

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

**Venue: Haslingden High School**

**Date of Meeting: 17<sup>th</sup> March 2008**

**PRESENT: Councillor G Sandiford (in the Chair)  
Councillors D. Smith, A. Cheetham, G. Morris, C. Pilling,  
B. Essex, P Dickinson  
Inspector David Hodson, Lancashire Constabulary  
Heidi Finlay, Neat Team Manager  
Joanne Smith, Electoral Manager  
Lorna Rouke, Principal Environmental Health Officer  
Steve Downey, Managing Director, Interfloor  
Barry Drelincourt, Rossendale Transport**

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

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### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

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

### **2. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J Thorne.

### **3. Notes of the last meeting**

The notes of the last meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2008 circulated and the following actions were fed back to the meeting:-

- Steve Downey, Managing Director of Interfloor, updated the Forum on the emissions work at the factory and work being carried out to reduce omissions. He explained that the oxidiser was under continuous monitoring by the company and this process was being overseen by the Council's Environmental Health Team and Joanne Miller, the Council's consultant drafting the permit for operation of the oxidiser. Mr Downey answered questions from Councillors and members of the public.
- Barry Drelincourt, Rossendale Transport, gave information on the bus depot move to Knowsley Park Way and answered questions from Councillors and members of the public. He further informed regarding free bus transport to over 60's and disabled persons after 9.30am Monday to Friday and at weekends from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008.

- It was agreed:**
- (1) That the minutes be accepted as a correct record;
  - (2) That Mr Downey and Joanne Miller attend the next meeting of this Forum to report on progress;
  - (3) That Mr Downey would report any additional information in the local press;
  - (4) That anyone wanting to visit Interfloor should contact Mr Downey direct;
  - (5) That the free press were requested to include contact phone numbers for Mr Downey and officers in any articles;
  - (6) That members of the public were invited to make written submissions to regarding the bus depot move to the Principal Planning Officer (to be held 15<sup>th</sup> April) by 27<sup>th</sup> March 2008; and
  - (7) The Chair thanked Mr Downey and officers for dealing with residents' enquiries.

#### **4. Police update**

The Forum welcomed Inspector David Hodson who provided an update on police performance.

- Detection rate overall was 38.5%
- All crime 51 fewer, 17% reduction from same 3 month period last year
- Burglary in dwellings reduction of 5.3% over year to date
- Vehicle Crimes down 17% on same period last year
- Damage 26.9% on same period last year
- Violent Crime down 0.2% on same period last year
- Burglary other than in dwellings down 36% on same period last year

Inspector Hodson reported that it was not possible to break down performance figures on a ward by ward basis, as requested at the last meeting of this Forum. He also answered questions from Councillors and members of the public and confirmed that Operation Summer Nights would be under way again over the summer.

**It was agreed:** That this Forum request the Highways Authority to position a variable message board on the A56 in a location that would allow for information relating to Grane Road to be relayed to motorists.

#### **5. DETERMINING OF GRANT ALLOCATIONS & FEEDBACK**

Councillor Essex reported the receipt of three applications for Neighbourhood Forum funding. He outlined the recommendations of the Working Group as detailed below.

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Application Details</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
Free Lane Community Allotment Society	Establishment of a teaching garden for Haslingden and Helmshore primary schools.	£400
Stubbins Residents Association	Upgrade of existing plant display – purchase of permanent plants and planters, permanent signage to inform of historical nature of area, bulbs for Autumn planting	£400
Edenfield Village Pre-school	Purchase of 2 laptop computers for children’s use as per Ofsted regulations. One to be used by staff for records, letters etc.	£100
Edenfield Village Pre-school	Funding to create and outside play area for children. Levelling, landscaping, gate and general tidying up.	£500
Community Action in Rossendale	Funding towards the 2008 Haslingden Street Fair to be held on 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2008.	£621.16
	<b>Remaining in budget</b>	<b>£0.00</b>

Balance from last meeting £2021.16  
 Funds allocated at this meeting £2021.16  
 Remaining in budget £0.00

It was noted that £6,220 would be available next year and that grant forms could be obtained from Democratic Services on 01706 252423 or by emailing

[democracy@rossendalebc.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@rossendalebc.gov.uk) The deadline for receipt of applications for the next round of grants was 6<sup>th</sup> June 2008.

**Resolved:** That the grants be agreed.

## 6. NEAT UPDATE

Heidi Finlay provided an update on the work of the NEAT Team.

- 2 prosecutions pending for fly tipping
- visits on site and warning letters sent to residents and education work undertaken across the Borough since side waste collection ceased
- 31 Section 215 (Town and Country Planning Act) incidents in the previous year
- 68 abandoned vehicles dealt with
- 70 complaints to the Dog Warden dealt with each month – launched the 'Doing Right' event to promote cleaning up of dog fouling
- New recycling centres being provided at Alden Road and at the United Utilities site on Irwell Road, Irwell Vale

Following a Councillor enquiry regarding fouling, Ms Finlay requested residents pass their concerns regarding problem areas to the Dog Warden.

A resident reported that a litter bin had been removed at the end of Clod Lane and requested that this be replaced. Ms Finlay agreed to look into this removal.

Residents and Councillors agreed that there were issues that would be dealt with by the Highways Authority and County Council, including: refuse at the side of the A56; bushes overhanging the highway at Blackburn Road, Edenfield; and road signs that were unreadable due to dirt on Grane Road.

## 7. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN 2008/09

The Chair encouraged the public present to be involved in setting the Overview and Scrutiny Committee work plan for 2008/09. She explained what the Committee did and asked for suggestions of items for the Committee to look at by completing the forms provided.

Suggestions for the following items were received verbally: -

- Frequency of maintenance of road gullies by County Council
- Notice Boards at Rising Bridge

## 8. OPEN FORUM

The Chair reported on consultation being carried out by East Lancashire Healthcare NHS Trust aimed at improving services in the area. She explained

that an open forum was being held on 2<sup>nd</sup> April between 9.30 and 11.30am at Haslingden Community Link and encouraged residents to attend this event.

**It was agreed:** That the Deputy Chief Executive of Rossendale Borough Council be requested to report to the negotiating team that an Urgent Care Centre was requested for the centre of Rawtenstall.

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

(The meeting commenced at 7.00pm and closed at 9.10pm)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chair)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_