



## Castlefield Forum AGM and Public Meeting

Tuesday 24 February 2026 | 19:00 | Science + Industry Museum

### Minutes

#### AGM

<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>	No apologies from Trustees
<b>A Year in Review</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation of Annual Report</li></ul>	Annual report presented by Calum McGowan <a href="#">Available to read here</a>
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	Treasurer's Report presented by Giles Grover <a href="#">Available to read here</a>
<b>Result of Voting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Resolution No 1 - acceptance of Treasurer's Report</li><li>• Resolution No 2 - election of Trustees</li></ul>	There were 33 responses  Resolution No 1 Acceptance of Treasurer's Report - accepted with 93.9% of the vote  Resolution No 2 Election of Trustees Lou Pullen - accepted with 93.9% of the vote Giles Rover - accepted with 93.9% of the vote Line Hilton - accepted with 90.9% of the vote Debbie Hubbard - accepted with 100% of the vote
<b>Closing Remarks from the Chair of Castlefield Forum</b>	A quick round up of Forum achievements in 2025, and challenges still to be faced
<b>AGM closes</b>	

#### PUBLIC MEETING

<b>Guests</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cllr Lee-Ann Igbon</li><li>• Sally McDonald - Museum Director, Science + Industry Museum</li><li>• Danny Gale - P H Property Holdings; Jeffrey Bell - Jeffrey Bell Architects</li><li>• Kelly Rodgers - Cyan Lines</li><li>• Max - The Ox Noble</li></ul>
<b>Cllr Lee-Ann Igbon -</b> Updates from Hulme and Deansgate Wards (13 mins)	See Appendix for notes from Councillors
<b>GMP Update - City Centre</b> (5 mins)	See Appendix for notes from GMP City Centre
<b>Sally McDonald - Science + Industry Museum</b> (5 mins)	<a href="https://www.scienceandindustrymuseum.org.uk/about-us/we-are-changing">https://www.scienceandindustrymuseum.org.uk/about-us/we-are-changing</a>
<b>Danny Gale &amp; Jeffrey Bell - PH Property Holdings &amp; Jeffrey Bell Architects</b> (15 m)	<a href="https://www.greatjohnst-consultation.co.uk/">https://www.greatjohnst-consultation.co.uk/</a> <a href="https://piph.co.uk/landing/">https://piph.co.uk/landing/</a>
<b>Kelly Rodgers - CyanLines</b> (15 mins)	<a href="https://cyanlines.com/">https://cyanlines.com/</a> <a href="https://www.gmmoving.co.uk/">https://www.gmmoving.co.uk/</a>



<b>Current Focus for Castlefield Forum</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recruitment - currently seeking new trustees and volunteers. Contact us at for more info.</li><li>• Visioning Process - council is seeking Your Views on Castlefield, with drop-in session on 3 March <a href="https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Xn3OsM2B-0eU9ydsYmt7CXnt5rj8yfVAqmQAB6SxmhhURTVNVkxOSUxFWDFVNFpFWkhXRDJGS1M2Uy4u&amp;origin=QRCode">https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Xn3OsM2B-0eU9ydsYmt7CXnt5rj8yfVAqmQAB6SxmhhURTVNVkxOSUxFWDFVNFpFWkhXRDJGS1M2Uy4u&amp;origin=QRCode</a></li></ul>
<b>Q &amp; A (15 mins)</b>	See Appendix
<b>Introducing Our New Website</b>	Launch of new website <a href="http://www.ourcastlefield.co.uk">www.ourcastlefield.co.uk</a>
<b>AOB</b>	None
<b>Max from The Ox Noble</b>	<p>Max introduced the OxNoble on Liverpool Road, now under new ownership. Promised benefits to come for residents, with new app to be launched.</p> <p>App is PubPerx, and if you are in postcode M3 4xx or M15 4xx, pop in, or email <a href="mailto:hello@theoxnoble.pub">hello@theoxnoble.pub</a>, with proof of address to get added as a local to receive resident perks</p>
	Meeting closed



## **APPENDIX**

### **COUNCILLORS' UPDATES**

Deansgate Ward

#### **Roman Gardens**

Deansgate Councillors have been supporting the Roman Gardens project by seeking officer support across the different departments at MCC. A cross-department meeting of officers has taken place to discuss how to best support the project. Work is being led by the Castlefield forum and officers have discussed how best to ensure works start before the planning runs out in November 2026, with an aim to meet with the Forum project team in March or April to discuss further.

Councillors have also been looking at different funding mechanisms to help and support the Forum in its fundraising efforts that is required to complete the project.

#### **Landowners forum**

The landowners forum has continued to work collaboratively with engaged landowners across Castlefield. Where we have less engaged landowners, we have tried several different approaches including raising the issue with Tom Standard, the CEO of the Council who has met with his counterparts at these organisations and to work with Lucy Powell MP's office to engage with less engaged landowners who are national public bodies. This work will be ongoing to try different approaches to ensure all landowners are engaged with the minimum standards agreed and documented for Castlefield last year.

#### **Graffiti**

Graffiti continues to be an issue in Castlefield. The Council, Councillors and partners have been trying a few different approaches and seeing some success:

- More intervention by GMP to catch and arrest people whilst applying graffiti, acting as a deterrent
  - Working with Lucy Powell's office to get national bodies to remove graffiti on their land. For example, the weed advert on the network rail arch in the bowl
  - Slate Wharf – MCC partnering with the landowners at Slate Wharf to help match fund graffiti removal and anti-graffiti paint on land that faces into public realm
- Work will continue to understand how we tackle this issue.

#### **MCC Castlefield visioning work**

Deansgate Councillors have been supporting officers in planning a visioning exercise where the Council will engage with residents and businesses to understand what we want for a Castlefield of the future. We will be engaging with residents over the spring, please get involved and tell us what you want to see in Castlefield.

#### **Castlefield visitors centre**

Work has started to understand how we can reopen the Castlefield Visitors Centre for community use. Early discussions have started with neighbouring organisations to understand what the art of possible would be for the centre.

#### **Lifts around Castlefield**

There have been several challenges with lift access to Deansgate / Castlefield tram stop and the Viaduct. We have some positive news to share:

- Cllr Davies has been working with TfGM to improve their lift at the tram stop. We are now seeing less breakdowns and better cleaning of the lift
- Cllr McCaul has been working to get the new lift and stairs open at the Viaduct development at Great Bridgewater St. This was opened over the summer. We are working through some cleaning issues with the landowner
- MCC have started works to replace the lift at the Roman Fort. We expect the works to complete by late spring / early summer



### **Roman Wall**

Deansgate Councillors have been working with Network rail to create better access and install an information board at the historical roman wall in the carpark near Collier St. We hope to have this completed in the summer, enhancing our historical offering in Castlefield.

### **Partnering with GMP**

Deansgate Councillors hold regular walk arounds with the police to help understand impacts to residents from crime and ASB, including Castlefield. This is helping the current enhanced policing in Castlefield that has seen successful operations around ASB driving and graffiti.

### **Extra funding**

Deansgate Councillors have secured an additional £10k for Neighbourhood Investment Funding taking the pot to £30k, that is funding that community groups can apply for. We have also secured Neighbourhood Investment Renewal Funding, that enables Councillors to invest on infrastructure in their area. This funding will help us to invest in things that our residents in Castlefield and the wider ward want.

Kind Regards  
Cllr Anthony McCaul



## GMP UPDATE - Deansgate and City Centre

- A male was detained in the act of spraying graffiti in Castlefield. **Male** has been charged with criminal damage after spray-painting graffiti under the arches during visible patrols prompted by concerns from local residents. He is scheduled to appear in court in July this year. ASB officers have now opened a case for a potential Criminal Behavior Order (CBO).
- The entrenched homeless encampment located on Duke Street, behind the Castlefield Estate, has now been cleared following community concerns regarding drug use and anti-social behaviour.
- Officers also carried out traffic enforcement on Deansgate and surrounding roads. Several drivers were issued with Traffic Offence Reports (TORs) for using mobile phones while driving. In addition, several high-value vehicles bearing foreign registrations were seized due to links with anti-social driving around the city center, particularly in the Deansgate and Castlefield areas.
- There has been a series of parcel thefts at Potato Wharf, involving a male and female who stole multiple parcels before making off. Following an extensive investigation, the male suspect was identified and arrested. The case is currently under review for a charging decision.

PC Muhammad Riaz



## Q&A

### CYANLINES

CyanLines. Walking audits and consign workshops both sound great.

Thanks for the feedback. A walk has been arranged on 28 April @ 6pm starting and finishing at the Roman Gardens. WhatThreeWords location is [///sorters.healers.tigers](#)

We will be walking the Castlefield section of the CL4 – Irwell & Castlefield Loop – exploring what we love and what needs some more love to shape future plans of this CyanLine. We'd love to see you there.

Test area for CyanLines - could we do the section along the canal that goes under the Mancunian Way as a test? Multiple levels and surfaces, plus currently a bit dark

Great idea. We will suggest that to CyanLines.

Are United Utilities involved with CyanLines in terms of rain gardens etc?

No idea. We will check with CyanLines.

CyanLines - How engaged are Peel Holdings who I understand manage the canal towpaths? Around the canal basin there are may cracked/broken paving slabs that are not being maintained or replaced.

We will put this to CyanLines

CyanLines meets the Roman Gardens?

Yes, we can suggest that. The routes are not finalises so we can have some influence.

### DEVELOPMENT ON GREAT JOHN STREET

P H Holdings - have you had any feedback yet from MCC eg pre-application? Is there an opportunity to reveal the setts under the tarmac on Great John Street as part of your conservation area enhancement package?

P H Holdings have had preliminary chats with planning department but planning app not yet submitted.

What is the proposed tenure of the new townhouses?

Freehold?

We are looking for tree funding for the Ellesmere Street area, so any transfer funding from P H Holdings should be actively pursued.

We agree, though that money is still being actively pursued from De Trafford (circa £70K)

New housing - we don't want troughs. The trees will die and the troughs get vandalised. We want real trees!

Positioning of trees will depend on survey of services under the pavements

All for new houses, but you are removing lots of semi-mature trees. Deansgate ward has the LOWEST tree coverage of all 32 Manchester wards. What will you do about this loss of green amenity/wildlife?

Is there a plan to thwart ratrunning traffic along Lower Byrom Street?

Not sure what can be done with Deansgate and Water Street restricted.



OTHER

Do we have an update on the Commercial Hotel development? Appears to have stalled.

No, sorry we don't. We have not heard anything.

Can we please arrange a GMP Update for the South Castlefield area? We have lots of speeding and ASB

Unfortunately, we have been unable to pin down anyone to provide updates, or a Neighbourhood Police Officer for South Castlefield. Ward Cllrs are actively pursuing.