

CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA



Thursday, 4th December 2008

at 10.00 am

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

CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM:

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

Resident Representatives: Christopher Akers-Belcher, Ronald Breward, Liz Carroll, Bob Farrow, Ted Jackson, Jean Kennedy, Evelyn Leck, Alan Lloyd, Brenda Loynes 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 of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum held on 16th October 2008
 - 4.2 Matters arising (maximum of 10 minutes) – Feedback sheet from last meeting attached

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

Park
Rift House
Stranton
Burn Valley
Foggy Furze
Grange

6. **ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION**

No items

7. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR INFORMATION**

7.1 Update on Decisions made at Neighbourhoods and Communities Portfolio on
20th October 2008 affecting Central Area – *Head of Technical Services*

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 take place on Thursday 15th January 2009 at 10.00am – venue to be confirmed.

The next meeting of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum will take place on Thursday 5th February 2009 at 10.00am – venue to be confirmed.

WARDS

Burn Valley
Elwick
Foggy Furze
Grange
Park
Rift House
Stranton

***CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD
CONSULTATIVE FORUM***

16 October 2008

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm. in Belle Vue Community, Sports and Youth Centre,
Kendal Road, Hartlepool

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Lilian Sutheran - Rift House Ward

Vice Chair: Resident Representative Evelyn Leck

Councillor Martyn Aiken	- Foggy Furze Ward
Councillor Jonathan Brash	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor Gerard Hall	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor John Lauderdale	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor George Morris	- Park Ward
Councillor Carl Richardson	- Grange Ward
Councillor Jane Shaw	- Stranton Ward
Councillor Chris Simmons	- Grange Ward

Resident Representatives: Liz Carroll, Bob Farrow, Ted Jackson, Jean Kennedy,
Alan Lloyd, Brenda Loynes and Brian McBean

Public: Roni Farrow, Lynne Hamilton, G Harrison, G and S Johnson, M Lumley,
Sarah Maness, Norma and William Morrish, Paul Nugent, Linda Pine, I and J Rollo,
Julie Rudge, M Thoburn and Ray Waller

Council Officers: Clare Clark, Neighbourhood Manager (Central)
Jon Wright, Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager
Derek Reynolds, Project Manager (Neighbourhood Services)
Irene Cross, Neighbourhood Development Officer (Central)
Tom Britcliffe, Principal Planning Officer
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

Housing Hartlepool Representatives: Cath Purdy and Lynn McPartlin

Cleveland Fire Brigade Representative: Stuart Simpson

17. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Stephen Akers-Belcher, John Coward, Pamela Hargreaves, Pauline Laffey, Robbie Payne and Gladys Worthy.

18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

19. MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th August 2008 were agreed.

20. MATTERS ARISING

Topcliffe Street – Resident Representative Brian McBean asked that progress be made on the regular cutting down of the weeds before summer 2009. The Neighbourhood Manager referred to the feedback sheet where it was stated that NEDL would advise when maintenance contractors were in the area so a site visit could be arranged.

Ward Jackson Park – Resident Representative Ted Jackson advised that there had been further vandalism at the entrance by the bowling green. The Neighbourhood Manager indicated that a special meeting had been arranged with a number of agency representatives which should help to resolve the issue.

Flat demolition at Rift House – Resident Representative Alan Lloyd reported that this had recently begun.

Oxford Road – Councillor Jonathan Brash passed on the thanks of the Oxford Road Residents Association for all those involved in the improvements in the area.

Refuse collection – Resident Ray Waller commented that rubbish collections were now taking place at 7.10am despite the literature indicating that bins should not be left out until 7.30am.

Park Road – Resident Ray Waller thanked officers for moving the litter bin. However the scaffolding had not yet been removed. The Neighbourhood Manager referred to the feedback sheet which stated that the owners had been contacted and removal requested.

Community Policing – Resident Paul Nugent asked if a new leaflet could be produced giving names and contact details of Neighbourhood Police in the Stranton area. The Neighbourhood Manager reported that this was already underway.

Four Winds Nursing Home – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes advised that the trees obstructing the school warning sign opposite had not yet been cut back.

Recreational Ground – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes clarified that the gates were locked during the early evening, specifically when football matches were being played. The Neighbourhood Manager indicated that this must have been an oversight as the car parking facility was intended to service the recreational ground during periods of usage.

21. MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL AREA POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY CONSULTATIVE FORUM

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th September 2008 were received.

22. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND WARD ISSUES

Grange

Ward Jackson Park – Councillor Carl Richardson asked if a discarded bike had been removed from the bandstand. The Neighbourhood Manager confirmed it had been. He further raised the issue of the blocked drains to which the Neighbourhood Manager advised that this would be picked up at a special meeting.

Dog fouling – Councillor Carl Richardson indicated this was a problem in Duke Street, Sheriff Street and Sandringham Road. The Neighbourhood Manager reported that the situation was being monitored and consideration would be given to installing CCTV cameras to aid enforcement.

Duke Street – Councillor Chris Simmons asked if any progress had been made on the derelict shop. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that this had been raised at a recent Derelict Buildings and Land meeting where she had requested progress on enforcement irrespective of progress in relation to any work that Yuill may be involved in.

Stephen Street – Resident Representative Brian McBean indicated that shards of glass were hanging from a broken window at Number 70. The Neighbourhood Manager to contact Private Sector Housing.

Suggitt Street / Weldeck Road – Resident Representative Brian McBean reported a bin had been overflowing for 10 days. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that this would be emptied and monitored over the coming weeks.

Park

Elwick Road – Resident Representative Liz Carroll indicated that cars were speeding round Four Winds Nursing Home on their way to the zebra crossing opposite Park Drive and asked if something could be done. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinator suggested this could be looked at.

Gillens – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes reported flooding issues in the bend in the road opposite.

Springston Road – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes requested an extra bin near the field. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that new bins had been ordered and should be in place the following week.

Mountston Close – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes indicated that the camera was still in place.

Rift House

Rift House Primary School – Resident Representative Alan Lloyd asked that double yellow lines be implemented onto the school side of the road in order to give more room for HGVs.

Stranton

Odeon building – Resident Julie Rudge requested that the remaining graffiti be removed.

Central Area – Resident Representative Jean Kennedy reported smells similar to nail polish emanating from the Central Area. She also asked that the CCTV in Waldon Street be switched on to help combat anti-social behaviour.

Cameron Road – Councillor Jane Shaw requested better signage regarding the one-way system.

Victory Square War Memorial – Councillor Jane Shaw praised the current restoration work but asked for clarification as to who would have responsibility for the site when it was completed. She did not want the repairs to have been for nothing.

Play Areas – Resident Clive Hall advised that a number of broken items in Burn Valley playground had not been replaced. He also requested a play area in Burbank.

Burn Valley

Bus lay-by – Resident Ray Waller referred to a new bus lay-by in the East area of Park Road. Until recently bus drivers had not been stopping there and users were still waiting for a stop sign, timetable and shelter to be put in place. Bus drivers would not stop there until the appropriate signage was in place and he queried why bus passengers were being disadvantaged in favour of drivers. Shelters were needed particularly with the onset of winter. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager to speak to the Traffic Section regarding this and report back to Mr Waller.

Burbank – A resident advised that there was no bus service into Burbank as it terminated at Tesco.

Glass on pavements – Resident Representative Evelyn Leck asked that this be swept up and bins be provided from Burn Valley to St Aidans. She also raised ongoing problems with dog fouling in the area and drainage, requesting that a representative of Northumbrian Water be invited to the next meeting as this was a town-wide issue.

Burn Valley roundabout – Resident Representative Evelyn Leck asked if traffic lights could be installed as

pedestrians were finding it difficult to cross.

Foggy Furze

Brenda Road – Resident Roni Farrow reported that an elderly lady had recently caught her foot on a manhole cover on the corner of Windermere Road. The Chair asked that this be dealt with urgently.

Spring Garden – Councillor Martyn Aiken asked if a bollard could be installed on the corner opposite the Co-op as trucks were using the pavement to reverse.

Westbrooke Avenue – Councillor Martyn Aiken congratulated officers on the speed control lights.

Studley Road – Resident Representative Bob Farrow reported a problem with dog fouling on the grassed area. The Environmental Enforcement Officers to take action.

Seal Sands Road – Resident Clive Hall suggested a lay-by be built in anticipation of the future opening of the new Bird Watch Centre. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager to pass this to the appropriate officer.

23. AFFORDABLE HOUSING POLICY DOCUMENT

The Principal Planning Officer informed the Forum of the consultation arrangements for the preferred options paper, comprising the second stage in the preparation of the Hartlepool Affordable Housing Development Plan Document (HAHDPD), part of the Local Development Framework. This would address the issue of affordable housing provision in Hartlepool and set out the Council's preferred approach to the HAHDPD. The paper provided detailed

feedback on the previous consultation stage (Issues and Options) and outlined the Council's preferred option and the reasons behind it. It looked at issues regarding site size, percentage of affordable housing and tenure of housing. The outcome of this consultation would provide a Policy Framework to secure affordable housing on new developments

The consultation would run until 27th October 2008. The Preferred Options paper and associated documents were available from the Civic Centre, Bryan Hanson House, Central Library and branch libraries throughout Hartlepool. Copies were also available online via the Hartlepool Borough Council website. Comments could be submitted via questionnaire by completing a questionnaire for return to Bryan Hanson House, completing an on-line questionnaire and sending a letter or email to the Planning Policy Team at Bryan Hanson House

The following issues were then raised:

Level of affordable housing between 20 and 30% depending on viability – Councillor Jonathan Brash advised he would have preferred a requirement for 50% affordable housing. Developers would always find a legal reason for choosing the lower option. The Principal Planning Officer indicated that developers would need strong evidence to do this.

“Not in my backyard” – Councillor Jonathan Brash reported he had concerns that this could lead to social segregation. The Principal Planning Officer agreed that affordable housing needed to be mixed with private. Councillor Gerard Hall suggested that it be renamed Community Housing to take away some of the stigma.

Supported Housing – Resident Ray Waller felt this needed to be looked at.

Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) provided housing but not in the better areas. People were being told land values were too high but RSLs should have the means to buy. Mr Waller asked if officers supported the Council buying housing for supported needs. The Principal Planning Officer advised that he did but it was ultimately a central Government decision. Housing was not being developed at the moment because of the state of the market. It could be some time before this situation changed.

Rateable value of current properties – Resident Mrs Thoburn asked if this would be affected by affordable housing. The Principal Planning Officers advised that rates were not based on the surrounding area but on the size of the house etc.

Shared housing – Resident Representative Alan Lloyd commented that first time buyers could not afford £60,000 as a percentage of shared housing. The Principal Planning Officer agreed but had no control over the price of housing at the moment. Councillor Gerard Hall commented that £70,000 was more affordable than £140,000.

Smaller sites – Councillor Gerard raised the possibility of smaller sites being made 100% affordable housing.

Borrowdale Street – Resident Roni Farrow asked why sites such as this were being demolished when they could be regenerated. The Principal Planning Officer advised that he did not have the power to stop landlords buying.

The Chair thanked the Principal Planning Officer for attending the meeting and answering questions. He advised that he would return in January 2009 with the next stage of the consultation process.

24. HOUSING HARTLEPOOL UPDATE

The Chief Executive of Housing Hartlepool updated the Forum on the work of Housing Hartlepool. They were the largest housing association in the town and a key partner with the Council in the regeneration of homes and neighbourhoods. In the previous two years improvements had been made to over 5,000 homes with 87% of Housing Hartlepool properties above the required standard. Tenant services had also been improved including the provision of 24-hour access, a freephone for repairs and dedicated neighbourhood teams. 38 homes had been built or bought with 60 unit extra care schemes scheduled for completion. The aim was to build 100 new homes a year.

Housing Hartlepool intended to continue the trend of improving services, increasing satisfaction and helping to deliver Hartlepool's housing regeneration agenda. From a business point of view they would retain and possibly increase Hartlepool jobs while bringing in income to benefit Housing Hartlepool residents.

The following issues were then raised:

Working with other developers – Resident Representative Evelyn Leck asked if consideration had been given to working with other developers in order to development sites, given the current housing climate. This would help first time buyers and stop private landlords saturating the market. Ms Purdy commented that the market position was bad at the moment but she was confident that there was still enough interest from developers.

Bungalows – Councillor Chris Simmons commented that an ageing population meant there was an increased need for two bedroom bungalows with attached gardens. Ms Purdy referred to the

Greyfriars development of two bedroom bungalows for the disabled which was a build type that Housing Hartlepool were keen to continue. There were no one bedroom bungalows. A lot of people on the register would happily move into a bungalow but there were not enough available. Resident Roni Farrow asked why such high bungalows had been built in Studeley Road and was advised that this was facilitate conversion of the loft into a third bedroom if needed. Resident Ray Waller asked if it would be possible for more bungalows to be built as residents were keen to leave their current homes to their children and prices for new retirement villages continued to be prohibitive.

New builds – Councillor Jane Shaw asked if new buildings could be designed with wider doors to better accommodate families who tended to be staying together for longer. Ms Purdy advised that there were new regulations regarding lifestyle homes but specific design issues where sometimes hampered by cost.

Derelict Housing – Fire Brigade Representative Stuart Simpson asked if this could be demolished more quickly. Ms Purdy advised that utilities were often a problem. It was usually easier and less costly to demolish as a site rather than piecemeal as individual units became vacant.

The Chair thanked Ms Purdy for attending the meeting and answering questions.

25. DYKE HOUSE SCHOOL BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE PROGRAMME OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

As part of the Building Schools for the Future Programme Hartlepool Borough Council would be making an outline planning application for proposals to carry

out development to re-model Dyke House School. It was felt that a pre-application consultation would make the scheme better understood by the community and help local people shape the outcome of proposals that may affect them. It could also identify local issues of concern and facilitate planning applications to be processed more quickly and less controversially.

Events had been held at the school for nearby residents and users affected by the proposals and the Forum were asked to make any comments using the available form.

Resident Ray Waller asked if any accommodation block which were demolished would be replaced. The Project Manager (Neighbourhood Services) advised that designs would be based on forecast pupil numbers.

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

26. NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLAN UPDATE

The Neighbourhood Manager reported that the Brubank, Rift House/Burn Valley and NDC Neighbourhood Action Plans were all endorsed by the Forum in 2007. A summary was provided giving progress on actions identified by residents as priorities. Resident Representative from the Burbank and NDC areas were also in attendance to give a short presentation on work they had undertaken in their areas. Rift House/Burn Valley residents would attend a future meeting of the Forum to provide an update for their area.

Rift House/Burn Valley

A written update was given on the progress made in terms of priority actions

identified by the Rift House/Burn Valley Forum including the following:

- A Funday organised by the Rift House East Residents Association
- The Provision of a Family Case Worker to tackle unemployment in the area
- Refurbishment of the NDNA building to provide a venue for delivering learning based activities
- The continued provision and expansion of the Health Bus at Shakespeare Avenue and Marlow Road.

New Deal for Communities

A short presentation was given by Julie Rudge, NDC Resident Representative and Secretary of the Dent and Derwent Area Residents Association, on the progress made in terms of priority actions identified by residents. The Dent and Derwent Residents Association had produced an action plan which covered many of these identified priority actions including

- The completion of Lynnfield Play Area with funding from the Neighbourhood Panel
- Raising a positive profile of young people through the Junior Wardens
- Group activities including It's a Knockout event, Family Challenge Day and a Women's Multicultural Event

Future priorities would include bringing the Odeon back into use and implementing a landlord licensing scheme.

Burbank

Actions highlighted in the Burbank Neighbourhood Action Plan progress report included:

- Activities for young people such as Bridge Builders
- A number of health activities being run from the Burbank Centre
- The Commissioning of a newsletter to give local residents the opportunity to develop and learn new skills

The results of a resident led survey undertaken in partnership with the Scarman Trust - The Morrish report – were given in a multimedia powerpoint presentation by Norma Morrish, Resident Representative for the Burbank area and author of the survey. Further priorities were identified including the acquisition of land for community purposes and a resident led Neighbourhood Agreement to improve environmental quality.

The Chair thanked all the representatives for attending the meeting, praising the examples given of what could be achieved when people worked together.

27. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday 4th December at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool.

The meeting concluded at 4.00pm.

Chair

Issues Sheet from Central Forum

16 October 2008

PARK WARD

- 1. Ward Jackson Park – more vandalism at the entrance near the bowling green – Ted Jackson, blocked drains – Carl Richardson**

A special meeting to address issues in Ward Jackson Park was held on 3/11/2008. The above issues (alongside many other issues) were discussed and a follow up meeting will be held in January. In the short term the area has been identified as an area for special focus and attention by the Police, Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, and HBCs Community Safety team. The activities of these Officers is being overseen by the Central Area JAG.

- 2. Four Winds Nursing Home – request that trees obstructing warning sign be cut – Brenda Loynes**

These works have now been carried out.

- 3. Elwick Road (opposite Park Drive) – cars still speeding round 4 Winds toward zebra crossing – Liz Carroll**

This has been passed to HBCs Traffic Section who have agreed to carry out a speed survey. If inappropriate speed patterns are indicated further traffic calming measures will be considered.

- 4. Elwick Road bend in road near to Four Winds flooding issue – Brenda Loynes**

This is an historic area for flooding which officers are fully aware of. As a consequence this particular road gulley is cleansed far more frequently than most other road gullies in the town to help alleviate the problem. The area will be closely monitored.

- 5. Springston Road – extra bin please – Brenda Loynes**

The larger bins have now been installed on the estate to assist in alleviating the litter problem. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinator advises that following the installation of these bins the green area on Springston Road will be monitored to assess whether an extra litter bin is required at this location.

6. Mountston Close – camera still there – Brenda Loynes

As requested the camera has now been removed.

GRANGEWARD

7. Topcliffe Street – request for action re high weeds before next year – Brian McBean

A site meeting has taken place with the NEDL who agreed to clean up the area and cut back the weeds. NEDL have also agreed to investigate the longer term solution of laying down a membrane to prevent the problem from recurring.

8. Sheriff Street / Sandringham Road – dog fouling – Carl Richardson

HBCs Environmental Enforcement Team continue to monitor this area and will, if necessary, deploy covert surveillance.

9. Duke Street – any progress on derelict shop? – Chris Simmons

Once again this has been fed into the Mayors Derelict Buildings Group and the need to aggressively pursue enforcement emphasised. .

10. Stephen Street – broken window at no 70 – Brian McBean

This was passed to HBCs Private Sector Housing Team and has now been made safe by the Landlord.

11. Suggitt Street / Weldeck Road – bin overflowing – Brian McBean

The Neighbourhood Co-ordinator informs that the Environmental Supervisor is now ensuring that this bin is being emptied on a regular basis.

RIFT HOUSE WARD

12. Rift House – request that double yellow lines be on school side in Masfield Road to give space for HGVs to pass – Alan Lloyd

HBCs Traffic Section inform that parking restrictions in this area have already been increased. The Traffic Manager is happy to look at this request but points out that there is a danger that further restrictions would lead to pressure on parking in the surrounding residential area.

BURN VALLEY WARD

13. Burn Valley– play area items broken – Clive Hall

HBC Parks section have informed that these articles have been ordered and will be fitted soon. It should also be noted that all play ground areas are inspected daily and if any equipment is damaged it is removed on safety grounds and new equipment ordered.

14. Glass on Pavements/request for bins/issues with dog fouling/problems with drains and request for Northumbrian Water to attend the next meeting – Evelyn Leck

Pavements have been swept, and a new bin has been installed on the corner of Blakelock Road/Stockton Road. Dog fouling has been brought to the attention of HBC Environmental Enforcement Officers, and an Officer will be in attendance at the December meeting of the Forum to respond to issues around drainage.

STRANTON WARD

15. Park Road – request that scaffolding be removed – Ray Waller

As reported at the last Forum Council Officers are attempting to resolve this issue. HBCs Structural Engineer has been out and inspected the building and scaffolding and is concerned that if the scaffolding is removed there is the possibility of debris falling. The owners have been contacted and have undertaken some immediate work on the building, however further work is required to secure the parapet wall before the scaffolding is removed. A second letter has been sent out requesting that this further work is progressed.

16. Odeon – graffiti – Julie Rudge

Attempts to remove this graffiti have proved very time consuming due to its extensive nature. Consequently we have asked the Councils ILM team to undertake this piece of work. The ILM team will be on site on Friday 28th November.

17. Central area – smells – Jean Kennedy

The relevant Council Officer will be in attendance at the next meeting of the Forum to enable any issues around drainage to be addressed and responded to.

18. Waldon Street – CCTV isn't working – Jean Kennedy

HBC Community Safety Team inform that this camera is operational.

19. Cameron Road / Furness Belk – vehicles going wrong way on one way system – Jane Shaw

Although this system already benefits from signage additional “No Entry” markings will be marked on the carriageway to emphasise the one way system. A request has also been lodged with the Police to step up enforcement in the area.

20. War Memorial – who has responsibility after restoration work completed? – poss vandalism – Jane Shaw

Responsibility for the physical upkeep and maintenance of the War Memorial rests with HBCs Neighbourhood Services. In relation to vandalism and crime prevention all agencies have a responsibility. The Central Neighbourhood Inspector has pledged to ensure that this area remains high profile when it comes to Police patrols, HBCs Environmental Enforcement Officers are also particularly active in this area and will, where appropriate issue fines for littering. The area also benefits from CCTV.

21. Burbank – need for play area – Clive Hall

A discussion with HBC Community Services has revealed that this will be fully considered as part of the expected Playbuilder Grant. HBC are awaiting the outcome of this bid and feedback as to whether or not this bid has been successful along with more detail on the criteria to be met is expected before Christmas.

22. Park Road – no signage for bus lay by – bus users left till last – need shelter for Winter – Ray Waller

The signage and bus shelter have now been installed.

23. Burbank – no bus service except to Tesco

HBCs Transportation and Traffic Manager attended the Burbank NAP Forum on 4th November to discuss transport issues. It is recognised that current services to and from the Burbank Estate are limited with the service 516 operating on a two hourly basis. Negotiations are ongoing with Stagecoach to increase this service to hourly. The issue of limited transport services was also raised at the Burbank Forum and will be fed into the review into transport services generally. In addition a member of the Burbank Forum has been invited to participate in the soon to be established transport user group for the town which will give Burbank residents a greater voice in influencing transport services.

FOGGY FURZE

24. Brenda Road / Windermere Road – OAP caught foot in manhole cover over drain – Roni Farrow

As a matter of urgency these works were completed the next day

25. Stockton Road – request for bollard on corner by co-op – Martyn Aiken

This has been investigated and the need for two bollards identified. These will be installed within the next month.

26. Studley Road – dog fouling on grass – Bob Farrow

This issue has been passed to the environmental enforcement team who have been active in this area in the past with some notable success. The dog warden has been asked again to give this area very close attention.

27. Seal Sands Road – request for lay by near new Bird Watch Centre – Clive Hall

This area falls within the responsibility of Stockton Council. HBCs Traffic Manager has contacted Stockton Council and reassurance has been given that a large car park will be included on the site. The Traffic Manager also advises that a lay-by on this road would not be advisable from a safety point of view due to the speed limit on this road being 60 mph.

Report of: Head of Technical Services

Subject: UPDATE ON DECISIONS MADE AT
NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITIES
PORTFOLIO ON 20 OCTOBER 2008 AFFECTING
CENTRAL AREA

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To advise on recent Neighbourhoods and Communities Portfolio decisions relating to:

- (i) the creation of a one hour limited waiting parking bay on York Road;
- (ii) requests for alleyways;
- (iii) parking regulations in Brunswick Street;
- (iv) Dalton Street, Creation of Business Parking Bays.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The following reports were considered by the Portfolio Holder.

Creation of a one hour limited waiting parking bay on York Road

2.2 The Head of Technical Services reported that a number of business operating in York Road had raised concerns as to the current 30 minute limit on waiting time and the impact this was having on customer parking. Most businesses have relatively short stay customer parking needs with any long stay requirements being accommodated in Houghton Street, Whitburn Street and Elwick Road. However resident only parking was introduced at these locations thereby reducing the opportunity for businesses and customers to park close to the facilities. Businesses felt that the introduction of the resident controls had led to a detrimental effect on trade and were requesting that the current waiting time be extended to one hour to accommodate customer parking needs. Consultation with businesses in the area had resulted in one objection on the grounds that extending the parking time would result in a turnover of less vehicles and less available customer parking space. A petition in support of the proposals was also received with the proviso that Whitburn Street was not included in the controlled zone. As part of the legal process the proposed restrictions would need to be advertised for 28 days with any feedback reported to the Portfolio Holder. Implementation costs would be minimal and met from the Parking Services budget.

Requests for alleygates

2.3 Funding had been identified from New Deal for Communities (NDC) to install alleygates at three locations. All three sites were identified by NDC due to security problems, vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

2.4 The three locations are:

(i) Furness Street

The main concern was to prevent the amount of vehicles using the back street to return to Addison Road, particularly since children regularly play there. While the scheme would not be fully enclosed it would prevent through traffic and not allow pedestrian thoroughfare. Consultation had shown 21 in favour and six against. Reasons for objection included the perceived need for further security measures but officers felt these could be considered at a later date if they were found to be necessary. Ms Hetherington spoke in favour of the proposals.

(ii) Richard Court/Osborne Road

This scheme would allow access to the parking areas to the rear of Park Road with the Osborne Road back street area being enclosed. Consultation had shown 21 in favour and one against owing to mobility problems. The Portfolio Holder indicated that he was minded to approve the proposals in principle but would like officers to engage in further consultation with the objector to ensure that they were not inconvenienced by the proposals.

(iii) Barbara Mann Court/Victoria Road.

The gates at the Murray Street end would remain open during working hours due to the business permit parking bays loaded within the scheme area. Consultation had shown 18 in favour and one against.

Parking regulations in Brunswick Street

2.5 The Head of Technical Services advised that Brunswick Street currently provided an access route into Hartlepool College of Further Education (HCFE). Access is controlled by a barrier with 52 metres of carriageway from the junction of Albert Street adopted public highway with no parking controls. Commuters currently park free of charge on both sides, something which can cause access difficulties into the site. HCFE had recently submitted a formal planning application in relation to the construction of a new college building including the use of the Albert Street car park site. This will therefore cease to be under Council ownership/management from January 2009 and consequently Brunswick Street will be a key access point to the College. This would necessitate a clear vehicular access which would be difficult to

manage the highway was left unregulated. Therefore it was proposed to prohibit parking at this location. As part of the legal process the proposed restrictions would need to be advertised for 28 days with any feedback being reported to the Portfolio Holder for further consideration. Implementation costs would be minimal.

Dalton Street, Creation of Business Parking Bays

- 2.6 The Head of Technical Services advised that Dalton Street was currently part of the resident only controlled parking scheme introduced to protect residents living on the fringe of the town centre from commuter and short stay parking. A number of commercial premises in the area have been issued with concessionary permits allowing them to trade within the permit controlled zone. Recent demolition of a majority of residential properties means there is no longer a requirement for residential parking controls although some parking controls still need to be retained. The Council currently has a limited number of on street permit controlled parking bays and designated disabled bays but the reduction of residential properties has provided an opportunity to create an additional number of on street business permit bays. It was proposed therefore that the current controlled parking bays be replaced with business permit controlled parking. Bays would be offered on a contractual basis at an annual cost of £310, the cost of implementation would be minimal. As part of the legal process the proposed restrictions would need to be advertised for a period of 28 days with any feedback reported to the Portfolio Holder.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 The following decisions were made by the Portfolio Holder:

Creation of a one hour limited waiting parking bay on York Road

- 3.2 That the current limited waiting restriction in place between 223-255 York Road be amended from the current 30 minute stay to that of one hour (no return within two hours).
- 3.3 That an additional one hour limited waiting area (no return with two hours) be created opposite the junction of Kilwick Street.
- 3.4 That following the objection of businesses a proposed limited waiting area in Whitburn Street should not now be included in the scheme.

Requests for alleygates

- 3.5 That the schemes for Furness Street and Barbara Mann Court/Victoria Road be approved.
- 3.6 That the scheme for Richard Court/Osborne Road be approved in principle subject to further consultation with the objector.

Parking regulations in Brunswick Street

- 3.7 That the proposal to introduce a prohibition of waiting order at Brunswick Street be approved.
- 3.8 That the Head of Legal Services be asked to prepare and advertise the necessary Parking Orders as part of the formal advertising process.

Dalton Street, Creation of Business Parking Bays

- 3.9 That the proposed change to permit parking restrictions in Dalton Street, replacing the existing residents only parking controls with Business only permit parking controls, be approved.
- 3.10 That the Head of Legal Services be asked to prepare and advertise the necessary parking orders as part of the formal advertising process.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 That the Forum notes the above decisions.

5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 To ensure that the Forum are made aware of Portfolio decisions relating to their area.

6. CONTACT OFFICER

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