

## WHITEFIELD & UNSWORTH TOWNSHIP FORUM

<b>Title:</b>	Progress Report
<b>To:</b>	Whitefield & Unsworth Township Forum
<b>By:</b>	Kim Griffiths Township Co-ordinator Tel – 253 6349 e-mail –k.griffiths@bury.gov.uk
<b>Decision:</b>	For information
<b>Date:</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> May 2012</b>

### **1 Welcome**

Welcome to a new Municipal Year and round of Township Forum meetings. Congratulations to the Councillors that were elected in May and we hope for a productive and successful year for Whitefield and Unsworth.

### **2 Statutory partners meetings**

Inspector Kenny and myself will present regular reports to the Township Forums on the partnership work that has been happening in the area.

### **3 Youth PACT meetings**

I had the pleasure of attending a Youth PACT meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> May, which was also attended by PCSOs Chad Strange and Mandy Nelson, and Julie Toomey from Contour Housing. 15 young men aged between 12 and 17 attended, and put forward their views and aspirations for skateboard/ BMX equipment in one of the Whitefield Parks close to access to public transport (ie the Met or bus routes) This group of young men understood the position of the council and its inability to invest, itself, in new equipment or even commit to maintaining new equipment, however they have such drive and determination that they want to see this venture take shape and to take ownership of it. They are truly inspirational and are an example of what the Big Society stands for. Site meetings, plans and estimates are the first step, alongside agreement with the Council officers re what can and cannot be achieved before fund raising can begin in earnest and future meetings will be held with the group to assist them in achieving their goal and start the serious business of fundraising.

Sponsors and benefactors for this project are most welcome!

### **4 Friends of Whitefield parks**

The various parks in Whitefield have now formed a constituted group to look at activities, facilities and improvements to the parks together.

This should enable greater co-ordination of events throughout the year and good consultation re activities in the parks

### **5 Friends of Boz park and Boz Park Fun Day**

Friends of Boz Park agreed to move some boulders from outside the entrance to the park, to within the park boundaries. The boulders were being used by young people to sit and congregate but was causing some noise nuisance for neighbours, therefore the resiting

has been welcomed and is in a more suitable place for young people to meet and to sit.

There has been a construction of a new pond within the park and schools have been involved in planting etc. Schools and community groups will be welcome to do pond dipping etc. Already there has been sighting of a great crested newts and eggs so wildlife is clearly becoming well established in this area

Discussions have also taken place with regard to creation of some much needed allotment space at Boz Park. This is subject to grant funding being obtained and agreement with regard to number and layout of allotments, but will hopefully be a big potential for community orchard and allotment site.

The fun day organisation is well under way and will hopefully attract hundreds of visitors to join in the fun. This year will include fairground rides, food courtesy of an ice cream lady, Elms ladies will provide a cream tea tent, and Buddha lounge food. There will be sporting activities including a speedball competition, climbing wall, and other games. Entertainment from a DJ, Bury Cheerleaders and a chance to join in with Zumba courtesy of the Childrens Centre Team. Information stands include, police, fire, road safety unit, health, children's centre info, libraries, recycling info and more. Something for everyone, please come along, rain or shine we will be there!

## **6 Torch Relay**

The Olympic torch will be travelling through Whitefield centre on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. A presentation will be given at the township meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> May. We would like everyone out on the streets to cheer the flame past and raise the profile of Whitefield. The torch will be coming through the centre of Whitefield at approximately 4.15pm. Prior to that it will be in convoy (in a vehicle) along Manchester Road so please ensure you are in the centre if you want to see it.

## **6 Funding**

There is still funding available for local community groups that must be allocated by the end of the financial year. Grants of up to £250 can be applied for on a ward basis with the backing of your ward Councillor. If you require funding for a project, equipment etc please contact me or a councillor for advice, or contact Liz Saunders for an application form 0161 253 6357 email [E.Saunders@bury.gov.uk](mailto:E.Saunders@bury.gov.uk)

## **7 General**

If anyone has any matters of a general or specific nature that they would like to discuss with me, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above telephone number or email address.