

Next meeting

Failsworth Area Committee will meet next on Monday 26 January at 7pm. The meeting will be held at New Life Church, Thorley Street, Failsworth.

Chair and Community Champion Councillor Glenys Butterworth is urging residents to attend.

Items on the agenda include an update on neighbourhood policing following the Christmas and new year holiday, the council's budget options for 2009/10 and updates on regeneration schemes.

To find out about raising a question at an Area Committee meeting, please contact the Neighbourhood Managers office on 0161 770 5025 or email neighbourhood.managers@oldham.gov.uk

After this meeting the Area Committee next meets on Monday 23 March at 7pm at the Salvation Army, Oldham Road.

Residents chosen

At the last Area Committee meeting these local residents were selected as co-opted members: John Crompton, John Parker, Alan Shaw, Damen Bramwell, Grace Barnett, Mel Garner, Nina Eden and Enid Bell. The Committee also selected Councillor Glenys Butterworth as Chair and Councillor Paul Martin as Vice Chair. Sub groups were agreed for youth, elderly people, the environment, budgets and the war memorial. The committee has funded various projects, including the Christmas tree and lights, Failsworth Pole lights, shower curtains at Mabel Road changing rooms and pitch side ropes for Failsworth Dynamos football team.

Big crowd at lights switch on

More than 100 local residents braved the winter weather in early December to witness the Failsworth Christmas lights switch on event at Failsworth Pole (see below). The switch on was performed by Kevin Matthews and James Mudriczki from the band Puresence. Father Christmas was there, carols were sung to music by the New Life Church band and Father Adrian Matthews blessed the tree.



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Strategy and Resources
Marketing and Communications
T: 0161 770 4707
E: presspr@oldham.gov.uk
www.oldham.gov.uk

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Failsworth Local Matters

Issue 06 – January 2009



Miriam Street makeover

Residents of Miriam Street, Failsworth have put a £10,000 lottery grant to good use with an impressive makeover of their alleyway. They formed the Miriam Street Action Group and secured the grant, part of the National Lottery's Awards for All initiative, to tackle the task.

With hard work and determination, they have managed to transform the alleyway. Alan Shaw, the Chair and Treasurer of the group, is delighted with the result.

"The community spirit is brilliant, we have all worked together to make this a success. The kids can now play in the back, we have benches, flowers and plants, with more on order," he said.



Alan (left) with neighbours Richard Bradbyrn and Lindsay Morris and daughter Millie.

Failsworth East 'be proud' scheme

Organisations like the Police, the council, First Choice Homes and probation service recently took part in an initiative to make Failsworth East a better place to live and work.

This was done through "Not In My Neighbourhood Week" which, among other things, involved removing 19 lorry loads of rubbish and waste from streets in the area. Local councillors Jim McMahan and Paul Martin also supported the initiative.

Local residents are also very much part of things to improve the area and promote respect.

They were asked about their views on where they lived and this information will be used to shape the services they receive in the future.

There were many other activities. These included a mobile police station, estate inspections, a litter pick of the Cormallen and Pendragon estate and Tavern Court front doors being painted.

Public meetings will be organised by FCHO to find local "community champions" and estate agreements developed. Contact Jacqueline Scanlon-Wells on 0161 684 8888 for details.

Garden transformed into summer sanctuary

Tenants of Charles Morris House in Gilderdale, Failsworth have Court Manager Denise Rowe to thank for their new seating and patio area.

Denise worked with the thriving social committee to transform the large garden at the back of the house for the use of tenants, especially to sit out in the summer months.

Funds were raised through raffles and were boosted by an incentive prize of £100 awarded to Charles Morris House for having the greatest proportion of

tenants responding to the customer satisfaction survey.

Materials such as turf, top soil and paving flags were obtained from local companies at favourable prices. Hollinwood based TNG (Training Network Group) did the work for free.

"I couldn't believe it when 15 lads turned up to do the ground works, but they were fantastic. They were all very polite and worked extremely hard. I can't thank them enough," said Denise pictured below.



Generations generate cash for charity

The young and not so young joined forces with local organisations last November to ensure that Failsworth made its contribution to the Children in Need appeal.

Residents of sheltered accommodation

in the Ridgefield Street area with their warden Margaret and Lynn, the warden at Baron's Court, joined the young members of Q Club (Failsworth Youth Centre) and youth workers in the activities.

Also taking part were First Choice Homes Oldham, the Police, Eric Banks from the Craft Club, the Lord Lane Luncheon Club, including the WRVS as well as local people and volunteers.

They raised about £600 through raffles, tombola and various stalls which sold cakes, books and good as new items.

Failsworth remembers its fallen heroes

About 2,000 Failsworth residents young and old turned out for the Remembrance Sunday service at the war memorial last November.

The service was led by Reverend Adrian Matthews of St John the Evangelist Church.

There were representatives from the cubs, brownies (see below), scouts, air cadets, Territorial Army, St John's Ambulance and other uniformed groups as well as local dignitaries and community leaders present.



Policing team is listening to you

The local Neighbourhood Policing Team continues to work with partners and the local residents to improve the quality of life for everyone in Failsworth. We are focussing on what concerns local people most.

The team has been speaking to residents at public meetings and whilst out on patrol for their views. The current concerns are youths congregating in groups and having access to alcohol. This is being dealt with on an ongoing basis, working with Trading Standards and others.

Enforcing the law effectively and supporting activities aimed at diverting young people away from street corners are some of the measures being taken. We worked with colleagues in Newton Heath to target burglars and car thieves, resulting in several key arrests. Similar operations are planned this year. Local

people are providing invaluable help in our work. If you see anything suspicious call us immediately on 0161 872 5050.

We also had a big role in the 'Not in My Neighbourhood Week' late last year to raise awareness of what Police and local partners are doing to tackle crime and disorder in the area.

Student police officers were out on patrol in Failsworth. They got involved with the community at the same time as providing a visible uniformed presence.

Please remember your local Police team is there to help. You can contact the team at Failsworth police station on 0161 856 8988 for East Failsworth or 0161 856 8981 for West Failsworth. For a Police response, always call 0161 872 5050 or, in an emergency, 999. Alternatively, e-mail failsworthandhollinwood.npt@gmp.police.uk
Inspector Dave Stopford