create nature area with flowers, bat boxes, nature trail, recognised entrances and exits.	£500 (as this is supported by Groundwork)	500.00
Heidi Finlay	Edgeside & District Residents Association (2)	750.00	Purchase of new cooker for ESDRA and contribution towards upgrade of current facilities - redecoration.	Awarded £500	500.00
Dave Whiteman	Hall Carr & Balladen Community Partnership	750.00	Creation of corner garden - works to grounds, planting, etc.	Awarded £750	750.00
Claire Angus	Crawshawbooth Community Association	750.00	Purchase of new furniture in coffee area to replace existing.	Awarded £500	500.00
Dave Whiteman	Crawshawbooth Environmental Action Group	750.00	Contribution to scheme to start in Spring 2008 to improve the area. Hanging baskets, clearing and tidy up of land, new planters, benches, etc.	Awarded £500	500.00
Dave Whiteman	Civic Pride in Partnership with Rossendale Council	750.00	Contribution to improve flower beds and gardens in Rawtenstall town centre.	Awarded £750	750.00
Dave Whiteman	Horse & Bamboo Theatre Company	750.00	Subsidise shows for low income families to enable them to attend shows at the Boo over the next year.	No - application also submitted to Bacup Forum which has been approved.	Nil
	<b>Total Applied For</b>	<b>6750.00</b>		<b>Total Awarded</b>	<b>3500.00</b>

Starting budget = £7,260.00  
Amount Allocated = £3,500.00  
Remaining budget = £3,760.00

The Neighbourhood Forum encouraged people to apply for the remaining funding.

**IT WAS AGREED - That the grants as detailed above be awarded.**

## **6. NEAT Update**

Dave Whiteman, NEAT Manager, reported on the recycling roadshows that were taking place across the borough during the week, emphasising the one on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September between 10.00am and 12.00 noon at Rawtenstall market. He explained that this was part of the work being carried out to increase recycling within the borough.

In response to a complaint by a member of the public about rubbish being put into bins by persons other than the bin owner, Mr Whiteman stressed that the NEAT team and refuse operatives want to work with the public and help them and that fines would only be used as a very last resort.

Councillor Forshaw commented that further, clear and friendly, guidance on recycling should be issued to households.

In response to a question from Councillor Forshaw, Mr Whiteman reported that regular visits to schools were made in which work was done to encourage and educate children about recycling. He stated that these visits were well received by children and several schools in the borough were designated 'eco schools'.

In response to a question from Councillor Gill, Mr Whiteman explained that assistance was available to persons were not able to physically put out their bins. They could access this service by contacting the refuse or NEAT teams.

## **7. Open Forum**

A summary of the questions raised during public question time are detailed below:

A member of the public complained about the frequency of gully cleaning on Barnes Avenue, Schofield Road and Barrat Road. He was concerned that this may cause serious accidents. The person was advised that this was the responsibility of the County Council.

Several attendees wished to congratulate the Rawtenstall Town Centre Caretaker on the good job they are doing.

**THE MEETING COMMENCED AT 7.00pm AND CLOSED AT 8.20pm**