

**CENTRAL AREA POLICE AND
COMMUNITY SAFETY
CONSULTATIVE FORUM**

in

**The Baltic Suite,
Hartlepool Maritime Experience
(Main Quay Entrance)**

on

**Thursday 6th September, 2007
commencing at 10am**

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence
2. **MINUTES**
 - (a) To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 12th April 2007 (*attached*)
 - (b) Matters arising.
3. Update from the Police
4. Update from the fire brigade
5. Alcohol Designated Areas
6. UNITE Community Mediation
7. Any other business agreed by the Chair

WARDS
 Burn Valley
 Elwick
 Foggy Furze
 Grange
 Park
 Rift House
 Stranton

CENTRAL POLICE & COMMUNITY SAFETY CONSULTATIVE FORUM

12th April 2007

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



The meeting commenced at 2 pm at the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Lilian Sutheran - Rift House Ward

Vice-Chair: Resident Representative James Atkinson

Councillor Jonathan Brash	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor Gerard Hall	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor Pam Hargreaves	- Stranton Ward
Councillor Pauline Laffey	- Park Ward
Councillor Frances London	- Foggy Furze Ward
Councillor Dr George Morris	- Park Ward
Councillor Robbie Payne	- Stranton Ward
Councillor Carl Richardson	- Grange Ward
Councillor Victor Tumilty	- Grange Ward
Councillor Gladys Worthy	- Rift House Ward

Resident Representatives: Ian Campbell, Bob Farrow, Ted Jackson, Jean Kennedy, Evelyn Leck, Alan Lloyd and Brian McBean.

Residents: Mrs Roni Farrow, Mr G Harrison, Brian Hanna, Mr A Jobson, Mrs B Loynes, Miss M Lumley, Ron Rigg, Mr M Thoburn and Mr E Welch

Officers: Denise Ogden, Head of Neighbourhood Management
 Irene Cross, Neighbourhood Development Manager
 Sally Forth, Anti Social Behaviour Co-ordinator
 Katie Sheehan, Community Safety Project Assistant
 Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

Police Representative: Acting Inspector Glen Ward

Fire Brigade Representative: Barry Waller

Housing Hartlepool Representative. Andy Elvidge

24. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Stephen Akers-Belcher, Kevin Cranney, Gordon Henery, Bill Iseley and Ray Waller and Resident Representative Patrick Finnan. Also from Lesley Hall, Community Network Officer.

25. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2007 were confirmed

Resident Representative Ian Campbell referred to the Police update and clarified that his query about a seasonal aspect to walking alone was a reference to residents walking alone at night.

26. MATTERS ARISING

Resident Representative Ian Campbell requested an update on the possibility of a temporary CCTV camera being installed in Ward Jackson Park which had been referred to by Sgt Brian Cawley during the Police update. The Head of Neighbourhood Management indicated that the Joint Action Group had approved a camera for this location on a temporary basis. The location of the camera would change based on individual area needs. However Knightsbridge Gardens and Cresswell Drive junction was recognised as a future site for the camera. The Vice-Chair made a request on behalf of the Friends of Ward Jackson Park that the camera overlook the bowling green.

Resident Representative Ian Campbell requested an update on plans for Police surgeries to be held in the Ward Jackson Park Café. The Head of Neighbourhood Management advised that she would ask the Acting Inspector to contact the Park Residents Association with the latest information.

Councillor Victor Tumilty reported that following a request for CCTV at the Park Road/York Road junction a camera had been installed.

27. UPDATE FROM CLEVELAND FIRE BRIGADE

Barry Waller, District Manager for Hartlepool, gave a brief update on recent activity within the Fire Brigade. In the last 3 months the number of dwelling fires had continued to drop. This meant that there had been no deaths in a fire in Hartlepool in the last 12 months. The number of property fires had also dropped as had small fires and hoax calls.

Details were given of a number of initiatives currently being undertaken by the Fire Brigade, including:

- The formulation of a risk register for at risk properties
- A boat safety week
- Heartstart – CPR resuscitation training

Councillor Gladys Worthy asked the estimated cost of a hoax call. The District Manager advised that it cost at least £500 for each engine despatched to the scene but this could be increased if engines needed to come from Stockton to attend any incidents.

Resident Representative Evelyn Leck requested an estimate of the number of small fires in scrap yards. The District Manager reported it was 15-20% of all small fires.

Councillor Carl Richardson asked for information on fire escape criteria for private landlords. The District Manager indicated that this was dependent upon the amount of fire protection in the property and the distance to the main door. Every room should be fire resistant and give residents the ability to turn their

back on a fire when making their escape. If this was not possible officers would ask for additional escape routes. He confirmed that the fire brigade had authority to inspect the plans for every new building and require changes be made if necessary.

Councillor Pauline Laffey referred to fire hazards posed by tyre storage by waste operators in the town asking why permission had been given. The Head of Neighbourhood Management advised that the Environment Agency was responsible for approving and monitoring such sites. Council officers and the fire brigade were working with the Environment Agency to address these problems.

Resident Roni Farrow asked if it was a legal requirement to inform fire officers that oxygen cylinders were being used in a property. The District Manager advised that it was not a legal requirement but would be mentioned during a fire safety check.

Resident Ernie Welsh asked what provisions were in place to educate children on the dangers of fire. The District Manager advised that learning programmes had been formulated for children of all ages and these varied depending on the age of the children concerned.

The Chair thanked the District Manager for attending the meeting and answering questions.

29. UPDATE FROM THE POLICE

Acting Neighbourhood Inspector Glen Ward gave a brief update on policing issues. Neighbourhood Policing was a year old and in that time there had been a 9% reduction in crime in Hartlepool. As a result of this a further 15 PCSOs had been recruited and trained and officers

were continuing to work with Joint Action Groups.

A Resident commented that children were playing ball games in Mountston Close since the closure of the field nearby. She asked that a "no ball games" sign be erected. The Head of Neighbourhood Manager advised that the process to erect signage would take at least two years as a byelaw would be required and there was no guarantee that it would be policed when in place.

Councillor Gladys Worthy requested the crime prevention number be given to Councillors so they could pass it on to residents. The Neighbourhood Inspector confirmed that the contact was Crime Prevention Officer PC Steve Davies on 01429 405598.

Resident Representative Evelyn Leck reported that children were playing football in Norfolk Walk and Cornwall Street until the early hours of the morning, using the alleygate as a goal. The Acting Neighbourhood Inspector indicated that he did not wish to alienate young children against the police or community. However, if there was drinking and other anti-social behaviour from older children residents should phone the police.

Resident Roni Farrow requested that an officer attend the next Burn Valley Residents Association meeting as no police representatives had been recently. The Acting Neighbourhood Inspector took the details and confirmed he would ensure an officer was in attendance at the next meeting.

Councillor Gladys Worthy referred to the 28% rise in crime in the Rift House area. The Neighbourhood Officer advised that crime was low throughout the town so even slight increases would look bad statistically. In reality 28% amounted to 2

2 (a)

additional burglaries and 1 additional robbery over a 3-month period.

Councillor Carl Richardson asked if Ringmaster was back on line for use by Neighbourhood Watch. The Neighbourhood Officer advised the necessary technology would be delivered as soon as possible. Councillor Richardson went on to question how the new PCSOs would be deployed across Hartlepool. Would this be based on areas where crime was reported? The Acting Neighbourhood Inspector indicated that he had no details on where new officers would be deployed.

The Chair thanked Inspector Simpson for his work over the previous 18 months.

The Acting Neighbourhood Inspector was thanked for attending the meeting and answering questions.

30. UPDATE ON ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOR ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

The Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator Sally Forth gave an update on Anti-Social Behaviour enforcement activity in Hartlepool. To date there had been 35 Anti-social Behaviour Orders granted in Hartlepool, of which 26 were presently in force. There had also been 104 acceptable behaviour contracts negotiated of which 38 were current. Details were given of the RESPECT agenda, designed to stop anti-social behaviour by tackling the root causes. Members were also told that officers from the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit had recently moved to larger premises in Jutland Road.

Councillor Robbie Payne said he was shocked that statistical information had not been provided to the Forum. He went on to ask if a Project Manager for Hartlepool Intervention had been

appointed. The Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator advised that due to the post only being funded initially for one year, a decision had been made to seek to second someone from within the Hartlepool Intervention Project Panel. This was due to be advertised shortly. With regard to the lack of statistics Ms Forth apologised and stated that statistical breakdowns would be brought to future meetings.

Resident Representative Evelyn Leck commented that children with anti-social behaviour orders saw them as a badge of honour. However, the Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator disputed this, saying she believed anti-social behaviour order pride was an urban myth.

31. OFF-ROAD MOTORCYCLE STRATEGY

The Anti-Social Behavior Co-ordinator gave details on a number of actions being taken to combat the nuisance of off-road motorcycles. These included the widening of Section 59 notices and monitoring of sales of petrol to under 16s. However, owing to technical problems Ms Forth was unable to give the full presentation as planned. The Chair agreed for this to be brought to the next meeting of the forum in order that people be given the complete picture. Resident Brian Hanna asked that statistical information relating to this issue be provided at that time.

Resident Representative Ian Campbell requested that entrances to Summerhill, Burn Valley Gardens and Ward Jackson Park be made secure after staff left for the evening in order to prevent anti-social behaviour.

The Chair thanked the Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator for attending the meeting.

32. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from the public.

33. ANY ISSUES TO BE RAISED BY COUNCILLORS AND RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Resident Representative Bob Farrow commented on the lack of contact PCSOs had with Foggy Furze residents, when compared to the past. The Acting Neighbourhood Inspector advised he would look into these concerns.

Councillor Gerard Hall praised the officers for the Burn Valley Ward, particularly for their regular attendance at residents' meetings. He went on to request on behalf of the residents of Colenso Street and Kimberly Street that a CCTV camera be installed in the back street.

Councillor Gladys Worthy requested a CCTV camera be installed at Rift House shops on Catcote Road because of the incidents of anti-social behaviour. A request was also made that chewing gum be cleared from the parade and improved lighting be considered.

Resident Representative Ian Campbell reported youths had been drinking and shouting verbal abuse in Ward Jackson Park. He requested that this be dealt with before the summer months. Mr Campbell went on to request clarification on the issue of a family living in the Park Ward using a personal helicopter. The Head of Neighbourhood Management indicated that correspondence had been exchanged between herself and Mr Campbell on this matter. However, it would be necessary for the Acting Neighbourhood Manager (Centre) to liaise with the Civil Aviation Authority in order to answer some of Mr Campbell's more technical queries

Resident Representative Jean Kennedy praised wardens in the Central area for returning her pet dog to her. The Head of Neighbourhood Management indicated she would advise the wardens thanking them.

34. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

The Chair indicated that a presentation on new byelaws relating to alcohol-free zones would be brought to the next meeting

Lillian Sutheran

Chair