

NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA



Wednesday, 27th May 2009

at 10.00 am

**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 1st April 2009
 - 4.2 Matters arising
- 5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

6. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION

6.1 Presentation – North Tree Strategy – *Arboricultural Officer*

7. RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE ISSUES

8. WARD MEMBERS AND WARD ISSUES

9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

9.1 Minor Works – Financial Year 2009/10 – *Neighbourhood Manager*

9.2 Neighbourhood Consultative Forum Review – Verbal Update –
Neighbourhood Manager

10. ITEMS FOR DECISION

10.1 Minor Works – Tree Strategy Proposal – *Neighbourhood Manager*

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

1 April 2009

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm
in Throston Grange Community Centre, Glamorgan Grove, Hartlepool

PRESENT:

Chair:	Councillor Mary Fleet	Dyke House Ward
	Councillor Steve Allison	St Hilda Ward
	Councillor Rob Cook	Hart Ward
	Councillor John Marshall	St Hilda Ward
	Councillor Michelle Plant	Brus Ward

Resident Representatives: Christine Blakey, John Cambridge, Mary Power, Joan Steel, and Robert Steel

Public: B Aisbitt, Pat Andrews, Susan Grasby, Ted Lee, Geoff Lilley, Tony Morrell, Sylvia Robson, M J Shaw, Kirsty Thompson, Liz Torley, Alan Vale, Denis Wilson

Officers:

- Claire Brookbanks, Community Safety Assistant
- Tom Britcliffe, Principal Planning Officer
- Helen Williams, Planning Officer
- Ann Callaghan, Neighbourhood Development Officer
- Gary Jones, Neighbourhood Services Officer
- Kate Ainger, Pride in Hartlepool Officer
- Denis Hancock, Senior Engineer (Environmental Issues)
- Dave Thompson, Principal Engineer
- Peter Frost, Traffic Team Leader
- Tracy Liveras, Young People and Play Co-ordinator
- Chris Wenlock, Parks and Countryside Manager
- Richard Harlanderson, Parks Development Officer
- Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

HVDA Representatives: Christopher Akers-Belcher

Police Representatives: Sgt Stonehouse

Fire Brigade Representatives: Stu Simpson, Hayley Woodhouse

58. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Atkinson, Barker, Fleming, Griffin, and Wright and Resident Representative Linda Shields.

59. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

None.

60. MINUTES OF THE NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM HELD ON 4 FEBRUARY 2009

These were confirmed as an accurate account with the amendment in Minute 50 of Cemetery Road not Century.

61. MATTERS ARISING

Middlegate – Several Councillors stated that there was still a problem with buses causing an obstruction in this area. The Neighbourhood Services Officer agreed to confer with Stagecoach and the Police Representative also said he would look into this regarding parking restrictions.

Land at former Brus Arms – A Councillor asked whether there was any progress on this. The Neighbourhood Services Officer stated that the land owner had been contacted and given a quote to have the land top soiled over and grass seeded but thus far there had been no response. The Neighbourhood Services Officer would follow this up.

Union Bank – A Resident Representative referred to the problem of car parking here and the Traffic Team Leader agreed to look into the possibility of yellow lines, although there had been opposition to this in the past. He would report back to the next meeting.

Silverbirch Road – A resident representative stated that the problem on this road appeared to have abated since the erection of signage.

Coastal Erosion – The Principal Engineer informed the meeting that it was current Local Authority policy to allow that area of coastline to erode as the beach frontage is the subject of a Special Protection Area. He added though that this was currently under an ongoing review. Members expressed concern at the erosion of this stretch of coastline and were informed that it currently complied with Natural England's policy which was determined at national level.

Brus Ward - A Resident Representative referred to flooding in the area and was informed that this was due to a faulty sewerage pipe but this had been recently rectified.

62. MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY CONSULTATIVE FORUM

These were received by the forum.

63. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Fish Sands – A resident queried whether a handrail could be installed on the steps to the Fish Sands and was informed that although it was an historic wall quotes could be obtained to put a freestanding one in place.

Car Parking in High Street – A resident asked whether traffic restrictions could be put in place as there was a problem when the fish and chip shop was open. The Traffic Team Leader agreed to conduct a survey with residents on what measures would be suitable.

King Oswy Drive – A resident highlighted the problem of speed bumps disintegrating. The Traffic Team Leader

said that he was aware of this problem and these would be resurfaced in the next couple of weeks. A resident also mentioned how drivers were habitually driving in the middle of the road to avoid the speed humps and was informed that the gaps in the middle of the humps were there to allow larger vehicles e.g. emergency services to avoid them.

Tall Ships Roundabout – A resident highlighted uneven surfaces at the junction with Merlin Way and was informed that this road was not yet adopted and would be rectified when it was.

Coast Road – A resident stated that the carriageway was failing and was informed that this would be sorted during the summer months.

Central Estate – A resident stated that the access bridges to the playing fields had been closed and was informed that it was thought that these were on private land but this would be investigated by the Neighbourhood Services Officer.

64. STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Graduate Planning Officer gave a presentation regarding the Statement of Community Involvement and highlighted that this document was currently under review and set out how the Council intended to involve the community, businesses, landowners and statutory agencies in the planning system and what to expect from the Council and developers. Any comments received between 1 April 2009 and 1 June 2009 would be reviewed and the revised document would go out for further consultation for six weeks before adoption by the Council in 2010.

A query was raised about planning permission for issues such as a 2nd

Power Station which were decided nationally. The Principal Planning Officer confirmed that there would be a decision made at a national level regarding numbers of Power Stations, airports, ports, but any local issues regarding sites would be discussed at a local level including any add on agreements for developers.

65. PLAYBUILDER

A presentation was given by a representative from Play England (North East) which was a five year project to promote strategies for free play and to create a lasting support structure for children's play in England. There had been approximately £1 million allocated following the submission of a project plan setting out the timescales for the development and/or refurbishment of play areas.

A Member asked whether there would be any funding provided for ongoing maintenance costs once the capital funding had been provided. The Parks and Countryside Manager stated that ongoing reviews were made to locate efficiencies or redirection of funding to use for maintenance of projects.

A resident stated that the Headland paddling pool was currently unuseable and was informed that this would be operational for the Easter period.

A resident also complained of the state of the beaches and was informed that countryside wardens were currently spending half their week collecting litter.

66. RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE ISSUES

Sea View Terrace - A resident representative highlighted environmental

health issues here and was informed that officers were already looking into it.

Fundraising Day – A resident representative drew the meeting's attention to a fundraising day which had been organised at Navigation Point.

67. WARD MEMBERS' ISSUES

Sea Coaling – A Ward Member stated that sea coaling was beginning to be a problem again.

Car Parking on Pavements – A Ward Member highlighted that cars parking on pavements were resulting in tactile paving smashing and action needed to be taken.

20 mph zones outside schools – A Ward Member stated that there should be traffic calming outside every school in the North area.

Bollards outside St Mark's Hall – A Ward Member asked whether this work could be undertaken under the Minor Works Scheme as wagons were causing damage to paving.

Sandbanks Drive – A Ward Member asked for an update on grassed areas and was informed that residents were currently being consulted and thus far a majority were in favour of tarmacing.

68. PRIDE IN HARTLEPOOL

The Pride in Hartlepool Officer gave a presentation on projects that had been undertaken over the past year, particularly in the North area. These included tree planting on Wiltshire Way, the Make a Difference Day in the North Cemetery, Creatures of the Night walk in the North Cemetery and Big Tidy Ups. A number of groups had also benefited from funding from the Pride in Hartlepool Budget.

A resident stated that dog fouling bins were being vandalised and the Neighbourhood Services Officer said that these would be replaced as soon as possible.

69. LINK

The LINK Co-ordinator informed the meeting of the aims of the Local Involvement Network which was made up of individuals and community groups who worked together to improve health and social care services. He invited the audience to join the group and stressed that each and everyone's views would be taken seriously by the Hartlepool LINK.

70. MINOR WORKS SCHEMES UPDATE

The Neighbourhood Services Officer outlined the various Minor Works which had been carried out throughout the year with a total spend of £88,300 leaving £531 to be carried forward to the next financial year. A breakdown of schemes on a ward by ward basis had also been provided.

A Member suggested that assistance should be provided from this scheme to implement traffic calming measures outside schools.

71. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A Member said that he understood that there were to be only two presentations given at the Neighbourhood Forums.

The meeting concluded at 4.10 pm.

North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum

1 April 2009

Issues Raised/Action Sheet

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>Middlegate – Several Councillors stated that there was still a problem with buses causing an obstruction in this area. The Neighbourhood Services Officer agreed to confer with Stagecoach and the Police Representative also said he would look into this regarding parking restrictions</p> <p>Land at former Brus Arms – A Councillor asked whether there was any progress on this. The Neighbourhood Services Officer stated that the land owner had been contacted and given a quote to have the land top soiled over and grass seeded but thus far there had been no response. The Neighbourhood Services Officer would follow this up.</p> <p>Union Bank – A Resident Representative referred to the problem of car parking here and the Traffic Team Leader agreed to look into the possibility of yellow lines, although there had been opposition to this in the past. He would report back to the next meeting</p> <p><u>Public Question Time</u></p> <p>Fish Sands – A resident queried whether a handrail could be installed on the steps to the Fish Sands and was informed that although it was an historic wall quotes could be obtained to put a freestanding one in place.</p>	<p>A letter to be sent to Stagecoach Management outlining resident concerns, copy of letter enclosed.</p> <p>The current owner has been approached on a number of occasions in relation to tidying up this land. Planning are considering enforcement (Serving 215) as a way forward.</p> <p>Details of proposed parking restrictions will be reported at next meeting.</p> <p>A scheme has been drawn up and will be presented to the Forum as a minor works proposal once it has been agreed by the Conservation Society.</p>	<p>G Jones</p> <p>G Jones</p> <p>P Frost</p> <p>G Jones</p>

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
<p>Parking in High Street – A resident asked whether traffic restrictions could be put in place as there was a problem when the fish and chip shop was open. The Traffic Team Leader agreed to conduct a survey with residents on what measures would be suitable.</p>	<p>Consultation has been undertaken with residents and the Parish Council. 3 Comments have been received:- 1 response indicated that do nothing was the preferred option, another response preferred the closure of Mary Street and the introduction of yellow lines and the 3rd response preferred yellow lines only.</p> <p>It is therefore proposed to close Mary Street and implement parking restrictions on an experimental basis for a 6 month period.</p>	P Nixon
<p>King Oswy Drive – A resident highlighted the problem of speed bumps disintegrating. The Traffic Team Leader said that he was aware of this problem and these would be resurfaced in the next couple of weeks.</p>	<p>The cushions are to be replaced week commencing 5/5/09</p>	P Frost
<p>Central Estate – A resident stated that the access bridges to the playing fields had been closed and was informed that it was thought that these were on private land but this would be investigated by the Neighbourhood Services Officer.</p>	<p>Due to an increase in crime and Anti Social Behaviour on the Bakers Mead estate, secure fencing has been erected to the rear of all properties.</p>	G Jones
<p><u>Ward Members Issues</u></p>		
<p>Sea Coaling – A Ward Member stated that sea coaling was beginning to be a problem again.</p>	<p>Access points to beach regularly checked and repaired (often vandalised).</p>	D Hancock
<p>Car Parking on Pavements – A Ward Member highlighted that cars parking on pavements were resulting in tactile paving smashing and action needed to be taken.</p>	<p>Enforcement Action can only be taken if a parking restriction is in place, if there are specific areas where this is a particular problem, possible restrictions could be investigated.</p>	P Frost
<p>20 mph zones outside schools – A Ward Member stated that there should be traffic calming outside every school in the North area.</p>	<p>There is a rolling programme of works to implement 20 mph speed limits outside schools, suitable for this treatment. Funding is available for 2-3 schools each</p>	P Frost

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
	year.	
Bollards outside St Mark's Hall – A Ward Member asked whether this work could be undertaken under the Minor Works Scheme as wagons were causing damage to paving.	A proposed scheme will be submitted to NCF under Minor Works.	G Jones
Sandbanks Drive – A Ward Member asked for an update on grassed areas and was informed that residents were currently being consulted and thus far a majority were in favour of tarmacing.	Consultation letters were sent out to 32 residents, to ask if they agreed to have the grass verges tarmaced. 17 were returned, 15 were in favour and 2 were not. In light of this result letters will be sent to residents once a scheme has been priced and funding secured.	G Jones