

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA



Wednesday 18th June 2008

at 10 am

at West View Community Centre,
Miers Avenue, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM:

Councillors Allison, Atkinson, Barker, R Cook, Fenwick, Fleet, Fleming, Griffin, Jackson, J Marshall, McKenna, Plant, Rogan, Wallace and Wright.

Resident Representatives:

John Cambridge, John Lynch, Mary Power, Linda Shields, Joan Steel, Robert Steel and Maureen Waller

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 26th March 2008
 - 4.2 To receive the minutes of the North Area Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum held on 9th April 2007
 - 4.3 Matters arising
5. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

6. **ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION**

No items

7. **RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE QUESTION TIME**

8. **WARD MEMBERS QUESTION TIME**

9. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION**

9.1 Affordable Housing Development Plan Document – Issues and Options
Discussion Paper Consultation – *Director of Regeneration and Planning Services*

10. **ITEMS FOR DECISION**

10.1 Minor Works Proposals – *North Neighbourhood Manager*

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

A meeting of the North Area Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum is to be held on Wednesday 23rd July, commencing at 6pm at West View Community Centre, Miers Avenue.

The next meeting of the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum is to be held on Wednesday 13th August 2008 commencing at 10am at Throston Grange Community Centre, Glamorgan Grove.

12. **ITEMS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR**

NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM

WARDS

Brus
Dyke House
Hart
St Hilda
Throston

26 March 2008

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the West View Community Centre, Hartlepool

PRESENT:

Chair:	Councillor Mary Fleet	- Dyke House Ward
Vice Chair:	Linda Shields (Resident Representative)	
	Councillor Steve Allison	- St Hilda Ward
	Councillor Reuben Atkinson	Dyke House Ward
	Councillor Stephen Allison	- St Hilda Ward
	Councillor Caroline Barker	- Hart Ward
	Councillor Rob Cook	Hart Ward
	Councillor Sandra Fenwick	- Dyke House Ward
	Councillor Sheila Griffin	- Brus Ward
	Councillor Trevor Rogan	- Brus Ward
	Councillor Edna Wright	- Hart Ward

Resident Representatives: John Cambridge, Don Davison, Joan Steel, Robert Steel, Maureen Waller

Public: Pat Andrews, P Conlon, P Graham, D Fewster, D Green, John Lynch, Jean Lynn, G McConnell, T McConnell, J Maxwell, D G Thompson, Cath Torley, Liz Torley, C Twidale, Alan Vale, Dennis Waller, Denis Wilson,

Officers:

- Dave Stubbs, Director of Neighbourhood Services
- Denise Ogden, Head of Neighbourhood Management
- Karen Oliver, Neighbourhood Manager (North)
- Colin Kay, Dog Control Warden
- Gary Jones, Neighbourhood Services Officer
- Ann Callaghan, Neighbourhood Development Officer (North)
- Peter Frost, Traffic Team Leader
- Phil Hepburn, Parking Services Manager
- Mick Dunn, Enforcement Co-Ordinator
- Gill Slimings, Integration Support Manager
- Kay Porritt, Integration Support Manager
- Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

Housing Hartlepool Representative: Helen Iveson

Fire Brigade Representative: Stuart Simpson

62. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Fleming, Jackson and Plant and Resident Representatives, Irene Nelson and Mary Power.

63. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

None.

64. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2008 were confirmed as an accurate account of the meeting with the following points to be noted :-

Item 54 – Dog Fouling. It was noted that the school children initiative in Spion Kop had involved them in erecting posters only.

Item 54 – Illegal Parking. Hazelwood Rise should be added to the list of problem parking areas.

Item 55 - Sandwell Gate. This is already one way but few people pay attention to the system.

65. MATTERS ARISING

Anhydrite Mines – A resident asked whether the anhydrite mines would be returned to a recreational area. The Director of Neighbourhood Services stated that discussions were currently ongoing with a local rugby club. Concerns were expressed about rumours that it was to be used as a dumping ground but the Director of Neighbourhood Services said that there may be some confusion with the anhydrite mine in the Stockton/Billingham area. The Authority

were awaiting the final assessment of outstanding questions from the Consultants and as soon as the report was received, local residents would be informed.

Steetley/CJC Site – The Neighbourhood Manager (North) reported that a reply regarding planning permission had been received from the Assistant Director (Planning & Economic Development) who had indicated that the likeliest option would be for a residential scheme although because of the Special Protection area on the coast there should be liaison with Natural England to hopefully find a way of relocating the Tern population to the Teesmouth area. A resident representative disputed that the Terns actually nested on the site although the Director of Neighbourhood Services said that he thought Natural England believed they did so. If there was no resolution with Natural England then any planning application which is not approved by the Council will have to have the approval of Government Office North East.

A resident pointed out that the sheeting on the roof of the buildings is dangerous in high winds and a Police Community Support Officer had been injured. Although the road had been closed during strong winds, the public were still using the field and there was nothing the Authority could do to enforce the removal of the sheeting as the Health and Safety Executive had declined to intervene.

Warren Road/Skerne Road – A site visit to the eyesore had taken place and although it is actually private land, Council officers are working to find a solution. The owners are to get contractors to remove the shrubbery and there is a possibility of the Authority obtaining the land and maintaining it. A

solution should be in place by the summer. A councillor stated that there were rodents because of the amount of rubbish in the area and the Director of Neighbourhood Services agreed we could possibly use covert cameras to catch offenders dumping rubbish.

Headland Paddling Pool – The Director of Neighbourhood Services referred to the allegations in the previous meeting regarding the North area being sidelined in favour of other areas when monies for works were being allocated. He then went on to outline the monies specifically allocated to the North area of the town, some from the budget and policy framework agreed by Councillors, some being in partnership with other bodies and some from the single regeneration budget. There were other services provided by the Council which were not on a geographical basis but which were used by all town residents. A councillor requested that a copy of the report outlining the spending was circulated. A resident commented that the Councillors did not appear to know what money was spent on and was informed that the Single Regeneration Budget is determined by Central Government but Councillors approve the Authority's budget and therefore the information is available to all members. A resident asked whether it would be possible to have a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) in the north area of the town and it was pointed out that the King George fields served this purpose. The resident also asked whether it would be possible to have further health facilities in the North area and was informed that this would be up to the Primary Care Trust.

Illegal Parking – The Parking Services Manager gave details of enforcements from the previous year which had resulted from 350 visits to school areas and 6 joint operations with the Police. There had been week long campaigns at schools

and other schools would be visited in the next quarter. Consultations with householders regarding resident only restrictions were now ending and a report would be submitted to Cabinet in May. There had been requests to increase the restricted zones around the Hospital area. The Traffic Management Act comes into being on 31 March 2008. A resident queried whether the department was self funding and it was clarified that enforcement fines combined with Pay and Display charges provide income for the department. The Parking Services Manager said that the accounts from the department were made public and agreed to ensure that these were circulated to the Forum. A councillor asked how parking restrictions came into being and was informed that if there was a demand then it would be looked into, although it was still governed by national legislation. A councillor pointed out that parking problems would be exacerbated by passing development Plans which generated more parking.

66. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Post Box, Central Estate – A resident commented that a post box has been removed from this area. The Director of Neighbourhood Services said that this would be looked into.

Facilities for Young People on Central Estate – A resident commented on the lack of facilities for young people. The Neighbourhood Manager said that the Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) should address this issue including the Sure Start Integrated Support Manager.

Brus Tunnel – A resident complained that people had been digging in this area after a report that a valuable bottle had been found. The site owner now had addressed this issue.

Motorcycles and Quad Bikes on Beach

– A resident complained that motorcycles and quad bikes had been riding on the beach. The Neighbourhood Manager said that she would report the incident to the Police as this was an enforcement issue and advised members of the Forum to report any similar instances.

Traffic Calming in King Oswy Drive

– A resident stated that motorists were driving up the centre of the road in order to avoid the speed bumps. The Traffic Team Leader said that this would be monitored.

Resurfacing in Verner Road

– A resident complained that Verner Road had not been resurfaced since 1962 and was informed that this was scheduled for next year.

School Crossing Patrols

– A resident queried why more was not done to educate children about road safety. He was informed that there is a Road Safety Officer who visits schools to ensure that children are aware of the dangers.

Right of Way on Hartlepool Golf Course

– A resident asked that signage be in place to ensure that walkers kept to the footpath across the course. The Dog Control Warden said that when the Dog Control Orders came into operation, then appropriate signage would be erected.

Expected Traffic Congestion from Tall Ships Event

– A resident asked what would be done to alleviate expected congestion from people visiting the town. The Traffic Team Leader said that a number of alternatives were currently being considered including the possibility of a Park and Ride.

Road Safety in Holdforth Road

– A resident asked for support in the provision of a pedestrian crossing at the western end of the road. The Neighbourhood Manager confirmed that Officers were

working with the resident regarding this and agreed to put a report in for Minor Works in the future, subject to highway recommendations. The West View NAP were also looking at this.

Flower beds at Galleys Field Court

– A resident pointed out that these needed upgrading and the Neighbourhood Manager said that this was currently being looked at.

Car Parking Problems in Thorpe Street, Durham Street, Northgate Bus Stop, Allison Place

– These were highlighted by a resident and the Traffic Team Leader stated that he was aware of these problems.

Spillage of contents of Recycling Bags

– A resident pointed out that the contents of the recycling bags are often spilled out across the streets. The Head of Neighbourhood Services is currently looking into this problem. Another resident highlighted how residents are experiencing problems as the recycling contractors are leaving the empty white bags in the streets rather than replacing them on the fence from where they have been collected. Again the Head of Neighbourhood Services is looking into this issue.

Mountbatten Bus Stop Traffic Island on the Central Estate

– A resident stated that when buses are at the bus stop, long wheel based vehicles are dangerously close to the traffic island. The Traffic Team Leader agreed to check this although a Councillor said that the bus stop has been moved.

Litter Enforcement – A resident highlighted a recent incident where a young person had been fined for accidentally dropping litter and Councillors and Resident Representatives present indicated that

they felt that a common sense approach should prevail.

Litter around the Borough Hall after Events – A resident stated that there was a problem after events at the Hall and asked whether litter enforcement teams worked in the evenings and weekends. The Neighbourhood Manager confirmed that they did and said that it would be a good idea if there was liaison between the booking office at the Borough Hall and litter enforcement team.

Anti-Social Behaviour in Flats on Warren Road – A resident highlighted incidents of Anti-Social behaviour by some residents and said that consideration should be given to prevent further flats being built. The neighbourhood Manager will refer the issue to the Hartlepool Borough Council Anti-Social Behaviour Unit.

Jowett Road – A resident stated that a nearby three storey building interfered with television reception. The Neighbourhood Manager agreed to make the planning department aware of the problem when consideration was being given to future developments and would refer the matter to Planning.

Radioactive Waste from Power Station – A resident asked whether arrangements had been made for the storage of waste when the Power Station was decommissioned. The Forum was in a position to answer this question.

Bus Fares – A resident queried whether the Council funded bus services and was informed that they were privately operated but did receive subsidies from the Local Authority.

67. RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE QUESTION TIME

Merlin Way/Falcon Road – A resident representative asked for an update on proposed traffic calming measures. The Traffic Team Leader said that there had been objections regarding the closure of Falcon Road to through traffic and residents would be kept updated as to what was likely to happen. There were currently costings being obtained regarding road markings on Merlin Way.

68. WARD MEMBERS QUESTION TIME

Resurfacing of Challoner Road – A ward member pointed out the poor condition of this road and was informed that this would be upgraded/repared when necessary.

Parking on Headland – A ward member asked that consideration be given to parking during the Tall Ships event as the Headland Carnival would be underway at the same time. The neighbourhood Manager informed the forum that parking issues of this nature were being considered in the overall plans.

Litter enforcement – A ward member asked how enforcement would be made if a large group of youths were responsible for dropping litter. Enforcement would be carried out on any individual seen dropping litter via a fixed penalty notice.

Ivy Grove and Lime Crescent – A ward member stated that these two areas should be developed despite planning permission being refused. The Forum noted the comments.

Underage Drinking – A ward member stated that this problem led to anti-social behaviour and enforcement should be carried out to prevent shops selling alcohol to under-age youths. The

member was reassured that much work was ongoing to tackle this issue.

Oaksway Trading Estate – A ward member pointed out that this area was attracting a large amount of litter and needed tidying up. Discussion had previously taken place during the meeting regarding this issue.

Playing Area on Coast Road and area of Tall Ships Public House – A ward member stated that there is a problem with litter from contractors and although it has been cleaned up once, the problem has returned. The Environmental Action Manager is liaising with the Developers although there is no update as yet. A ward member suggested that perhaps the disused cameras from Mountston Close be used to elicit who was responsible. The feasibility of using mobile CCTV would be considered.

Traffic Calming in Northgate – A ward member asked whether there were any plans for traffic calming in the area of 28 – 32 Northgate and was informed that a study is currently being undertaken.

King Oswy Play Area – A ward member pointed out that there was no signage regarding drinking bye laws in that area. Another ward member stated that this had not been included in the bye law area but had been brought up at a licensing meeting and confirmed that it had been included.

69. DOG CONTROL ORDERS

The Dog Control Warden outlined the Dog Control Order Regulations which were scheduled to be in place by 1 June 2008 at the earliest and provided for the five offences as follows:-

- ❖ Failure to remove dog faeces
- ❖ Not keeping a dog on a lead

- ❖ Not putting, or keeping a dog on a lead with directed to do so by an authorised officer
- ❖ Permitting a dog to enter land from which dogs are excluded
- ❖ Taking more than the specified number of dogs (4) onto land

The areas to which these were pertinent were outlined to the Forum and details of fines for non compliance were outlined. Appropriate signage would be put in place. The Dog Control Warden said that details of the Act and areas affected had been published in the Heartbeat magazine which was circulated to all households. A member queried how having dogs on leads in back alleys could be enforced and the Dog Control Warden stated that the use of covert cameras was an option currently being utilised.

70. MINOR WORKS 2007/08 END OF YEAR REPORT

The Neighbourhood Manager presented the end of year report.

The Minor Works Budget for the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum was allocated for 2007/2008: -

- ❖ £52,000 from the Council for Forum schemes
- ❖ £20,000 from Highways (£10,000 from Local Transport Plan and £10,000 from Highways Maintenance) to address minor highway works identified by the Forum
- ❖ An additional £15,000 was allocated to address the conversion of grass verges to hard standing identified by the Forum.

A number of schemes presented to the Forum were recommended for approval and have been completed or are in progress.

The £10,000 allocated to the Multi-Use Games facilities for the North has provided much needed improvements to the Headland Town Moor play area, and has again contributed towards an overall package of match funding for that location. A variety of schemes had been recommended by Members and Resident Representatives in the last financial year, addressing issues raised by Forum attendees. These have included the continuation of grass verge replacement and improvement to car parking provision as well as the dropped crossing programme. There had been a total Minor Works spend of £85,169 in the North Forum area in 207/08 leaving a balance of £1,831 to be carried over into the next financial year.

71. MINOR WORKS UPDATE – KEY ROUTES

The Neighbourhood Manager gave details of improvement works to Key Routes in the North area including:-

- ❖ Hart Roundabout
- ❖ Hart Lane
- ❖ Coast Road
- ❖ West View Road
- ❖ Cleveland Road
- ❖ Lancaster Road

She also gave details of NAP contributions to improvements including:-

- ❖ Raby Road
- ❖ Powlett Road
- ❖ Easington Road
- ❖ West View Road
- ❖ Railway approaches
- ❖ Brus roundabout
- ❖ Cleveland Road
- ❖ Northgate

A ward member highlighted areas of mud in Lightfoot Crescent and the Neighbourhood Manager said that she would look at it. A ward member asked

that bushes be thinned out in the King Oswy Drive/Crimdon Way area. A resident expressed concern about bricks on the grass on the Brus roundabout and the Neighbourhood Manager stated that this would be inspected and any necessary action taken.

72. THE WORK OF RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES

The Vice Chairman gave overview on the work of resident representatives who were first elected in October 2002. A resident representatives sit as Vice Chair on the Neighbourhood Forum and are co-opted onto the Council's Scrutiny Forums. The resident representatives:-

- ❖ complement the work of elected members
- ❖ influence minor works spending
- ❖ give feedback to residents associations
- ❖ encourage participation in the community
- ❖ assist the Local Authority with views on service provision
- ❖ provide a valuable voice for the community

73. CHILDREN'S CENTRES AND EXTENDED SERVICES

The two Integration Support Managers gave a presentation on Children's Centres and Extended Services through Schools in the North area which are vital to the delivery of the five 'Every Child Matters' outcomes:-

- ❖ Be Healthy
- ❖ Stay Safe
- ❖ Enjoy and Achieve
- ❖ Make a Positive Contribution
- ❖ Achieve Economic Well-Being

Local Primary Schools and nurseries provide the locations for the Children's Centres which offer a childminder

network, integrated care and education, parenting and family support, a children's information service, training and employment services and health services. There are Partner Agencies involved in the delivery of these services to various groups and forums in the community. The team outlined various services which it was hoped to deliver in the future.

It was clarified after questions from ward members that the quoted 10% of 5 – 15 year olds suffering from mental health problems was a national statistic. The Surestart programme is now available to all 0 – 19 year olds and is not postcode based as in the past.

74. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that there was no police representation at the Forum.

MARY FLEET

Chair

North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum

Wednesday, 26th March 2008

Issues Raised

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
<p><u>Public Question Time</u></p> <p>Central Estate - post box The post box has been removed.</p> <p>Parking Fines/Parking Charges</p> <p>Motorcycles on Beach and Sand Dunes A letter had been received from a resident stating that on 14th February 2008 at 2.30pm they had seen a number of motor and quad bikes on the beach.</p> <p>Borough Hall There is a problem with litter in the area after events</p> <p>Jowett Road It was requested that the planning department should be made aware that there could be problems with TV reception in three storey developments.</p>	<p>Update to be provided to Central Estate management Organisation asap</p> <p>Account details on income received as a result of parking fines and parking charges to be circulated to the forum</p> <p>Since the last meeting the Cleveland off Road Cycles have visited the area on a number of occasions. Police continue to monitor the situation</p> <p>Liaison with booking office and litter enforcement team – ongoing</p> <p>Planning and developers have now resolved the situation</p>	<p>K Oliver</p> <p>P Hepburn</p> <p>K Oliver</p> <p>C Thelwell</p> <p>K Oliver</p>

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
<p><u>Ward Members Questions</u></p> <p>Challoner Road Cllr Atkinson requested that the road be resurfaced</p> <p>Oaksway Trading Estate Cllr Atkinson requested the litter in the area be removed</p> <p>Coast Road playing area and Tall Ships Public House Cllr Barker requested that developers were contacted in relation to contractors' rubbish spilling onto this area</p> <p>Northgate – traffic calming Cllr Atkinson asked if there were plans to put traffic calming measures in the area of 28 – 32 Northgate</p> <p>Dog Control Orders Resident Groups to be informed of relevant areas</p> <p>Brus Roundabout A resident highlighted loose bricks on the roundabout</p> <p>Traffic Calming Scheme King Oswy Drive – Some issues have been raised relating to the new measures. Traffic team leader to look at issues/concerns raised</p> <p>Galley's Field Court Flower beds currently in a poor state</p>	<p>Remedial work has been completed</p> <p>Work completed.</p> <p>Contractors have been informed. Situation to be monitored on a regular basis</p> <p>No immediate plans to carry out a traffic calming scheme in this location.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Development Officer to inform residents group.</p> <p>Work to repair/replace ordered</p> <p>Update to be provided at next forum meeting</p> <p>Work to improve the beds to be carried out this year. The beds are very large and a longer term solution will be costly</p>	<p>G Jones</p> <p>K Oliver</p> <p>C Thelwell</p> <p>P Frost</p> <p>A Callaghan</p> <p>G Jones</p> <p>P Frost</p> <p>K Oliver</p>

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
<p>Headland Parking problems in a number of locations</p> <p>Warren Road Anti Social Behaviour in flats</p> <p>Merlin Way/Falcon Road proposed closure and request for changes to road markings</p>	<p>Traffic survey – update to be provided at meeting</p> <p>Referred to Police and Anti Social Behaviour. Residents informed</p> <p>Update to be provided at Forum Meeting. Issue is being reported to cabinet on 23 June for a final decision. Merlin Way road marking scheme to be implemented shortly</p>	<p>P Frost</p> <p>P Frost</p> <p>P Frost</p>

WARDS

Brus
Dyke House
Hart
St Hilda
Throston

***NORTH POLICE &
COMMUNITY SAFETY
CONSULTATIVE FORUM***

9th April 2008

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm. at Throston Grange Community Centre, Hartlepool

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Mary Fleet – Dyke House Ward

Vice Chair: Resident Representative Linda Shields

Councillor Caroline Barker	- Hart Ward
Councillor Rob Cook	- Hart Ward
Councillor Tim Fleming	- St Hilda Ward
Councillor Sheila Griffin	- Brus Ward
Councillor John Marshall	- St Hilda Ward
Councillor Edna Wright	- Hart Ward

Resident Representatives:

John Cambridge, Mary Power, Joan Steel, Robert Steel and Maureen Waller

Residents: John Lynch and Liz Torley

Officers: Denise Ogden, Head of Neighbourhood Management
Nicholas Stone, Senior Anti Social Behaviour Officer
Katie Sheehan, Anti Social Behaviour Officer
Garry Jones, Neighbourhood Services Officer
Ann Callaghan, Neighbourhood Development Officer (North)
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

Police Representatives: Chief Inspector Phil Veitch and Sergeant Stuart Porritt

Fire Brigade Representatives: Stuart Simpson

Housing Hartlepool Representatives: Natalie Dove and Janis Ledger

21. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Steve Allison and Reuben Atkinson and Resident Representative Irene Nelson.

22. MINUTES

The minutes for the meeting held on 9th January 2008 were agreed.

23. MATTERS ARISING

“CCTV” – A Councillor asked if this issue had been forwarded to Scrutiny. The Vice-Chair advised that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee had recently undertaken site visits in connection with this issue and a full enquiry would commence in the new municipal year. No details were available as to which individual Forum would be covering it.

Following queries from a resident it was reported that the Spion Kop camera was still out of order and would require major work to repair. The camera outside the Central Estate Post Office would be examined for possible night blindness.

“Illegal parking” – A Councillor referred to the practice of people parking in their gardens and illegally crossing the pavement using dropped crossings to do so. He requested that this be included within the general illegal parking discussion. A Resident Representative supported these comments, asking that illegal parking be prosecuted robustly. The Neighbourhood Services Officer confirmed that this was an illegal practice and as such warning letters were sent out where appropriate. Resident Representative Maureen Waller supported this approach and requested consistency between the offences, querying which organisation was the enforcer in these matters.

“Fire alarms for the hard of hearing” – A Councillor thanked fire brigade officers for repairing her fire alarm promptly. She further advised those present that the previously discussed criteria stating that everyone living in a property had to be registered deaf to qualify for an appropriate alarm was incorrect. Each case was decided on its individual merits.

24. UPDATE FROM THE POLICE

Chief Inspector Phil Veitch gave a brief presentation on crime figures for the North area between April 2007 and March 2008. These showed that the total amount of recorded crime had decreased by 3.8% over the last 12 months while the total detection rate had increased by 5.4%. In terms of individual types of crime all had decreased apart from vehicle crime (up 3.5%), other theft (up 15%) and drugs (up 17.6%). However the Chief Inspector qualified this by explaining that these increases were fairly small and in the case of drugs this increase was as a result of increased detection and seizures.

Details were also given of the performance by the neighbourhood police teams over the last 12 months, primary actions being taken by police and other items of interest. Crime prevention advice was also given to help protect property and cars.

The following issues were then raised:

“Police access to beaches – do the police still have a bike which enables vehicular access to the beach” – The Chief Inspector indicated that the police off-road policy was that police vehicles were not driven onto the beach unless it was an urgent situation. Officers would monitor the action of individuals on the beach and pursue them when they left.

“Car parking – in new areas can this be built into gardens” – The Head of Neighbourhood Management reported that all new development applications requiring planning permission were surveyed by the Technical Services Division and parking provision was recommended.

“Car parking at bus stops – causes a problem for people with disabilities, especially with the increase in low-loader buses” – These comments to be forwarded to the appropriate person.

“Dog fouling – what about police horses fouling the roads – who cleared this up” – This was felt to be a particular problem in Church Street on weekend nights when the police horses were deployed. The Chief Inspector advised that each complaint was dealt with on its individual merits.

There were no anti-social behaviour statistics. Were these included in other categories? The Chief Inspector indicated that anti-social behaviour complaints were not put through the crime process as they were so difficult to measure. It was always a matter of perception. However he did recognise this as a problem and the police were mindful of the effect and impact of it.

Could police officers help with the eradication of anti-social behaviour and theft at the Central Estate? A multi-agency approach was needed. The Chief Inspector to forward this to the appropriate person.

During the ‘items of interest’ King Oswy and Clavering were mentioned in relation to anti-social behaviour. However there were also problems on the Brus Ward. The Chief Inspector acknowledged that there were problems in many areas of Hartlepool. King Oswy and Clavering had been used purely as

examples. A Resident Representative commented that the situation in King Oswy and Clavering had improved greatly over the last 3 years, mainly due to excellent work by Joe Royal. He asked that his replacement be in place as soon as possible.

Police were advising that home owners avoid stone or gravel drives. However recent advice from the Countryside Alliance supported gravel as helping to prevent flooding. Government legislation banning stone slabs would soon be put in place for this reason. The Chief Inspector advised that the advice to avoid stone or gravel drives was so these items could not be used as missiles. Sergeant Porritt commented that he understood porous bricks would have to be used on new driveways from September 2008.

How much is the reduction in crime a result of good police work? Also was there any information regarding the seizure of drug assets and where this would go? The Chief Inspector indicated that the reduction in crime was a result of police working with their partners and the community as a whole. Any seized assets would go to a central point. A Resident Representative suggested more publicity be given as to how this money was used.

Why was there no police representation at the last North Area Consultative Forum? The Chief Inspector apologised for this, advising he would look into it.

The Chair thanked the Chief Inspector and Sergeant for attending the meeting and answering questions.

25. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A resident referred to a question she had asked at the previous meeting – (**“of the**

2355 arrests how many had led to prosecutions?") – indicating that she had not had a response. The Chief Inspector advised that he had no figures available at that time.

Would the Chief Inspector be prepared to attend a multi-agency meeting to discuss the increase in criminal and anti-social behaviour on the Central Estate? There had been 2 muggings in the last 4 months – The Chief Inspector noted this request.

26. UPDATE FROM THE FIRE BRIGADE

Cleveland Fire Brigade representative Stuart Simpson gave a brief update on recent performance by the fire brigade. In the North area there had been increases in all categories of fire with the exception of one. In order to reverse this trend the Fire Brigade representative reported that there would be a number of initiatives taking place in the coming weeks. These included an Easter Strategy involving Brus, Dyke House and St Hilda wards, "Play with a football not a fire", aimed at young people and "Operation Eggshell", a home fire safety and arson initiative.

The following issues were then raised:

Are the Steetley, Barnshaw and CJC sites part of the St Hilda or Brus wards? There have been a lot of fires there recently and the area is classed as the Central Estate – The Fire Brigade representative advised that these sites were part of the St Hilda ward. Any fires needed to be reported to the fire brigade as the figures provided at the meeting only referred those fires which had been reported.

A request was made for CCTV provision at Clavering play area owing to a spate of recent fires there.

Had there been any criminal convictions in relation to recent verbal and physical abuse directed at fire officers? The Fire Brigade representative indicated that he was aware of an incident but was unable to give any details. A Resident Representative referred to the large number of deliberate fires in one area of the town, advising that suspects' names had been given to the police but no action had been taken thus far. The Fire Brigade representative indicated he would speak to her on this matter following the meeting.

Do the fire units have the ability to contact community police while responding to a call? The Fire Brigade representative reported that they were able to contact police in an emergency. Furthermore fire pumps were equipped with CCTV. This footage could be given to the police in the event of an incident occurring.

Do fire officers attend local schools to advise children of the dangers of fire? The Fire Brigade representative advised that they did. A particularly graphic presentation was given to slightly older children. However he stressed that given the recent decrease of funding to the fire service they could not guarantee that officers would be able to remain at the school in question for the duration.

Police communications seem to be breaking down. How could matters be improved? Concern that suspects names were not being passed on to senior officers. The public needed to be reassured that if they called the police something would be done. The Chief Inspector advised that there were good links between the police and fire brigade at the local and strategic level. However there was not always a necessity for the police to attend fire calls.

The Chair thanked the Cleveland Fire Brigade representative for attending the meeting and answering questions.

27. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR PERSPECTIVE

The Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer and the Housing Hartlepool Representative gave a brief presentation on the issue of working in partnership to tackle anti-social behaviour. Detailed statistical information was provided showing the number of anti-social behaviour cases in Hartlepool between January 08 and March 08. This was broken down between individual wards and category of cases. Further figures showed the amount of cases dealt with by the anti-social behaviour unit and by Housing Hartlepool.

Details were also given of a range of initiatives being carried out by the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit including Anti-social Behaviour Awareness Day, a new Anti-social behaviour Action Plan and a Good Tenant Scheme. The latter would have three levels of membership and would speed moves through pre-referencing. Over the coming year officers would be exploring options for co-location, developing a parenting Protocol and improving links with schools to ensure early intervention.

The Housing Hartlepool representative reported the results of their recent Audit Commission Inspection. Housing Hartlepool had been awarded 2 stars with promising prospects for improvement. Their anti-social behaviour service was seen as a particular strength, specifically their response to domestic violence, partnership working and prevention and support. Details were also given of recent activity over the past 3 months including the drafting of a statement of anti-social behaviour policy, the

development of Good Neighbourhood Agreements, the securing of funding for a Drug and Alcohol Worker and plans to extend furnished tenancies.

The following issues were then raised:

Is there any overlap between your figures and those held by the police?

There was an overlap but no figures were available. All anti-social behaviour issues picked up by the Anti-social Behaviour Unit and Cleveland police were fed to the Anti-social Behaviour Action Group.

2441 AS13 forms had been processed but only 1094 letters were sent to parents. Why the discrepancy?

Many of the 2441 incidents would have been dealt with at the time the incident occurred (arrest, removal of alcohol etc) so a follow up might not be appropriate or necessary. Also 1 individual could have 10 AS13 forms attached to them.

500 referrals had been made by other agencies but less than 100 contracts or agreements had been signed. What happened to the other 400?

The Senior Anti-social Behaviour officers advised that referrals did not necessarily lead to contracts.

Details had been given of various groups the Anti-social Behaviour Unit worked with to achieve their objectives. How many individuals did this encompass?

There were no individual figures available but the numbers were high.

Only 8 Anti-social Behaviour orders had been signed in the last 3 months.

The Housing Hartlepool representative felt this was a positive figure, indicating the problem had been dealt with before it escalated.

Was it necessary for the Anti-social Behaviour Unit to be entwined with so many outside agencies? There was a risk that by diversifying in so many ways they would cease to be effective in any. The Senior Anti-social Behaviour Officer felt that partnership working was the key to a successful anti-social behaviour strategy.

There had been 1269 cases of anti-social behaviour in Hartlepool. Information regarding action which had been taken in all these cases should be available to the public. Only 8 Anti-social Behaviour orders had been made in the last year. It was misleading merely to say that appropriate action had been taken. The Senior Anti-social Behaviour Officer commented that a complaint did not automatically lead to an anti-social behaviour order. The appropriate action was always taken but the ultimate step needed to be backed up by evidence which was often not available.

When would the Good Tenant Scheme be launched? The first week of May 2008. Involvement in the scheme would be offered to every landlord in Hartlepool.

How many drug/alcohol workers would be employed and where would they be based? One mobile worker.

How many residents and young people are invited to partnership meetings? The Senior Anti-social Behaviour Officer advised that generally only statutory bodies and professionals were invited to partnership meetings. Neighbourhood Forums and Neighbourhood Action Plans provided a platform for the public to express their views.

A Resident Representative referred to the upcoming European Neighbourhood Day on 27th April 2008, urging everyone to help with the launch. Another Resident

Representative commented on the low number of anti-social behaviour orders given out against young people. The media had a distinct bias against the young and it was commendable that the Council were taking this final step only as a last resort.

The Chair thanked the Senior Anti-social Behaviour Officer and Housing Hartlepool Representative for attending the meeting and answering questions.

28. NEIGHBOURHOOD ISSUES / ANY ISSUES TO BE RAISED BY COUNCILLORS AND RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES

A Resident asked when action would be taken against a range of issues in the North area including anti-social behaviour, taking without consent, burglary and under-age drinking. The Head of Neighbourhood Management commented that a large number of the issues raised at this meeting had been raised at the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum meeting on 26th March 2008 and there was a limit to how quickly officers were able to resolve issues. Another Resident Representative advised that the reason these issues kept recurring was because answers were never forthcoming.

A Councillor requested that the inclusion of King Oswy play area on the list of areas designated as no drinking zones be implemented as soon as possible. It had been left off the current list in error by officers.

29. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

The Chair referred to the forthcoming elections and this possibly being her last meeting as Chair. Her predecessor, Councillor Rob Cook, paid tribute to her charring skills under often difficult

circumstances. His comments were supported by the Forum.

CHAIR

Report of: Director of Regeneration and Planning Services

Subject: Affordable Housing Development Plan Document-
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 Affordable Housing Development Plan Document.

2. BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Issues and Options paper represents the first stage in the production of the Affordable Housing Development Plan Document, one document within the suite of documents that make up the Local Development Framework.
- 2.2 The paper aims to address the issue of affordable housing provision in Hartlepool. It sets out for comment a range of issues concerned with the provision of affordable housing and suggests possible policy options to address them. The outcome of this consultation will provide a policy framework to secure affordable housing on new developments in Hartlepool. The main purpose of the Issues and Options paper is to stimulate debate and seek the views of the community and other stakeholders on how what size developments affordable housing should be provided and what type of affordable housing is required in Hartlepool.

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 affordable housing 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 31st March 2008 and will last for three months until June 30th 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.

The Central Library will also have display boards during the consultation period and drop-in sessions have taken place throughout April and May. Further drop-in sessions will be arranged in Middleton Grange shopping centre within June. Officers are also available to speak to any community groups or interested parties on request.

- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 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 affordable housing provision 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.

Report of: North Neighbourhood Manager

Subject: MINOR WORKS PROPOSALS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To request Minor Works funding for a variety of schemes within the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum area.

2 SCHEME 1 - ST HILDS WARD - HAZELWOOD RISE TREE AND BOLLARDS

- 2.1 Local residents and Ward Councilors have raised concerns regarding vehicles driving over footpaths and grass verges to access their properties in and around the Hazelwood Rise area. Vehicle access can be restricted with the combination of trees with cages and bollards, trees in the grassed areas and bollards in the hard standing areas. The proposal to remedy the issue involves eight trees to be planted in the grassed area in Graham Street at the rear of the Co-operative building, and five bollards would be fitted at the top of Hazelwood rise at the Durham Street end (**Appendix A**)
- 2.3 The total cost for this scheme is **£4,850**

3. SCHEME 2 - ST HILDA WARD - REAR ST MARY STREET STEPS

- 3.1 Local Residents have made a number of requests for the steps at the rear of St Mary's Street to be made more users friendly, also for a small section of wall to be removed to improve the overall appearance of the area. The full scheme would include the reconstruction of the steps, part removal of a derelict wall, some additional footpath and the provision of a hand rail to the side of the steps (**Appendix B**)
- 3.3 The total cost for this scheme is **£4,460**

4. SCHEME 3 - ST HILDA WARD - PRISSICK STREET PARKING

- 4.1 Residents and Ward Members have made requests for improved parking at the rear of No. 2 Prissick Street leading to St Hilda Chare. This is currently a grassed area that is being used by local residents to park on. It is proposed that the grass verge be removed and infill with Tarmac to provide an area where vehicles can park onto. The length of

verge is 16 metres X 6 metres, plus additional bollards to prevent overriding on the footpath. (**Appendix C**).

4.2 The total cost of this scheme is **£9,000**

5. SCHEME FOUR - HART WARD - COAST ROAD STEPS

5.1 Residents and Ward Members have made requests for improvements to be made to the five sets of steps that lead from the Coast Road down to Dorchester Drive, Miller Crescent and Fulthorpe Avenue.

5.2 There is a large elderly population in this area and the installation of a hand rail to one side to each of the five sets of steps would enable people to go up and down the steps more freely. (**Appendix D**).

5.3 Total cost of this scheme is **£3,000**

6. SCHEME FIVE - DYKE HOUSE WARD - ALLERTON CLOSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

6.1 Local residents have requested that we look at ways of improving their local environment in and around the Allerton Close area. A number of improvements have been highlighted: -

- The removal of all Birds Beak fencing from the grassed areas, most of which is damaged
- Removal of railings between Allerton and Brecongill Close and replaced with dropped down bollards to improve access for Horticultural vehicles.
- Removal of some shrubs on the estate in certain areas and additional planting in other areas. (**Appendix E**).

6.2 Total cost of this scheme is **£3,400**

7. SCHEME SIX - ST HILD WARD - WEST VIEW ROAD VERGE WORKS

7.1 To complete the verge works programme that commenced in the last financial year in the West View Road area. A further 120 metres of grass verge to be removed and replaced with tarmac outside of properties from Nos. 259 – 305. In addition to the grass verges being removed it is proposed that we plant nine trees with protective cages in this area. (**Appendix F**). The trees will provide assisted drainage, and will complement existing trees on the opposite side of the road.

7.2 Total cost of this scheme is **£11,550**

8. SCHEME SEVEN – THROSTON WARD – THROSTON ALLOTMENTS SECURITY

- 8.1 The site at Throston is a medium sized allotment site with approx 72 plots.
- 8.2 A new Constituted Allotment Association has been formed covering the Throston Allotment Site with a high level of support from tenants to form the association and appoint a committee to represent the site.
- 8.3 There has been a recent spate of anti social behaviour around this site resulting in a number of plots being targeted by vandals. Existing wooden fencing has been repaired on a number of occasions but remains vulnerable to vandalism, fire and theft.
- 8.4 A site action plan has been developed and agreed with the committee and the Parks and Countryside Section. Agreement over the priority for investment has been reached and the initial priority is to improve security through the installation of security fencing alongside the boundary adjacent to Wiltshire Way and the car park area for the site.
- 8.5 It is proposed that the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum approve a grant of £7,000 towards the scheme. The total cost of the first phase of fencing is £19,000. The Parks and Countryside Section has agreed a contribution of £3,000 towards the scheme with the remainder being sought from the Community Safety Fund and a potential contribution from Housing Hartlepool
- 8.6 Total contribution towards this scheme is **£7, 000**

9. SCHEME EIGHT - VARIOUS WARDS - PRIDE IN HARTLEPOOL

- 9.1 Pride in Hartlepool work throughout the town and all three Forums are being asked to provide a contribution of £5,000 towards Pride in Hartlepool work, and its Community Environment Improvements Projects. Members of the Forum are familiar with the work produced by Pride in Hartlepool and their excellent work with schools and residents.
- 9.2 Total contribution towards Pride in Hartlepool is **£5,000**

10. SCHEME NINE – VARIOUS WARDS - DROPPED CROSSINGS

- 10.1 The Dropped Crossing Strategy was introduced to all three Forums in 2001/02. Since this time each Forum have, each financial year, continued to commit the sum of £3,500 toward the ongoing rolling programme to provide dropped crossings throughout the town.

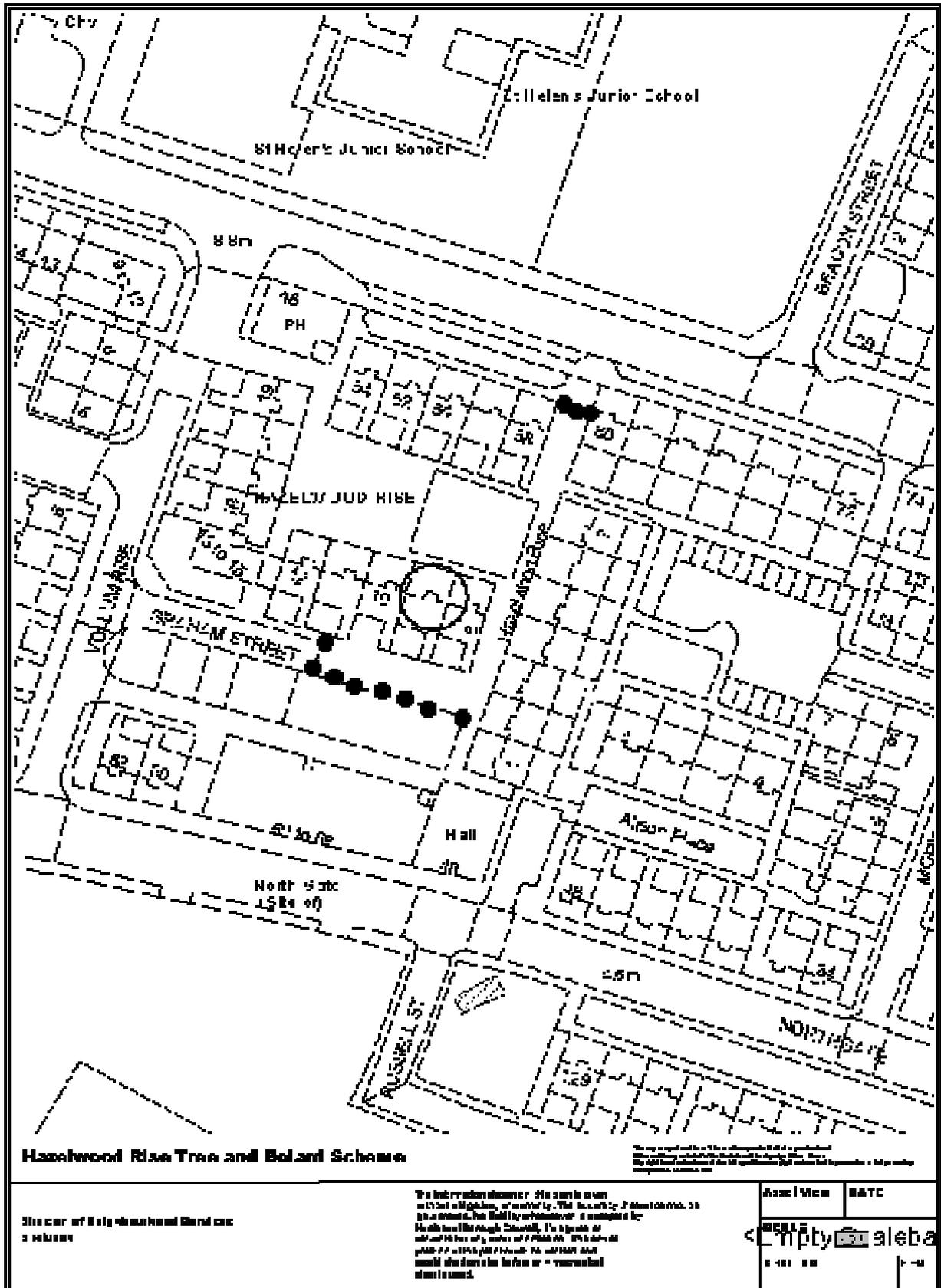
10.2 To enable the rolling programme to progress as planned, it is requested that the North Forum allocate £3,500 as a continuing commitment to this strategy.

10.3 Total contribution towards Dropped Crossing Strategy is **£3,500**

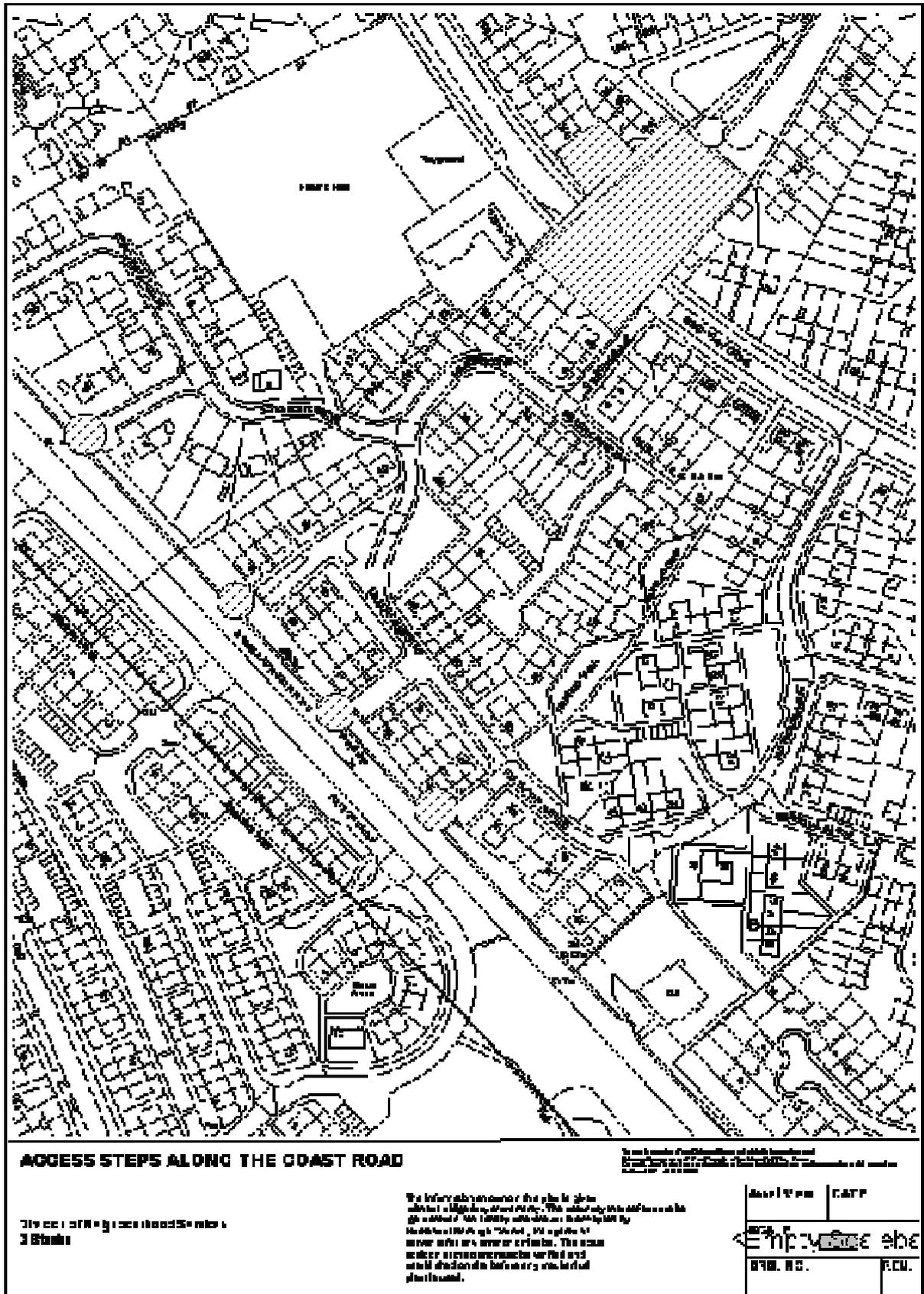
11. RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 The Forum is asked to consider the above schemes. Approved schemes will need to be presented to the Regeneration, Liveability and Housing Portfolio for final approval.

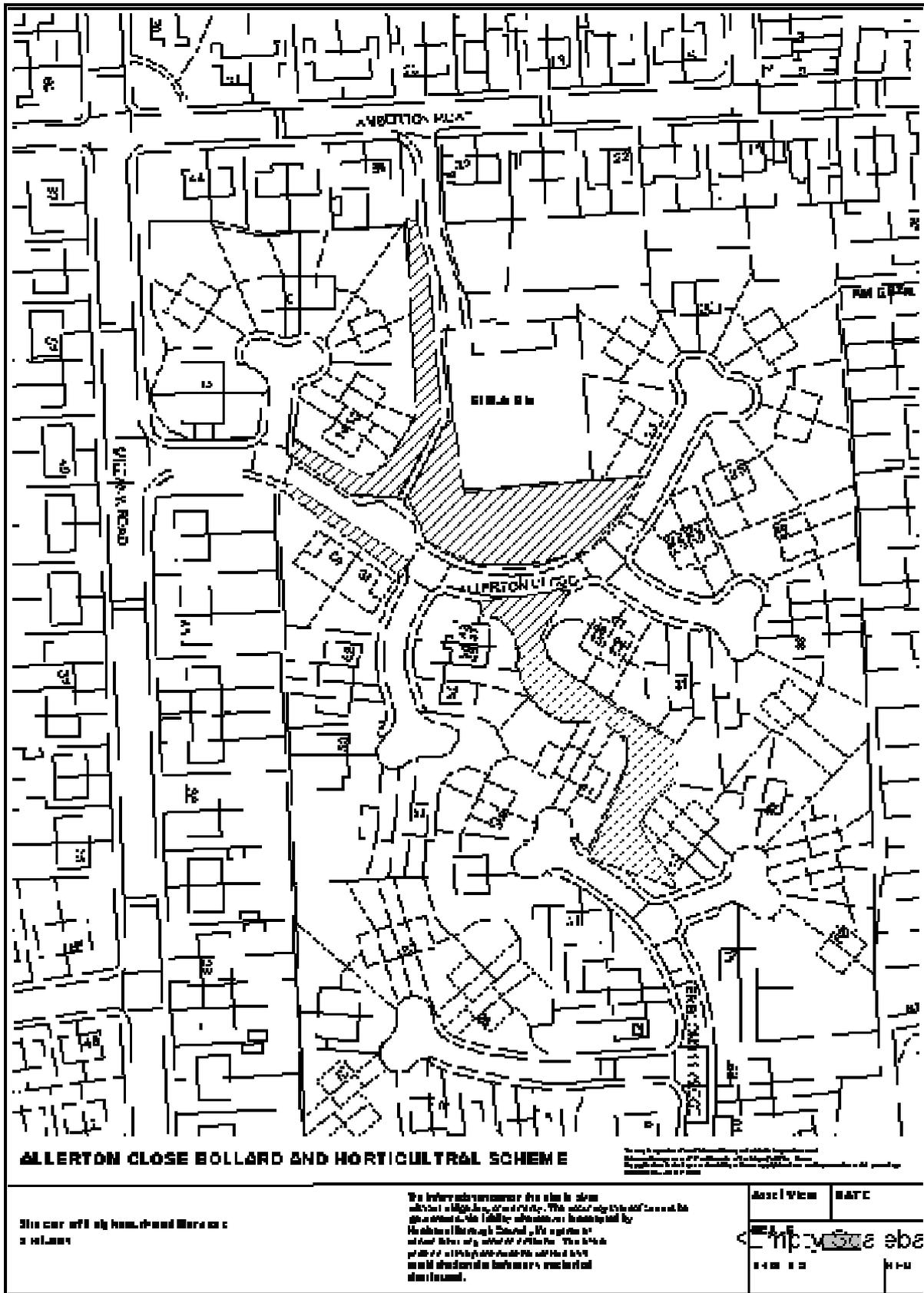
APPENDIX A



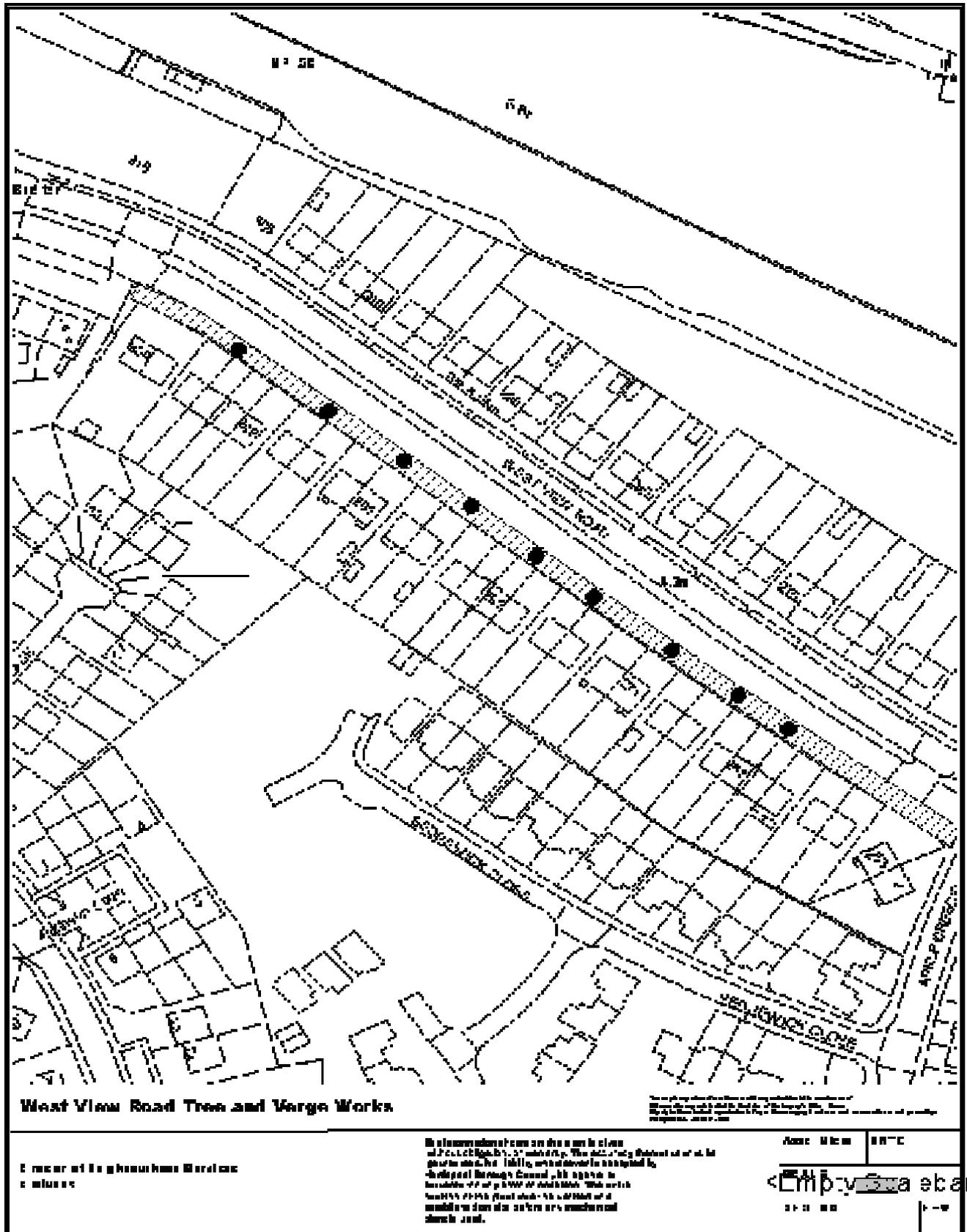
APPENDIX D



APPENDIX E



APPENDIX F



North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum

Minor Works - 2007/2008 - £87,000

Forum - £52,000
Highway Maintenance - £20,000
Grass Verges - £15,000

Ward	Name of Scheme	Date Approved	Minor Works Funding £	Other Funding
Various	Dropped crossings	13 June 2007	3,500	
Various	Pride in Hartlepool	13 June 2007	5,000	
Hart	Muirfield Walk Landscaping	13 June 2007	8,400	
Hart	Marley Walk Environmental improvements	13 June 2007	4,250	
Various	Key Routes	13 June 2007	20,000	
Various	Multi Use Games Areas	13 June 2007	10,000	
Hart	Swanage Grove Removal of grassed areas	8 August 2007	7,325	
St Hilda	Union Street Hand rail	8 August 2007	1,669	
Dyke House	Hurworth Street Removal of seating areas	8 August 2007	2,000	
St Hilda	Bell buoy and fishing cobble	10 October 2007	1,675	
Brus	West View Road Verge works	10 October 2007	5,200	

Ward	Name of Scheme	Date Approved	Minor Works Funding	Other Funding
Hart Ward	Bamburgh Road Verge works	10 October 2007	1,200	
Throston	Throston Grange Lane Improved parking	10 October 2007	9,700	
St Hilda	Cleveland Road Traffic island	10 October 2007	5,000	
Hart	St Mark's Church Hall External repairs	December 2007	250	
Total spend			£85,169	
Balance			£1,831	

Minor Works Schemes – 2007/08

Ward	Total cost of Schemes
Brus	5,200
Dyke House	2,000
Hart	21,425
St Hilda	8,344
Throston	9,700
Various	38,500 } £20,000 Key Routes } £10,000 Multi Use Games Areas } £5,000 Pride in Hartlepool } £3,500 Dropped Crossings
TOTAL	85,169