



ROYTON COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING  
Monday 18 January 2016  
6.30pm  
Royton Town Hall, Rochdale Road, Royton

# Minutes

Councillors in attendance	
Cllr H Roberts	Royton North
Cllr B Judge	Royton North
Cllr T Larkin	Royton North
Cllr M Bashforth	Royton South
Cllr S Bashforth	Royton South
Partners in attendance	
Liz Fryman	R, S & C District Coordinator
John Rooney	Head of Housing, Response Services and Districts
Anne Fleming	Community Development Officer
Carol Watterson	R, S & C District Caseworker
Lynda Winrow	Youth Development Officer
Donna Wheeler	GMP
Karen Lord	GMP
Linda Cain	Business Support Officer
Members of the public x 16	
Apologies	
Cllr A Chadderton	Royton South

## 1. Welcome and Apologies:

Cllr Tony Larkin opened the meeting and thanked those in attendance.

## 2. Minutes of the last meeting for approval:

Agreed

## 3. Action Updates from previous Royton Community Forum:

### 3.1 Information sought regarding how many officers are in Oldham

NBOs – 19; NPOs – 53 and PCSOs – 63; Response Officers (Constable/Sergeant and Inspectors – 109). These figures are for the whole of the Oldham Division as at 30.11.15. GMP is unable to divulge neighbourhood information as this may make some areas vulnerable

## 4. Police Update:

### Regular Police Surgeries are held at:

Trinity Methodist Church, Radcliffe Street, Royton  
Thursday 10am-12pm

### **Home Watch Meeting**

Oddfellow's Club, Union Street, Royton  
Thursday 18 February, 7.00pm

### **E-WATCH JOINING DETAILS**

E-Watch is a database created by the Oldham Borough Neighbourhood Policing Team It is a collation of email addresses submitted to us by residents and businesses so that Greater Manchester Police can contact you with our monthly newsletter, general information and incidents in your area that you should be aware of. You are also able to email us with any information you want to pass onto us.

If you wish to be part of the E-Watch database please send us an email titled E-Watch to: [oldhamborough@gmp.police.uk](mailto:oldhamborough@gmp.police.uk)

And include the following information.  
NAME, ADDRESS & TELEPHONE

### **Other Information**

Residents were urged that if they saw a crime in action to call 999  
If they see anything suspicious call 101

Issues of concern were raised regarding the reducing Police workforce due to cuts and Cllrs reassured residents that they are campaigning tirelessly on this issue at every opportunity.

**Reminder: Do not leave your car running to defrost – thieves only need an opportunity**

Crime Statistics 01.04.15 to 07.01.16				
	Q1 Apr - Jun	Q2 July - Sept	Q3 Oct – Dec	Q4 Jan – To date
Robbery	3	6	6	0
Burglary dwelling including aggravated	17	56	42	0
Burglary other than a dwelling	18	21	15	2
Theft of a motor vehicle	9	4	4	0
Theft from a motor vehicle	35	81	77	3

ASB related statistics (Cumulative YTD)			
	2014/15	2015/16	Reduction on last year
Royton North	325	330	5
Royton South	298	295	-3

**Hot spot Areas: Royton Park, Royton Precinct, Health Centre and Church Walk**

**REPORT ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR BY RINGING 101**

## 5. Councillor Updates:

Cllrs gave a flavour of the work they have been involved in since the last meeting.

### Royton South:

- Set up a Royton branch of The Royal British Legion at the Cricket Club. First official meeting should be Saturday 23 January. Hoping to hold a St George's Day event
- Stonework at the pool has been successfully salvaged at Royton pool as promised. Stone is at Alexander Park until it is decided where they will be permanently displayed.

### Cllr Judge:

- Been involved with work on the Greater Manchester 'Spatial Framework' regarding which is the Greater Manchester strategy for how land is used and the facilities needed for the next 40 years.
- Express bus in Royton – Asked for this to come back
- Boyes coming to Royton. Work has started on the building both internally and externally has started.

### Cllr Roberts:

- Children's Centre services to be provided by Bridgewater Foundation NHS Trust. To be run as an integrated service from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016.
- A resident asked how to contact Royton Children's Centre, Hannah said can call direct or via Civic Centre as before.

## 6. Royton Regeneration Projects:

- Old swimming pool has practically been demolished; the site will become a car park.
- Lidl – this is still on course
- Boyes updating the old Haldenes building inside and out.
- Discussion followed about car parking in Royton.

**Action: Meeting to be arranged to discuss car parking in Royton**

## 7. Public Questions

**7.1 Q:** Resident raised the issue of reading there is £20 million in unpaid council tax this year, compared to £17 million last year. Getting this Council Tax would be an advantage. How many households does this represent.

**A:** Cllr S Bashforth agreed this was a valid question and that this query would be looked into

**Action: To look into the unpaid Council Tax issue**

**7.2 Q:** Resident 89 Firbank Road – Traffic restrictions proposed for Firbank Road/Oak Avenue will affect 89 Firbank Road severely. Resident has been told that there may be some discretion regarding the distance of lines, is this true

**A:** Concern that people may park outside 89 Firbank Road if they relax with shorter lines. The resident would have to Police himself. There is a traffic meeting in March and the resident has been advised to go through Royton North councillors.

Resident at 87 Firbank Road says a caravan that had been parked for over 2 years was a big part of the problem and this man has now moved away, traffic issues have eased a little. Parking problems are not created by residents but people from around the area. Cllr Bashforth stated that we can't control others behaviours

**7.3 Q:** Resident at 67 Fir Lane said that someone had written a letter saying that they couldn't get the bus because of parking issues. People live here, where are they supposed to park.

**A:** Cllr Judge commented that this was all about risk – an accident waiting to happen. Residents were asked to liaise with Cllr S Bashforth and Cllr B Judge.

**7.4 Q:** Work outside of 67 Fir Lane has not been cleaned up and the resident's step has been damaged.

**A:** Cllr Judge suggested this was the electric company. Cllr Judge will go to Highways and get this issue put right.

**7.5 Q:** Will we have anymore asylum seekers in Royton

**A:** Cllr Larkin said not that he was aware of but went on to explain that councillors do not have any control over Serco or the owners of Park House who may want to do something else with the building. Cllr Larkin stated that if Park House was granted house of multiple occupancy then councillors powers are very small to stop this from happening.

There followed a brief discussion around refuges and asylum seekers and it was asked how many in Royton. Councillors didn't know. Central government are responsible for Asylum seekers and refuges working with Serco.

**7.6 Q:** Education report has appeared over this weekend, costing £100k with a further £1 million to get this going. Resident suggested that there was nothing measurable in this report.

**A:** Councils don't have a say with all schools. The report is an attempt for schools to learn best practises together and help to raise standards.

There followed a discussion around new schools that have been built and nothing has improved. Some schools are still the same as 10 years ago and nothing has changed and we have put all this money in. It was suggested that schools are only as good as the teachers.

*A resident has heard that Bernard has been deselected and thanked him for all the work he has done for Royton*

## **8. Royton Community Chest**

Royton community chest is open for bids of up to £500 for community groups – Application forms available from Royton Town Hall via Anne Fleming or Liz Fryman

## **9. Any Other Business**

- A resident's grandfather was the Chairman of the baths committee, named on a large plaque that used to be at Royton pool. The resident asked if councillors knew where this was now.
- Cllr S Bashforth said that D Hughes have put it in a cabin.

**Action: Cllr S Bashforth to chase up the plaque from Royton pool re. Baths committee**

*Royton councillors thanked Case Worker – Carol Watterson for all her hard work over the years. Carol is retiring at the end of January. Cllr T Larkin said that Carol would be missed.*

## **10. Date of Next Meeting:**

Monday 14 March 2016, 6.30pm at Royton Town Hall