

NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA



Wednesday, 1st April 2009

at 2.00 pm

**in Throston Grange Community Centre,
Glamorgan Grove, Hartlepool**

NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM:

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

Resident Representatives: Christine Blakey, John Cambridge, John Lynch, Mary Power, Linda Shields, Bob Steel and Joan Steel

- 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 North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum held on 4th February 2009
 - 4.2 Matters arising
 - 4.3 To receive the minutes of the Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum meeting held on 11th March 2009
- 5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

6. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION

6.1 Getting Involved in Planning in Hartlepool – Statement of Community Involvement – *Director of Regeneration and Planning Services*

6.2 Playbuilder – *Director of Adult and Community Services*

7. RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE ISSUES

8. WARD MEMBERS AND WARD ISSUES

9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

9.1 Pride in Hartlepool - Presentation – *Pride in Hartlepool Officer*

9.2 Hartlepool LINK – *LINKs Co-ordinator*

9.3 Minor Works – Budget Update – *Neighbourhood Manager*

10. ITEMS FOR DECISION

No items

11. ITEMS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

12. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum will take place at a time, date and venue to be confirmed

The next meeting of the North Area Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum will take place at a time, date and venue to be confirmed

NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM

WARDS

Brus
Dyke House
Hart
St Hilda
Throston

4 February 2009

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



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

PRESENT:

Vice Chair: Linda Shields (Resident Representative) (In the Chair)

Councillor Steve Allison	- St Hilda Ward
Councillor Reuben Atkinson	- Dyke House Ward
Councillor Caroline Barker	- Hart Ward
Councillor Rob Cook	Hart Ward
Councillor Sheila Griffin	- Brus Ward
Councillor Edna Wright	- Hart Ward

Resident Representatives:

Christine Blakey, John Cambridge, Mary Power, Joan Steel, Bob Steel and Joan Steel

Public: Cath and Liz Torley, Alan Vale and G Wilson.

Officers:
Karen Oliver, Neighbourhood Manager (North)
Garry Jones, Neighbourhood Services Officer
Peter Nixon, Senior Traffic Technician
Ann Callaghan, Neighbourhood Development Officer
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

Housing Hartlepool: Janis Ledger

46. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sandra Fenwick, Mary Fleet, Tim Fleming, Peter Jackson, Chris McKenna and Michelle Plant and Resident Representative John Lynch

47. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

None.

**48. MINUTES OF THE NORTH
NEIGHBOURHOOD
CONSULTATIVE FORUM HELD ON
3rd DECEMBER 2008**

Confirmed.

49. MATTERS ARISING

Resolutions to issues raised at the last meeting were contained in the Action Sheet circulated with the minutes.

King Oswy Drive / Coast Road Roundabout – A Councillor commented on the need for an anti-skid surface at this location saying the original work had not been done correctly. However the Neighbourhood Manager felt that the passage of time meant there was little recourse that could be taken. Many roundabouts across Hartlepool would benefit from anti-skid treatment but financial concerns meant they had to be prioritised.

Brus Tunnel – The Countryside Access Officer had been unable to attend the meeting but had advised that the public footpath had been repaired and the potholes filled. However as the path was still deemed unfit for public use it would continue to be closed. Reinstatement works would be costly but until these were carried out the path closure and road diversions would remain in place.

A179 / Hart Lane – The Senior Traffic Technician updated those present on a recent speed survey which had indicated no requirement for traffic calming measures. An electronic speed sign would be erected and any missing speed limit signs replaced.

Merlin Way - The Senior Traffic Technician updated those present on a recent speed survey, which had indicated no requirement for traffic calming

measures. An electronic speed sign would be erected on a temporary basis.

Chatham Road – In response to a Councillor query the Senior Traffic Technician advised that a total of approximately £60,000 had been spent on tactile edging on Chatham Road. He also advised that the wrong tactile paving had previously been installed near the Borough Hall, this would be corrected when funding was available. The Neighbourhood Manager commented that this may have been due to aesthetical considerations.

Middlegate – A Resident Representative queried who had requested that Stagecoach buses should wait in Durham Street if ahead of timetable and Middlegate only be used as a pick-up and drop-off point. Another Resident Representative indicated that this had been as a result of complaints from residents and business owners about vehicles leaving their engines running near properties. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that traffic congestion in the area had also been felt to be a problem.

**50. MINUTES OF THE NORTH POLICE
AND COMMUNITY SAFETY
CONSULTATIVE FORUM HELD ON
3rd DECEMBER 2008**

Received.

Thanks were passed on to the lighting team for their work in Century Road and the Neighbourhood Services Officer for his completion of the Coast Road edging.

51. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Brus Tunnel – A Resident asked if the Council was fully aware of the massive sand erosion at Brus Tunnel and dunes leading to Crimdon Dene. This could lead

to rubbish being deposited on the beach. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that a scrutiny investigation into the issue of sand erosion was currently underway. She did not have any information regarding current Council strategies in this area but suggested an expert in this field be invited to a future meeting of the Forum to answer any questions. Reference was made by those present to a previous meeting on this issue by a consultancy firm and a belief that the consultants had only been interested in preserving the Marina and businesses within it.

The Resident also asked that something be done about youths travelling through the outfall pipe. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that the pipe was owned by Northumbrian Water and therefore the Council had no jurisdiction. She would raise this issue with them, highlighting that should there be any injuries they would be liable. The installation of a grid on the entrance/exit was suggested.

Old Cemetery Road – A Resident asked if the roofs at the Barnshaw Bending site could be removed as they were hazardous during high winds. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that the Council had no powers in this regard as it was private land. Culfords had refused previous requests to carry out such works due to financial considerations. She would raise this issue with them, highlighting that should there be any injuries they would be liable.

52. RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES ISSUES

Hart Ward Resident Representative Report – A Resident Representative distributed a summary of her recent actions in support of residents throughout Hartlepool. Highlighted were the removal of speed humps on Merlin Way and

Silverbirch Road. However she felt there was still an issue with the junction leading from Silverbirch onto Merlin with a number of near misses recently. A stop sign had been requested as a matter of urgency.

Smyth Place – A Resident Representative highlighted fires the previous evening near the bungalows. The Housing Hartlepool Representative advised that a meeting was scheduled that afternoon between the Council, Housing Hartlepool and site contractors. Queries were raised as to why demolition work had not yet commenced but the Housing Hartlepool Representative was unable to advise. She suspected it was a cost issue but a Councillor commented that the cost of having the fire brigade attend fires was probably more than comparable. The Vice-Chair asked that the residents be written to for reassurance.

Bournemouth Drive – A Resident Representative requested tarmacing. The Neighbourhood Services Officer felt this could be considered under Minor Works in the next financial year.

Land at the former Brus Arms – In response to a Councillor query the Neighbourhood Services Manager advised the developer of the land had put a tender in to the Council to have the land flattened and grassed over. Further updates would be provided when available.

Union Bank – A Councillor highlighted problems with cars parking on both sides of the road, particularly during bad weather. The Senior Traffic Technician advised that previous plans for a one-way system and installation of double yellow lines had been halted due to the involvement of a Councillor. Officers would reconsider any possible measures,

including parking restrictions in nearby side streets.

Rowell Street – A Councillor advised that graffiti had appeared in the back lane on an empty property.

General Practitioner bankruptcy – A Councillor referred to the financial troubles of a Headland GP. The Neighbourhood Services Manager was unaware of this issue but felt it would be something for the PCT to address.

Coast Road – A Councillor requested the erection of no cycling signs. The Senior Traffic Technician advised that as cycling on the pavement was illegal, signage would not normally be erected. The Neighbourhood Services Manager referred to problems around the policing of such signs.

Another Councillor asked that problems with malfunctioning lights be corrected.

Recycling – A Councillor advised that replacement blue bags were not being left by the contractors. The Neighbourhood Manager asked that any problems be registered by calling the Council number (523333). Complaints could then be collated and used as part of the review of contracts process. Concerns around items being left in the white poly bag were also highlighted. The Neighbourhood Manager to pass on these concerns.

Brus Roundabout – A Councillor thanked the Neighbourhood Services Officer for the removal of cones.

Warren Street / Northgate – A Resident Representative highlighted a problem with rubbish building up in the back streets

Headland Library – A Resident Representative highlighted a problem with employee parking.

53. NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM REVIEW

In 2005 the Best Value Strengthening Communities Review had recommended the review of Neighbourhood Consultative Forums. This had been supported by Cabinet who were keen to encourage residents' participation across the town. The Neighbourhood Manager presented a report on the recently completed review. Information had been gathered from a Viewpoint survey, questionnaires to attendees, interviews with Council officers and service providers and focus groups involving Councillors and Resident Representatives. The key findings showed most people were happy with the existing times and venues and felt their views were listened to and respected. However concerns had been raised that young people were not represented and improvements in publicity were required.

The report recommendations included improvements to the structure and content of the meetings (including one presentation per meeting), the establishment of a code of conduct and development of ways of bringing about greater levels of attendance and representation. A copy of the full review was available upon request with a final report expected to be considered by Cabinet May/June 2009.

The following issues were then raised:

Involvement of young people – a number of solutions to this problem were suggested including invitations to attend being made to School Councillors, the Youth Parliament, Hartlepool Young Voices and Girls/Boys Brigade Groups. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that officers had recently begun working with School Councillors as part of the NAP process, however as NAP meetings

were on an evening there was more flexibility. Young people should be more involved in the process as it was their legacy under discussion.

Venue – The Borough Hall was suggested as a possible future venue.

Workshops – Reference was made to the suggestion of workshops involving Ward Councillors and Resident Representatives to formulate an action plan with a Councillor querying whether her colleagues would attend such meetings when they did not attend the Forums. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that invitations would be issued to everyone but nobody could be forced to attend. This was a town wide review, not confined to the North.

Empowerment – A Resident Representative advocated the resolving of more issues outside of the meeting where possible. A Councillor supported this, saying if he had issues he would take them directly to the officer in question rather than wait for the next Forum meeting. The Forums were being used as a platform for Councillors and Resident Representatives to make speeches and these items should be removed from the agenda.

54. MINOR WORKS SCHEMES UPDATE

The Neighbourhood Manager distributed a document showing details of the Minor Works spend for 2008/09 across the North area. Details were given of the Ward, scheme, date of approval and amount of funding allocated from the Minor Works budget. This showed a total spend of £87,610 out of a budget of £88,831. The remaining £1,221 would be carried forward to the 2009/10 budget allocation.

A breakdown of the spend by Ward was also included, however the Neighbourhood Manager highlighted that although there might appear to be some discrepancy with the amounts given to individual wards the North Forum was one area and any improvements made to any part of it were all for the greater good. Regarding the Multi Use Games Areas fund £10,000 was left to spend on a specified area in 2009/10 as part of the third year of a three year programme. This had been very successful and consideration would need to be given to future provision.

55. RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE VACANCY

Maureen Waller had recently resigned her post as Resident Representative for the Throston Ward. The Neighbourhood Manager would send a letter thanking her for her contribution. A new Resident Representative would need to be elected at a future Forum and those present were asked to highlight the vacancy at any residents' meetings they might be attending. The position would also be advertised by the usual channels, although it was highlighted that should any Throston residents apply they would automatically be given the position ahead of applicants from other wards.

56. ITEMS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

Georgina Richards advised the Forum of the forthcoming Global Xchange volunteer exchange programme whereby young people from Ethiopia and the UK would be living in Hartlepool for three months in the summer of 2009. Host homes were being sought where two young people, one from each country, would be able to live. Weekly payments would be made to householders to cover living costs and there was no requirement for homes to be made available for the

full three months. Anyone interested was asked to contact Georgina on georgina.richards@vso.org.uk Tel 07867907937.

57. DATE, TIME AND VENUES OF NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the North Area Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum would take place on Wednesday, 11th March 2009 at 10.00 am at West View Community Centre, Miers Avenue, Hartlepool

The next meeting of the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum would take place on Wednesday, 1st April 2009 at 20.00 pm at Throston Grange Community Centre, Glamorgan Grove, Hartlepool

The meeting concluded at 11.45 am

Chair

North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum

4 February 2009

Issues Raised/Action Sheet

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
<u>Public Question Time</u>		
Brus Tunnel – Sand erosion at Brus Tunnel and dunes leading to Crimdon Dene	Officer to attend forum meeting.	Dave Thompson
Brus Tunnel – Youths travelling through the outfall pipe.	Issue has been raised with Northumbrian Water and a honeycombed brick built wall has been placed approximately 10m up the pipe to prevent full access.	Garry Jones
Old Cemetery Road – Removal of roof at Barnshaw Bending site	Loose metal around the building has been removed by the owners.	Karen Oliver
<u>Resident Representatives Issues</u>		
Merlin Way and Silverbirch Road – stop sign	This section of road has not yet been adopted and is not the Council's responsibility, Christine Blakey resident rep for the area has written to the developers requesting that markings are put in place.	Peter Nixon

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
Smyth Place – fires and demolition of properties, letter to be sent to residents.	Letters did not go out as requested but a door knocking exercise was carried out to all residents on the boundary when the contractors first came on site to the properties in the area. As part of a routine exercise a newsletter will be published in the very near future to inform residents of the site development, this also links in with the Warren Road development which is also underway by the same contractors. The properties have all been demolished now and there is a pile of rubble that the contractors are working on and no further incidents have been reported.	Janis Ledger - Housing Hartlepool
Bournemouth Drive – tarmacing	A scheme to be brought to the North Forum in the next financial year.	Garry Jones
Land at Former Brus Arms – flatten land and grass over	Owner has been informed, awaiting response.	Karen Oliver
Union Bank – cars parking on both sides of the road	Initially plans to implement double yellow lines on one side of the road were blocked following ward councillor intervention, reinvestigate possible less restrictive measures.	Peter Nixon
Rowell Street – graffiti in back lane	The Graffiti is not offensive. This is on private property, also the wall is rendered. Therefore we cannot remove it as the pressure jet we use sometimes loosens the render on the wall. The owner will be asked to remove the graffiti or repaint the wall.	Garry Jones

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
Coast Road – malfunctioning lights	All lights repaired to carry out inspection on Tuesday 24 March.	Bob Golightly
Recycling – concerns around items being left in white poly bags and recycling bags not returned.	<p>Colin Ogden spoke to Councillor Wright and Liz Torley and discussed the problems, advising them that the issue would be highlighted to all crews involved, along with their supervisors.</p> <p>Trials would be carried out this year to try to identify the best collection method for newspapers etc. This would probably involve the use of a heavier poly bag rather than the present blue plastic bag. Any changes we could then make to the present collections would be advised and implemented as soon as possible.</p> <p>The contractor has been advised of the complaints with regard to blue bags and the Council are monitoring their response.</p>	Karen Oliver
Warren Street/Northgate – rubbish building up in one private property	Back street checked regularly by enforcement. Joanne Burnley's team to inspect the property and prepare a report.	Garry Jones

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
Headland Library – (Carnegie Buildings) – Parking on pavement	<p>Parking enforcement staff have visited the site at Headland Library, Northgate. However there was no evidence of vehicles parking on the pavement at the time of the visits.</p> <p>There are no parking restrictions in place at this location so the footpath would not actually be covered by any parking regulations. Any footpath obstruction would therefore need to be actioned by the Police.</p> <p>HBC will continue to visit and monitor complaints, but any action against footpath parking would require the creation of a Traffic Regulation Order, which would then apply to both the highway carriageway and footpath.</p>	Karen Oliver
<u>Neighbourhood Consultative Forum Review</u>		
Workshops – invitations to be sent to everyone	April event – awaiting appointment of Chair – South NC Forum	Karen Oliver

WARDS

Brus
Dyke House
Hart
St Hilda
Throston

NORTH POLICE & COMMUNITY SAFETY CONSULTATIVE FORUM

11 March 2009

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



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

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Mary Fleet – Dyke House Ward

Vice Chair: Resident Representative Linda Shields

Councillor Steve Allison	- St Hilda Ward
Councillor Caroline Barker	- Hart Ward
Councillor Rob Cook	Hart Ward
Councillor Sheila Griffin	- Brus Ward
Councillor John Marshall	- St Hilda Ward
Councillor Michelle Plant	Brus Ward
Councillor Edna Wright	- Hart Ward

Residents: Cath Torley, Liz Torley, Alan Vale, G D Wilson

Resident Representatives: John Cambridge and Robert Steel

Officers: Karen Oliver, Neighbourhood Manager (North)
Garry Jones, Neighbourhood Services Officer
Sally Forth, Anti-Social Behaviour Unit Co-ordinator
Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

Cleveland Police: Chief Inspector Phil Veitch, Inspector Mick Brown, Sergeant Chris Dawber

Cleveland Fire Brigade: Stu Simpson

Housing Hartlepool: Natalie Gooding

Neighbourhood Watch: M J Shaw

16. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chair Councillor Mary Fleet welcomed residents, Members, Resident Representatives and Officers.

17. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Reuben Atkinson and Tim Fleming.

18. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 JANUARY 2009

The minutes were confirmed as an accurate record.

19. MATTERS ARISING

A resident asked about the lack of CCTV coverage in the Spion Cop area and was informed that there was currently a review of CCTV in the town. Inspector Brown told the resident that he would be meeting with the Community Safety Officer in the near future and would raise the matter with him then.

20. UPDATE FROM THE POLICE

Chief Inspector Veitch introduced the new North and South Neighbourhood Inspector, Mick Brown and provided an overview of crime in the North area of Hartlepool. Most categories of crime were on a downward trend apart from vehicle crime and robbery. There had been 1096 arrests with 906 having a positive outcome. He referred to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership Families Accessing Support Together (FAST) project at which volunteers met up with young people to try and dissuade them from anti-social behaviour. He referred to a number of items of interest including drugs activity in Grey Street, criminal damage to a repeat elderly victim, and

activity at the 24 hour shop in Raby Road. He stated that if there was activity in a particular area then there would be a leaflet drop informing the residents. He stated that there were problem solving meetings on a monthly basis.

A Member referred to a number of incidents of Anti-social behaviour which had occurred in the Town Moor/Jacques Court area of the Headland and said that residents were afraid to report incidents to the police for fear of reprisals. The Inspector asked for people to report crime either to the police or partner agencies and said that work was being done with schools and visiting parents in an attempt to stem this behaviour. The Inspector advised people to visit the Cleveland Police website (http://www.cleveland.police.uk/policing_cleveland/districts/nbhood_policing.php) and see what crime trends were in their neighbourhood.

A Member referred to the metal theft trend being downward saying that it was because the price of metal was lower.

A resident outlined an incident which had occurred on the Headland beach and the Inspector advised him that he would ensure that more patrols were in the vicinity if possible.

A Member informed the police of problems in the King Oswy area where youths were throwing stones. The Inspector said that the FAST team could try and divert the youths with activities.

A Member complained about the lack of CCTV in children's play areas especially at Clavering and King Oswy. The Inspector stated that the neighbourhood policing teams now had headcams which should provide evidence if called to an incident. The Neighbourhood Manager said that there was low evidence to suggest that the areas warranted CCTV

but if there was a recurring problem then mobile cameras could be deployed. She suggested that residents should be encouraged to join the Neighbourhood Watch.

A resident representative commented that he hoped that the Police budget was not reduced because of its success in reducing crime trends. He also suggested that there was an increase in youths gathering around the pizza shop in Clavering and again the FAST team project was referred to. There were football activities on a Friday night in which a growing number of youths had participated.

A member highlighted antisocial behaviour occurring in Leighton Walk and the Inspector agreed to speak with the resident.

Details of Operation Staysafe which had been run in February were outlined to the meeting and a further one was planned. This entailed taking any youths deemed to be vulnerable, usually because of too much alcohol, to a place of safety where they could be assessed for support needs. Parents were involved at an early stage.

A member referred to overloaded trucks accessing the beach. The Inspector agreed to see if it would be worthwhile having a planned Operation to combat this.

A Member asked how many police were operational in Hartlepool especially in the North area. The Chief Inspector stated that there was 24 hour response cover as well as the Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPT) with PCSOs as well as back up from other teams including drugs, traffic and the neighbourhood task group. The NPT shift patterns were aligned to fit in with demand and there were policing teams based at Northgate,

West View and Dyke House in the north area.

A Member asked why there was no police officer designated for the Hart ward and was informed that an officer would be starting work during the week commencing 6 April 2009.

21. UPDATE FROM THE FIRE BRIGADE

Cleveland Fire and Rescue representative Stuart Simpson outlined the figures for fires in the District over the past couple of months and specifically for the North area.

He alluded to car fires in the area as well as fires at Steetley.

A 3 a side free football initiative had been set up at West View on a Friday night to try and avert antisocial behaviour.

There had been a spate of wheelie bin fires in Portmadoc Walk and an arson attack through a letterbox. A number of flatlocks (devices attached to the inside of letterboxes) had been fitted in an attempt to combat this.

Another initiative was the message in a bottle campaign where residents were encouraged to display a sticker so that if the emergency services are called they are made aware that medication is in the fridge.

Discussion took place about the regular fires occurring on the Steetley site and another incident on Wiltshire Way.

It was clarified that there were CCTV cameras fitted to fire appliances and these would be used to assist police if offences had occurred.

22. UPDATE FROM THE ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR UNIT

The Antisocial Behaviour Unit Co-ordinator gave details of recent activity in the unit and a breakdown of where cases were occurring, what category of complains were dealt with, broken down into wards. She stated that there were currently 37 ASBOs in operation in the town.

She referred to work that the unit was doing including teams being involved at High Tunstall and St Hild's School. There had been 2 Operation Staysafes which had been done in partnership with the police and other agencies. During the first operation 20 young people had been taken to the place of safety and 16 at the second, with one young person, being picked up on both Operations.

New links had been made with the Middleton Grange security team and at the hospital.

A Member suggested that an ASBO was regarded as a badge of honour and suggested that a harder line should be taken against breaches by the courts.

A Member asked that the figures be made available prior to the meeting and was informed that if available they would be sent out with agendas.

23. DESIGNATED PUBLIC PLACE ORDERS

Sergeant Chris Dawber gave a presentation outlining the designated public places orders which were due to come into force shortly. These would assist officers in intervening with anyone who was suspected of having drunk alcohol and about to commit any antisocial behaviour. Hartlepool was the only district in Cleveland to utilise these

orders and maps of the affected areas were shown at the meeting.

24. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

25. ISSUES RAISED BY COUNCILLORS AND RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES

A Member referred to a privately owned house on the corner of Miers Avenue which had been allowed to fall into disrepair and asked whether there was any assistance available for the owner. She was informed that the Local Authority had no legal obligation to assist private owners.

A Member stated that children's play areas should have priority over allotments for CCTV cameras.

The meeting concluded at 12.15 pm.

CHAIR

MARY FLEET

Report of: Director of Regeneration and Planning Services

Subject: GETTING INVOLVED IN PLANNING IN
HARTLEPOOL - STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY
INVOLVEMENT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform and seek feedback from the Forum on progress on the revision of the Statement of Community Involvement.

1. BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION

- 2.1 In February 2006 the Forum received a presentation and report on the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). This document sets out how and when the Council will consult the community during the preparation of new planning policy documents and in the consideration of planning applications.
- 2.2 The Borough Council considered all comments made at the time and in October 2006 the first Hartlepool SCI was published.
- 2.3 The 2006 SCI is now being updated due to changes in Central Government guidance and general changes or updates in relation to work within Hartlepool Borough Council and its partners.

3 THE NEXT STEPS

- 3.1 The draft review of the SCI has been prepared and will be consulted on for a two month period.
- 3.2 During the consultation period a permanent display will be located within the central library. The display will be manned at various stages throughout the consultation period, information relating to times when the display will be manned are provided on the information sheet, internet or directly from Planning Policy staff on (01429 284308).
- 3.3 The aim of the consultation process is to involve as many people as possible in the shaping of this document so that it is easy to use and understand and is a useful document for all who wish to be involved in shaping the future of Hartlepool.
- 3.4 All representations put forward within this two month period will be considered, and amendments to the draft will be made accordingly. Planning Policy officers will be available to attend any meetings at community groups

to explain the SCI and how to get involved in planning Hartlepool. For further information regarding the SCI please ring 01429 284308 or e mail planning.policy@hartlepool.gov.uk.

4 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 That the report be noted and that interested parties be encouraged to submit any representations during this two month consultation period.

Report of: Director of Adult and Community Services

Subject: PLAY BUILDER

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform and seek feedback from the Forum on the development of the Play Builder project.

2. BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Following The Fair Play Survey to support the creation of the National Play Strategy part of the Governments Children Plan it was recognised that funding was required to improve play spaces for young people aged 8-13 years old. To ensure that the improvement of play is recognised Government has introduced a new National Indicator NI 199, which comes into force April 2009 and evaluates children's satisfaction within play facilities.
- 2.2 The Government, through The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) have committed £235 million to improve outdoor play facilities over 3 years started in 2008.
- 2.3 All top tier Authorities are or have received Pathfinder or Play Builder money, in Hartlepool's case, this is £1,129,958 million of Play Builder money.
- 2.4 Play England have been appointed by DCSF to support Local Authorities through this process.

3. THE NEXT STEPS

- 3.1 The Play Builder funding for Hartlepool starts on 1st April 2009 and finishes in April 2011.
- 3.2 There has to be 11 significantly improved or new play spaces completed by April 2010 and another 11 by 2011.
- 3.3 The allocated funding has to be spent within each financial year and DCSF will not allow for any under spend to be carried forward, spend it all or lose it.
- 3.4 A final Project Plan has to be submitted to DCSF by the end of March 2009, to ensure that HBC receives the funding.

- 3.5 We need the help and assistance of local residents, communities, children and young people to get this right so that play spaces of real value to the community and young people are put in place.
- 3.6 We need input from all to make this a dynamic and inspired project, delivering play spaces that are wanted and that will be used.
- 3.7 The Play Builder fund forces us to question what has gone before and to reevaluate it.

4. HBC's PROPOSED PLAY SPACES FOR YEAR 1 OF THE PLAY BUILDER PROGRAM

- 4.1 These are the proposed sites that have been put forward to DCSF for consideration in year 1, with year 2 developments open to further discussion and consultation.
- 4.2 Play Space
 - (i) Jutland Road
 - (ii) Oxford Road
 - (iii) King George Playing Fields
 - (iv) King Oswy Drive
 - (v) Town Moor
 - (vi) Greatham
 - (vii) Lynnfield School
 - (viii) Owton Manor
 - (ix) Burbank
 - (x) Clavering
 - (xi) Burn Valley Garden - Rock Garden 1
- 4.3 The lead officer for this project is Chris Wenlock, Parks and Countryside Manager.

5. RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 That the report is noted and that interested parties are encouraged to submit any representations in relation to years One or Two of this project.

HARTLEPOOL LINK

Introduction:

Hartlepool LINK is a network of local people and organisations, funded by Government and supported by Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency (the independent host organisation) to promote and support the involvement of people in commissioning, provision and scrutiny of local health and social care services. Every LINK in the country has the same powers and responsibilities but it is the individual LINK that decides what will work best in their area.

The role of Hartlepool LINK is to:

- Give everyone the opportunity to say what they think about their local health and social care services in terms of what is working well and what is not so good.
- Give people an opportunity to monitor and review how services are both planned and delivered.
- Provide feedback on what people have said about services, so that improvements can be made.

The Way Forward:

Hartlepool LINK has a range of methods available to enable them how to say how local services could improve:

- Make reports and recommendations to commissioners and receive a reply within a set period of time.
- Ask commissioners for information and receive a reply within a set period of time.
- Enter certain Health and Social Care premises to observe the nature and quality of services.
- Refer issues to Overview and Scrutiny committees and receive a response.

Work with Commissioners:

Hartlepool LINK has been created through the introduction of legislation (Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007). It has powers to hold Health and Social Care service providers to account. The same legislation puts a greater obligation on providers and commissioners to consult with the public about services. It is envisaged that the LINK will be looked upon as one of the main ways of ensuring people are involved in making decisions about services.

Hartlepool LINK will provide commissioners with a first point of contact for involvement and engagement. The LINK will be a pool of local knowledge, service users and expertise, which will assist commissioners assess the needs of local populations. Involving the public through consultation with Hartlepool LINK will help commissioners take decisions that best reflect the public's need.

Enter and View:

To enable Hartlepool LINK to gather information they need about services, there will be times when it will be appropriate for them to see and hear, for themselves, how services are provided. The Government has introduced duties on certain commissioners and Health & Social Care services to allow authorised representatives of Hartlepool LINK to enter premises that providers own or control, to observe the nature and quality of services.

Should you require any further information, help or advice regarding HARTLEPOOL LINK please contact:

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North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum**Minor Works - 2008/2009 - £88,831**

Forum - £52,000

Highway Maintenance - £20,000

Grass Verges - £15,000

Carried Forward - £1,831

Ward	Name of Scheme	Date Approved	Minor Works Funding £	Other Funding
St Hilda	Hazelwood Rise trees and bollards	18 th June 2008	4,850	
St Hilda	St Mary Street (rear) steps	18 th June 2008	4,460	
St Hilda	Prissick Street parking	18 th June 2008	9,000	
Brus	Coast Road steps	18 th June 2008	3,000	
Dyke House	Allerton Close environmental improvements	18 th June 2008	3,400	
St Hilda	West View Road verge works	18 th June 2008	11,550	
Throston	Throston Allotments security	18 th June 2008	7,000	
Various	Dropped crossings	18 th June 2008	3,500	
Various	Pride in Hartlepool	18 th June 2008	5,000	
Various	Key Routes	13 th June 2007	20,000	
Various	Multi Use Games Areas	13 th June 2007	10,000	
Hart Ward	Gleneagles Road Horticulture	15 th October 2008	4,500	
Throston	Padstow Close	3 rd December	450	

Ward	Name of Scheme	Date Approved	Minor Works Funding	Other Funding
Ward	Horticulture Scheme	2008		
St Hilda	Bakers Mead Improve Security to Perimeter Fencing	3 rd December 2008	500	
St Hilda	Bakers Mead Replacement of iron fencing on boundary wall	3 rd December 2008	690	
Hart	Westwood Way Pedestrian Access	3 rd December 2008	400	
Total spend			£88,300	
Balance			£531	

Minor Works Schemes – 2008/09

Ward	Total cost of Schemes
Brus	3,000
Dyke House	3,400
Hart	4,900
St Hilda	31,050
Throston	7,450
Various	38,500 } £20,000 Key Routes £10,000 Multi Use Games Areas £5,000 Pride in Hartlepool £3,500 Dropped Crossings
TOTAL	£88,300

Key Routes and MUGA's (second year of a three year rolling programme)