

AGENDA FOR

PRESTWICH TOWNSHIP FORUM

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To: All Members of Prestwich Township Forum

Councillors : N Bayley, J Black (Chair), D'Albert,
P Heneghan, M James, O'Brien, T Pickstone, A Quinn and
A Simpson

Dear Member/Colleague

Prestwich Township Forum

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Prestwich Township Forum which will be held as follows:-

Date:	Monday, 25 January 2016
Place:	Longfield Suite, Prestwich
Time:	6.30 pm
Briefing Facilities:	If Opposition Members and Co-opted Members require briefing on any particular item on the Agenda, the appropriate Director/Senior Officer originating the related report should be contacted.
Notes:	

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of Prestwich Township Forum are asked to consider if they have an interest in any matters on the agenda and, if so, to formally declare that interest.

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (*Pages 1 - 6*)

To approve as a correct record, the minutes of the last meeting held on 12 November 2015

4 MATTERS ARISING (*Pages 7 - 10*)

A copy of the Township Co-ordinator's Action Checklist is attached.

5 2016/2017 BUDGET CONSULTATION

A presentation will be given at the meeting

6 TOWNSHIP FORUM UPDATES

To receive updates on the following:

- Police Matters
- Prestwich Parking Strategy
- Prestwich High Street Improvements
- Township Plan
- Funding

7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A period of up to 30 minutes has been set aside for members of the public to ask questions or raise issues of concern relating to the provision of local services.

8 URGENT BUSINESS

Any other business which by reason of special circumstances the Chair agrees may be considered as a matter of urgency.

- Minutes of:** PRESTWICH TOWNSHIP FORUM
- Date of Meeting:** 12 November 2015
- Venue:** Longfield Suite, Prestwich
- Present:**
Councillors: Councillors: N Bayley, J Black, P Heneghan, M James, E O'Brien, M D'Albert, T Pickstone, A Simpson, and A Quinn
- Advisory Group**
Representatives: Mr D Stanley - Prestwich Clough Centenary Group
Mr F Adam - Manchester and District Jewish Representative Council
Mr P Gresty - Churches Together Prestwich and Kersal
Mr E Finch - Patients Cabinet
Mr S Hughes (SVCA)
- Public attendance:** 31 members of the public were in attendance
- Apologies for absence:**
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PTF.449 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr S Hughes declared a prejudicial interest in relation to Minute PTF.456 below, as the representative of an organisation, Simister Village Community Association, awarded funding.

PTF.450 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was agreed:

That the Minutes of the last meeting, held on 17 September 2015, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

PTF.451 MATTERS ARISING

In respect of item 1 on the Action Checklist, the Chair, Councillor Black, reported that the re-surfacing of the Longfield car park walkway had now been completed.

In respect of item 3 on the Action Checklist, Alan Manchester, Principal Health and Safety Adviser, attended the meeting to report on measures to ensure people with limited mobility are safely evacuated in the event of a fire. It was explained that a solution to the problem had been reached which involved assistance from staff at the Longfield Suite. Eddy Finch welcomed the pragmatic solution that had been arrived at.

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PTF.452 PRESTWICH HIGH STREET IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

The Chair, Councillor Black, reported that Council Officers and Prestwich stakeholders had been working to bring forward a range of proposals for Bury New Road in line with the Prestwich Regeneration Strategy. Proposals were on display at the meeting and it was reported that a consultation process on the proposals will start on 16th November and run until 23rd December.

David Fowler, Assistant Director Localities, provided a summary of the proposals which include:

- wider pavements and the extension of pavements at key crossing points
- improved environment (such as street trees, lighting and paving)
- the provision of single lane running
- bus stop relocation and the provision of bus lay-bys
- provision of parking bays and dedicated cycle lanes
- the closure of the Warwick Road junction and the introduction of one way working along Clifton Road.
- Provision of a shared northbound bus and cycle lane (towards the M60)

The plans will be available in Prestwich Library Foyer and a consultation questionnaire, seeking the views of all interested parties, forms a key part of the consultation process aiming to gather feedback on the proposals.

A report summarising all of the consultation responses will be considered by the Council in February 2016 and an update will then be provided to Prestwich Township Forum in March 2016. It is anticipated that works will start during summer/autumn 2016.

Questions and comments were invited and the following issues were raised:

- Jay Lieberman suggested local businesses be directly made aware of the consultation period.
- Councillor Pickstone welcomed planned improvements to the pedestrian experience but highlighted that the primary focus of the proposals needed to address the issue of traffic flow. Concerns were expressed about the proposed new bus lane and dangers of cycle lanes next to parking bays and bus lay-bys.

- Concerns were raised in relation to enforcement of double parking along Bury New Road.
- De-cluttering of street furniture and signage along Bury New Road was welcomed.
- Frank Adam raised concerns about side roads and highlighted that the proposals needed to be mindful of not creating more "rat runs" off Bury New Road.
- A suggestion was made to link the operating times of bus lanes with school closure times.

It was agreed:

That all residents and stakeholders be encouraged to take part in the consultation process.

PTF.453 POLICE UPDATE

Inspector Cottam and Sergeant Wightman-Love provided an update on policing matters in respect of Prestwich.

Statistical information relating to crimes in the area were outlined and it was reported that the figures were available on the GMP Website.

Inspector Cottam reported on the outcome of recent joint PACT meetings and highlighted the positive response to the online PACT meetings.

Updates were provided in respect of recent Operations and initiatives, including: Operation Pickton; Operation Treacle and Be Safe Be Cool.

In response to a question concerning alleged drug taking in St Mary's Park, Inspector Cottam reported that he would ensure a Police presence.

In response to a question concerning street cleaning, an undertaking was given that the township Co-ordinator would provide details of street cleaning rounds.

It was agreed:

That the update be noted.

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PTF.454 PRESTWICH TOWNSHIP PLAN UPDATE

Ruth Shedwick, Township Co-ordinator, reported that the Be Safe Be Cool anti-social behaviour workshops had been well received and had demonstrated that the partnership working was having a positive effect in reducing anti-social behaviour figures.

With regard to the Prestwich Parking Strategy the Chair, Councillor Black reported that an update on actions would be submitted to a future meeting of the Forum.

It was agreed:

That the update be noted.

PTF.455 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Chair invited questions, comments and representations from members of the public present at the meeting. Questions were asked and comments made on the issues detailed below. The Township Forum Co-ordinator undertook to obtain a reply to matters which could not be dealt with at the meeting.

- Sian Crosby stated that changes to Children's Centres, which were implemented in September, did not reflect a number of the main issues raised during the consultation process and referred to the unpopularity of targeted services. In response to a request from Ms Crosby, Councillor Heneghan, Cabinet Member for Children Families and Culture confirmed he was happy to discuss the issues and requested precise concerns be emailed to him in advance.
- A member of the public requested a dog bin be provided in the Highfield road area.
- In response to concerns raised about inconsiderate parking and overhanging trees, Councillor Heneghan highlighted the functions on the Council website which allowed residents to report problems

PTF.456 FUNDING UPDATE

The Council has allocated £8,000 to each Township Forum to be allocated through a sub group of the Township forum four times a year in June, September, November and March. A maximum of £250 individual grant is available for formally constituted organisations.

Additionally, a borough-wide allocation of £8,000 is available for "cross-ward" applications for activity that takes place across more

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than one ward. The "cross-ward" applications are determined by the Council's Small Grants Panel.

The Township Co-ordinator submitted details of applications for the August and September rounds of funding.

The Forum were informed of an application from Prestwich Methodist Youth Assoc which had not been permitted for consideration as a result of the costs including payment of salaries.

It was agreed:

That the report be noted.

COUNCILLOR BLACK
Chair

(Note: The meeting started at 6.30 pm and ended at 8.35pm)

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Prestwich Township Forum: Issues raised 12/11/15

	Raised by	Item Raised at Open Forum	Action by	Action
1	June Brown	Leaves in grids in Longfield Centre under trees. Drainage issues. What are the street cleansing rounds in Prestwich Town Centre?	Cleansing	The Prestwich Township cleansing team of 5 cover a wide area and a range of duties including litter picking, road sweeping, removing fly tipping, filling grit bins and responding to day to day issues. One of the team is dedicated to Prestwich Town Centre during the week but can also call upon the pavement sweeper as required. At this time of year the service is inundated with requests for leaf clearance which has to be prioritised. The grids at Longfield will be re-checked. Weekends are covered by a mobile round which covers all of the Borough. Neil Long Assistant Director (Operations)
2	Sian Crosby	Disappointed what has happened to the Children's Centres. Issues raised in consultation have been ignored. Parents with children under 12 months need to be supported. Is the money being used effectively?	Sian Crosby Cllr Heneghan	We will arrange a meeting. Please email and highlight your concerns directly to P.Heneghan@bury.gov.uk Cllr Heneghan
3	Cllr Simpson	Concerns raised on social media regarding fireworks and what can be done. Limited in what can be done with licensing. Rely on GM Fire and Rescue and send in trading standards to pop up shops. There is Citizens Advice Consumer Service available www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer		Noted. Popup shops in the area have reduced Inspector Ben Cottam GM Police, Bury South

4	June Brown Autumn De Poe-Hughes	Issue of dog mess in the Highfields area. Persistent perpetrators, especially around 7am-8am I organized a free library for people to take books. Maybe do something similar for dog bags like they do in New York?	June Brown	Please use report a problem page www.bury.gov.uk/reportaproblem Cllr Heneghan We only have ½ dog warden now (shared with Bolton) Cllr Quinn Highfields Residents Group could consider applying for a small grant for local measures, e.g. signs, as was done in another ward. Cllr Black On spot fines can be issued. Suggest photo evidence if possible. Funding forms will be emailed to June Brown. Ruth Shedwick Township Coordinator
5	June Brown	Overhanging trees and obstructions of signage near St. Mary's Road	June Brown	Please use report a problem with specific locations www.bury.gov.uk/reportaproblem Cllr Black Depends who owns the trees. Suggest liaising with the Council's Trees and Woodland Management officer Les Beardwood L.Beardwood@bury.gov.uk 0161 253 6289 Ruth Shedwick Township Coordinator
6	Resident	Parking on pavements is becoming a big issue. Confusion on who enforces what.		Parking on pavements responsibility of Council to enforce. If an obstruction, then it is the Police to enforce. Cllr Heneghan If an obstruction, it is Police enforcement, however, it depends on a case by case basis Inspector Ben Cottam GM Police, Bury South

	Eddy Finch	As a wheelchair user, the pavement is our highway. If a drop curve is blocked, that is the end of our journey! These confrontations can quickly escalate into abuse and violent exchange. I see mothers pushing prams onto the highway to avoid confrontation and it is a health and safety issue.		The Parking Strategy will be addressing issues regarding parking concerns. Cllr Black
7	Anne Hutchins Cllr Black	During severe winter weather an ambulance got struck on Halliwell Road and had to ring mountain rescue. If we get another bad winter hill areas in Prestwich will suffer. Gritting in these areas should take priority. Does the old grit not fit for purpose get replaced?	Highways	The routes identified for the gritting wagons to treat during the winter maintenance period are typically the main distributing roads of the borough and bus routes. Given the scale of financial and other resources involved in delivering the winter service it is not reasonable either to: provide the service on all parts of the public highway network or ensure running surfaces are kept free of ice or snow at all times, even on the treated routes. In order to have some other measures in place for areas where gradients present difficulties, such as Halliwell Road, we have sited self help grit bins around the borough. In the case of Halliwell Road, there are three in the vicinity: opposite number 5, on the junction with Halliwell Walk and at the junction with Drinkwater Road. The salt in the grit bins remaining from the previous year is still useable when broken up. It is reported that the bins in question are in place and replenished, ready for winter. In cases where emergency services cannot attend urgent incidents, the duty officer concerned will assist if it is practicable and we are contacted.

			<p>Jon O'Connor Group Lead - Highway Asset</p> <p>For details of the Council's Winter Service please go to: www.bury.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=11279</p> <p>Salt Bin Locations here: www.bury.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=11288</p> <p>Report a problem with gritting here: www.bury.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=11321</p> <p>Ruth Shedwick Township Coordinator</p>
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Ruth Shedwick, Township Coordinator
13 November 2015