

Hollinwood Community Council

Date: Thursday 28th February 2008

Time: 6:30pm

Venue: Parish Room, Holy Family Church, Roman Road

Present: Councillors Barrow and Stretton.
Paul White (Officer Champion), Zaiem Khan (Area Manager), Cliff Jackson (Environmental Services), Mike West (Environmental Services), Julie Miller (Youth Service), and Inspector Stopford (GMP)

Co-optees – Julie Keller (Chair), David Joynes, Helen Proctor, Jean Helliwell, Nathan Keller, Roger Simpson, Lilian Nicholls, Shirley Buckley, Stephen Williams, Geoffrey Gartside, Katy Lloyd

Item No:

1. Apologies for absence

Councillor Keith Pendlebury
Dave Harwood - Co-optee
Janet Gipson - Co-optee

2. Notes of the last Meeting - 15th January 2008

The notes were **AGREED** as an accurate record.

3. Outstanding Actions (not on the Agenda).

Signage on Limeside Road/Roman Road - 3 issues:

1. Redundant signposts have still not been removed
2. Sign for entrance to Hollinwood cemetery moved in advance of the entrance to the cemetery
3. A street name sign for Roman Road
Cliff Jackson will follow these issues up - the street name sign had been ordered

Request for double yellow lines on Catlin Way and Jenny Street at the junction with Chapel Road - Cliff Jackson explained that he had forwarded this request to the Traffic Management Division. Cliff Jackson to chase up a response with Traffic Management
Other issues raised were referred to Item 6 on the agenda (Highways Service).

Notes

Hollinwood Community Council

4. Police Update

Inspector Stopford gave a brief update on local issues:

Racial Tensions in the Collier Hill/Little Africa area - Police had responded to reassure the local community, 1 arrest made and one string lead being pursued. Community feedback to the police response has been positive.

Beatsweep - There will be a Beatsweep that will focus on the Collier Hill estate. A Beatsweep is a week long concentrated approach to addressing local problems through agencies and services working together in the area with residents.

Off Licenses - Police and Trading Standards are working to engage local off licenses as it recognised that many now attempt to operate within the law, but suffer intimidation, abuse and violence. Aim to support Off Licenses and start a voluntary Over 21 policy for the sale of alcohol.

Task Force - The Area Action Team Task Force is a team of local officers from housing providers, Police, Community Safety Unit, Connexions, Youth Offending Service, and Parenting Support Team. They work together to assess problem individuals and families needs and look at support mechanisms and ultimately enforcement.

Hollinwood Neighbourhood Police Team (NPT) - The new NPT for Hollinwood is made up of 6 Officers: PC Andy Pickering, PC Andy Wallace, PCSO Carmel Turner, PCSO Gary Skinner, and new PCSO's Adam Reilly and Martin Jones.

Dispersal Order - Insp Stopford used the opportunity to do a quick evaluation of the Dispersal Order that ended in December 2007. It was generally agreed that most people were aware of the powers and when they were in force and how they operated. The option to reintroduce the order was discussed for concentrated areas as an extra enforcement tool.

Questions to the Police:

1. Police response to call outs - It was explained that the system for non-emergency calls (0161 872 5050) had improved but was still based on a priority system. It was emphasised that people should still call to report issues and obtain a log number. **Insp Stopford asked that any particular issues where people had a complaint about the way their call was dealt with should be reported for investigation.**
2. A co-optee said that they were worried about reports of an increase in arson incidents. **Inspector Stopford said he would look into where investigations were up to and feedback through the Chair.**
3. An issue was raised where a co-optee commented that the milkman had reported being threatened with a knife by youths at 5.00 am. **Inspector Stopford said he would get details of the incident and look into it.**
4. A co-optee asked if there were regular published hours of opening for Limehurst police post. It was noted that it was better for Officers to be out and patrolling the neighbourhood, rather than manning an office. However, it was also noted that the reception function could be performed by a civilian (volunteer). **Insp Stopford**

Hollinwood Community Council

welcomed this suggestion and explained that there was strict vetting process, but anyone interested should be notified to the Inspector via the Chair.

5. It was related by a resident that some areas are thought to be quiet and not suffer from as much crime, was this a false impression due to non reporting? Insp Stopford said that although there have been some serious incidents in the area they are isolated, rather than the norm. He stated that it was important that effective community safety was based upon reporting of incidents and information.
6. The Minister from Lime side Methodist Church, which runs a youth club, had noticed an increase in young people wanted to access the provision. However, due to limitations it was not possible to take in all the young people. Some have become aggressive and threatening. **Police and Youth Service will liaise with the Church and provide support and reassurance.**

5. Public Questions

Members of the public raised concerns about reports that as part of the regeneration of the Hollinwood Business District, there would be wind turbines adjacent to the M60.

Paul White (Regeneration Directorate) assured local people that this was not the case and that the report in the Oldham Evening Chronicle was inaccurate and based upon an image of an early suggestion by consultants. Since that time much work has taken place and local feedback has been taken into account. It is suggested that the area have an iconic symbol (such as, but not on the same scale, the Angel of the North). A consultant is pursuing this but there is no firm idea in mind. They will come back with a few suggestions that will be opened up for consultation and the Community Council will be involved in that process.

A Co-optee asked if Transco would be moving the Gasometer [land adjacent to M60 and Albert Street].

Paul White reported that talks are ongoing with Transco, but the Gasometer is not moving. The newly appointed development partner, Langtree, will speculatively build business centres (small and large)

A Co-optee asked Paul White to use his influence to ensure that any land/property acquired using SRB6 monies and sold at a profit, the money is made available for local investment in Hollinwood

Paul White responded to say that land assembly and regeneration tend not to be profitable and generally it costs more. **But he stated he would always try to recycle receipts on land.**

Hollinwood Community Council

Paul White also reported that the Co-operative is looking at the Lime Mill site as one of its options for its new Head Office building. A co-optee asked how many jobs will that actually create locally, should it happen.

Paul White responded to say that in realistic terms they will bring most of their employees with them, however over time jobs would come up that local people would benefit from - as was the case with Northern Counties. Local employment clauses are usually put in place with developers - e.g. with the Primary Care Trust LIFT programme, the PFI schools programme. A co-optee commented that they know a few local people who now work at Maxwells, and a new company will inevitably bring money into the locality.

A co-optee asked how close the Langtree submission was to the original masterplan, which indicated a water feature preserving some semblance of the Hollinwood Canal.

Paul White responded to say that Langtree's bid submission was by no means a final plan. Langtree, along with other shortlisted developers presented their proposals in response to a written brief, whereupon Langtree were chosen as the preferred development partners. The Regeneration Directorate are now beginning discussions in earnest with Langtree and the matter of the historical context of Hollinwood Canal within the plans has been raised.

6. Highways and Street Lighting - Cliff Jackson

Cliff Jackson, Highways & Engineering Group Manager, gave a summary of the functions of the Highways Maintenance & Street Lighting Service:

- Planned maintenance - Resurfacing of roads and footways
- Highway reactive repairs & safety inspections
- Street Lighting repairs
- Highways Drainage - Blocked gullies
- Adopted & unadopted highways, passageways and alleys
- Inspection of works on the highways by statutory services - e.g. United Utilities, Transco
- Winter Maintenance

Work request forms were distributed and it was pointed out that the service was keen to obtain information from local people; however there could be no guarantees that any work requested would take place, as this would be dependent upon prioritised works. However, the requested/identified works could be put on a future programme of works.

Local residents raised the following questions/issues:

Hollinwood Community Council

Rectification of works on the footpaths on Brennan Court and Catlin Way - still subject to puddling

The Chair and Councillor Stretton acknowledged that this had been an ongoing concern for over a year and needed to be rectified as soon as possible.

Cliff Jackson reported that he would aim to resolve this issue.

A co-optee asked when the proposed road safety measures on Hollins Road (from the M60 bridge to County Street) would be fully completed, namely the installation of electronically activated speed signs

Cliff Jackson said that he would raise this with Traffic Management and feedback via the Area Manager

A resident raised the issue of heavy goods vehicles on small residential streets and cars parking/driving onto grass verges on Montgomery Street, and asked could something be done about this.

Cliff Jackson reported that signs were already installed advising that streets were unsuitable for HGVs and that some vehicles needed to access the street for deliveries/works. **Cliff Jackson to report this to Traffic Management.**

Cliff Jackson also reported that the issue of grass verges on small residential streets was a difficult one to resolve as in some cases the people driving and parking on them would be local residents.

7. Street Scene Service

Mike West, Local Service Delivery Manager, gave an overview of the service and asked for feedback on sites where people felt work was needed, quality of the work carried out, and any suggestions residents had.

A resident commented that as a Litterwatcher she had reported a local food takeaway, The Full Monty, on a number of occasions for leaving food waste in the alleyway and instances of flytipping, and was disappointed that Enforcement has not been stronger.

The Chair noted that similar issues had been reported in other gated alleyways where there were local shops and takeaways, and suggested that a flyer warning properties sharing an alleyway be distributed. Mike West agreed that this was an issue that needed addressing and alleygating highlighted the number of residents's flytipping in their own neighbourhoods.

Hollinwood Community Council

A co-optee asked if there was communication between grass cutters and street cleaners -as cuttings were being left and spread along pavements, just after a street cleaning round had been completed - resulting in the cuttings remaining until the next cleaning round.

Mike West agreed that greater co-ordination was needed, as there should already be better communication within the team.

A resident raised the issue of some residents and mainly local businesses putting their bins out too late for collection and then leaving them out for a whole week - this also resulted in bags being dumped as bins were full. Particularly relating to the Hollins Road/Jenny Street alleyway.

Mike West commented that this was an issue for Waste Management and would feedback comments as the Street Scene team would be called out on many occasions to pick up side waste not collected by the Refuse Collection teams. An Officer has been appointed as a trouble-shooter to look into these sorts of issues.+

It was reported by a local resident that the Post Office on Hollins Road (opposite Limeside Road), puts his bagged waste/rubbish behind the post box all day, leaves empty bread delivery baskets outside and leaves the alleygates open.

Mike West noted the details and agreed to pass them onto the Enforcement Team.

8. Feedback from Community Council Sub Groups

Zaiem Khan reported that that a paper was presented given a brief feedback from each sub group: Crime & Disorder, Environment and Youth.

A resident asked about the War Memorial steering group - It was clarified that names of people who were interested in this issue had been added and the first meeting would be held in March 2008.

A resident also asked about the latest news on Oak Colliery and the application for Town Green Status.

It was noted that a response from Officers to questions, raised by the Environment Sub group, were yet to be reported. The application for Town Green status was a separate process that was not instigated by Community Council. A co-optee commented that a meeting to consider the application would be held a fortnight after Easter at the Civic Centre.

Hollinwood Community Council

9. Calendar of Annual Events

Presented for information and noted.

10. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 3rd April (venue to be arranged) - it was commented that the meeting should be delayed, if possible, so it could be accommodated at Walkers Road Tenants Hall when it reopened. To be confirmed.

The Meeting opened at 6:30pm and closed at 8.50pm.