

AGENDA FOR

RAMSBOTTOM, TOTTINGTON AND NORTH MANOR TOWNSHIP FORUM

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To: All Members of Ramsbottom, Tottington and North Manor Township Forum

Councillors : I Bevan, S Carter, J Daly, L Fitzwalter, I Gartside, D Gunther, R Hodkinson, K Hussain and Y Wright

Dear Member/Colleague

Ramsbottom, Tottington and North Manor Township Forum

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Ramsbottom, Tottington and North Manor Township Forum which will be held as follows:-

Date:	Wednesday, 3 June 2015
Place:	Holcombe Room - Ramsbottom Civic Hall
Time:	7.00 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:	

The Agenda is attached.

Reports are enclosed only for those attending the meeting and for those without access to the Council's Intranet or Website.

The Agenda and Reports are available on the Council's Intranet for Councillors and Officers and also on the Council's Website at www.bury.gov.uk – Agendas, Minutes and Forward Plan.

Copies of printed reports can also be obtained on request by contacting Democratic Services on 0161 253 5133.

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

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

The Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 5 March 2015 are attached.

4 MATTERS ARISING

5 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR

Nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair are requested. Councillors present will be asked to confirm the appointments.

6 ADVISORY GROUP NOMINATIONS

7 TOWNSHIP PLAN REFRESH/ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS *(Pages 7 - 18)*

A report from the Township Co-ordinator is attached.

8 FUTURE PUBLIC MEETING ON POTENTIAL SCOUT MOOR DEVELOPMENT

A representative from Holcombe Society will give details of upcoming public meeting.

9 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Members of the public present are invited to ask questions or raise issues of concern relating to the provision of local services.

10 URGENT BUSINESS

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

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Agenda Item 3

Minutes of: RAMSBOTTOM, TOTTINGTON AND NORTH MANOR
TOWNSHIP FORUM

Date of Meeting: 5 March 2015

Present: Councillor (in the Chair)
Councillors I Bevan, L Fitzwalter, I Gartside, D Gunther,
R Hodgkinson, K Hussain and Y Wright

Also in attendance: Mr K Conley – Rotary Club of Ramsbottom
Reverend S Openshaw – RETM/CTIR

Public Attendance: 10 members of the public were present at the meeting.

Apologies for Absence: Councillor S Carter and Councillor J Daly

RTNM.784 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

RTNM.785 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

That the Minutes of the last meeting of the Township Forum held on 15 January 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

RTNM.786 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting.

RTNM.787 STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR

Councillor Wright explained that all residential properties in the borough had been sent a letter regarding electoral registration asking that residents check the information is correct and that they are registered to vote.

If the information is correct then nothing needs to be done but, if the information is not, the letter explains what the resident should do to register.

Councillor Wright explained that this exercise had been funded by the Government to ensure that all those eligible to vote would be able to.

RTNM.788 POLICE UPDATE

Angela Freudenburgh, Beat Office in Ramsbottom, Ashleigh Oxton, Beat Officer in North Manor and PCSO Dave Johnson attended the meeting to update those present on police issues across Ramsbottom, Tottington and North Manor.

It was explained that the Police had been carrying out some work in relation to young people causing a nuisance which was happening when the schools were on

holiday. Angela explained that she was working with Ramsbottom Youth Project to try and sort out some activity options.

It was explained that crime in general across the three townships was low.

Those present were given the opportunity to ask questions and the following points were raised:-

- Councillor Hodkinson explained that he had been made aware that a recent planning application had been submitted to the Council for a change of use of premises on Bridge Street in Ramsbottom from a retail unit to a bar with a late license.

Councillor Hodkinson asked whether this was something that the Police should be concerned about with regards to anti social behaviour due to alcohol.

PCSO Johnson explained that the Police were aware of the application and if successful they would keep an eye on the area to ensure that any anti social behaviour was stopped. There had been a new wine open on Bolton Street late 2014 and this had not caused any issues in the area.

- Councillor Bevan reported that there had been a number of burglaries on Bury New Road and asked if a police presence could be stepped up in the area.

It was explained that the Police were aware of the rise in the number of burglaries in the area and they were keeping an eye on this.

- Councillor Bevan also reported that speeding vehicles was an issue along Bury New Road and asked if something could be done in this area.

It was explained that work was being carried out and the Police were in the process of identifying suitable locations where vehicles could be pulled over in order for the drivers to be spoken to. It was also explained that the possibility of undertaking a joint operation with Lancashire Police was being discussed.

- Councillor Wright referred to the Community Speed Watch programme and asked if this project could be carried out across the three Townships.

It was explained that work was being carried out to try and get this up and running. Ramsbottom was on target to submit an application for the loan of the equipment and a number of volunteers had been identified to carry out the training. Once this had been done the speed watch equipment would be loaned to them for a three month period during which time speed watch exercises would be carried out across Ramsbottom and further afield as required. It was stated that this would be carried out this year.

It was also hoped that similar applications would be submitted for Tottington and North Manor and would be completed towards the back of 2015.

Angela stated that an exercise would be carried out with the pupils from Emmanuel Holcombe Primary School to highlight drivers' speeds through the village. This exercise had been carried out previously and was very successful.

- Councillor Gunther explained that there was an issue with speeding traffic through Hawkshaw Village and asked if this could be dealt with.

It was explained that Hawkshaw could be included in the Community Speed Watch programme for Ramsbottom.

- Councillor Gunther also reported that there was a large red van parked at the top of Walmersley Road at the junction with Burnley Road near to where the bus stop was. She asked if there was anything that could be done about this as it looked like it was parked illegally.

Angela stated that she wasn't aware of this until now but she would liaise with Ian Lord to see if the vehicle was parked illegally.

- Councillor Fitzwalter explained that Ramsbottom no longer has a regular PACT meeting and asked if these could be reinstated.

Angela stated that she would contact Councillor Fitzwalter directly to discuss the arrangements.

- Councillor Fitzwalter also referred to an issue that had been raised at an earlier meeting of the Township Forum regarding the installation of double yellow lines on Woodhey Road which was privately owned. Councillor Fitzwalter asked if the lines were enforceable.

It was stated that the Police or the Council could not carry out enforcement on private land and it was illegal for clamping to be carried out on private land.

- Mr John Ireland representing Holcombe Society referred to the speed signs on the entrance into Holcombe Village and the fact that one of them had a white background. Mr Ireland asked if this could be replaced as it wasn't a legal sign.

It was stated that this would be looked into and if required the sign would be upgraded.

It was agreed:

1. That the information provided be noted.
2. That Angela, Ashleigh and John be thanked for their attendance at the meeting.

Alex Holland, Head of Property and Asset Management, Ian Lord, Engineering Manager and Mike Owen, Executive Director of Resources and Regulation attended the meeting to report on work that had been carried out in relation to a number of issues raised at a previous meeting of the Township Forum.

It was explained that issues had been raised regarding the market in Ramsbottom. The market took up too many parking spaces meaning fewer visitors could park, the containers were old and unsightly and the traders' toilets were smelly and also unsightly.

Alex explained that a number of options had been considered including moving the Saturday market up to the site at the Toppled Urn at the top of Bridge Street. This was used for the artisan markets which were held monthly and had proved a popular site. It was explained however, that this site would not be suitable for the Saturday market as it was not a big enough site to accommodate the stalls. It was also reported that the current traders had been consulted and had stated that they would not be happy to move up to the Urn.

The other option that had been considered was to shrink the market to half of its current size and change the containers for newer, more attractive ones that were available now that the work at Radcliffe Market had been completed. It was suggested that this option should be the recommended option.

Those present were asked for their opinion and the following points were raised:-

- It was suggested that the artisan market at the urn should be a weekly event.
- Union Street should be re-opened on a Saturday to allow for more parking.
- The mess created from empty packing boxes was unsightly - could anything be done about this.
- The parking spaces should be altered to be on an angle which would be more user friendly
- The toilets near to the Urn need to be open if a market is going to be operating from the site on a regular basis.

Those present agreed that the Market should be shrunk to half its current size and the issue with the containers be reviewed. The market needed to be as vibrant as possible to attract visitors. It was also agreed that options for a more regular artisan market at the Urn site be researched.

Councillor Fitzwalter explained that a survey of parking options had been carried out with the businesses in Ramsbottom. The majority of businesses felt that two hour parking restrictions on Bolton Street would be beneficial to them. It was also explained that there were a number of other issues across the town relating to parking and depending on where a business was located parking requirements changed.

Ian Lord explained that parking was always a difficult area to tackle and involved balancing competing demands. It was difficult to get the right balance of short stay and long stay spaces. Ian suggested that Bolton Street be looked at first and other options be considered across the town.

Ian stated that he would review the closure notice on Union Street and see whether this would be a viable option.

- Councillor Bevan asked whether it would be possible to apply a one way system around the Union Street area.

Ian explained that this had been reviewed in the past but he would be more than happy to have another look at it as a possible introduction.

- A member of the public stated that the pavements in Ramsbottom were in a very bad state of repair and the roads were full of potholes.

Ian explained that all problems should be reported to the Council and they would be recorded. Maintenance was being carried out right across the borough but it sometimes took a while to carry out due to the amount of work required and the people available to carry it out.

It was agreed:

1. That the suggested scheme to shrink and update the market be carried out.
2. That the level of demand for a regular weekly market at the Urn be gauged.
3. That the two hour parking restriction on Bolton street be considered and further options of parking across the town be explored.

RTNM.790 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME/OPEN FORUM

The Chair invited those present who had a question relating to Council services

- Mr Booth referred to Summerseat PLC being relocated to Radcliffe and asked what Summerseat House would be used for in the future.

It was explained that those present at the meeting were unaware of the ownership of Summerseat House but enquiries would be made.

- Mr Booth reported that he had received some unwanted phone calls from private companies and one from the Conservative Party. Both had stated, when asked that they had bought his telephone number from Bury Council.

It was explained that the Council was obliged to provide a copy of the open electoral register on request but would never sell details of a resident as Mr Booth was describing.

- Councillor Bevan reported that the Planning Inspectorate's Enquiry relating to the Application to build an anaerobic digester in Ramsbottom was due to start on Tuesday 10 March in the Elizabethan Suite of the Town Hall. Councillor Bevan asked that people attend if they were able to.

RTNM.791 NOTICE OF THANKS

Councillor Wright explained that this was the last meeting of the Forum for the 2014/2015 municipal year and thanked all those present for their attendance and input.

It was agreed:

That the Forum thanks Councillor Yvonne Wright for her excellent contribution and hard work as Chair for the past Municipal Year.

COUNCILLOR WRIGHT
Chair

(Note: The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 8.40 pm)

Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor Township Plan

Page 7

2014-15:
Performance Report

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report outlines the performance of the Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor Township Forum and the progress on each of the themes contained within the Township Action Plan for 2014-15. The information provided has been gathered from a number of qualitative and quantitative sources including Bury Insight, Index of Multiple Deprivation, Area Profile Data and various local community intelligence sources.
- 1.2 There are currently 5 key thematic priorities contained within the Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor Action Plan for 2014/15:
- Improved Employment Opportunities
 - Improved Community Safety
 - Educational Attainment
 - Improved Health and Wellbeing
 - Rural Issues & Outlying Areas
 - Improved Community Pride & Belonging

This report provides a summary of the overall performance for each of the themes and the projects which contribute to their delivery. The report clearly outlines the aims for each theme, along with the projects undertaken and the successes of the forum.

- 1.3 Where possible both quantitative and qualitative data sources have been used to demonstrate the progress that has been made by the Township Forum on each theme.
- 1.4 The detail of this performance report can be viewed on the Township Forum web pages at www.bury.gov.uk/townshipforums. If you require copies of the report please contact David Thomas on 0161253 7455.

Section	Page	What it contains?
Introduction	2	A background to the Township Action Plan and Performance Report
Improved Employment Opportunities	4	An overview of successes achieved for this theme in 2014/15
Improved Community Safety	5	An overview of successes achieved for this theme in 2014/15
Improved Educational Attainment/Learning Opportunities	6	An overview of successes achieved for this theme in 2014/15
Improved Health & Wellbeing	7	An overview of successes achieved for this theme in 2014/15
Rural Issues & Outlying Areas	8	An overview of successes achieved for this theme in 2014/15
Improved Community Pride & Belonging	9	An overview of successes achieved for this theme in 2014/15
Summary & Conclusion	10-11	A summary of the progress made by Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor Township Forum over the course of 2014/15

IMPROVED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Project Overview (Aims & Outputs)

What We Promised

- An increase in number of apprenticeships for Young People In Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor
- Raise Aspirations among 16-24yr olds within our Township
- Get young people in Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor work ready
- Increased number of Volunteering Opportunities

What We Did

- Pulled together existing and funded provision across the borough into one coordinated activity.
- Focused activity on those who fall under the Supporting Communities Improving Lives criteria
- Supported the Backing Young Bury Career and Skills Event

Project Updates

Successes to Date

- RTNM Township Forum supported the Connecting Provision Scheme to assist a number of 16-24yr olds into paid work with Bury Council.
- The RTNM Township Forum supported the recruitment of candidates through the selection, interview and management process.
- Backing Young Bury has supported over 100 businesses to help them engage with apprenticeships
- Backing Young Bury Careers and Skills event held on 2nd December 2015. Approx 319 young people attended the event.

Areas of Concern/Next Steps

- Continued support of "Backing Young Bury" programme
- Promote Job Clubs and volunteering opportunities and try to get people back to work
- The development of a mentoring scheme has been slow in development. Links to be established with local businesses in 2015/16
- Need to focus on involving local SME's in Township Forum agendas, potentially through Ramsbottom Business Group.

IMPROVED COMMUNITY SAFETY

Project Overview (Aims & Objectives)

Project Updates

What We Promised

- Improved multi-agency partnership working to identify young people who are at risk of offending
- Reduced negative perceptions of Crime & ASB amongst local residents
- Improve Partnership response to community safety issues
- Raise awareness of ASB amongst school aged children (13-16)
- Build capacity within RTNM communities to tackle local crime issues

What We Did

- Joined up partnership work with the police to establish new task force focusing on ASB
- Supported the Be Safe Be Cool Initiative
- Fully maximised the potential of Township Forum meetings to address community concerns and promote success stories
- Be Safe Be Cool Initiative
- Local Intelligence - Continued links with key community contacts

Successes to Date

- Joint Engagement Team (JET) meeting weekly to tackle issues including low level crime, antisocial behaviour in Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor wards
- Regular reporting of Joint Engagement Team successes to RTNM Township Forum in 2014/15
- Regular Tottington PACT meetings made key impact on residents perceptions of crime in their communities
- Be Safe Be Cool Initiative delivered in October 2014
- Police regularly attend Township forums to give updates on crime trends in Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor

Areas of Concern/Next Steps

- Continue to attend weekly JET meetings to address issues of ASB in our community
- Work with colleagues at GMP to further enhance involvement in Township Forum in 2015/16
- Continue to support the Be Safe Be Cool Initiative
- Work with ASB Team on the Safe4Summer scheme targeting young people in our area

IMPROVED EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Project Overview (Aims & Objectives)

Project Updates

What We Promised

- Ensure children in Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor wards are 'school ready' by supporting parents and encouraging reading from an early age
- Promote learning opportunities for Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor Residents
- Work with local community and central organisations to identify learning needs within communities

What We Did

- Sent out book start information to people registered on the Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor TF database
- Community Learning Partnership representative took RTNM issues to meetings

Successes to Date

- Continued support of the Community Learning Partnership (CLP)
- Members of Township Forum involved in CLP meetings
- Improved information sharing between local community and central organisations

Areas of Concern/Next Steps

- Continued work to ensure that the children living in Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor are 'school ready'
- Further develop learning opportunities for Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor residents

IMPROVED HEALTH & WELLBEING

Project Overview (Aims & Objectives)

Project Updates

What We Promised

- Increase awareness of local health and wellbeing issues within RTNM wards
- Improve levels of physical exercise among young children
- Joint working with Children’s Centres
- Reduce fuel poverty and its affects in RTNM

What We Did

- Regular visits to Children’s Centres to maintain good working relationships
- Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor residents informed of the Little Bill Energy Scheme via forum meetings and regular database promotion
- Assisted Urban Renewal team in identification of 2 Little Bill show homes (1 in Ramsbottom and 1 in Tottington)
- Regular attendance from I Will if You Will team at forum meetings
- Delivered activities which engage with RTNM communities and attract more people into regular physical activity

Successes to Date

- Township Co-ordinator sits on the Advisory Group for the Ramsbottom, Tottington and North Manor cluster
- Supported Urban Renewal team in achieving targets for Little Bill installs in Ramsbottom and Tottington by promoting the scheme to community groups and at various locations/events.
- TF Co-ordinator supported and promoted the I Will If You Will project and local initiatives taking place in RTNM wards
- Township Coordinator part of key strategic steering group

Areas of Concern/Next Steps

- Continued work with the Children’s Centre to tackle health inequalities
- Work to reduce obesity levels across Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor wards
- Little Bill Energy Scheme has been withdrawn
- Promote healthy eating across Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor wards

RURAL ISSUES & OUTLYING AREAS

Project Overview (Aims & Objectives)

Project Updates

What We Promised

- Support rural areas to enhance their communities through the Community Right to Bid (CRB) Scheme
- To help identify funding streams to support BRIF initiatives
- Support improved public transport systems

What We Did

- Successfully facilitated the smooth implementation of CRB processes for Bury Council and interested groups
- Attended BRIF meetings to enhance communication with TF
- Worked with colleagues from Bury Council departments to tackle issues of concern for RTNM residents
- Helped promote Community Funding to BRIF and other rural community groups through communities database

Successes to Date

- Four RTNM community assets nominated and added to register of community assets
- Better communication between Township Forum and local groups via promotional materials sent to database
- Rural issues a key focus at Township Forum meetings throughout 2014/2015

Areas of Concern/Next Steps

- Urgently require representation from rural groups on Township Forum advisory group for 2015/16

IMPROVED COMMUNITY PRIDE & BELONGING

Project Overview (Aims & Objectives)

Project Updates

What We Promised

- Active promotion of RTNM activities and groups via advisory group and communities database
- Maintain and update the RTNM contact database
- To encourage more young people to take part in Township Forums
- Support for Parks Groups
- Improve the understanding between members of the community and faith groups
- Encourage community to help shape the RTNM TF priorities

What We Did

- Promoted successes on anti-social behaviour to foster better perceptions of crime and sense of belonging
- Promoted Township Forum to local community groups and invited fresh applications for advisory group membership
- Maintained database of contacts

Successes to Date

- Stronger links developed with local faith groups to encourage attendance at Township Forum
- Representation from faith groups secured on RTNM advisory group
- Advisory Group Members actively involved in the Township forum.
- All events have been shared with the Communication Team and members of the Township Forum
- Regular feedback from Joint Engagement Team successes positively impacted on perceptions of crime in RTNM

Areas of Concern/Next Steps

- Further advancement needs to be made on inclusion of faith leaders in the Township Forum
- Develop a series of thematic groups to manage delivery of priorities within Township Plan
- Continued support of Community Groups

SUMMARY OF TOWNSHIP FORUM 2014/15

Township Area Plan

During 2014/15 Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor Township Forum refreshed and agreed our Township Plan. The plan identified local issues and priorities where, working together with local councillors, community representatives, groups and residents, they can make a difference. The plans are three yearly plans and include an annual action plan. The action plan incorporates the key projects and actions to be delivered over the coming year to contribute towards delivery of the local priority outcomes.

Page 16 The Township Plans were developed through active engagement and discussions with Township Forum members - including both councillors and Advisory Group members. 'Round table' discussions were held at the beginning of the 2013 municipal year to provide an opportunity for wider community representatives, partner organisations and residents to get involved in agreeing local priorities. This successful process will be repeated for 2015/16.

Advisory Group

Over the course of 2014/15 Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor Township Forum has been well attended by advisory group members. The Forum has benefitted from active participation from each member in the Township Planning process and the delivery of the outcomes identified for each themed priority. The Advisory Group representatives have taken an active lead in updating forum members on key issues from their areas and the work going on to address them, particularly projects that link in with the projects within the Township Plan for Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor.

Meeting Attendance

The table below details the numbers of public attending each Ramsbottom, Tottington & North Manor Township Forum over the past year:

RTNM	July 2014	Sept 2014	Nov 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	% Change from previous year
	47	15	24	10	8	+ 7.69%

Presentations/Consultation with Township Forum

The value of the Township Forums is recognised in major public consultation exercises. During 2014/15 this has included:

- Waste Management
- Healthier Together
- The Bury Directory
- Healthwatch Bury
- 2015/16 Budget Consultation
- Children's Centre Consultation
- I Will If You Will

Community Fund

The Council continues to allocate £1,000 per ward each year to support the work of voluntary and community groups. Individual grants to the 'ward fund' are available for a maximum of £250. Additionally, a borough-wide allocation of £13,000 is available for 'cross-ward' applications from third sector organisations, with a maximum individual grant of £750. Small grants funds are also available for grants of up to £12,000. A new process will be in place for 2015/16.

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