

Notes of: BACUP NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

Venue: Acre Mill Baptist Church

Date of Meeting: 3 July 2008

**PRESENT: Councillor W Challinor (in the Chair)
Councillors Driver, Haworth, Lamb, H Steen, P Steen**

**ALSO PRESENT: PC Alex Downham, Lancashire Constabulary
PS Gordon McGeechan, Lancashire Constabulary
Dave McChesney, NEAT Officer
Jo Gibbs, Assistant District Partnership Officer -
Rossendale
Pat Couch, Scrutiny Support Officer
5 members of the public
1 Press**

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Chair updated the meeting with information about the following items:

- There was an opportunity for everyone to complete an Overview and Scrutiny Questionnaire on Road Safety. Any information the Task and Finish Group received would contribute to the outcomes of the consultation.
- BT Telephone Box consultation. The Chair invited members of the public to contribute their views on this item directly to British Telecom.
- United Utilities were undertaking changes in the water quality within the River Irwell.
- The Chair asked that anyone who had received a grant and had not provided evidence of spend to forward any receipts to Democratic Services.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Serridge.

3. Minutes

The Chair updated the meeting on the actions from the meeting held on 24th March 2008.

A member of the public asked for clarification on the number of under age people purchasing alcohol. The Police responded and agreed to provide the information for the next meeting.

Dave McChesney agreed to make a site visit to the land near the proposed site for the Ambulance Station.

In relation to parking in the Borough, Jo Gibbs informed the meeting that a working group had been set up to look at parking issues across the Borough.

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 24th March 2008 be accepted as a correct record.

4. Police Update

PS Gordon McGeechan provided an update on police performance.

A new CBM had commenced work in the Irwell Ward and had already started to make an impression in the area.

Funding had been received from the CDRP for a speed detection device. The aim was to educate drivers and they would only issue enforcement where necessary.

Rossendale Crime Disorder Reduction Partnership was again one of the best performing in the North West.

- All crime has been reduced by 7.3%, so far in 2008 and in the last four years all crime had reduced by over 33%.
- Vehicle crime had reduced by 51%
- Burglary dwellings had reduced by 48%

During the police update a question was asked about knife crime and the police indicated that there is no problem with knife crime in the area.

5. NEAT UPDATE

The NEAT Officer provided an update on the work of the NEAT Team indicating that the Service had received 865 service requests for the following.

- 157 fly-tipping

- 374 contaminated recycling bins
- 33 side wasteRefuse
- 21 Abandoned vehicles

Funding had been received for two Notice boards (Irwell Terrace and Bacup Centre).

The NEAT Officers had delivered talks on recycling to six schools in the area.

6. DETERMINING OF GRANT ALLOCATIONS & FEEDBACK FROM PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

The Chair indicated that no grants had been received, but the total amount given for the next 12 months was £2,400.

A previous recipient confirmed how money had been spent by the Riverside Park Group and agreed to send copies of receipts.

The Chair read out a letter from the Bacup Consortium who provided information on how they had spent their funding.

A representative from the Weir Community Partnership agreed to provide feedback on their funding.

Further applications were welcomed and application forms could be obtained from the Democratic Services Team on 01706 252422 or by emailing democracy@rossendalebc.gov.uk The deadline for receipt of applications for the next round of grants was 12th September 2008.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

7. OPEN FORUM

A number of questions were raised in relation to the following.

- Resources available for cleaning of Stacksteads
- Lorries taking the wrong turning at Farholme Lane – Jo Gibbs to take up the issue with Lancashire County Council
- Farholme Lane/Acre Mill, road markings - Jo Gibbs to take up the issue with Lancashire County Council
- Irwell Terrace Lamp posts - Jo Gibbs to take up the issue with Lancashire County Council
- Newchurch Road, need to widen bend following work undertaken by United Utilities - Jo Gibbs to take up the issue with Lancashire County Council
- Bacup Town Centre, yellow lines at bus stop
- Bacup-Manchester bus service

- Rossendale-Victoria Station train service with involvement from Bury, Rochdale and Rossendale Councils
- Wall at Blackwood Bridge – Need to ask for this to be looked at from a safety aspect
- Christmas Lights Working Group

In relation to the work being undertaken by United Utilities the NEAT Officer agreed to make enquiries to ensure that daffodils planted by the Bacup Consortium would be replaced when the work was complete.

The Chair informed the Forum that the Council would provide an artist impression on the redesign of Bacup Town Centre for the next meeting.

Date of the next meeting: 7 October 2008.

(The meeting commenced at 7.00pm and closed at 8.15pm)

Signed: _____
(Chair)

Date: _____