

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA



Thursday 29th November 2007

at 10.00 am

**in the Town Hall, Raby Road, Hartlepool
(main Theatre entrance)**

MEMBERS: CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM:

Councillors Akers-Belcher, Brash, Coward, Cranney, Hall, Hargreaves, Henery, Kaiser, Laffey, Lauderdale, London, Morris, Payne, Richardson, Shaw, Simmons, Sutheran, Tumilty and Worthy

Resident Representatives:

James Atkinson, Bob Farrow, Alan Greenwell, Ted Jackson, Jean Kennedy, Evelyn Leck, Alan Lloyd, Brenda Loynes, Sarah Maness and Brian McBean

- 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**
- 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 3. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**
- 4. MINUTES**
 - 4.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 11th October 2007 (*attached*)
 - 4.2 Matters arising (maximum of 10 minutes) – Feedback sheet from last meeting attached.

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME and WARD ISSUES (maximum of 30 minutes)**

Foggy Furze
Grange
Park
Rift House
Stranton
Burn Valley
Elwick

6. **ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION**

6.1 Dog Control Orders – *Head of Neighbourhood Management*

7. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION and/or INFORMATION**

7.1 Presentation – LINKs (Local Involvement Networks) – *Development Officer*
7.2 The Future Town Planning of Hartlepool – Core Strategy Issues and Options
Discussion Paper Consultation – *Director of Regeneration and Planning Services*
7.3 Presentation – Pride in Hartlepool – *Pride in Hartlepool Officer*

8. **ITEMS FOR DECISION**

8.1 Minor Works Report – *Neighbourhood Co-ordinator*

9. **DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Central Area Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum will be held on Thursday 10th January 2008 commencing at 10am, in the Baltic Suite, Hartlepool Historic Quay, Maritime Avenue, Hartlepool

The next meeting of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum will be held on Thursday 31st January 2008 commencing at 10am, in the Sir William Gray Suite, Hartlepool Historic Quay, Maritime Avenue, Hartlepool

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR**

WARDS

Burn Valley
Elwick
Foggy Furze
Grange
Park
Rift House
Stranton

CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM

11th October 2007

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



The meeting commenced at 2.00pm in the Baltic Suite at the Historic Quay, Hartlepool

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Lillian Sutheran - Rift House Ward

Vice-Chair: James Atkinson (Resident Representative)

Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher	- Rift House Ward
Councillor Jonathan Brash	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor Gerald Hall	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor Gordon Henery	- Foggy Furze Ward
Councillor Pauline Laffey	- Park Ward
Councillor John Lauderdale	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor Frances London	- Foggy Furze Ward
Councillor Dr George Morris	- Park Ward
Councillor Carl Richardson	- Grange Ward
Councillor Chris Simmons	- Grange Ward
Councillor Victor Tumilty	- Grange Ward

Resident Representatives:

Bob Farrow, Ted Jackson, Alan Lloyd, Brenda Loynes, Sarah Maness and Brian McBean

Public: F Campbell, Ian Campbell, Roni Farrow, George & Mary Harrison, A Jobson, Gordon & Stella Johnson, D Loynes, M Lumley, R McAndrew, N Morrish, V Rigg, J Rudge and Ray Waller

Council Officers: Denise Ogden, Head of Neighbourhood Management
Jon Wright, Acting Neighbourhood Manager (Centre)
Paul Briggs, Assistant Director (Resources and Support Services)
Paul Mitchinson, Highways Services Manager
Margaret Wigglesworth, Community Engagement Officer
Irene Cross, Neighbourhood Development Officer (Central)
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

Housing Hartlepool Representative: L McPartlin

British Energy Representatives: Debbie Simpson and Andy Merifield

25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillors Pam Hargreaves, Stan Kaiser, Jane Shaw and Gladys Worthy and Resident Representatives Jean Kennedy and Evelyn Leck.

26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

None

27. MINUTES

The minutes for the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum held on the 9th August 2007 were agreed subject to the following amendments:

Resident Ian Campbell advised that his request for a dog bin had been inaccurately included in Bum Valley Ward issues when it should have been part of the Park Ward issues. He further indicated that he had requested the provision of a dog bin in the Bum Valley rock garden but this had not been referred to.

28. MATTERS ARISING

The Chair reported that allegations had been made that Councillors were given more time to speak at the Central Forum than Resident Representatives and members of the public. She disputed this, saying that she would never allow this to happen. The Chair went on to thank the outgoing Acting Neighbourhood Manager (Centre) with positive comments.

Grange Ward – Resident Representative Brian McBean advised that there was still some confusion surrounding the powers PCSOs had to hand out tickets for dog

fouling. The Head of Neighbourhood Management believed that they did have such powers but she would need to clarify this.

Mr McBean then asked for clarification as to how the ward boundaries had been decided for Dyke House and High Tunstall schools as part of the Building Schools for the Future proposals. Councillor Chris Simmons advised that this issue had been resolved satisfactorily.

Matters Arising - Resident Ray McAndrew indicated that the painting of the lampposts had still not been completed.

Park Ward – Councillor George Morris reported that a letter had been received from residents in Park Avenue supporting the proposed residents parking scheme. The Acting Neighbourhood Manager (Centre) would get more information on this.

Burn Valley Ward – Councillor Jonathan Brash advised that a consultation exercise was due to take place on the recent two-tier resident car parking permit charges introduced by the Council due to the negative public feedback. A voluntary opt out was also being considered. Resident Ray Waller criticised the Council for introducing the new parking charges without consulting the public. Councillor Carl Richardson called for the parking permit increases to be thrown out, saying residents were having to purchase two bays so that their visitors had somewhere to park.

Mr Waller also asked if action could be taken against lorries illegally parking on Park Road pavement and if the cracked paving stones in York Road could be repaired. He suggested that CCTV

cameras be placed in these areas to identify the perpetrators.

Resident Ray McAndrew criticised the installation of the dropped kerbs at the Park Road/York Road traffic lights saying something should be done about the flooding problems. The Head of Neighbourhood Management reported improvements could be costed and would be considered by the Head of Technical Services.

29. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND WARD ISSUES

Foggy Furze

Tin Houses – Resident Representative Brian McBean advised that residents were experiencing a lot of problems with anti-social behaviour. The Head of Neighbourhood Management asked to forward this to the police and Anti-Social Behaviour Unit.

Heathfield Drive – Councillor Frances London had requested dog bins and litter bins. These were on order.

Windermere Road – Councillor Gordon Henery indicated that the lay-by near the traffic lights was untidy. The Head of Neighbourhood Management advised that lay-bys and nibs were a particular problem for the Council's cleansing vehicles. Residents were asked to move their vehicles on street cleaning days but some did not comply. Resident Ray Waller commented that manual cleaning could be used in these areas and if officers could not manage nibs effectively they should be removed.

Ward Surgery – Councillor Frances London advised that the ward councillors would be holding a ward surgery at Foggy Furze Library on Saturday 13th October, 11am start.

Grange

Stephen Street / Duke Street – Resident Representative Brian McBean reported a dilapidated property on this corner which residents were trying to take action on. The company which had previously agreed to improve the building was now refusing and he requested the Council put pressure on them to make these improvements. The Head of Neighbourhood Management to liaise with NDC and Hartlepool Revival on this matter

Costcutter – Councillor Victor Tumilty advised that youths had tried to steal the till for the store and drug users had been seen in the alley adjacent. Car windows were routinely smashed.

Briar Walk – Councillor Victor Tumilty indicated that tenants were engaging in anti-social behaviour. There had also been fights witnessed in Collingwood Road.

Murray Street – Councillor Carl Richardson thanked the Head of Neighbourhood Management for having responded to recent problems.

Park

Ward Jackson Park – Resident Ian Campbell reported that the clock was stuck once again

Resident Representative Ted Jackson also requested that the lighting around the café be improved before the onset of winter and the dark nights. Discussions were ongoing with the Parks and Countryside Manager. Councillor Pauline Laffey advised that there was a lighting problem generally in the Park Ward which was not acceptable and asked for minor works funding to be considered.

West Park drainage – Resident Representative Ted Jackson requested an update on the issue of CCTV. The Acting Neighbourhood Manager (Centre) advised that he had misunderstood the original request but would take the matter up with the engineers.

Mountston Close – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes requested that the litter bins at the rear be emptied daily as the rubbish from Tesco was beginning to pile up. She further asked that the bushes obscuring the “Beware of the Duck” sign be moved.

Resident Mrs Rigg called for a decision on the Mountston footpath issue which had recently been deferred by the Planning Committee. Anti-Social behaviour was still an issue and if the gate came down there needed to be something in its place. Councillor George Morris said he saw no reason a decision would not be made next time.

Park Road – Councillor George Morris advised that the appeal by Mr Hopper to build a gate house had been rejected.

Tunstall Court – Councillor George Morris updated that there had been a change of ownership.

Voting booths – Councillor George Morris indicated that the locations for the Park Ward voting booths would remain the same despite the current re-organisation.

Rift House

Thackeray Road fence – Resident Representative Alan Lloyd reported this was in a dilapidated state. Mr Lloyd further asked that holes in the grass verges on Thackeray Road be repaired.

Shakespeare Public House – Resident Representative Alan Lloyd requested a

light be installed between the Shakespeare and adjacent shops.

Masefield Road – Resident Representative Alan Lloyd criticised the existing speed humps.

Rift House Day Nursery – Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher referred to the proposals to close Rift House Day Nursery. He called on the Forum to support the fight to keep this open as there were serious concerns about the potential loss of services, particularly in light of the possible closure of Brierton. Rift House could be sorely affected by these closures. The Chair indicated her support, saying the closure was of grave concern.

Councillor Akers-Belcher further referred to the untidy state of roads and paths in Rift House. He felt the response times were unacceptable.

Stranton

Tesco - Resident Fiona Campbell requested that something be done about the lack of a crossing from the sheltered accommodation to Tesco. The Head of Neighbourhood Management advised that this was part of the Local Transport Plan but would not be implemented this year. She would ask the relevant officers for the proposed start date of the project.

Burbank House – Resident Norma Morrish criticised the refurbishment of Burbank House. Residents were unable to use this as a community centre as they were not allowed to play bowls or cook light meals for themselves. It had been a waste of money. The Head of Neighbourhood Management indicated that this would be included on the agenda for the forthcoming Burbank NAP meeting and someone from the department would attend.

Park Road – Resident Ray Waller asked that the grass in the nibs be removed.

Parking charges – Resident Ray Waller requested a breakdown of the total income from parking charges across the town, ward by ward.

Burn Valley

Top of Burn Valley – Resident Ray McAndrew queried a recent decision to replace a brick wall with a fence.

Marina – Resident Ray McAndrew requested that the gutters on the Marina be cleaned of cigarette ends,

Police – Councillor Jonathan Brash thanked the police for appointing another PCSO to the area.

Burn Valley – Councillor Jonathan Brash indicated that this was a stagnant mess and requested that it be cleaned. He further referred to the recent attack on a young girl walking home from the Sixth Form College and asked if the Council were taking action to prevent young girls walking in that area alone. Councillor Pauline Laffey reported that action was being taken.

30. PRESENTATION – BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE – STAGE 4 CONSULTATION – SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

The Assistant Director – Resources and Support Services gave a presentation on Building Schools for the Future. This was a Government initiative which would provide money to rebuild, remodel and refurbish Hartlepool's secondary schools. A copy of the Stage 4 Consultation Document was made available for those present.

This stage of consultation would run until 26th October 2007. In addition to the

Consultation Document, information could be viewed on the website www.hartlepool.gov.uk/schoolscapital/bsf.

Stage 4 would look at options for the possible co-location of Catcote and Springwell Special Schools as well as other aspects of Hartlepool's provision for children and young people with special educational needs.

Included in the presentation were slides relating to the following

- What is BSF Stage 4 Consultation about?
- BSF – The Main Facts
- Co-location
- Behavioural, Emotional and Social Difficulties
- Provision for Excluded Pupils
- Support for Pupils in Mainstream Schools

The Assistant Director stressed that no decisions had yet been made.

Following the presentation the following questions/issues arose:

Resident Ray Waller felt very strongly that the needs of children with special needs should take priority over everything else in this case. If the decision was made to co-locate then primary schools should be paired with primary schools rather than with secondary schools and vice versa. The children and young people should be treated as normally as possible even if Council Tax had to increase to achieve this.

Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher referred to the closure of Thornhill School and how this consultation could lead to something similar.

Resident Julie Rudge supported integration. The Assistant Director indicated that the underlining philosophy

of this Stage 4 process was inclusion. The best solution was the one which would be used and costs should not be an issue.

The Chair thanked the Assistant Director (Resources and Support Services) for attending the meeting and answering questions.

31. WINTER SERVICE POLICY AND PRIORITIES

The Highways Services Manager presented a report which detailed the Winter Service Policy and Priorities, the objectives and statutory basis, the limitations, the current position and recommendations.

Following the presentation the following questions/issues arose:

Resident Ray Waller asked what procedures were in place to grit frozen gullies. People walking sticks and Zimmer frames would be unable to negotiate them. The Highway Services Manager advised that these would be gritted as part of the highway gritting process.

Councillor Jonathan Brash asked if the primary and secondary routes were reviewed regularly and cross referenced with accident blackspots. The Highways Manager confirmed this.

Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher said elderly residents were afraid to go out during bad weather. The Highway Services Manager urged them to take part in the consultation so that their views could be taken on board and help to shape the planned routes.

Councillor Gerard Hall referred to different authorities being responsible for parts of routes leading into the town. The Highway Services Manager indicated that

cross boundary arrangements were in place and consistent service was given across the boroughs.

Councillor Chris Simmons asked what would happen if there was an underspend on the winter service. The Highway Services Manager advised that the highways budget was used for Winter service and any under or overspend would directly affect the highway maintenance budget used for planning and resurfacing work.

Councillor Frances London asked if extra gritting was provided near schools. The Highway Services Manager reported that the 3 walking bus routes were targeted but nothing more.

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

32. PRESENTATION – COUNCIL TAX REDUCTIONS

The Community Engagement Officer gave a brief presentation on the Council Tax reductions which were available. These were not means tested and applied broadly to the following groups:

- People with permanent disabilities
- People who are severely mentally impaired
- Carers

The Officer indicated that there were leaflets available explaining the qualifying criteria in more detail. Benefits officers would also be happy to come to people's homes should they need further information.

The Chair thanked the Community Engagement Officer for attending the meeting.

33. PRESENTATION – NUCLEAR NEW BUILDS

Andy Merifield from British Energy gave a brief presentation on Hartlepool Power Station and current proposals for the building of a second plant. Included in the presentation were slides relating to the following

- British Energy today
- Hartlepool Power Station
- Regional Impact
- Our staff
- Local Sponsorship programmes
- A signal of intent is needed for all stakeholders
- What if we built Hartlepool “B”
- Cost of losing nuclear generation in the UK
- The Policy Case
- A role for British Energy

Following the presentation the following questions/issues arose:

Resident Representative Alan Lloyd referred to the time delay between the closure of the existing reactor in 2014 and the proposed 2019 start date for the replacement reactor.

Councillor Pauline Laffey asked if a site had been found for the new build and was told it had.

Councillor Jonathan Brash voiced his support for the new build saying it would bring jobs to Hartlepool. He urged those present not to be prevented from supporting these proposals by the minority who were against it.

The Chair thanked Mr Merifield for attending the meeting and answering questions.

34. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum is to be held on Thursday 29th November 2007, commencing at 10.00am in the Baltic Suite, Hartlepool Historic Quay, Maritime Avenue, Hartlepool

LILLIAN SUTHERAN

CHAIR

**FEEDBACK SHEET FOR THE CENTRAL
CONSULTATIVE FORUM 11th OCTOBER 2007**

- Grange Ward – Brian McBean – still receiving mixed messages re Pcso's and the eligibility to issue dog fouling tickets.
- The Pcso's can definitely issue fpn's for dog fouling further more the police have in recent weeks held training events for officers and Pcso's and this type of issue was within the structure of the training.
- Park Avenue residents parking – George Morris – already have letter stating residents in favour. JW to get more info from the Parking Manager
- It had been indicated that a consultation would take place in October with residents to gauge support or otherwise.

Unfortunately this schedule was made in good faith before Cabinet proposed a £20 charge for permits outside the town centre.

Phil Hepburn since has been inundated with petitions and letters of complaint and has been instructed to formally consult with all the current properties affected.

It would be wrong to consult in Park Avenue until the permit cost implications are resolved and residents can be informed of any changes to the hours of enforcement and possible capping of permit numbers.

The logistics of completing this latest full consultation will also delay the Park Avenue consultation until Cabinet have resolved the new costing issues

- Lamp posts painting – Ray McAndrew – still not completed
- This issue was passed to Bob Golightly the councils Public Lighting Section to action and is now complete.

- Parking charges – Ray Waller – Request that officers provide details of the total income provided
- Cllr Brash – Two tier parking charges and consultation – opt out is an option
- Ray Waller – Why weren't residents consulted, what is behind the £5 and £20 reasoning.

- Portfolio Holder requested a consultation with all residents who would fall in the higher £20 band, as following the early publicity, several petitions had been received from streets requesting to be taken out of the controlled zone. The consultation therefore asks residents specifically if they would like to withdraw from the scheme should the charge be approved.

- A central zone (which was roughly 400 metres from the town centre car parks) was proposed. This being as far west as Osborne/St Paul's Road east to Stockton Road, North to Hart Lane and south to Elwick Road. There are exceptions to this boundary but in general this is the area covered.
- The reasoning behind the creation of the two zones was members recognised that pay and display parking charges had contributed to the displacement of commuters into residential zones and that those properties in this area would be most directly affected. To this extent they proposed a subsidy on the cost of a permit effectively making the charge £5 within the subsidised zone.

- Parking charge
- Cabinet members were keen to see that the cost of resident parking be self financing. The current cost is £80K per annum and with 6000 permits issues at £1 each there is a substantial deficit in the operation cost of the service. In previous years this had been subsidised from P&D revenue, but members felt this should stop. The proposed permit costs were therefore a reflection of the £74K operational costs.
- In terms of Pay and display revenue the annual income received last financial year = £1,061,628. However the running, employee and development costs are all off set against this figure.
- Phil Hepburn the councils Parking Services Manager will be invited to attend the Consultative Forum on the 29th November and can address the above issues
- Lorries parking on Park Road pavement – Ray Waller – York Road paving stones cracked. Request for CCTV surveillance in these areas.
- In April of next year the legislation changes and CCTV evidence will be able to be used to enforce parking and traffic offences.
- Park Road/York Road traffic lights – Ray McAndrew – dropped kerbs should not have been put in like that originally – DO to cost up improvements and talk to Head of Traffic and Transportation.
- This is being priced up and further feedback will come back to a later Forum.

- Tin Houses – Bob Farrow – Asb problems, support needed for residents who live there.
- This has been passed to the police who are working with partners to address the problems.

- Cllr London – requested for litter and dog bins on Heathfield Drive, IC advised ordered
- The litter bin and dog foul bins have now been installed

- Windermere Road – lay-by near traffic lights up to Paul Berry's – Gerard Hall – Request that it be cleaned.
- This area has now been letter dropped and the area has been thoroughly cleansed along with the road gullies

- Stephen Street / Duke Street – Brian McBean – dilapidated property on the corner – owner (?) refusing to make improvements, request that cll put pressure on him. DO to progress thru NDC / Hartlepool Revival and HBC Housing Team
- Julia Pinchen has visited the owner once again to issue a final deadline to take up the grant offer and commence the work however this is a delicate situation as progress has been slow with the grant offer in place if this is with drawn than the chance of redevelopment will be unlikely.

- Ward Jackson Park – Ian Campbell – clock stuck, can it be repaired
- This is now working

- West Park drainage – Ted Jackson – Request for update on situation. JW to take matter up with engineering department
 - This is on the minor works report for funding
 - Ward Jackson Park – Ted Jackson – Request for lighting round café to be sorted prior to winter. JW to discuss with Andrew Pearson.
 - There are still currently no funds available to progress this unless the consultative forum requests it as a future forum funded scheme.
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- Lighting in Park Ward – Pauline Laffey – grateful for Cresswell Drive improvements, but lighting in the ward is not adequate. Can the forum look at Walkworth Drive, West Park and Parklands Way through the minor works
 - Bob Golightly has informed that it is highly likely that the lanterns to all columns in Walkworth Drive and Parkland Avenue will be replaced this financial year as these areas are listed as priority areas however West Park has had new lanterns fitted in the past and now requires a full lighting scheme this is something that may be considered in the new financial year
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- Mountston Close – Brenda Loynes – continuing problems with litter from Tesco. Bins not being emptied every day
 - The recycling bring centre at the Wiltshire Way shops along with others situated throughout the town unfortunately generate side waste due to the frequency of emptying and the response times from the current contractor. However these issues will be picked up when the council re-tender the contract soon in the new financial year.
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- Mountston Close – Brenda Loynes – Request that tree obstruction to Beware of the Duck sign be moved

- This sign will be moved to a more appropriate and visible position

- Thackeray Road – Alan Lloyd – fence in dilapidated state, holes in grass verges need filling
- The fence has been repaired and the holes in the verge have been filled in

- Alley between Shakespeare Pub and shops – Alan Lloyd – light requested
- This is a Rift House / Burn Valley Nap priority and has already been actioned.

- Masefield Road – Alan Lloyd – Problem with speed humps
- When these were initially installed they were too low then when corrected they were too high. They have been altered again and now comply with the Road Hump Regulations and no further changes will take place.

- Crossing to Stranton Tesco – Fiona Campbell – query as to possibility of a crossing from sheltered accommodation. DO to find out when this is due to be implemented re the local transport plan.
- There is a LTP scheme scheduled for 2009-2010 and this will link into the planning agreement for the Tesco's development. The scheme proposed is to have controlled pedestrian crossings on all approaches to the round-about.

- Burbank House – Norma Morrish – Expensive to refurbish but unable to use as Community Centre. DO to place on Burbank NAP agenda and ask someone from the relevant department to attend the meeting.

- A meeting has now taken place with John Menear to discuss the issues raised and the Neighbourhood Manager along with Burbank residents and Adult and Community Services will be working together to progress these issues.
- Park Road lay bys – Ray Waller – Request that weeds in lay bys be cut and cleansing operatives get out of vehicle and sweep the area.
- These concerns have been passed to the environmental Manager and Supervisor with a view to improve the service
- Top of Burn Valley – Ray McAndrew – Request as to reasons a brick wall is to be replaced by a fence
- The reason the wall is likely to be removed and replaced with railing is to improve light and visibility at that end of the park therefore increasing public safety
- Marina – Ray McAndrew – Request that cigarette ends be cleared up
- The Environmental Supervisor has advised that this area is mechanically swept on a weekend and manually cleansed on a daily basis.
- Burn Valley beck – Jonathan Brash – Thanked the Police, as it was his understanding a 2nd police officer for the wards would soon be in post, he went on to comment on the stagnant mess, request that it be cleaned, He further advised he had not received any feedback from the Environment Agency liaison meeting.
- Adult and Community Service along with Neighbourhood Services are making every attempt to try and keep the burn as reasonable as possible however there is a

feasibility study underway to look at proposed improvements to the burn in its entirety.

Report of: Head of Neighbourhood Management

Subject: Dog Control Orders

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide concise details of the proposed Dog Control Orders for consultation.

2. Current Situation

- 2.1 The Council has a number of byelaws relating to dogs that were introduced to protect the general public. These byelaws consist of the following, and are stringently enforced by the Council's Neighbourhood Action Team:
- (i) Dogs on leads in Ward Jackson Park, Burn Valley Gardens, Rossmere Park, Seaton Park.
 - (ii) Dogs on leads in Stranton Cemetery and West View Cemetery.
 - (iii) Seasonal ban of dogs on the seashore and corresponding promenades at Seaton Carew, Headland Fish Sands, Headland Block Sands.
- 2.2 The Dogs(Fouling of Land)Act 1996 is used by the Council's Neighbourhood Action Team to reprimand irresponsible dog owners who fail to remove dog faeces forthwith.
- 2.3 With few exceptions, the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 applies to any land, which is open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment).
- 2.4 Failure to remove dog faeces forthwith is an offence under the Dogs(Fouling of Land)Act 1996 and subject to a maximum fine of level 3 on the standard scale (currently £1,000).
- 2.5 Offenders are able to discharge liability for conviction through payment of a Fixed Penalty Notice of £50.

3. Dog Control Orders

- 3.1 In April of 2006, the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act was fully introduced and provided local authorities with a range of new powers to tackle problems in the environment.

- 3.2 Part 6 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 enables local authorities to make dog control orders, which effectively replace the previous system of dog byelaws for the control of dogs, and also the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996.
- 3.3 Existing byelaws remain in force indefinitely and can continue to be enforced as normal. However, if an authority makes a Dog Control Order in respect of an offence on a specified area of land, any existing byelaw dealing with the same offence on the same land lapses.
- 3.4 A Dog Control Order can be made in respect of any land, which is open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment).
- 3.5 Although the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 has been repealed, the Order commencing the repeal provision preserves the offence under the 1996 Act in respect of any designation orders made prior to the repeal. Therefore, any orders made under the 1996 Act will continue to have effect, and enforcement through fixed penalty notices (fixed at £50) and prosecution can continue.
- 3.6 The Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 will cease to have effect only when a Dog Control Order is fully introduced by an authority.
- 3.7 The Dog Control Orders Regulations provide for five offences which may be prescribed in a dog control order:
- (a) failing to remove dog faeces;
 - (b) not keeping a dog on a lead;
 - (c) not putting, and keeping a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer;
 - (d) permitting a dog to enter land from which dogs are excluded;
 - (e) taking more than the specified number of dogs onto land.
- 3.8 The penalty for committing an offence under a Dog Control Order is a maximum fine of level 3 on the standard scale (currently £1,000). Alternatively, the opportunity to pay a fixed penalty may be offered in place of prosecution.
- 3.9 The local authority is able to set the amount of fixed penalty payable.
- 3.10 If no amount is set, then the amount payable is £75.
- 3.11 An authority may make provision for treating the fixed penalty as having been paid if a lesser amount is paid before the end of a period specified by the authority.
- 4. Exemptions**
- 4.1 Dog Control Orders provide exemptions in particular cases for registered blind people, and for deaf people, and for other people with disabilities who make use of trained assistance dogs.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 Dog Control Orders under Part 6 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 are a welcome new addition to the powers available to the Council as it endeavours to provide a safe and clean environment for the people of Hartlepool.
- 5.2 The effective implementation of these new powers is essential and the Council must consider them fundamental to its key aims and objectives.
- 5.3 Initial public consultations on Dog Control Orders have been carried out through press articles, attendance at Resident Associations and Groups, Neighbourhood Consultative Forums, the Environmental Theme Partnership, Parish Council meetings and the Council's website. Members of the public have been encouraged to make comments, suggestions or to ask questions about the proposed Dog Control Orders.

6. Draft Proposals

- 6.1 Following initial consultations, details of the areas affected by the proposed Dog Control Orders are attached as follows:

Appendix A

- (i) Failing to Remove Dog Faeces.
- (ii) Not Putting, and Keeping a Dog on a Lead when Directed to do so by an Authorised Officer.
- (iii) Taking More than the Specified Number of Dogs onto Land.

Appendix B

- (i) Not Keeping a Dog on a Lead.

Appendix C

- (i) Permitting a Dog to Enter Land from which Dogs are Excluded.

- 6.2 Areas where dogs shall be permitted to exercise freely are detailed at Appendix D; however, an Authorised Officer shall retain the power to direct a person to put, and keep a dog on a lead.

The list of areas at Appendix D is not exhaustive, but indicative in its nature.

- 6.3 The Council is proposing to set the level of fixed penalty payable for committing an offence under a Dog Control Order at £100.
- 6.4 The fixed penalty will be subject to a discount of £40 if paid within a period of 7 days from the date of issue.

7. Timetable for implementation

- 7.1 Prior to the introduction of Dog Control Orders, the Council will publish a notice describing the proposed Orders in a local newspaper circulating in the same area as the land to which the orders will apply and invite representations on the proposals.

- 7.2 At the end of the consultation period the authority will consider any representations that have been made. If it then decides to proceed with the orders, it must decide when the order will come into force.
- 7.3 Subject to further public consultation, it is envisaged that any Dog Control Orders will formally come into force on 1st April 2008.

8. Recommendations

- 8.1 Members of the public are asked to consider the proposals to introduce Dog Control Orders and to make comments or suggestions.

Contact Officer:

Craig Thelwell
Neighbourhood Action Manager
1 Church St
Hartlepool
TS24 7DS

Tel: 01429 523370
E-mail: craig.thelwell@hartlepool.gov.uk

APPENDIX A

Title of Dog Control Order(s):

- FAILING TO REMOVE DOG FAECES
- NOT PUTTING AND KEEPING A DOG ON A LEAD WHEN DIRECTED TO DO SO BY AN AUTHORISED OFFICER
- TAKING MORE THAN THE SPECIFIED NUMBER OF DOGS ONTO LAND (3 DOGS PER PERSON)

Land subject to Dog Control Order(s):

- ALL LAND WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF HARTLEPOOL, WHICH IS OPEN TO THE AIR AND TO WHICH THE PUBLIC HAS ACCESS, WITH OR WITHOUT PAYMENT (see map A1)

Hartlepool Borough Area



APPENDIX B

Title of Dog Control Order(s):

- NOT KEEPING A DOG ON A LEAD

Land subject to Dog Control Order(s):

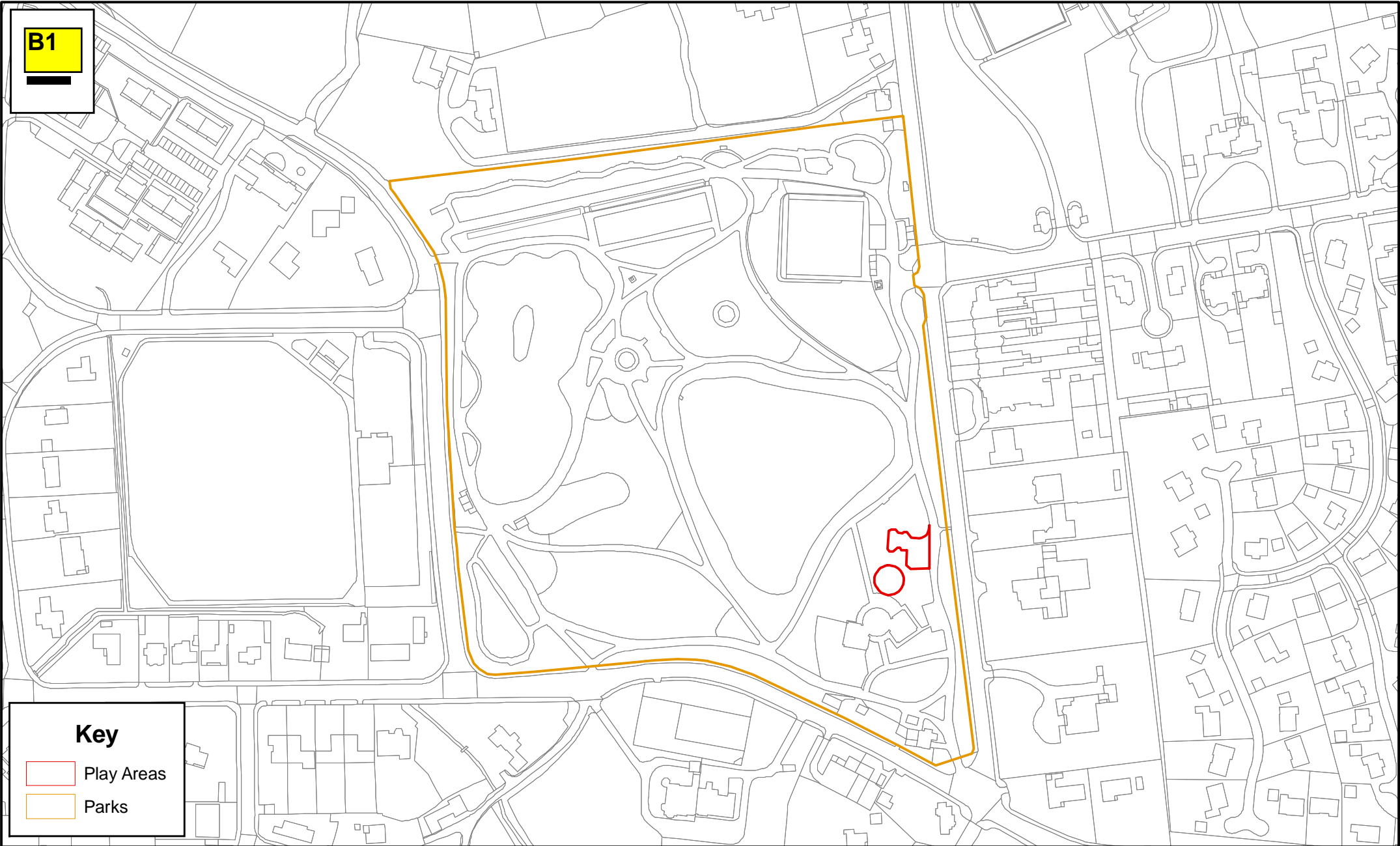
- ALL BACK STREETS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF HARTLEPOOL
- WARD JACKSON PARK (see map B1)
- BURN VALLEY GARDENS (see map B2)
- ROSSMERE PARK (see map B3)
- SEATON PARK (see map B4)
- WEST VIEW CEMETERY (see map B5)
- STRANTON CEMETERY (see map B6)
- LOWER PROMENADE, HEADLAND (see map B7)
- TOWN MOOR REC. (see map B8)
- SUMMERHILL ROPE AND BOULDER PARK, AND BMX TRACK (see map B9)

Ward Jackson Park

B1

Key

- Play Areas
- Parks



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Sub Title: Dog Control Order Areas
 Scale: 1:2,500
 Date: 9th November 2007
 Drawn By: Parks and Countryside BU

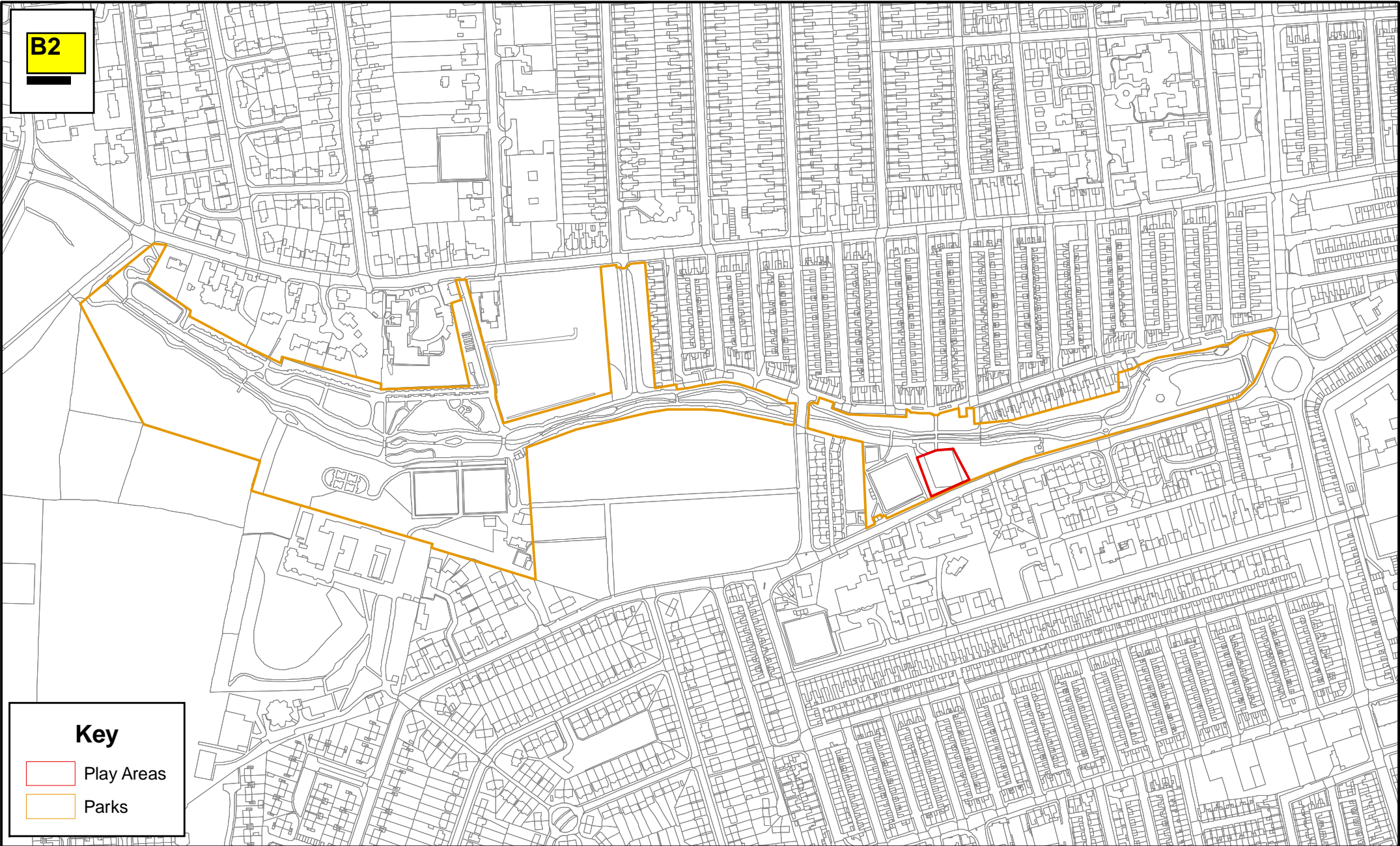
Hartlepool Borough Council
 Adult and Community Services Department
 Parks and Countryside
 Suite 8, Municipal Buildings
 Church Square
 Hartlepool, TS24 7EQ
 Tel: 01429 523524
 Fax: 01429 523450

Burn Valley Gardens

B2

Key

-  Play Areas
-  Parks



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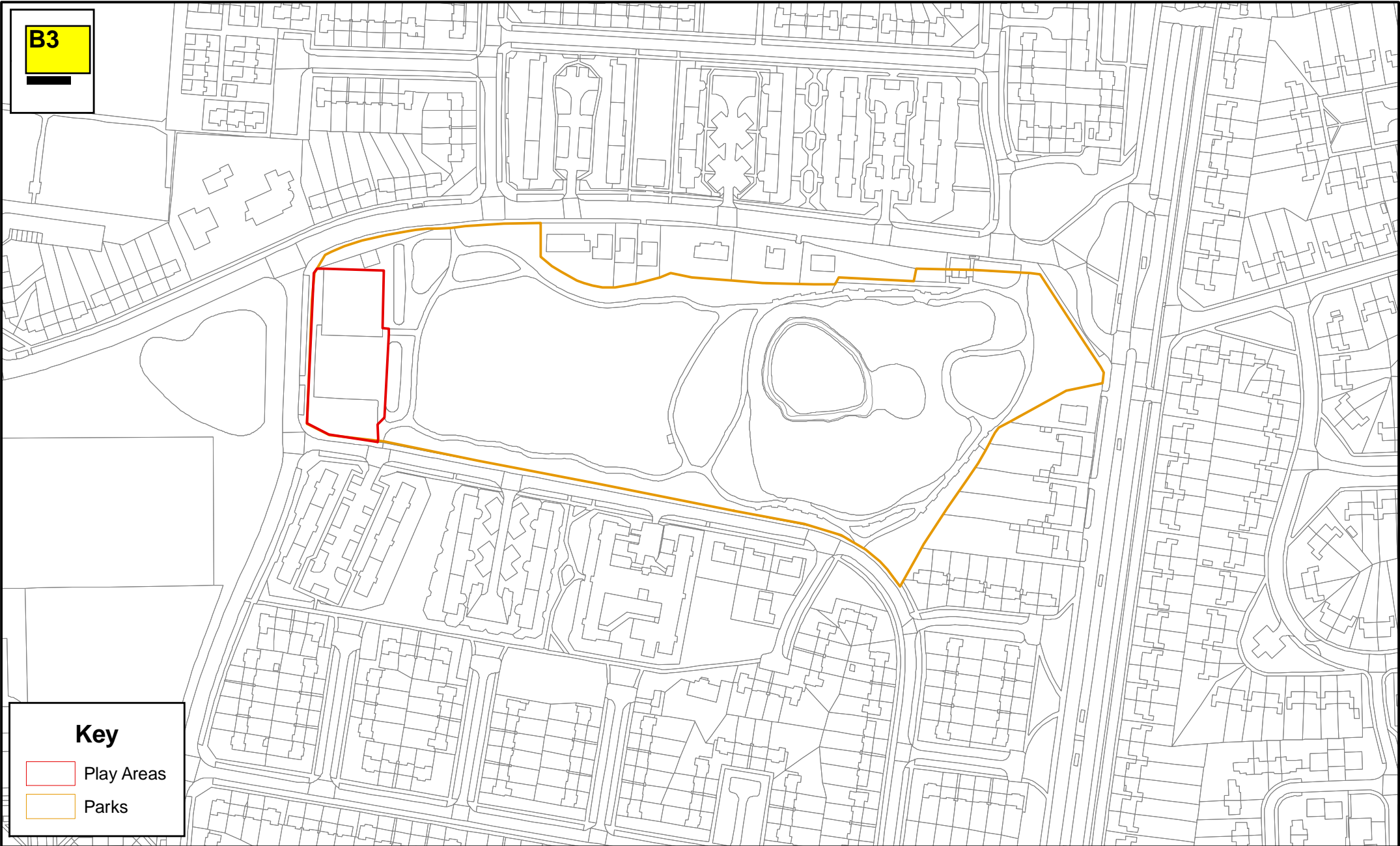
Hartlepool Borough Council
Adult and Community Services Department
Parks and Countryside
Suite 8, Municipal Buildings
Church Square
Hartlepool, TS24 7EQ
Tel: 01429 523524
Fax: 01429 523450

Rossmere Park

B3

Key

-  Play Areas
-  Parks



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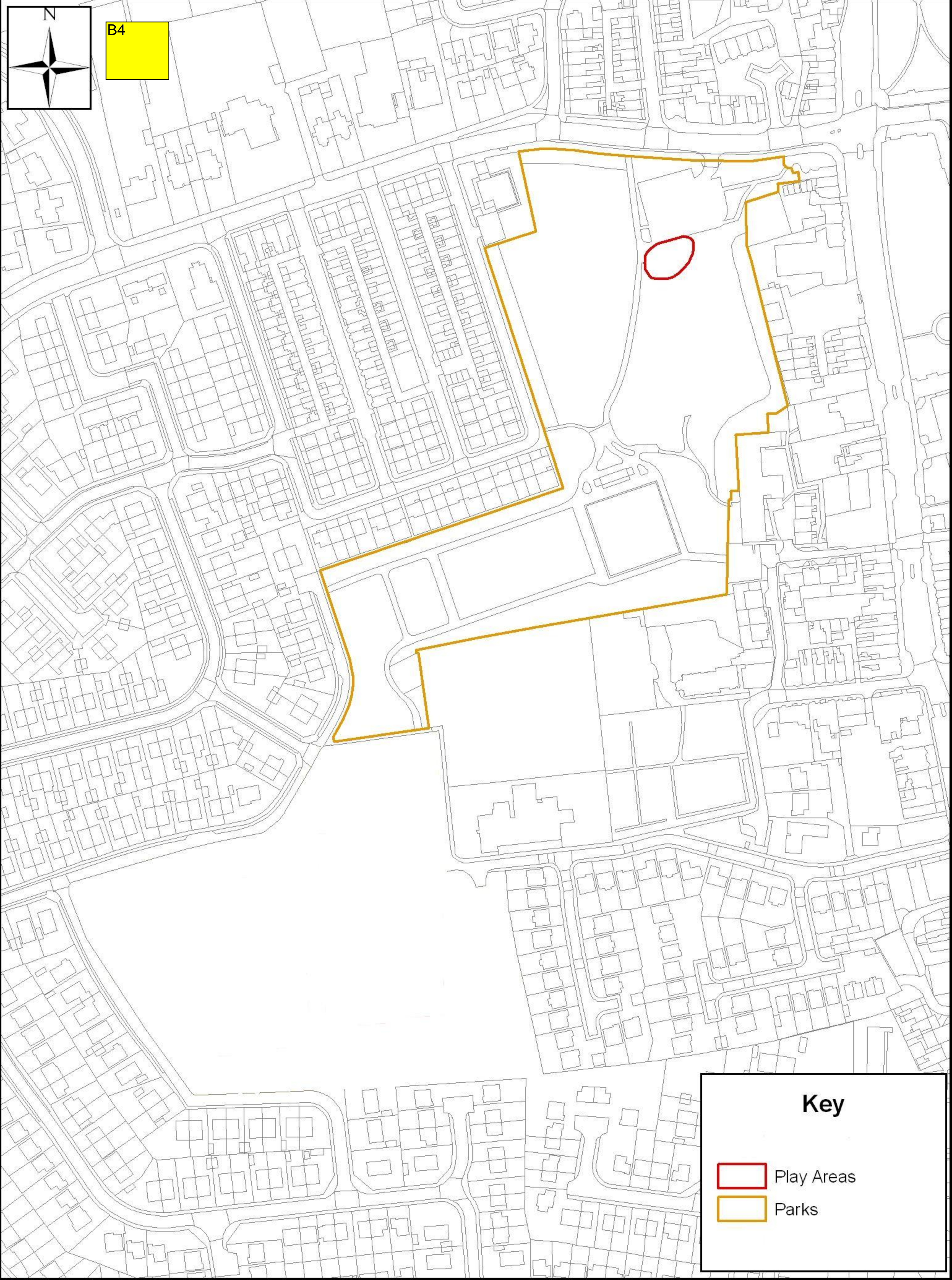
Sub Title: Dog Control Order Areas
Scale: 1:2,500
Date: 9th November 2007
Drawn By: Parks and Countryside BU

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Seaton Park



B4



Key

-  Play Areas
-  Parks

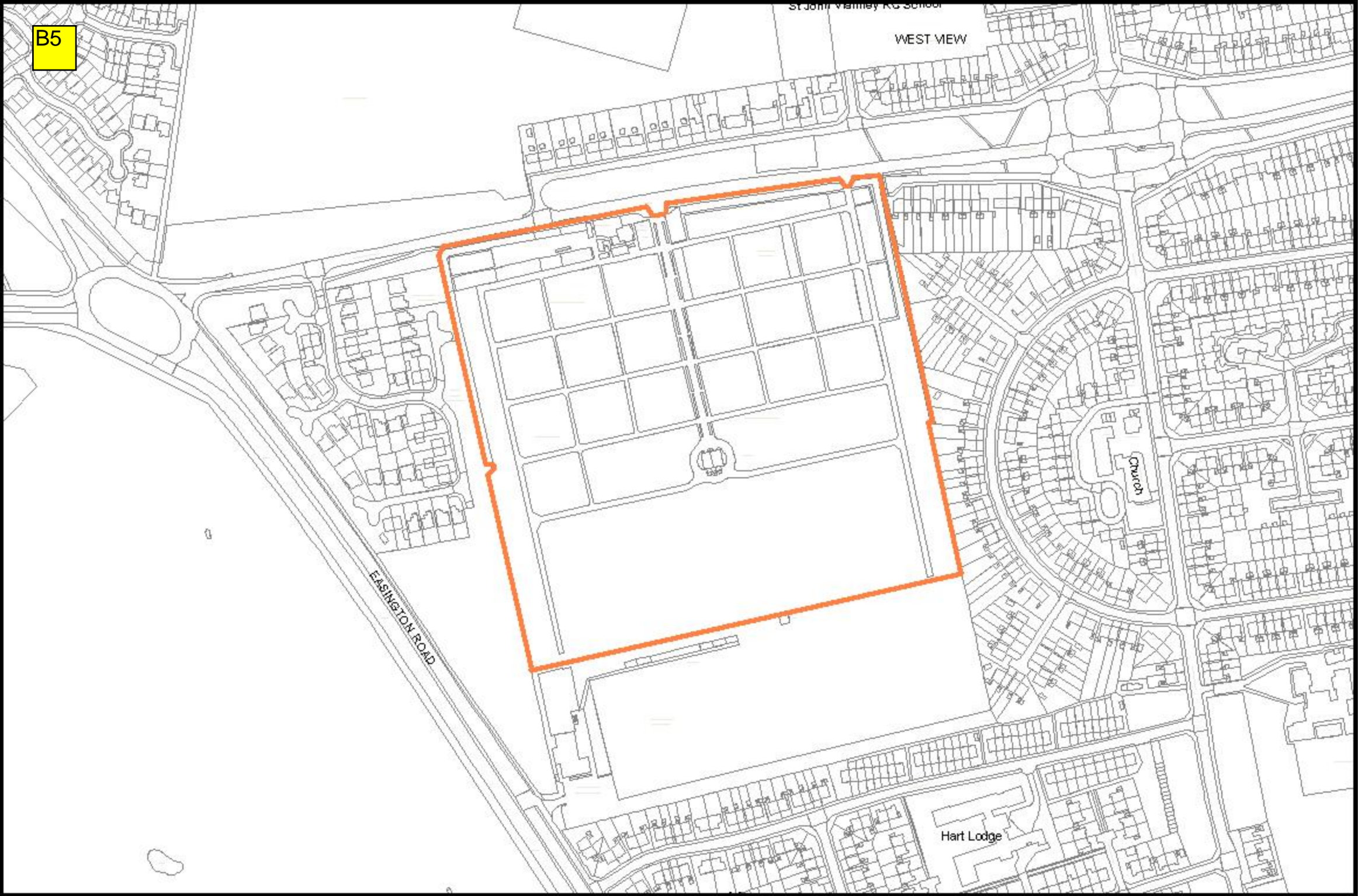


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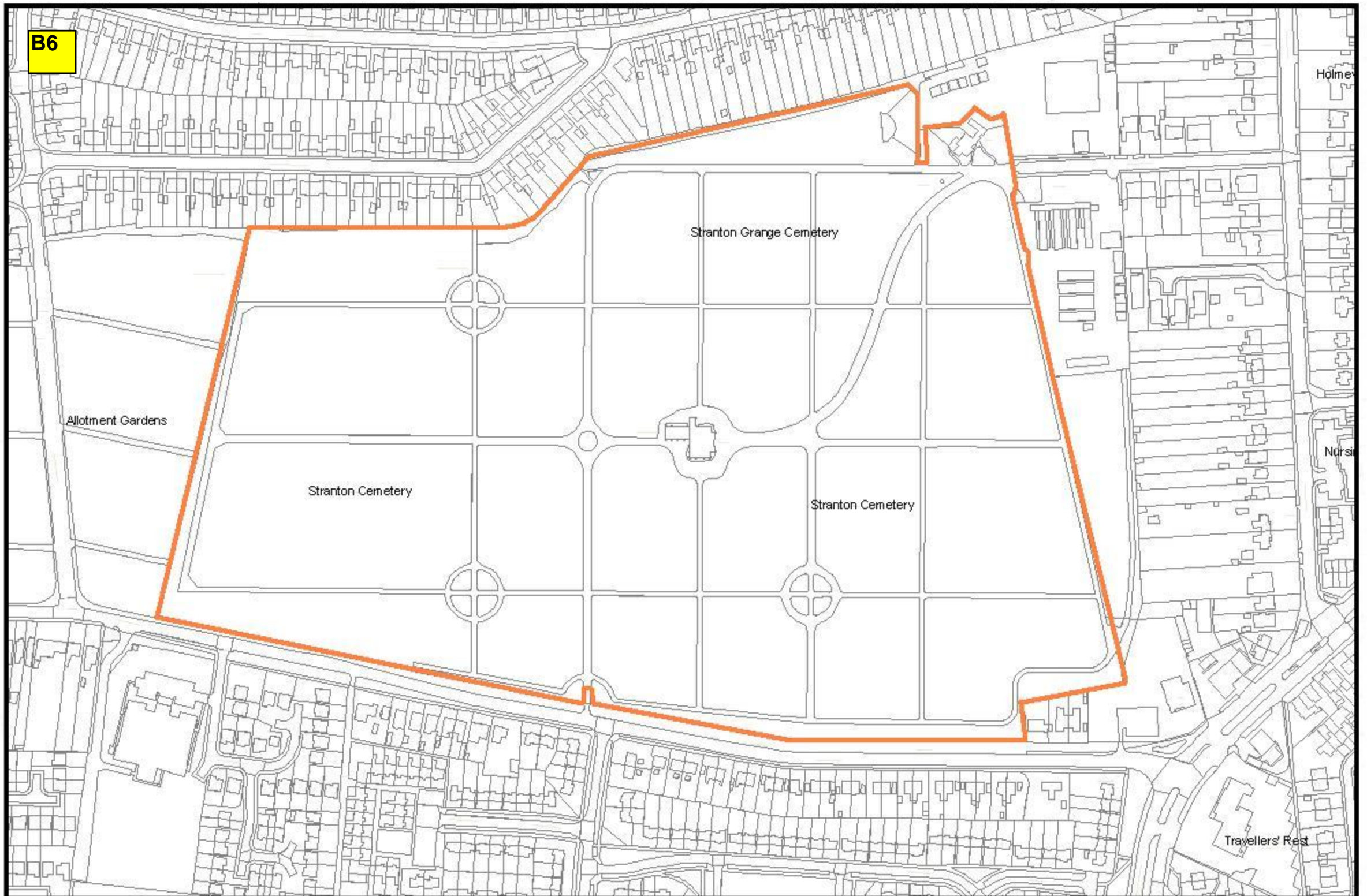
Hartlepool Borough Council
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West View Cemetery



Stranton Cemetery

B6



B7

Lower Promenade, Headland


THROSTON




Town Moor

B8

Key

 Play Areas

 Recreation Grounds



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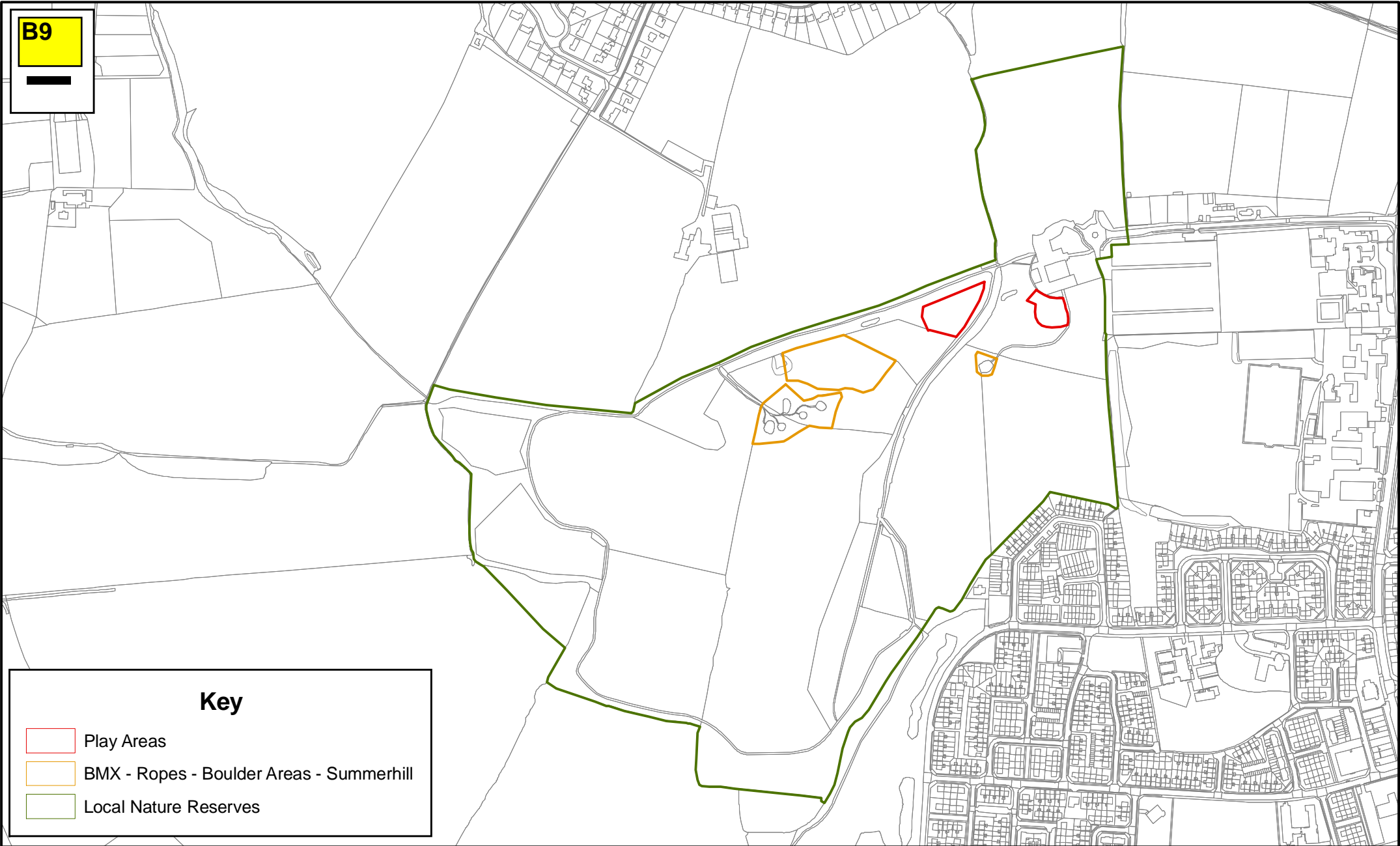
Summerhill LNR

B9



Key

-  Play Areas
-  BMX - Ropes - Boulder Areas - Summerhill
-  Local Nature Reserves



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Sub Title: Dog Control Order Areas
 Scale: 1:6,500
 Date: 9th November 2007
 Drawn By: Parks and Countryside BU

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Report of: Director of Regeneration and Planning Services

Subject: The Future Town Planning of Hartlepool - Core Strategy Issues and Options Discussion Paper Consultation

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Forum of the consultation arrangements for the Issues and Options discussion paper, comprising the first stage in the preparation of the Hartlepool Core Strategy of the new Local Development Framework.

2. BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The preparation of the Core Strategy Development Plan Document is a requirement of the new 'Local Development Framework' planning system established by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
- 2.2 The Hartlepool Core Strategy will set out the key elements of the planning framework for the area and will comprise a spatial vision and strategic objectives, a spatial strategy and core policies. The publication of an Issues and Options Discussion paper represents the first stage in the preparation of this Core Strategy. The paper sets out for comment some of the main issues facing Hartlepool and suggests various options for addressing these. There may be other issues and also alternative options should be considered. The purpose of the paper is to simulate debate- not to provide the answers.

3 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

- 3.1 Public consultation is currently being carried out on the Issues and Options Discussions paper and this will allow communities, organisations and businesses to have their say on what options should be used in the Hartlepool to deal with a range of spatial planning issues. The consultation will allow any further issues to be identified, and for options to be put forward for consideration on how to deal with such further issues.
- 3.2 The consultation began on October 31st and will last for three months until the end of January 2008. The Issues and Options discussion paper its accompanying sustainability appraisal and a questionnaire are available from the Civic Centre, Central Library and branch libraries throughout Hartlepool and from Bryan Hanson House.

- 3.3 The Central Library will also have display boards during the consultation period and the following drop in sessions will take place:

Thursday 6th December 2007, 10am-1pm
Monday 10th December 2007, 4pm-7pm
Saturday 15th December 2007, 10am-12noon
Tuesday 8th January 2008, 4pm-7pm
Monday 14th January 2008, 10am-1pm
Saturday 19th January 2008, 10am-12noon

Officers will be on hand to discuss the issues and options and answer any queries from interested parties.

- 3.4 There are various ways to submit comments. Either complete a questionnaire and return it to Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square Hartlepool TS24 7BT – the questionnaires are available at Bryan Hanson House, the Civic Centre and the libraries, or can be requested by phoning 01429 523532 or emailing planningpolicy@hartlepool.gov.uk. The questionnaire can be completed on our online consultation website at <http://planningpolicy.hartlepool.gov.uk>. Users will need to register when visiting the site, and will then be kept informed by email of consultations on later stages of the Core Strategy and other planning documents that are being produced. Comments can also be sent by letter to the Planning Policy Team at Bryan Hanson House or by email to planningpolicy@hartlepool.gov.uk.
- 3.5 Planning officers are available to discuss the issues throughout the consultation period and are happy to give a detailed presentation to any groups that would like to know more about the document and the new planning system. All opinions are extremely important to us and this discussion paper provides a valuable opportunity to help shape the future of the town.

4 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 That the report be noted and that interested parties be encouraged view the document or attend the drop in sessions and make formal representations on the Issues and Options report.



Summary of Hartlepool Core Strategy Issues and Options Discussion Paper 2007

“Future town planning of
Hartlepool”

The Issues and Options Discussion Paper

A discussion paper has been published to start the process for determining how Hartlepool will develop in the future.

It is important for you to get involved at this time to help shape what kind of place Hartlepool will become.

The paper sets out a number of key issues and suggests possible options for addressing these. There may be other issues and also alternative options which you feel should be considered. The purpose of this paper is to stimulate debate – not to provide the answers.

The New Planning System

The Hartlepool Local Plan setting out policies and general proposals for use and development of land in Hartlepool was adopted in April 2006. However, the plan-making system has been revised and a new plan-making system introduced which is now wider than just land use. At the local level it will ultimately replace the single local plan with a collection of documents known as the “Local Development Framework”.

The new planning system is much wider than the old system, with emphasis on “Spatial Planning” to bring together and integrate policies for the use and development of land with other policies and programmes which influence the nature of places and how they function. Documents within the Local Development Framework will, like the Local Plan, seek to ensure the most efficient use of land by balancing competing demands, but in accordance with a clear, distinctive and realistic vision of how the area will develop and change based on principles of sustainable development. This issues and options document introduces the first stages of developing that vision.

The Core Strategy

Hartlepool’s Core Strategy will set out broadly but clearly what kind of place the area will be in the future, what kind of changes will be needed to make this happen, and how this will be brought about. As a starting point it will set out the spatial vision for the Borough – as it is anticipated to be by 2025. It will be developed from the vision of Hartlepool’s Community Strategy. To achieve this vision, the Core Strategy will establish spatial objectives and a spatial strategy and strategic policies to deliver the vision and to guide the Borough’s development over the next decade and more.

The core strategy will provide the broad locational strategy for future development as well as focusing on four themes covering:

- Strengthening the Local Economy,
- Developing a Sustainable Community,
- Enhancing the Environment, and
- Improving Connectivity.

Locational strategy

The Core Strategy will need to identify in broad terms where future development will be located. Some of the options could be:

- Continue focus on major regeneration areas of the town,

- Expand the villages,
- Allow a western expansion of the town beyond the built-up area,
- Allow further development at Wynyard,
- Concentrate new retailing only in the shopping centre,
- Create more public open space in the built up area.

Strengthening the Local Economy

Key Issues and Options:

- How can we develop the tourism economy?
- Is the amount of employment land sufficient for current and future needs?
- Can some employment sites be identified for different uses?
- What investment is needed to make our employment land more attractive for development?

Developing a Sustainable Community

This theme is concerned with providing housing to meet local aspirations, maintaining leisure facilities and other local services. Issues and options include:

- Let the market decide the type of housing provided.
- Should we encourage the provision of family housing and bungalows?
- Do you think the Council should address the issues of overprovision of flats and apartments?
- Should developers be required to provide any affordable housing in new developments?
- Should open space and recreation and leisure facilities be spread more evenly across town?
- Are there any part of the town that would benefit from a local (shopping) centre?

Enhancing the Environment

This theme covers both the built and natural environment and the importance this has contributing to quality of life issues. Our options could include:

- Actively look to enhance our wildlife Sites.
- Assess whether any new areas should be designated as conservation areas.
- Provide design related policies for new development that gives a sense of place.

Improving Connectivity

This theme is concerned with transport links both within the Borough and with the wider region. Issues and options could include:

- Continue to develop the coastal walkway.
- Greater use of travel plans to achieve more sustainable transport movements.
- To develop park and ride facilities at key points to help reduce congestion.

The Consultation Process

The Issues and Options Discussion Paper and its accompanying Initial Sustainability Appraisal will be widely available for a period of three months until the end of January 2008. They will be available for inspection at Bryan Hanson House, the Civic Centre and the town's libraries. A number of copies will be available for borrowing at the Central Library. The documents are also available for downloading at the Council's website <http://www.hartlepool.gov.uk> or on the online consultation site at <http://planningpolicy.hartlepool.gov.uk>.

There will be drop in sessions at the Central Library in Hartlepool:

Thursday 6th December 2007, 10am-1pm
Monday 10th December 2007, 4pm-7pm
Saturday 15th December 2007, 10am-12noon
Tuesday 8th January 2008, 4pm-7pm
Monday 14th January 2008, 10am-1pm
Saturday 19th January 2008, 10am-12noon

Officers will be on hand to discuss the issues and options and answer any queries from interested parties. At other times there will be a small explanation display.

Officers from the Planning Policy team are available at Bryan Hanson House during normal office hours to expand on anything included in this paper and / or to discuss any other matters relating to the preparation of the Core Strategy. Officers can also visit your home if you are unable to get to Bryan Hanson House. If you are a member of a group of residents or businesses and would like an officer to attend one of your meetings, please contact the policy team at Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square Hartlepool TS24 7BT (tel 01429 523532 or email planningpolicy@hartlepool.gov.uk)

How to Comment

There are a number of ways by which you may make your views known:

- you can complete a questionnaire and return it to Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square Hartlepool TS24 7BT – the questionnaires are available at Bryan Hanson House, the Civic Centre and the libraries, or can be requested by phoning 01429 523532 or emailing planningpolicy@hartlepool.gov.uk).
- you can complete the questionnaire on our online consultation website at <http://planningpolicy.hartlepool.gov.uk>. You will need to register when you visit the site, and you will be kept informed by email of consultations on later stages of the Core Strategy and other planning documents that are being produced.
- you can send your comments by letter to the Planning Policy Team at Bryan Hanson House or by email to planningpolicy@hartlepool.gov.uk

All comments and questionnaires should be received by 4.30pm on Friday 1st February 2008.

Report of: Neighbourhood Co-ordinator

Subject: MINOR WORKS PROPOSALS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider improvement schemes for potential funding from the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum Minor Works Budget

2. BACKGROUND

A number of schemes are detailed below to address concerns raised by ward members and residents in the Central Forum area. These are as follows:

Furness Street Fencing Scheme

This scheme consists of fencing the rear of Furness Street and Middleton Road to provide a secure and safe place for the residents and their children.

Total cost £9000.00

Musgrave Walk

The Burbank Forum wish to carry-out some bulb planting in Musgrave Walk the scheme will cost £5400.00 with Housing Hartlepool contributing £2000.00 this will be matched by the Burbank NAP forum it is therefore requested that the Consultative forum contribute the remainder.

Total cost £1400.00

The Rift House Recreation Ground

The fence line to the perimeter of this area is in need of renewal some works have been carried out recently however further works are required. It is proposed that the forum supports this scheme to enable the next section to be renewed. This will then form part of a rolling program for which there will be no further requests to the forum for future funding.

Total cost £5000.00

Valley Drive Drainage scheme

This camera survey is required but unfortunately there is no mainstream budget for these works therefore it is requested by residents that the forum supports the funding of these investigatory works

Total cost £2000.00

Reedston Close Fencing

This fencing scheme is required to secure a piece of land that is prone to anti social behaviour the cost of the scheme is approximately £4000.00 if the forum can support this scheme the remaining funding has be secured from a community safety budget.

Total cost £750.00

Spencer Grove

There is a requirement to improve the parking provision in this congested grove and it has been identified through the Rift House Burn Valley NAP as one of their key priorities, the cost of this scheme is £6800.00

Total Cost £ 1800.00

Middleton Road Totts Garden

This area is a community garden area that requires a make over and some colour adding therefore I suggest that the central oval flower bed be planted with annual summer and spring bedding plants. In addition to this we can install a flower tower floral feature planted with summer and spring bedding plants it is felt by residents that this would beatify this corner.

Total Cost £2662.00

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 The Forum is requested to recommend to the Liveability Portfolio Holder that the schemes be approved from the Minor Works Budget

3.2 The cost of schemes proposed is **£22612.00**

- 3.3 Minor works monies remaining is **£14248.00** residents and members are reminded to contact members of the Neighbourhood Management team if there are any schemes you would like the forum to consider in the new financial year.