

Pudsey & Swinnow Forum

Date: 9th February 2010

Chair: Councillor Jarosz

1.0 Welcome & Apologies

Action

1.1 Cllr Jarosz welcomed everyone to the meeting. No apologies were received.

2.0 Minutes & Matters Arising

2.1 The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record.

2.2 The issue of lighting in Swinnow Co-op car park and also the community centre car park was raised as a problem. CW had raised these with relevant agencies but agreed to follow up to ensure action.

CW

2.3 Cllr Jarosz raised planning issues at Grangefield School. The Park Hotel and St Lawrence House and urged residents to get involved in the planning process and object where necessary.

3.0 Parks & Countryside update – Chris Hodgson

3.0 The West Leeds Country Park Visitor Centre 'Wild in the West' is due to open in April. It will be a free facility open 7 days per week. It will host native species of the Aire Valley – fish mammals and birds – and focus on education and conservation, linking with work in the Meanwood Valley. A community meeting room will be available to hire. Friends of Pudsey Park meetings will be held here.

3.1 Pudsey Park has been awarded Green Flag award again. An 8 year management plan is to be developed based on further survey work. 8 – 9 band concerts will be held in the park over the summer, supported by the Area Committee.

3.2 Plans for the Swinnow Moor play area are progressing. 3-4 options have been developed and the Youth Service have enabled young people to have an input. Cllr Jarosz is to view the preferred option tomorrow. Work is due to start on site during 2010/11.

3.3 Residents commented on the good work undertaken by Parks & Countryside and the excellent joint work with Pudsey in Bloom which had really impressed the judges. CH commented that CCTV and Police

activity has helped reduce vandalism in the park. The Police praised multi-agency working such as joint warning letters from the Police / LCC to deter ASB.

4.0 Police update

4.1 Sergeant Williamson from the Police advised residents to secure their houses and not leave doors unlocked as 1:3 burglaries are currently through open doors. Operation Tighten is a force wide operation to target burglary. It has good results, particularly dealing with travelling nominals from Bradford. Operation Allport has achieved 12 warrants in the last 4 days with excellent arrests linked to drug issues and burglary. The Police urged the public to provide any information they have. Theft from bags e.g. of the elderly is on the increase. However, purse chains funded by the Inner and Outer West Area Committees and advice sessions such as at the Claremonts coffee morning have helped to address this issue. People must report this offence as they need to gain a picture of where the hotspots are. Cllr Jarosz asked if the Young at Heart Club at Tyersal could have some purse chains.

Police /
Cllr
Jarosz

4.2 The Police are implementing a traffic light system to deal with ASB and support victims.

4.3 Snowballing problems with children from Crawshaw School were reported.

5.0 Pudsey bus station

5.1 Graham Walker from Metro updated on progress with the bus station. Phase 1, including the sub structure and ground-works should complete this week. The scheme is 5 weeks behind programme due to previously unidentified YEDL cables and severe weather over Christmas and into January and February. The contractor is trying to re-sequence works to reduce the delay and is still hoping for a September 2010 completion, well before Christmas trading. Phase 2 will then be carried out until July and then highways and footpath works around the perimeter and works to Church Lane will take place.

5.2 There are parking issues. No parking will be allowed on Market Place from this weekend – this is an essential part of phase 2. NC has spoken to parking services to advise. If cars are creating an obstruction it becomes a Police matter. Additional short stay car parking has been provided in the Leisure Centre and Lidget Hill car parks. Flyers and A-boards, a notice in Pudsey library, websites and the Pudsey Times were discussed as ways of advertising the parking restrictions. Metro said that they had released an article to the Pudsey Times.

5.3 GW advised that loading bays would be incorporated. NC advised that he had not had recent complaints re the bus station. However, Pudsey House had specific concerns about access. It is hoped that this can be addressed through creating additional disabled bays on Crawshaw Hill, and using the market area and ramp on non-market days.

6.0 Nigel Conder – Town Centre Manager (TCM)

- 6.1 NC updated on the parking strategy which will be implemented later this year. Under-used land is being identified for possible parking solutions.
- 6.2 The Reward Card scheme is up and running. CW to send out Reward Cards with the minutes.
- 6.3 The Pudsey Business Forum is doing well and there is now a web-site www.shopinpudsey.co.uk and a Pudsey brochure advertising local businesses.
- 6.4 Littering issues are being dealt with through Action Days with the Police and issuing on the spot fines e.g. around Crawshaw School.
- 6.5 Markets have not been transferred at this stage to Area Management but the relationship with Market Services has improved and the TCM is having much greater input.
- 6.6 The Artsmix arts and crafts market is to combine with the regular open market one Saturday per month. Events will be linked with bands in the park. The TCM is seeking marketing expertise to publicise Pudsey wider. A number of Easter activities are planned for Easter Saturday.
- 6.7 Pudsey Carnival will take place May 22nd and needs publicity. NC to attend a meeting 17th Feb at Pudsey leisure Centre. CW to advise councillors of that meeting and future dates. A Prince to advise CW.

NC
CW
AP

7.0 Year of the Volunteer

- 7.1 CW informed the meeting that there would be a volunteer market place event on 6th March to try and increase volunteering in West North West. A resident asked if there were restrictions on volunteering if on benefits / out of work. CW said she thought not but would check.

CW

8.0 AOB

- 8.1 Funding for a traffic calming scheme on Cemetery Road is currently being explored.

CW

9.0 Time and Date of Next Meeting

- 9.1 Tuesday 18th May (Pudsey Leisure Centre venue tbc)