

# PLEASE NOTE VENUE

## CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA



**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2008**

**at 10.00 am**

**in the Council Chamber,  
Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

**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:**

Elizabeth Carroll, 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 31<sup>st</sup> January 2008
  - 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)**

Park  
Rift House  
Stranton  
Burn Valley  
Elwick  
Foggy Furze  
Grange

6. **ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION**

No items

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

- 7.1 Presentation - Dog Control Orders – *Environmental Action Manager*
- 7.2 Central Forum Minor Works Scheme Update – *Central Neighbourhood Manager*

8. **ITEMS FOR DECISION**

No items

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 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2008 commencing at 2pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre

The next meeting of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum will be held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2008 commencing at 10am at Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre.

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

**WARDS**

Burn Valley  
Elwick  
Foggy Furze  
Grange  
Park  
Rift House  
Stranton

# ***CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM***

## **31 January 2008**

# ***MINUTES OF THE MEETING***



The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

### **PRESENT :**

Chair:	Councillor Lillian Sutheran	- Rift House Ward
	Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher	- Rift House Ward
	Councillor Jonathan Brash	- Burn Valley Ward
	Councillor John Coward	- Park Ward
	Councillor Gerald Hall	- Burn Valley Ward
	Councillor Pauline Laffey	- Park Ward
	Councillor Frances London	- Foggy Furze Ward
	Councillor Dr George Morris	- Park Ward
	Councillor Carl Richardson	- Grange Ward
	Councillor Jane Shaw	- Stranton Ward
	Councillor Christopher Simmons	- Grange Ward
	Councillor Victor Tumilty	- Grange Ward

### **Resident Representatives:**

Elizabeth Carroll, Bob Farrow, Alan Greenwell, Ted Jackson, Jean Kennedy, Evelyn Leck, Brenda Loynes and Sarah Manes

### **Public:**

J Allen, K Bainbridge, G Barratclough, P Bradley, M Cairns, E M Cairns, Ian Campbell, E Cordiner, L Dickinson, W A Dickinson, Peter Gowland, W J Green, Clive Hall, M Harrison, G Harrison, A Hill, M Hull, E Jackson, J Jenkins, T Jenkins, S Johnson, G Johnson, D K Jones, T Jones, Ian Kerr, D Kirkwood, D Kirkwood, J Laffey, G Marshall, M Mason, J McDonald, D Morris, Norma Morrish, William Morrish, D Nicholson, G Raine, R Rigg, V Rigg, J Rudge, T S Sanger, J Scarratt, G Scarratt, R M Stonehouse, A Thorn, S Tumilty, Joyce Tunley

### **Council Officers:**

Denise Ogden, Head of Neighbourhood Management  
Jon Wright, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator  
Clare Clark, Neighbourhood Manager (Central)  
Irene Cross, Neighbourhood Development Officer (Central)  
Paul Briggs, Assistant Director - Resources & Support Services  
Lynda Igoe, Principal Housing Advice Officer  
Pat Usher, Sport and Recreation Manager

Council Officers (contd) Andrew Pearson, Parks and Countryside Manager  
 Stephanie Landles, Environmental Health Officer (Environmental Protection)  
 Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

Housing Hartlepool Rep: Lynn McPartlin

#### **46. APPOINTMENT OF RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Prior to the commencement of the meeting there was an election for a resident representative for the Park Ward. Elizabeth Carroll was duly appointed.

#### **47. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hargreaves, Payne and Worthy.

#### **48. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

#### **49. MINUTES**

The minutes of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum held on 29 November 2017 were agreed subject to the following amendments:-

Minute 41 – Dog Control Orders. Resident Julie Rudge had asked that the North Cemetery and new Thornton Street park could be included.

#### **50. MATTERS ARISING**

**Sandringham Road/Angus Street back lane** – The damage to the surface had been rectified.

**Park Road/York Road loose paving stones** - Resident Ray Waller advised that Councillors in the area should report any loose paving stones as these were still a cause for concern.

**Park Road/Osborne Road overflowing bins** – Resident Ray Waller thanked Officers for resolving the problem in this location.

**York Road takeaways** – Resident Rep Julie Rudge thanked officers for providing a further bin in the vicinity of Sicilianos, but highlighted that there will still be issues with refuse around the Indian Cottage restaurant. The Neighbourhood Manager (Central) agreed to take up this issue with the Environmental Action Manager. Resident Rep Sarah Manes highlighted that the Siciliano's bin had actually been placed there by the takeaway and not the Authority.

**Operation Cleansweep** - Councillor Jonathan Brash informed those present that he had taken part in this operation with Officers from the Authority and had been impressed by the work ongoing.

**Mountston Close cameras** – Councillor George Morris asked for an update on this and the Neighbourhood Manager (Central) said that there were currently 2 cameras installed there for monitoring any anti-social behaviour and residents will be informed of any outcome.

**Parking Permits in Park Avenue** - Councillor George Morris asked whether there had been any progress in this

matter. Neighbourhood Manager (Central) stated that a consultation was being arranged by the Parking Services Manager

**Clock in Ward Jackson Park** - Councillor George Morris thanked Officers, saying that the clock was now working.

**Bowling Green in Ward Jackson Park** - Councillor George Morris thanked Officers for the restoration of the bowling green and was informed that the willow tree will be replaced. He stated that the lavatories were being refurbished but pointed out that adequate lighting should be installed. The Chair asked that this be added to the list of request for the Minor Works programme.

<p><b>51. MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY CONSULTATIVE FORUM</b></p>
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These were received by the Forum.

<p><b>52. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND WARD ISSUES</b></p>
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**Grange**

**Christmas Refuse Collections** - Resident Rep Alan Greenwell stated that the brown recycling collection had gone on well into the evening which was causing concern for residents as the refuse had been available for collection since 8.30 am. The Head of Neighbourhood Management said that she was pleased that there had been so much recycling and it will be noted for future years. Councillor Jonathan Brash observed that it may have been more pertinent to have a green waste collection after Christmas.

**Park**

**Speeding on The Parade** - Resident Rep Ted Jackson commented that drivers in the area of the roundabout next to Ward Jackson Park seemed to be excessive.

**Flooding drains in Elwick Road/Park Avenue** - Resident Rep Ted Jackson highlighted this problem.

**Dunston Road** - Resident Rep Brenda Loynes asked whether there was a possibility of a bus lay-by being placed in the area of Blaise Garden Village as there was a backlog of buses at peak times. The Neighbourhood Manager (Central) agreed to look into the feasibility of this.

**Tesco Express car park** - Resident Rep Brenda Loynes asked whether any progress had been made in the refurbishment of this. The Head of Neighbourhood Management stated that this was currently in progress with the Planning and Legal Departments.

**Dog Fouling in Ward Jackson Park** - Resident Rep Elizabeth Carroll highlighted the problems of dog fouling on the paths in the Park. The Neighbourhood Manager (Central) stated that the dog warden team will be directed to the problem and reminded the forum that the Dog Control Orders will be mandatory shortly.

**Road Markings outside High Tunstall School** - Resident Representative Elizabeth Carroll stated that there were no yellow zig zag road warning markings outside the school. The Head of Neighbourhood Management said that she would look into this.

**Path on west side of Ward Jackson Park** - Councillor George Morris said that this was in need of repair and was informed that £19,000 had already been agreed for this.

**Street lighting** – Resident Rep Ted Jackson stated that lighting in the Ward generally was substandard in many areas. The Head of Neighbourhood Management said that a survey would be carried out to see what needed to be done.

**Railings around planting** - Councillor George Morris stated that because of complaints by residents of youths playing football in the area, planting had been carried out which was enclosed by railings. The planting had since grown and there was no necessity for the railings now. The Neighbourhood Manager (Central) agreed to see if it was feasible to remove these railings.

### **Rift House**

**Camera on Catcote Road** - Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher said that residents have been made aware and are returning forms to push for this.

**Layout in Macauley Road** - Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher said that he was disappointed that the changes had not occurred yet. The Neighbourhood Manager (Central) said that this had been noted for the next financial year.

### **Stranton**

**Crossing on Raby Road** - Councillor Jane Shaw asked when this work would be completed. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinator said that this would be completed this financial year.

**South Road/York Road gates** - Councillor Jane Shaw asked about these being left open and the Neighbourhood Co-ordinator said that a programme was being put in place to ensure that this was done.

**Stranton and Burbank residents** – Resident Rep Jean Kennedy asked that these residents should not be left out when any information/consultation was sent out.

**Stranton** – Resident Andrew Thorne stated that Stranton seemed to be moving away from being a residential area and this should not happen. He said that residents should receive information as to what plans are being made for the area.

**Potholes in Lowthian Road** – Resident Rep Julie Rudge pointed out that there were a number of potholes and Neighbourhood Co-ordinator agreed to look at these.

**Dent Street** - Resident Rep Julie Rudge said that there was damage to the end pieces of the newly installed roads and asked that this could be looked at. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinator agreed to check this.

**White re-cycling bags** – Resident Clive Hall said that if the re-cycling bags were not in the correct place i.e. on the kerbside, then rubbish would not be collected and this spilled out onto the street throughout the day, which was not collected by the Council. The Head of Neighbourhood Management said that there had been teething problems, apologised and said that it would be investigated. She also advised that if residents rang the Contact Centre if they had missed that day's collection, then the wagon would return for the recycling bags.

**Parking on Huckelhoven Way** – Resident Norma Morrish pointed out a problem with people parking on the grass and said that motorists should park in a more responsible manner.

### **Burn Valley**

**Emergency contact numbers –**

Resident Ray Waller said that there had recently been an emergency problem with a flooding gulley and he had been concerned because he had been unable to get an answer from the Contact Centre. He suggested that there should be an emergency number to contact. The Head of Neighbourhood Management agreed to consider this.

**Refuse Collection –** Resident Ray Waller highlighted an incident where refuse collectors had not replaced an insecure lid on a wheelie bin. The Head of Neighbourhood Management took note of this.

**Burn Valley****Re-vamping of Burn Valley beck –**

Resident Representative Evelyn Leck expressed concern that the proposed replacement of concrete sides with boulders would raise the rat population and had concerns for children who played in that area. Councillor Jonathan Brash stated that a consultation was on-going to try and increase the water flow in the beck and to enhance the beauty of it. The Parks and Countryside Manager agreed to take up the rat population issue with the Wildlife Officer.

**Drains in Burn Valley –** Resident Representative Evelyn Leck pointed out that the drains in the York Road end of the park are often full.

**Potholes on Spring Garden Road –**

Resident Representative Evelyn Leck stated that there were a number of potholes on this road.

**Oxford Street –** Resident Representative Evelyn Leck said that this street was in need of resurfacing

**Drains on Longhill Road Industrial Estate –**

Resident Representative Evelyn Leck said that residents had expressed concern that the drains were blocked and emitting a foul smell.

**Bins on York Road/Stockton Road –**

Resident Representative Evelyn Leck said that there were no bins in this area and therefore waste from takeaway shops in the area was a problem. The Head of Neighbourhood Management said that she was aware of this problem but bins had been stolen from this area.

**Crossing on Blakelock Road –**

Resident Representative Evelyn Leck said that there was a blind resident who had problems crossing the road in the allotment area and asked that something be done to help her problem. She suggested that perhaps money from the Minor Works Scheme could be put towards this.

**Excess noise from the Melbourne Hotel –**

Resident Representative Evelyn Leck said that residents in Stockton Road had complained that there was a problem with noise when there were discos at the hotel.

**Non removal of polybags –**

Councillor Gerald Hall commented that Polybags were not taken when left beside the palisades in Eamont Gardens.

**Overflowing Bin Rydal Street/Colwyn Road –**

Councillor Gerald Hall asked that it be noted that the bin sited in that location was overflowing and needed emptying.

**Potholes in Westbourne Road –**

Councillor Gerald Hall pointed out that there were a number of potholes on Westbourne Road towards the Shrewsbury Street end.

**Operation Cleansweep** – Councillor Gerald Hall informed the forum that there was to be an Operation Cleansweep in the Elwick Road area in the week commencing 11 February 2008.

**Signage at the old Eldon Grove Sports Centre** – Councillor Jonathan Brash asked why the signs for the old Eldon Grove Centre were still in place when the site is ready for demolishing. The Sports and Recreation Manager agreed to organise the removal of the signs.

**Contact Centre** – Councillor Jonathan Brash cited a call to the Contact Centre regarding a vehicle which had broken down, unable to be moved and therefore the caller had requested that no parking ticket be issued. He said that staff had been unsure what to do in that situation and this did not present a good service to the public.

**Roads in the Burn Valley area** – Councillor Jonathan Brash asked that the roads in this area be repaired as they were not in a very good state.

### **Foggy Furze**

**Potholes in Kendal Road, Studley Road, Sydenham Road and Oxford Road** – Resident Rep Bob Farrow and Councillor Frances London highlighted problems with potholes in these roads, the Oxford Road trouble spot being next to the post office.

### **Civic Centre**

**Disabled Access** – Resident Norma Morrish highlighted the issues with the steps outside the building. The Head of Neighbourhood Management agreed to look into this.

**College of Further Education** – Resident Joyce Turnley asked whether

there could be disability access for the sight impaired or those in wheelchairs.

## **53. MINOR WORKS PROGRAMME**

The Forum was asked to agree to recommend the following minor works schemes to the Portfolio Holder for approval:-

Alston Street – The removal of old flower beds which will provide additional parking and improved aesthetics - £1,500.

Young Street – Resurfacing of the cobbled entrance to the rear alleyway of Young Street/Dent Street together with repairs to the general footpath - £2,000.

Dryden Street/Swift Grove – replacement of damaged grassed verge with tarmac to improve aesthetics and provide additional parking - £1,850.

Elwick Village – Repairing of wooden bridge across beck next to playing field as well as work to trees on the village green - £1,290.

Ruskin Grove – Removal of the grassed verge on the right hand side of the grove and replacement with tarmac hardstanding - £4,000.

Studley Road – removal of small grassed area and replacement with tarmac to improve environmental quality of the area through reduced levels of litter collecting - £1,500.

Vicarage Court Footpath – construction of footpath across the grassed area to enable elderly residents to walk safely - £350.

The forum agreed the 7 schemes at a total cost of £12,990 for referral to the Portfolio Holder for confirmation.



Resident Ray Waller thanked the Forum for the new car park which had been sited in Thornton Street but commented that it was too narrow for use by disabled car users.

Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher referred to a minor works scheme in Spenser Grove which had been recommended by the Forum on 29 November 2007 and said that because of building work there, it did not seem relevant to go ahead with that scheme. He asked if the money could be transferred to Ruskin Grove as similar work was necessary there. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinator agreed it would be logical to move the money to a scheme in Ruskin Grove.

It was confirmed that any unused Minor Works Budget was carried to the next financial year.

<p><b>54. BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE (BSF) – PRIMARY CAPITAL PROGRAMME STAGE 1 CONSULTATION</b></p>
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The Assistant Director - Resources & Support Services gave a presentation to the Forum outlined the national programme aimed at rebuilding, remodelling or refurbishing about half of all primary schools over a 14 year period beginning in 2009. In order to receive funding, authorities must prepare and agree a Primary Strategy for Change (PSfC) showing how any capital investment will support national aims. Initial allocations in Hartlepool, subject to the approval of the PSfC, were £3 million in 2009/10 and £5.4 million in 2010/11 with further annual allocations in the remaining 12 years of the programme.

Decisions would have to be made so that the investment helped the schools and children which need it most. Cabinet had

approved that the first stage of consultation would take place between 8 February 2008 and 21 March 2008. A summary booklet was to be sent to each household in Hartlepool and a consultation document to each household with children. Resident representatives requested that they receive a copy of the consultation documents. There were to be meetings planned at venues easily accessible to the public.

Councillor Jonathan Brash agreed that with the investment of such a substantial amount of money, any decisions made would need to be the right ones. Resident Ray Waller said that village schools should not be closed and the Assistant Director - Resources & Support Services said that there was currently collaboration between Hart and Elwick Schools. He said that co-location between church and community schools was also a consideration. It was clarified that this was a Capital and not a Privately Funded Initiative programme.

Councillor John Lauderdale pointed out that some areas do not have a local primary school and the Assistant Director – Resources and Support Services said that the consultation should elicit where there is most need. There are currently sites reserved on the Middle Warren and Victoria Harbour sites.

Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher then pointed out that some secondary school pupils have been allocated places on the other side of town. The Assistant Director – Resources and Support Services said that there was a right to appeal and should the decision stand then pupils would receive free transport. He added that if families had problems with literacy, support was offered in order to enable them to put forward a case of appeal.

## **55. CHOICE BASED LETTINGS**

The Principal Housing Advice Officer gave a presentation on the Choice Based Lettings system due to be introduced to let vacant properties which should offer more choice to applicants selecting a new home. Applicants are banded to reflect their housing need, vacant properties are advertised and applicants are invited to express an interest in these. A sub regional scheme would bring together a larger pool of vacant properties offering more choice for applicants although a local connection rule would apply.

Resident Ray Waller pointed out that there would still not be much choice for residents requiring special accommodation as there was no new housing being provided throughout the town. Councillor Gerald Hall commented that the scheme was weighted towards Registered Social Landlords and asked whether private sector landlords would be included. The Principal Housing Advice Officer stated that private sector properties can be included in the scheme and all accredited landlords are being invited to take part in the scheme. Training was being given for advocates of vulnerable groups in order that they would not be omitted or excluded.

## **56. INDOOR LEISURE FACILITY STRATEGY**

The Sport and Recreation Manager presented the outcomes of the recently adopted Indoor Leisure Facility Strategy which incorporates the future facility needs in Hartlepool. The Strategy was developed to ensure that the Council could plan effectively for sufficient open space, sport and recreation facilities and indoor sports facilities in line with current Government recommendations, Sport England planning resources and Planning Policy Guidance 17 (PPG17) and took account of the opportunities presented by

the BSF initiative. A facility audit had been undertaken in order to gain an understanding of the location, quality and long term future of the current provisions. Central to this was swimming facility provision, where too much water space was being provided according to planning models and most of the pools were in poor condition. There were a number of sports halls available but some were in poor condition and there was limited day time access with a number of facilities fully booked at peak times. Consultation had taken place which included a post survey of residents as to their usage of, and satisfaction with Sports and Leisure facilities.

The Development Option which seemed most feasible was Option Three which would utilise existing or a new Borough facility (Mill House or H<sub>2</sub>O) with a new pool at Brierton. Consideration would however, be needed to provide for the North West area of the town with a possible refurbishment of the pool at High Tunstall school, utilising existing dry facilities (Headland and Belle Vue), supported by some youth centre and school sites and new/refurbished school halls. This option generally matches the demand model and would provide a generally good spread across the town.

Resident Ray Waller expressed concern that if people did not have a car then some venues were difficult to get to. The Sport and Recreation Manager confirmed that for the strategy to be sustainable, then good transport links must be put into place.

Resident Clive Hall pointed out that he had difficulty in obtaining a sports hall booking at peak times and that the only place he could book 5aside was at Mill House Leisure Centre whose booking procedures presented problems for him. The Sport and Recreation Manager commented that this was identified as a

general problem in the strategy where co-ordination of the management and a common approach to bookings was needed.

Councillor Chris Simmons pointed out that schools have devolved management of sites which could affect public accessibility.

#### **57. TRANSPORTATION LINKS IN LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD AND TO HOSPITAL SERVICES**

The Chair gave notice of a Focus Group to be held on Monday, 11 February 2008 at 6.15 pm in the Board Room of the University Hospital of Hartlepool.

#### **58. REGENERATION OF SEATON CAREW**

The Chair notified the Forum of a Focus Group session to be held on Wednesday, 6 February 2008 at the Seaton Carew Golf Club at 6.00 pm to discuss the views of residents and local businesses on the area's future regeneration needs and opportunities.

#### **59. NORTH EAST AMBULANCE SERVICE**

Mark Cotton of the North East Ambulance Service attended to give details of the consultation process with regards to proposals to improve the resilience of A & E ambulances and provision of patient transport services in the North East. A public meeting had been arranged at 10.30 am on 20 February 2008 in the Historic Quay.

#### **60. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Central Consultative Forum will be held on Thursday, 27 March 2008 at 10.00 am in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre.

LILLIAN SUTHERAN  
CHAIR

## **FEEDBACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE MEETING OF THE CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM HELD ON 31ST JANUARY 2008**

### **PARK WARD**

#### **1. Speeding on the Parade - the speed of drivers in the area of the roundabout next to Ward Jackson Park seemed to be excessive.**

This has been passed to HBCs Traffic Section to carry out a speed survey. The result of the survey will be brought back a future Forum.

#### **2. Flooding drains - in Elwick Road/Park Avenue**

The Central Neighbourhood Co-ordinator is liaising with HBCs Technical Services to determine the exact location of the problem and any further action that needs to be undertaken.

#### **3. Dunston Road – request for a lay-by in the area of Blaise Garden Village to address backlog of buses at peak times.**

This is being investigated and costs assessed. The scheme has been added to the list of potential Minor Works Schemes for 2008/09 and the possibility of matched funding from Local Transport Plan monies will be pursued.

#### **4. Tesco Express Car Park – has any progress been made on refurbishment**

The remaining verges, and unsightly areas, in and around this precinct, form part of the second phase of the redevelopment works. These works will be carried out in the new financial year.

#### **5. Dog Fouling in Ward Jackson Park**

This issue has been passed to HBCs Environmental Enforcement Section. Additional patrols are being undertaken, and fixed penalty notices will be issued to any owners who allow their dogs to foul without removing the offending mess.

#### **6. High Tunstall School – lack of yellow zig-zag road markings outside of the school**

Yellow zig-zag markings have been implemented at the main entrance to High Tunstall School.

#### **7. Path on west side of Ward Jackson Park**

The Consultative Forum has previously given an in principal agreement to allocate funding for the construction of a new footpath at this location. As the original plan cannot go ahead an alternative scheme to address pedestrian safety (zebra crossing and footpath) has been draw n up. A proposed scheme will be brought to the Forum in June.

#### **8. Street Lighting - lighting in the Ward generally is substandard.**

A lighting scheme is due to be implemented in Warkworth Drive in the next few weeks. Other areas in this location have been identified as needy and funds are beingsought to address this.

#### **9. Springston Close –request for railings around planting to be rem oved**

A letter has been sent to residents in the immediate area informing them of plans to remove the railings, and inviting comment. It is anticipated that the railings will be removed early in the new financial year.

### **RIFT HOUSE WARD**

#### **1. Layout in Macauley Road – disappointment that there was no proposal for this scheme at the Forum.**

This particular scheme will be priced and brought to a future Forum for consideration.

### **STRANTON WARD**

#### **1. Raby Road Crossing – w henw ill work be completed**

These works w ill begin on 10<sup>th</sup> March and should be completed by the end of the financial year.

#### **2. South Road/York Road gates**

A letter has been sent out reminding businesses and residents of the need to close the gates. This has been follow ed by a joint visit from the Crime Prevention Officer and Car Parking Enforcement Manager to the businesses on York Road. The businesses have been warned that it is illegal to park in parts of this rear alleyw ay, and that enforcement action will be taken where necessary. Enforcement officers w ill be patrolling this rear alley everyday the week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> March. At the same time businesses have been reminded of the security provided by alley gates and the adverse impact on residents feelings of safety when gates are left open.

### **3. South Road – when will it be resurfaced?**

The highways programme for 2008/09 is currently being drawn up by the Central Neighbourhood Co-ordinator who is ensuring that this particular request is being considered. The programme will be finalised late March.

### **4. Stranton/Burbank Residents – concern that residents are not receiving information on future plans for the area**

The Central Neighbourhood Manager will ensure that any available information on future plans for Burbank are fed into the Burbank Forum meetings.

### **5. Potholes in Lowthian Road**

An inspection has taken place and an order raised for the works to be undertaken.

### **6. Dent Street - damage to the end pieces of the newly installed roads.**

This has been inspected, all defects noted, and an order raised to complete the works.

### **7. Parking on Hucklehoven Way - problem with people parking on the grass.**

HBCs Environmental Enforcement team and Car Parking Officers carried out a special operation some months ago to address this issue. Among other things this involved posting letters on vehicles advising of the criminal damage that they were causing to the grassed area. This appears to have had a positive effect. In the long term the plan is to adopt land and create parking bays on Charles Street. This would carry the benefit of protecting the grassed area because it would enable enforcement measures to be used in relation to vehicles parked outside bays.

### **8. Contact Centre – suggested emergency contact numbers should be available**

If concerns are raised during normal working hours there should be no reason why a response is not forthcoming from the Contact Centre. If issues arise outside of normal working hours Richard Court would deal with the enquiry and pass to the relevant officer. The Head of Neighbourhood Management is investigating the use of emergency contact numbers.

## **BURN VALLEY WARD**

### **1. Re-vamping of Burn Valley Beck – concern that proposed replacement of concrete sides with boulders would raise the rat population.**

This issue will be raised by HBCs Parks and Countryside Manager at the next meeting with the Environment Agency which will take place on 31/3/08. The Forum will receive an update on this issue at a future meeting.

### **2. Drains in Burn Valley – York Road end often full.**

This does get cleansed on a regular basis. However, because of recent adverse weather conditions problems recur fairly quickly. Every effort is being made to keep on top of the situation.

### **3. Excess noise from the Melbourne Hotel – discos being held**

This is being investigated by HBCs Environmental Protection Officer who has contacted the resident representative of the area who raised this as an issue. Whilst the area is quiet at present, as requested, the situation will continue to be monitored.

### **Eamont Gardens - non removal of poly bags.**

The need to collect poly bags from palisades has been strongly reiterated to the refuse team.

### **5. Overflowing bin Rydal Street/Colwyn Road**

Due to difficulties experienced by cleansing teams accessing this bin to empty it, the bin has now been relocated to a more appropriate site.

### **6. Potholes in Westbourne Road - A number of potholes on Westbourne Road towards the Shrewsbury Street end.**

Westbourne Road has been partially resurfaced to address poor road conditions. The remaining section is being considered for resurfacing in the new financial year.

### **7. Signage at the old Eldon Grove Sports Centre – why have signs not been removed when the site is ready for demolition.**

HBCs Traffic Manager has raised the order for these signs to be removed.

### **8. Contact Centre – seemed staff unsure on how to deal with a particular call**

All call centre staff receive ongoing training to ensure that they are aware of all services within the authority, and when to refer individuals to a particular department. The example raised at the Forum in relation to car parking issues will be picked up as part of the training for call centre staff.

### **9. Burn Valley area – roads in poor state, can they be repaired?**

A number of roads in the Burn Valley area are being considered for resurfacing in the next financial year. A decision on this will be made at the end of March.

## **FOGGY FURZE WARD**

### **1) Potholes on Spring Garden Road**

The potholes on Spring Garden road have now been repaired.

### **2) Oxford Street – road needs resurfacing**

This is an area that is being considered for resurfacing in the next financial year.

### **3) Drains on Longhill Industrial Estate – blocked and emitting foul smell**

These road gullies are cleansed at least once a year. When specific requests are received and exact problem locations identified gullies will receive additional cleansing.

### **4) Bins on York Road/Stockton Road – insufficient in light of takeaways**

This has been investigated. Between the Burn Valley roundabout and Oxford Road there are 6 litter bins, four on the side of the shops and 2 opposite. The Central Area Cleansing Supervisor has indicated that number of bins in the area is adequate. However we will continue to monitor this area to determine whether or not additional bins are needed.

### **5) Blakelock Road – request for crossing**

HBCs Traffic Team Leader has investigated this request in the past and informs that the number of people using this road would justify a crossing. It is also recognised that usage is likely to increase if the Oxford Road Post Office was to close. However there is a problem in determining a suitable location for a crossing in this area from a road safety point of view given that the junctions of Brinkburn Road, Shrewsbury Street, and Gloucester Street are so close together. The only possible locations would appear to be away from the pedestrian desire line, and outside of homes which would be



unpopular from a parking point of view . Notwithstanding these difficulties, the Traffic Team leader has agreed to look at this again and report back to a future Forum on the results.

**6) Potholes in Kendal Road, Studley Road, Sydenham Road and Oxford Road**

These have been inspected, all defects noted, and an order raised to undertake the works

**Report of:** Central Neighbourhood Manager

**Subject:** Central Forum Minor Works Scheme Update

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## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To update the Central Consultative Forum on the current financial position on the Central Area Minor Works Budget.

## **2.0 APPROVED SCHEMES**

- 2.1 The following schemes have been approved by the Central Forum this financial year:

Alston Street	£ 1,500.00
St Young Street	£ 2,000.00
Dryden Road/Swift Grove	£ 1,850.00
Elwick Village	£ 1,290.00
Ruskin Grove	£ 6,300.00
Studley Road	£ 1,500.00
Furnace Street Fencing Scheme	£ 9,000.00
Rift House Recreation Ground	£ 5,000.00
Valley Drive Drainage Scheme	£ 2,000.00
Reedston Close Fencing	£ 750.00
Middleton Road Totts Garden	£ 2,662.00
Removal of Grassed Verge Macaulay Road (151-161)	£ 2,600.00
Controlled Crossing Raby Road	£15,000.00
Pedestrian Tactile Crossings	£ 3,500.00
Removal of Grassed Verge Darwin Grove	£ 1,600.00
Removal of Grassed Verge Sinclair Road	£ 2,600.00
Removal of Grassed Galsworthy Road	£ 4,650.00
Removal of Grassed Verge Macauley Road (29-39)	£ 2,200.00
Thackeray Road Parking Improvements	£ 1,700.00
Pride in Hartlepool	£ 5,000.00
Vicarage Court Footpath	£ 350.00
Marina Promenade Benches	£ 1,050.00
Mill House Skatepark	£ 1,600.00
Cresswell Road	£ 6,000.00
Burn Valley Bowls Club Footpath	£ 2,640.00
<b>APPROVED TOTAL</b>	<b>£84,342.00</b>
<b>TOTAL REMAINING</b>	<b>£ 2,658.00</b>

- 2.2 With the exception of Furness Street and Reedston Close fencing schemes, and Totts Garden on Middleton Road, which will be completed early in the new financial year, all of the above schemes are either complete, or will be completed before the financial year end.
- 2.3 The remaining budget of £2,658 will be added to next years Minor Works Budget. This has been confirmed as £87,000, making a total of £89,658 to spend in 2008/09.
- 2.4 A number of schemes to address issues raised at previous Forums, and by residents or their representatives, are currently being investigated and proposals will be brought back to the Forum at the next meeting in June.

### **3.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 Members of the Forum are asked to note the current financial position on the Minor Works Budget for the financial year 2007/08, and communicate any further ideas for future Minor Works Schemes to the Central Neighbourhood Manager.