

Minutes of: WHITEFIELD AND UNSWORTH TOWNSHIP FORUM

Date of Meeting: 5 July 2016

Present: Councillor E Fitzgerald (in the Chair)
Councillors P Adams, R Caserta, J Grimshaw, D Jones,
O Kersh, J Mallon, A Matthews and Whitby

Also in attendance: Pamela Taylor - Hollins Village Community Assn Yvonne
Moore - Old Hall Park Residents Assn
Mrs S Bannister – Jewish Representative Council

Public Attendance: 36 members of the public were present at the meeting.

Apologies for Absence: Rev C Greenwood, Leonard Lott, Marlene Dawson and Mrs T Heyworth

WUTF.95 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR

The Township Forum was asked for nominations for the appointment of a Chair and Deputy Chair for 2016/17.

Councillor Matthews proposed Councillor FitzGerald for Chair and this was seconded by Councillor Adams.

Councillor Whitby proposed Councillor Mallon and this was seconded by Councillor Matthews.

Delegated decisions:

1. That Councillor FitzGerald be appointed Chair of the Whitefield and Unsworth Township Forum for 2016/17.
2. That Councillor Mallon be appointed Deputy Chair of the Whitefield and Unsworth Township Forum for 2016/17.

WUTF.96 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mallon declared a personal interest that his wife is employed at a school in Bury.

Councillor Jones declared a personal interest that his GP is located at the Uplands Medical Centre.

Pam Taylor declared a personal interest for the reason that she is a member of the Township Funding Committee and her husband is on the organising committee of Eden Gardens Allotments which has received funding from the Township Forum.

WUTF.97 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2016 and details of the issues raised and action taken were submitted.

Delegated decision:

1. That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 8 March 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.
2. That the action taken on the issues raised from the minutes be noted.

WUTF.98 ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERSHIP

The Chair referred to the current Advisory Group members of the Township Forum and informed the meeting that there were vacancies available for representatives of local organisations.

Councillor Mallon reported that he was in the process of discussing a possible membership request by the Whitefield Local Business Group.

The Chair also referred to the importance of having young people on the Township Forum to provide representation from across the local community. In view of the makeup and age of the Township Forum members and attendees it would be acceptable to have two young people in attendance.

Approaches would be made to Castlebrook High School and Philips High School.

It was agreed:

1. That the current Advisory Group Membership be noted.
2. That Castlebrook High School and Philips High School be approached to canvass for two Advisory Group Members.

WUTF.99 POLICE UPDATE

The Chair reported that Inspector Carl Peterson was unavailable to attend the meeting to present Police Updates.

WUTF.100 NEW HEALTH AND CARE CENTRE FOR WHITEFIELD - UPDATE ON PROGRESS

The Chair introduced Mike Woodhead and Louise Rigg who had attended the meeting on behalf of the NHS Bury Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS England to provide an update on the delivery programme for a new health and care centre in Whitefield.

The purpose of the schemes is to:-

- Provide a fit for purpose building to enable and enhance the delivery of local integrated health and social care services by a multidisciplinary team of health and care providers;
- Optimise the functioning of integrated health and social care services to meet the needs of the local community;
- Provide an efficient and financially sustainable facility for the future ensuring efficient use of public money; and
- Promote better integration of health services and reduce reliance on the local acute sector

The Chair invited questions as follows:

Would a new site need to be purchased if a suitable site was not identified?

It was reported that an options appraisal was ongoing. If it was decided that there were no suitable sites available it may be necessary to sell land in order to obtain the capital receipt to facilitate the purchase of a new site.

Is the site for Whitefield GPs or will it include other GP surgeries further away?

GPs have been consulted on the issue of co-locating there surgeries and have responded that they do not want to do that. It would be expected that GPs would access services available at the centre for their patients.

It was explained that Uplands House was owned by Bury Council and the surrounding land was owned by NHS Property Services. Discussions were required between the two organisations on proposals for the building and any enhancements. The Building stands within a conservation area and there tree preservation orders on mature trees on the site. It may be necessary to look at a new site for this reason.

The point was made that the Uplands House site was in an isolated spot and was difficult to walk to in the winter in bad weather.

Councillor Mallon asked for any new site to have regular and accessible transport services.

It was reported that the site chosen would be done so based value for money and what was best for patients and service provision. Parking would also be available for 80 vehicles.

An assurance was also given that the new building would be designed and decorated to be dementia friendly and DDA compliant.

The Chair thanked Mike Woodhead and Louise Rigg for their presentation and attendance at the meeting.

It was noted that the new Health and Care Centre for Whitefield would be a standing item on the agenda to enable regular updates and provide the opportunity for consultation and discussion.

WUTF.101 UPDATES

Pilsworth – Proposed Development of Retail/Leisure Site

The Chair invited Pam Taylor to provide an update on the proposals for the Pilsworth development site.

Pam Taylor reported that the Pilsworth site had been identified as an employment site. The developers who own the site had been in touch with the Hollins Village Community Association to discuss their proposals for the site. The purchase of the site had been speculative and two issues had been identified following the purchase, which were the utilities that run under the site (Haweswater aqueduct and a gas main supply pipe).

The owners (Sladen Estates) had explained that the development of the site for warehousing alone would not be prudent due to the high availability of warehousing in Pilsworth on other sites. The new development would include some warehousing and would be mixed with retail/food outlets/leisure units. The scale of the development would not have a detrimental impact on the Rock development in Bury.

It was accepted that there may be an increase in the volume of traffic on Craft Lane but it was expected that the numbers would be similar to the period when Pilsworth was at its height as a leisure destination.

A further public consultation was expected with firm proposals to follow.

Porada Restaurant – Parking

Reference was made to the comments made objecting to the use of an area of land for customer parking by Porada Restaurant without the necessary planning consent.

A previous meeting had been attended by the Assistant Director (Localities) but no further update had been provided on what action the Council would be taking to address the matter. The situation had been going for 18 months.

Councillor Jones undertook to take the matter up with the Assistant Director (Localities) and report back.

It was agreed:

That the updates be noted.

WUTF.102 NEW TOWN PLAN - ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS

The Township Co-ordinator gave a presentation on the refreshing of the Town Plan for Whitefield and Unsworth. The presentation proposed improving the health and wellbeing of Bury residents for an improved quality of life for now and the future.

This was followed by round table discussions with the aim of identifying what is good about Whitefield and Unsworth what were residents' concerns and to put these forward as priority areas.

The priorities suggested would be considered and three would be chosen for inclusion in the new town plan and this would be fed back to the September meeting of the Township Forum.

WUTF.103 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Chair invited questions from the members of the public present at the meeting regarding the work and/or performance of the Council or the Council's services relevant to the Whitefield and Unsworth area.

What are the future plans for the Elms Community Centre?

The Elms Community Centre has a new management committee and will continue to service the local community as it has, including the return of the film club.

WUTF.104 FUNDING APPLICATIONS

It was agreed:

That the Funding report be noted.

WUTF.105 LOCAL INFORMATION ISSUES

Councillor Kersh and Mallon reported that a litter clear up was planned for the alleyway located at Kibworth Close, Oakdale and Ringley Road on 16 July at 11:00am.

Pam Taylor reported that a consultation would take place on the types of equipment for the new children's play area in Hollins.

COUNCILLOR D JONES
Chair

(Note: The meeting started at 6:30pm and ended at 8:40pm)