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DROYLSDEN AND AUDENSHAW COMMUNITY FORUM

Day: Thursday
Date: 19 November 2026
Time: 6.30 pm
Place: Ryecroft Hall, Audenshaw

Item No.	AGENDA	Page No.
1.	**WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND HOUSEKEEPING (5 MINUTES)**	
2.	**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS (30 MINUTES)** Residents to join table discussion on either the Council's annual budget setting process, or regeneration and growth in Droylsden and Audenshaw.	
3.	**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** To receive any apologies for the meeting from Members of the Community Forum.	
4.	**MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING** That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Droylsden and Audenshaw Community Forum on 18 June 2026 be approved as a correct record. To also consider updates on activity since the previous meeting of the Community Forum.	1 - 8
5.	**GROWTH, REGENERATION, AND DEVELOPMENT (25 MINUTES)** To receive a presentation from the Major Projects Manager.	9 - 18
6.	**COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: PRIDE IN PLACE IMPACT FUND (20 MINUTES)** To hear from representatives of Ryecroft Hall and Audenshaw R.U.F.C.	19 - 20
7.	**CIVIC PRIDE, CLEAN STREETS, LOCAL HERITAGE, AND LEISURE PROVISION (15 MINUTES)** To receive an update on developments from the Chair and highlight opportunity for residents to report any current issues.	21 - 24

From: Democratic Services – any further information may be obtained from the reporting officer or from , to whom any apologies for absence should be notified.

8. QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

To consider any questions received in writing by members of the public.

Droylsden and Audenshaw Community Forum

18 June 2026

Commenced: 6.30pm **Terminated:** 8.15pm

Present: Councillors Mills (Chair), Cooney, England, Holland, Martin, Roberts and T Smith

In Attendance:

Janet Witkowski	Director of Legal and Democratic Services
Joe Kelly	Strategic Director of Adult Social Care and Health
Tom Hoghton	Policy and Scrutiny Service Manager

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Barker and Boyle

1 Introductory Remarks and Housekeeping

The Chair began by welcoming attendees to the meeting and highlighted housekeeping arrangements. The Chair advised that the Community Forums would serve as an important platform for councillors, residents and partner organisations to exchange view and work collaboratively in a constructive manner to achieve positive outcomes for Droylsden and Audenshaw. The Chair looked forward working to inviting residents to raise comments regarding opportunities for the Council to improve the local area.

2 Welcome to Your Community Forum

Consideration was given to a presentation of the Chair of the Droylsden and Audenshaw Community Forum. The presentation introduced the Community Forums and set out the context of how the forums were developed and outlined the Council's approach to community engagement.

The Chair explained that the previous Neighbourhood Forums had primarily been information-sharing meetings, with limited opportunities for residents to participate in discussions. Following feedback received through the Cabinet in the Community programme, residents had expressed a desire for greater local access, information relevant to their communities, opportunities to ask questions, and ongoing engagement that resulted in visible change.

Residents were advised of the implications of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act and were informed that forthcoming guidance

would provide further detail on the devolution of certain Council powers to local communities. It was noted that Community Forums would continue to evolve in response to future legislative developments.

The Chair provided an overview of the arrangements for the Community Forums. It was explained that meeting agendas would have three sections;

- Borough items, discussions that are important to all parts of Tameside or key updates;
- Community items, focusing on local issues or developments. Local partners and community groups were encouraged to submit proposals for any items they wished to present;
- Question time: the formal Q and A session where the Council and partners will answer questions. It was encouraged that questions were submitted in advance of the meeting. All questions and answers would be published online.

It was explained that the Community Forums would meet three times annually, in June, November and March, with meetings rotating between venues across the borough. It was also noted that community groups and partner organisations would be able to propose agenda items for future meetings through Democratic Services.

The Chair then asked both Members of the Forum and residents in attendance to propose items for future agendas.

Residents in attendance raised concerns regarding proposed planning applications on the greenbelt in Droylsden and therefore felt that an update on the Littlemoss greenbelt at a future meeting would be beneficial. Attendees also requested an update on the Droylsden Masterplan to be submitted as a future agenda item. Residents also suggested that the Community Forums should be promoted more widely to increase awareness and encourage greater attendance.

RESOLVED
That the presentation be noted.

3 Pride in Place Impact Fund

The Policy and Scrutiny Service Manager attended the meeting and delivered a presentation on the Pride in Place Impact Fund.

The Policy and Scrutiny Service Manager advised that the programme was funded by central Government, which allowed residents and community groups to submit proposals for a share of £1.5 million to deliver visible improvements that rebuild

community pride. It was explained that all residents and community groups could apply for funding. Funding was focussed on three types of improvements:

- Community spaces, by enhancing local facilities and supporting organisations to restore underused areas
- Public spaces, through upgrades to parks, play areas, lighting and street furniture
- High streets and town centres, by revitalising shopfronts, improvements to markets and enhancing streetscapes.

It was noted that, as separate Pride in Place funding had been secured for Hattersley and Ashton, applications to the Impact Fund would be prioritised for the remaining seven towns and surrounding neighbourhoods not covered by those programmes.

Community groups, residents and partners were encouraged to submit investment proposals for the next round that was taking place between 1 June – 31 July 2026. Details of the application process were provided to the Forum. The Forum were advised that the funding was available only for capital expenditure i.e. for the purchase or improvements of assets.

In response to a resident's query, the Policy and Scrutiny Service Manager advised that the funding would be available to 'Friends of' groups and these groups were encouraged to submit an application. Members of the Forum further discussed community groups in Droylsden and Audenshaw which would benefit from the funding.

Residents expressed the view that additional publicity was required to raise awareness of funding opportunities. It was suggested that community notice boards and other local communication methods be utilised to ensure wider awareness among residents.

The Chair thanked the Policy and Scrutiny Service Manager for the informative presentation and reminded residents that applications would stay open until the end of July and provided residents with contact details to submit proposals.

RESOLVED
That the presentation be noted.

4 Civic Pride, Clean Streets, Local Heritage and Leisure Provision

The Chair of the Community forum began by sharing an update on the work the Council had undertaken in Droylsden and Audenshaw. It was highlighted that there was a day of action on 12 February 2026 and the Chair advised that six Fixed Penalty Notices were issued on Craven Street and Edge Lane. Members of the

Forum were also advised that Tameside Council was the highest local authority in the North West for fly tipping enforcement. The Chair praised officers for their hard work with regards to fly tipping.

Attendees were then invited to share their thoughts and concerns about their local area.

Residents expressed their anger at various sites that had repeatedly experienced fly tipping, such as Craven Street and Palm Street. The Chair assured residents that the Council had a proactive and robust approach to tackling waste issues and reminded residents to report fly-tipping incidents on the Council's website. The Chair advised that an update would be provided on the Craven Street site following the meeting.

Residents expressed frustrations with the lack of investment in Droylsden as they felt that Droylsden should be a thriving town, but small problems such as fly-tipping and lack of civic pride collectively held it back. Residents urged councillors to work collaboratively in the interests of residents and the future of Droylsden.

Residents also raised various concerns regards potholes and the lack of rear bin storage for shops on Market Street, Droylsden. The Chair advised that these points would be passed to officers in order to receive an update. The Chair further noted the importance of educating residents in locations affected by persistent fly-tipping, with the aim of increasing awareness and reducing future incidents.

Residents further raised concerns about dangerous activity taking place in Droylsden, particularly near Fairfield Road. Residents queried measures the Council could take to prevent activity and the Chair advised that this would be passed onto the relevant directorate for response.

RESOLVED
That the updates be noted.

5 Question Time

The following question was submitted in advance of the meeting:

"I want to ask why there is no bins from Droylsden on the path route to Audenshaw up to the snipe or near Lees Park? There is a cut through from Jack Lane which also leads the way to the back path with no bins and people think it's ok to let their dogs poo and not clean it up or throw their poo bags on the path. I walk from Newton Street to Aldwyn primary with my children and the amount of dog poo we see is disgusting why can't people be fined for this? I have a dog

myself and when I take her out, I can never find a bin and I have to take it home with me. Also around Aldwyn primary school this is the same, the number of times we have stood in dog mess is beyond me, something needs to be done about this? "

In response the Chair advised:

"We completely understand how frustrating this can be, especially on routes used regularly by families and for the school run. Keeping our neighbourhoods clean is something we know matters a great deal to residents.
There are a number of litter bins already located within the wider area. Installing more bins places additional pressure on our street cleansing teams, which can affect how frequently they are able to service all locations.

We have litter bins at the following locations:

- Moorside Street – entrance to snipe linear footpath
- Junction of Heron Drive / Wren Close – entrance to snipe linear footpath
- Warne Ave / Palin Drive – entrance to snipe linear footpath
- North Road
- Outside Aldwyn Primary School
- Assheton Avenue x 2 bins.

We encourage everyone to take responsibility for disposing of waste properly, including dog waste, and to report any issues. Where appropriate, enforcement action can be taken against those who do not comply. We do take your concerns seriously and will review the current provision of bins in the area to see whether any improvements can be made."

A further question was submitted in advance of the meeting:

"Who is ultimately responsible for the 3 hour stay car park at Market Square Droylsden M43 7AY. To clarify the section of the car park which is not council pay and display.

Who is responsible for enforcement on this carpark? Is there a visible presence of enforcement officers on this carpark? Can clarification be made in relation to disabled bays (blue badge holders). Can anyone without displaying a blue badge i.e. contractors park in these spaces?

Can employees of JD Gym, Swim and the retail outlets on Greenside shopping centre park on the carpark for over 3 hours free? How many spaces are taken for this purpose daily?

Does whoever owns this carpark actually aware that they have killed Droylsden as there are now very few spaces available at peak times (when people are not at work i.e. weekends) to park to use the retail outlets, by this I do not mean those using JD Gym and Swim"

In response the Chair advised:

"There is a long and complex history in relation to the car parking areas referred to, which the Council is currently looking into and will be in a position to comment on in due course"

The following questions were then asked in the room:

Q: How much money is spent per capita in each of Tameside's nine towns and how does Droylsden compare to the other eight towns?
A: Response to be provided following the meeting

Q; Has the Council considered using double red lines on Market Street as other boroughs have to stop parking along the road?
A: Response to be provided following the meeting

Q: Traffic calming measures are being considered for Assheton Lane but Broadway is not included. Can traffic calming measures be considered for Broadway to alleviate traffic problems in the area?
A: Response to be provided following the meeting

Q: Can we receive an update on the reported water ingress issues at the old library site? Is this issue now resolved?
A: Response to be provided following the meeting

Q: Reform-led Lancashire County Council announced plans to withdraw from the Government's Refugee Resettlement Scheme, why has Tameside Council not?
A: Response to be provided following the meeting

Q: Why is no money spent on Droylsden but always on Ashton?
A: Response to be provided following the meeting

Q: Who is responsible for clearing the land between Fairfield Road and the residential properties off Moravian Field and Beatrice Wignal Street? Large trees are potentially damaging the pipework.
A: Response to be provided following the meeting

Q: Tameside Council's Planning Team refused to speak to us regarding the Little Moss development, stating the information was sensitive. Why is this information sensitive?
A: Response to be provided following the meeting

Q: The one-way system on the road outside St Mary's Church prohibits a left turn when exiting the church car park, however this is often ignored. Could measures be introduced to address this, such as installing illuminated signage and repainting road markings?
A: Response to be provided following the meeting

Q: Do you have to pay a license for an HMO and is there a register of all the HMOs on the Council website?
A: Response to be provided following the meeting

Q: Is the Travel Lodge near the Snipe still being used as an HMO?
A: Response to be provided following the meeting

Q: Please could an update be provided on the fly tipping on Craven Street? Understand the land has now been sold but would request and update on the preventative measures undertaken from the Council?
A: An update will be provided following the meeting

Q: Repeat littering between Fairfield High School and Fairfield Road Primary on Fairfield Road. Waste have previously advised that there is sufficient litter bin provision in the area. Could the bins be emptied more frequently? Do the nearby houses have sufficient residential bin
A: An update will be provided following the meeting

Q: Please can I ask who is responsible for the maintenance of the fencing on Greenside Lane Droylsden that is round Droylsden Football Club, near the bus stop lay-by. It is unsightly and dangerous. Please could this be added to the questions sorry for the late submission. Can someone advise if this fencing will be replaced?
A: update to be provided

6 Date of Next Meeting

RESOLVED

That the next meeting of the Droylsden and Audenshaw Community Forum be held on 19 November – venue to be confirmed.

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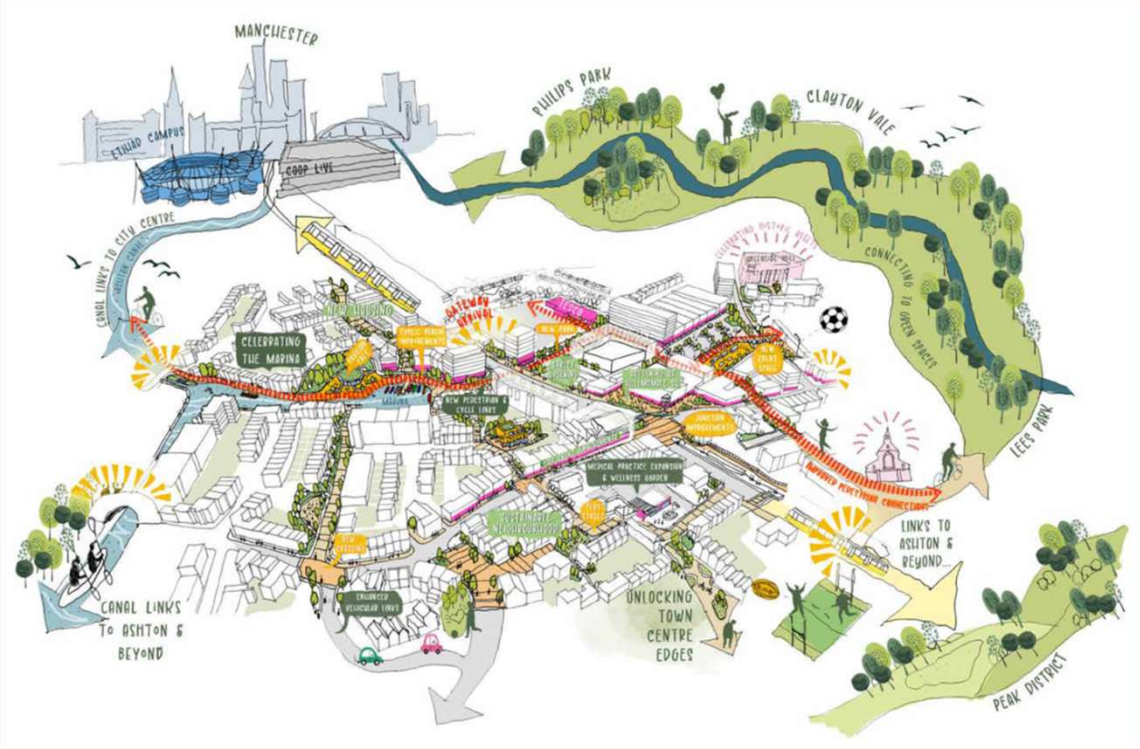
Droylsden & Audenshaw Community Forum Development Update

Introduction

- Masterplan approved July 2025 – vision and objectives
- Transformational projects including Droylsden Marina development and Concorde Suite demolition
- Grant funding secured to undertake detailed studies
- Grant funding secured to deliver programme of improvements
- Pride in Place Impact Fund
- Next steps

Vision

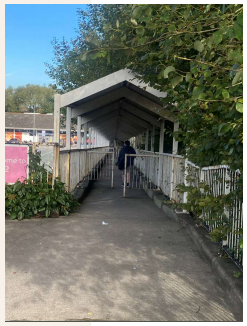
"Create a thriving town centre with a renewed sense of place, to bring back purpose and to support its aspirational and entrepreneurial community to do more in their town centre. To create a town centre full of vitality, multi-use spaces and opportunities that reinforce local identity"



Transformational Projects

Hollinwood Branch Canal Active Travel Route

- Creating a north-south connection between Droylsden Marina and Tesco supermarket
- Establishing a new east-west connection between Tesco and shopping centre
- Feasibility study currently underway
- Land ownership constraints
- Engagement with stakeholders including Hollinwood Branch Canal Society
- Area cleaned and tidied







Transformational Projects

Villemomble Square/town centre greening

- New planters and tree planting in the square and along A662 Manchester Road
- Repairs to broken paving
- New benches in square and on granite planters
- Repainting of bollards, railings and posts
- Refurbished notice board
- Clock repairs
- Jet wash of paving



Transformational Projects

Droylsden Marina Development

- Long term brownfield site
- Developed by CERT Properties and Tru North Partnerships
- 192 affordable homes
- Community hub, landscaped communal areas, car parking and cycle storage
- Opening up canal connections and active travel route
- Footfall for town centre and local businesses

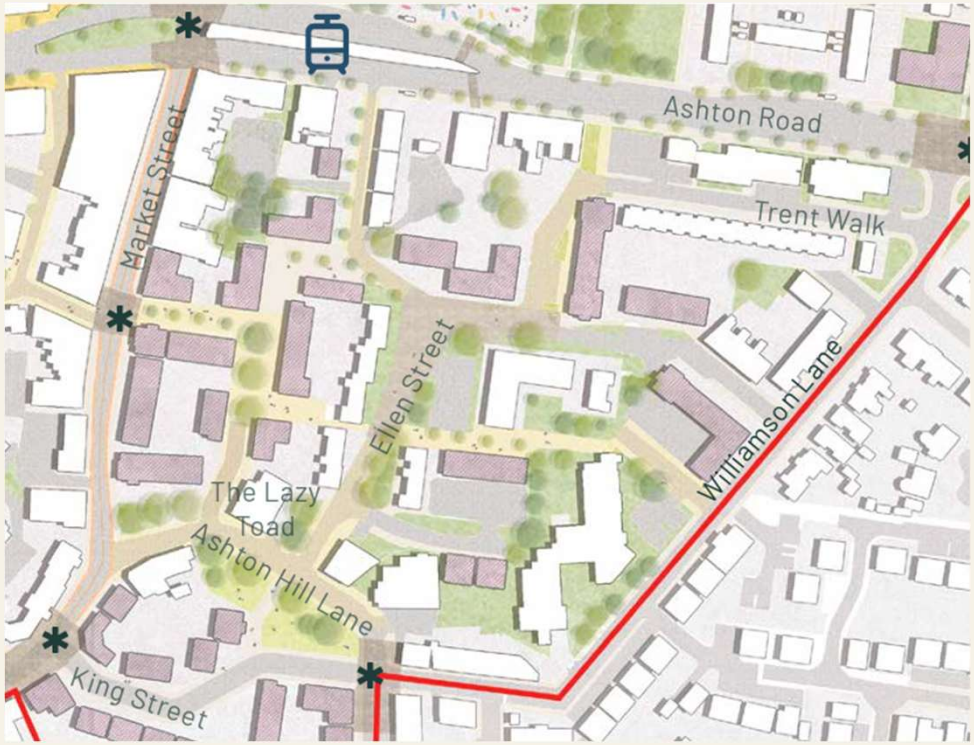




Transformational Projects

Sustainable Neighbourhoods

- Ashton Hill Lane/Former Lazy Toad Car park
- Site identified as surplus by Tameside Council
- Opportunity for new development
- Discussions with neighbouring landowners including solicitors and medical practise



Transformational Projects

Concord Suite/Shopping Centre

- Opportunity for a landmark development to support a revitalised town centre offer
- Complexities due to land ownerships
- Viability concerns with repurposing
- Lack of market interest to utilise in current form
- Recognise the preferred public opinion of the Concord Suite is to demolish
- Partial demolition of Concord Suite approved October 2026
- Council continuing to work with landowners to progress a deliverable scheme



Funding Secured

Funding secured to date (via GMCA and Homes England):

- £100,000 to prepare the Droylsden Town Centre Masterplan approved in 2025.
- £60,000 to undertake Delivery Strategy and Soft Market Testing
- £60,000 to undertake more detailed feasibility works relating to potential to reopen Hollinwood Branch Canal as an active travel route.
- £40,000 to undertake further design and feasibility work in the town centre.
- £100,000 public realm improvements – Villemomble Sq, Manchester Road, Lees Park

Next steps

- Completion of Hollinwood Branch Canal Study with a view to undertaking site investigations
- Progress discussions with TfGM in respect of funding opportunities
- Complete partial demolition of Concord Suite and continued discussions with relevant land owners
- Droylsden Marina residential scheme to commence construction
- Progress detail of other transformational schemes identified in masterplan in relation to town centre offer, access and connectivity to surrounding residential areas.

Tameside Metropolitan Borough

Community Spotlight

Pride in Place Impact Fund - Ryecroft Hall and Aldwinians R.U.F.C.

Pride in Place Impact Fund

Funded Projects in Audenshaw

- Play Equipment Upgrades at Ryecroft Hall and Shepley Wood
- Ryecroft Hall
- Audenshaw Residents Group
- Aldwinians R.U.F.C

Funded Projects in Droylsden

- Play Equipment Upgrades at Medlock
- Friends of Sunnybank Vale
- Future Proofing Droylsden Little Theatre

Tameside Metropolitan Borough

Civic Pride, Clean Streets, Local Heritage, and Leisure Provision

Recent Activity and Reporting Issues

Droylsden and Audenshaw

- Achieved the highest fly tipping enforcement performance of any council in the North West.
- Launch of new litter hub at Droylsden Library.
- The CCTV team was awarded a Chief Inspector's Good Work Minute for their excellent partnership working for the prevention and detection of crime and anti-social behaviour.
- A highway safety scheme at Market Street, Droylsden, has been successfully completed, improving safety for all road users.
- Four Fixed Penalty Notices for flytipping issued in Droylsden over three months.



Tameside Metropolitan Borough

Report Issues Online

https://lite.tameside.gov.uk/ReportIt

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