

Notes of: **HASLINGDEN, EDENFIELD AND HELMSHORE
NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM**

Venue: Haslingden High School, Broadway, Haslingden

Date of Meeting: 12th January 2009

PRESENT: Councillor G Sandiford (in the Chair)
Councillors A Cheetham, B Essex, G Morris, C Pilling, D Stansfield
and J Thorne

ALSO PRESENT: Julie Jackson, Area Manager, Communities Team
Jerry Smith, District Partnership Officer, Rossendale Lancashire
County Council
Emy Aceret, Committee Officer
Bernard Mrozeck, Technical Director, Interfloor
Joanne Miller, Consultant
PS Stuart Greenwood, Lancashire Constabulary

IN ATTENDANCE: Gemma Rooke, Community Engagement Officer
Toni Larter, Field Navigator, Help Direct Services, Rossendale

Approximately 20 members of the public and 1 representative from
the press attended the meeting.

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair asked the Elected Members and Officers to introduce themselves to the meeting.

The Chair commended Stubbins in Bloom in their achievements in the North West Bloom Competition.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors P Dickinson, P Evans, S Pawson and D Smith.

3. Minutes

- a) The minutes of the meeting held on 29th September 2008 be accepted as a correct record.

- b) The Action sheet was discussed and updates were noted. The District Partnership Officer informed the Forum of a pilot scheme which would commence in South Ribble Borough Council where the Council will take over responsibility for grass cutting formerly done by LCC. If successful, the scheme would be rolled out from 2010 to those districts that wanted to adopt the same arrangements.

It was agreed that those actions that were outstanding would be carried over to the next meeting so that an update would be given, and the Action sheet be updated

4. Update on INTERFLOOR

The Technical Director of Interfloor provided an update on the work being carried out on the oxidiser to reduce emissions.

The Technical Director and the Consultant responded to a number of questions as summarised below:-

- Flumes and Odour – The recent smells were linked with the cold weather conditions. The strong odour could not be monitored with any equipment. The Councillors and members of the public were encouraged to contact the Council's Consultant, Joanne Miller on 07932 761 845 to report odours as soon as possible.
- Level of complaints – eleven complaints received since March 2008. The system worked well in the summer.
- Emissions level - was within the parameters of Government guidelines and that Interfloor had put in place the best piece of machinery equipment available.
- Health effects – were difficult to identify and there was no evidence available.

The Forum agreed that Interfloor's efforts and cooperation be acknowledged, and that Bernard Mrozek be invited back to the next meeting of the Forum to provide a report update.

5. Police Update

PS Greenwood confirmed the 0845 1253545 for the Police Call Centre at Burnley and provided an update on the definition of violent crime and anti-social behaviour as follows:

- Violent crime includes murder, rape and sexual assault.
- Anti-social behaviour may include rowdy behaviour, an abandoned vehicle, nuisance calls and emails, animal in a house garden.

He explained that Haslingden Police Station was open from 10am to 6pm on Monday to Saturday and closed on Sunday. The Rawtenstall Police Station was

open from 8am to 8pm on Monday to Saturday and from 10am to 6pm on Sunday. He encouraged the public to report incidents.

PS Greenwood provided an update on crime rates and policing in the area. He explained that there had been an increase on some crimes for the same period in the previous year which were as follows:

Crime Type	All Crime	Vehicle Crime	Damage	Violent Crime	Hate Crime	Burglary other than in a Dwelling	Robbery- Personal Property
29/09/08-01/01/09	298	54	71	59	5	24	2
Detected	67	4	14	27	0	1	0
29/09/07-01/01/08	287	31	71	54	2	13	0
Detected	102	10	13	24	0	2	0
Increased	11	23	0	5	3	11	2

PS Greenwood explained that anti-social behaviour remained the same as last year; out of 342 anti-social behaviour reported, 165 was rowdy behaviour. He explained that the Police had a database which they used to monitor anti-social behaviour incidents.

The number of burglaries in/around dwelling had been reduced by 4 for the same period last year.

In response to issues raised by Councillors and members of the public, the following was agreed as summarised below:

- Lack of Police presence at Broadway. It was explained that PCSOs walked round Greenfield area and changes were being implemented.
- Policing in Helmshore. A request was made to pass on appreciation for the cooperation and high presence of the Police Constable responsible for Helmshore.
- Speed Limits at Helmshore Road leading to Free Lane. It was explained that there was ongoing Enforcement Campaigns and agreed to include Helmshore Road in the campaign.
- Speed limit going to Edenfield and residents' parking. It was agreed that leaflets would be produced by the Police. The District Partnership Officer agreed to follow up changing the 40 mph speed stretch going into Edenfield to 30 mph and to provide update at the next meeting.
- Zebra Crossings and road markings at Manchester Road. The District Partnership Officer agreed to find out if there were any plans to repair

worn out road markings on various zebra crossings around the Borough and provide update.

- Monitoring and speed checks at Grane Road. The District Partnership Officer agreed to find out the new locations for Police mobile safety cameras on Grane Road.

6. Road Casualty Figures

PS Greenwood explained that they had put in place Operation Pathway at known roads such as Helmshore Road, Blackburn Road and Manchester Road, Haslingden to monitor speed in an attempt to reduce casualties. It was agreed that the information be noted.

7. Area Manager Communities Update

In response to a query from the public, the Area Manager provided an explanation about the title change from NEAT to Area Team. She provided the Forum with the following update:

- Service Requests - 509 requests for service for the Communities Team of which 149 were for the Haslingden area.
- Grot Spot Competition
 - Various grot spots and photos were compiled.
 - The Council Members voted Road End, Haslingden as one of four sites to be cleaned up.
 - Remedial works to be completed by the end of February.
- Litter Bins – a new allocation of 90 free standing bins had been procured with the Pride in Rossendale logo on them, which would be installed commencing in the last week of January.

The Chair welcomed the new Community Engagement Officer, Gemma Rooke who had been appointed to work in conjunction with the Council, local Councillors and the community through new and existing community groups within Rossendale.

The Chair also welcomed Toni Larter, Field Navigator, Help Direct Services - Rossendale. Her role was to find out what services were available in Rossendale and signpost enquirers accordingly. It was explained that the Service was a County Scheme. Help Direct Service was already operational and could be contacted on 0303 3333 1010. The Centre was to be launched at the end of January.

In response to questions raised, the following was agreed as summarised below:-

- Grey bin not being emptied on Friday - The reason behind the 4 day week was explained by the Area Manager and she agreed to ask Operations to check that the bin was collected the day after the meeting.
- Textiles collection - It was agreed that a Manager from Operations be invited to the next Forum.
- Batteries Collection – The Area Manager agreed to raise with Operations Department.
- Gritting – The Chair informed the Forum that there would be a Lancashire Local meeting which would be held on 19th January 2009 at the Old Fire Station, Rawtenstall, where gritting would be one of the items on the Agenda.
- Sunken flower beds at Fingerpost, Edenfield – The Area Manager agreed to refer the issue to the Manager of Parks and Open Spaces.
- Dog fouling and monitoring of loose dogs at Chatterton Park – It was agreed that the issue be raised with the Dog Warden.
- Dog fouling at Market Street Memorial Gardens and the road from Edenfield up to Horse and Jockey - The Area Manager agreed to ask the Area Officers to check the areas out and take required actions.
- Request for more notice boards – The Area Manager agreed to raise the request directly with the Deputy Chief Executive and Communities Manager.

8. Budget Consultation for 2009-2010

The Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder presented information regarding the budget for 2009/10. He explained that the Council were seeking the views of the public.

The following issues were raised:

- Council Tax increase
- Less expensive but better services
- Consultants' contracts

If the Councillors and the public had any issues about the budget proposal, they were asked to complete a form and hand it to the Committee Officer.

9. Determining of Grant Allocations and Feedback From Previous Recipients

Councillor Essex provided feedback from previous applicants. Three grant applications had been considered by the Working Group prior to the meeting and the Group were recommending the following:

Name of Organisation	Amount Awarded
Edenfield CE Primary School	£ 350

Edenfield Methodist Church	£ 600
Friends of Greenfield Junior Bowling	£ 750
Total given	£1,700

Balance from last meeting - £3,370
 Funds allocated at this Forum - £1,700
 Balance carried forward to next meeting - £1,670

It was agreed that the grants as detailed above be awarded. Grant forms could be obtained from Democratic Services.

The details of applications were requested to be included on future agendas.

10. Open forum

The following issues were raised:

- Neighbourhood Forum publicity
- Public Attendance
- Availability of Neighbourhood Forum grants applications.

The Chair closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.

(The meeting commenced at 7.00pm and closed at 9.30pm)

Signed:
 (Chair)

Date: