

Forum News

Your Village Needs YOU



Welcome to the first edition of Edenfield Forum Newsletter.

Edenfield has been identified as an area for major housing development over the next 15 years. Rossendale Borough Council are proposing to allow almost 500 houses to be built, an increase in excess of 50% when the Borough as a whole is only expanding by 12%.

Edenfield Village Residents Association has undertaken some splendid work in raising awareness and organising opposition to the proposed developments and destruction of our Green Belt, but due to their other commitments they are unable to continue to fight this battle. In view of this a group of volunteers including some members of EVRA have got together to set up a Neighbourhood Forum and they have now submitted a formal application to be recognised by Rossendale Borough Council.

This Forum will work with the community and experts to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for Edenfield. Their aim will be to reduce the number of houses proposed and save as much as possible of our valuable Green Belt.

The Plan will establish general planning policies and propose areas for development and future land use. It will help the community to shape what the village will look like in the future.

When the Plan is prepared it will be examined by an Independent Examiner and then approved by a referendum involving all the community. If the Plan is approved, it will become a statutory document that will complement the Rossendale Council Local Plan.



Funding of the Forum

The Forum can apply for grants to cover the costs of preparing the Neighbourhood Plan. However, these do not cover the costs of the challenges to the emerging local plan, challenges during the consultation period ending this summer or challenges and representation to the Inspectorate prior to the final decision.

We need the expertise of Planning Consultants to enable us to make any of these challenges as well as their guidance in preparing our Neighbourhood Plan. To achieve this we need to raise funds now, so that we can embark on this important programme immediately.

If you would like to contribute to help us to take control of our village, please tick the appropriate box on the membership application form and a Committee member will get in touch to provide more detail.

What is the Edenfield Neighbourhood Forum?

It is a group that leads on the production of a local Neighbourhood Plan. Anyone who lives, works or has a business in the area can be a member.

All members are entitled to attend the meetings of the Forum and will receive regular information and updates. Any member can be elected by the Forum to join the management committee, for more information on Neighbourhood Forums visit locality.org.uk

Why have a Neighbourhood Plan?

If the residents of Edenfield vote in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan at the referendum, Rossendale Council must make it part of the local plan for the area. This means that the plan will be used for making decisions on planning applications in Edenfield.



We need your help

We want the Forum to be fully representative of all residents and businesses in Edenfield. If you would like to become a member of the Forum, please complete the enclosed membership leaflet. It can be deposited at Strachan's Chemist or Valentine's Butchers. You can also join by completing the online form on the website. If you require any further information please visit our website, www.edenfieldcommunityforum.uk or contact Ian Lord on 07808724477.