

Minutes of: RADCLIFFE TOWNSHIP FORUM

Date of Meeting: 17 July 2013

Venue: Radcliffe Civic Suite, Thomas St, Radcliffe

Present:

Councillors: Colin Jones (In the Chair)
Councillors M Bailey, P Bury, A J Cummings, and R Shori

Advisory Group Representatives: Colette Jones – Friends of Close Park
Roy Vevers – Radcliffe Carnival Committee
Gill Stainthorpe – Withins Community Association

Public attendance: 14 members of the public were in attendance

Apologies for absence: D Bailey S Briggs, A Isherwood, J Lewis, N Parnell

RTF.231 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

RTF.232 MINUTES

It was agreed:

That the Minutes of the last meeting of the Township Forum held on 5 June, 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

RTF.233 BURY PUBLICATION CORE STRATEGY – NOTIFICATION OF FORTHCOMING CONSULTATION

The Township Forum received a presentation from David Wiggins, Principle Officer, Development Planning (Neighbourhoods and Communities Department) regarding the Council's Core Strategy consultation. It was reported that The Core Strategy would be a key document at the heart of Bury's Local Plan, setting out the long-term vision for the future development of the Borough to 2029 and would contain strategic policies that are required to deliver that vision.

The Consultation would run for six weeks from 2 August to 13 September, 2013 and would be submitted to the Secretary of State for the Environment in December, 2013. An examination of the Strategy will take place in March 2014 and it is anticipated that the final Core Strategy would be adopted in September, 2014.

The audience were invited to ask questions/make comments:-

- Concerns that Radcliffe would be accommodating a large percentage of the Borough's housing target when some areas of Radcliffe, in terms of the highways infrastructure, were already

struggling to cope.

- Concerns regarding the flood risks to areas set aside for housing redevelopment. Such as the former East Lancs Papermill site.

The Chair reported that the Borough's Flood Strategy would be considered at the next scheduled meeting of the Township Forum, as part of the consultation process.

It was agreed:

1. The Chair thanked the Principle Officer for his presentation.
2. That the information provided be noted.

RTF.234 RADCLIFFE TOWNSHIP FORUM PLAN 2012-15 AND EQUALITY ANALYSIS FORM

The Township Co-ordinator submitted the draft Radcliffe Township Plan 2012-15, which outlined how the Forum would continue to make progress towards the vision for the Township in order to promote better outcomes for the social, health, economic and environmental well-being of the people within the Radcliffe Community. It was reported that all of the contributions made at the round-table discussions had been included in the draft Township Plan.

It was agreed:

1. That the draft Radcliffe Township Plan 2012-15 be accepted as a working document by the Township Forum.
2. That the Equality Analysis Form be accepted as a working document by the Township Forum.

RTF.235 COMMUNITY FUNDING REPORT

A report by the Programme Support Officer was submitted which provided an update on the recent allocation of funding to community groups in the Radcliffe area.

It was agreed:

That the report be noted.

RTF.236 FEEDBACK FROM CARNIVAL

A letter from the Chairperson of Abbey Close Tenants and Residents Association was submitted, for information, detailing a number of concerns in relation to anti-social behaviour experienced by some residents in the Abbey Close and Redbank Lodges areas of Radcliffe following the Radcliffe Carnival. The author of the letter was not in attendance at the Township Forum meeting and was therefore unable to answer questions from those present at the Township Forum meeting. Members of the Township Forum and attendees discussed the concerns raised and it was reported that a response to the letter had been made by the Anti-Social Behaviour Team in Radcliffe which had explained that the concerns raised had been shared with all partner agencies in the area.

It was agreed:

That the information provided be noted.

RTF.237 OPEN FORUM

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.

- § A resident from Chapelfield raised a number of concerns relating to the deteriorating condition and poor state of repair of the highways on and around Stand Lane. The Township Co-ordinator reported that a response had been received from the Highways department confirming that there would be additional signage in place on Stand Lane.
- § Concern that there were no direct bus services from Radcliffe to Manchester whenever there were problems with the Metrolink.
- § A request for an update on the East Lancs Papermill gates.
- § Feedback requested on the Library consultation.
- § What had happened to the stained glass window, as part of the former Radcliffe Town Hall building (Walker Alan Window). It had been taken away for restoration, what had happened to it?
- § When was the Radcliffe Riverside School set to close?

RTF.238 ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS - UPDATE

The Chair, Colin Jones informed the meeting that there were currently 4 Advisory Group Member vacancies and welcomed applications from anyone interested in representing their constituted community group on the Township Forum. Those who wished to apply were asked to email the Clerk to Radcliffe Township Forum at k.m.murphy@bury.gov.uk.

Colette Jones provided an update on the work of Friends of Close Park since the last meeting of the Forum, as follows:-

- Funding had been received for money for women's sports which would provide more gym equipment.
- The Party in the Park had been a great success. A suggestions box had been set up at the event and most feedback received had commented on the need for less empty properties in the area and greater activity provision for older teens. 80 gardening hampers had been given out to volunteers.
- HLF Funding update – Stage 2 had been submitted. Things were looking positive!
- The Friends had set up a quiz for the public aimed at educating residents on the area in which they live.
- Update given on developments in the Ranger Service.

The meeting was informed of the funding available from the Community Development Fund – interested constituted groups could start applying for funding from the £8,000 available.

Gill Stainthorpe, Withins Community Group, informed the meeting that gates had been fixed around the fencing to the goit which would enable volunteers easier access to help clean the goit.

Congratulations were offered to Cllr Matt Bailey and Cllr Daisy Bailey on the safe arrival of their baby daughter.

It was agreed:

That the information provided be noted.

Chair COLIN JONES

(Note: The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 7.55 pm)