

NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA



Wednesday, 22nd July 2009

at 6.00 pm

**in West View Community Centre,
Miers Avenue, 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 27th May 2009
 - 4.2 Matters arising
- 5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

6. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION

- 6.1 Master Plan For The Refurbishment Of The Upper Part Burn Valley Gardens And Beyond, In Partnership With The Development Of An Environmental Educational And Involvement Program For The People Of Hartlepool – *Parks Development Officer*
- 6.2 Foundation Status Consultation – *Presentation by North East Ambulance Trust*

7. ITEMS FOR DECISION

- 7.1 Minor Works Budget 2009/2010– *Neighbourhood Manager*
- 7.2 Pride in Hartlepool Campaign Update – *Pride in Hartlepool Officer*

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

- 8.1 Throston Neighbourhood Action Plan – *Head of Regeneration*

9. RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE ISSUES

10. WARD MEMBERS AND WARD ISSUES

11. ITEMS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

12. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the North Area Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum will take place on Wednesday 5th August at 2.00pm at Throston Grange Community Centre, Glamorgan Grove

The next meeting of the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum will take place on Wednesday 2nd September at 2.00pm at Throston Grange Community Centre, Glamorgan Grove

WARDS

Brus
Dyke House
Hart
St Hilda
Throston

NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM

27 May 2009

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



The meeting commenced at 10.00am
in Throston Grange Community Centre, Glamorgan Grove, Hartlepool

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Mary Fleet Dyke House Ward

Vice Chair: Linda Shields (Resident Representative)

Councillor Rob Cook	Hart Ward
Councillor Sheila Griffin	Brus Ward
Councillor Chris McKenna	Throston Ward

Resident Representatives: Christine Blakey, John Cambridge, John Lynch, Bob Steel and Joan Steel

Public: T Best, Mary Fletcher, S Fletcher, John Maxwell, Tony Morrell, Cath Torley, Liz Torley, Alan Vale and Dennis Wilson

Officers:

- Karen Oliver, Neighbourhood Manager
- Garry Jones, Neighbourhood Services Officer
- Tony Dixon, Arboricultural Officer
- Peter Nixon, Senior Traffic Technician
- Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

Housing Hartlepool Representative: Liz McPartlin

Police Representatives: Mick Brown, Tim Brown and Chris Stonehouse

Fire Brigade Representative: Peter Bradley

72. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Caroline Barker and Edna Wright

73. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS
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None.

74. MINUTES OF THE NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM HELD ON 1st April 2009

Confirmed as an accurate record

75. MATTERS ARISING

Car parking on pavements – A resident advised that this continued to be a problem. Drivers were regularly parking four wheels on the pavement and causing an obstruction to pedestrian but were not being challenged. The Senior Traffic Technician indicated that if there were no restrictions in place then there could be no enforcement. However consideration could be given to physical measures to restrict drivers' ability to park in this manner. The police pledged to take action on this, a Councillor suggested that parking on one side of the street only be introduced.

Fish Sands – A Resident Representative requested an update on the installation of a handrail on the steps to the Fish Sands as previously requested. The Neighbourhood Manager reported that the designs were currently being considered by the Conservation Society prior to implementation.

76. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

CJC – A Resident requested an update on the current situation, stating that in the past month access had been opened up onto the old Central Road only to be closed off again. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that the enquiry by the Secretary of State had been delayed and therefore she had no new information. Nor did she have any updates on day-to-day activity on the site.

Thorpe Street – A Resident requested an update on the area at the top of

Thorpe Street. The Neighbourhood Manager indicated that the work was near completion with the footpath and bench in place. Planting would begin soon.

Headland Development Building –

There were potholes in front. The Neighbourhood Services Officer reported that they were waiting for a repairs start date from the contractor.

Central Estate – More dog foul and litter bins were requested. The Neighbourhood Services Office advised this would be looked into while the Neighbourhood Officer raised concerns relating to previous vandalism to bins on Old Cemetery Road, querying whether installing more would be feasible.

77. NORTH TREE STRATEGY

The Arboricultural Officer gave a brief presentation on the proposed North Tree Strategy. He advised those present of the benefits of trees, including healthier lives, a more successful local economy and an improved environment. A strategy for trees in Hartlepool had been drawn up designed to increase the number of trees and promote a greater ownership and appreciation of them. This would link to other strategies such as the Local Plan and Climate Change Strategy. Details were also given of the considerations made by officers when planting trees and a number of examples were given. The Neighbourhood Manager commented that North area residents had requested the planting of more trees in the area for the beneficial reasons stated within the presentation

The Forum gave their full support to the proposals as it would give the North the opportunity to come up to the national standard in terms of tree planting. Calls were made for a press release to be issued extolling the virtues of tree planting and that this be included in

lesson plans for schools across Hartlepool. Concerns were raised regarding the use of tree cover in anti-social behaviour in West View Cemetery but the Arboricultural Officer felt that if new trees were planted correctly there would be less chance for natural dens to be created. Also the Forum felt that they should not give in to vandalism.

The Chair thanked the Arboricultural Officer for attending the meeting and answering questions.

78. MINOR WORKS – TREE STRATEGY PROPOSAL

Following the previous presentation the Forum was asked to agree to recommend the following Minor Works Scheme to the Portfolio Holder for approval:

All North Area Wards – Tree Strategy

The Neighbourhood Manager explained that this was involve the planting of a number of trees in sites such as streets, shopping precincts and open spaces. A protection cage would be fitted to all trees until they had become established. Recent success with work of this nature in the Wharton Terrace area was highlighted and it was felt this could be repeated across the North area. Members were reminded that an allocation of £20,000 per year over three years had been allocated from Highways Budgets to address specific highway issues. This was the final year that this allocation would be available and the Neighbourhood Manager asked that members ratify this £20,000 for usage in the Tree Strategy. She also requested that a further £30,000 of minor works funding be made available to fund this project. This would leave a remainder of £37,000 minor works funding to be spent in the North area for 2009/10. The Neighbourhood Manager acknowledged that this was a large amount of money but

the planting of trees was not cheap (£400 per tree and guard). Also in the previous year there had been a surplus of minor works funding left over so the Forum were not expecting to run out of funding

Members expressed their support for this proposal, despite the high cost involved. A Resident Representative queried the voting procedures undertaken by the Forum in this matter whereby the public were unable to vote. The Neighbourhood Manager reported that the Public had never been allowed to vote on the spending of the minor works budget. It had only ever been Councillors and Resident Representative able to vote and there had never previously been a problem with this

Decision

That £50,000 toward the North area Tree Strategy be recommended for approval by the Portfolio Holder.

A Councillor reminded the Neighbourhood Manager that £10,000 had previously been set aside for traffic calming measures outside schools. A request was also made that an existing tree in Sunningdale Grove be removed.

The Neighbourhood Manager further advised that agreement had been reached with Housing Hartlepool for trees to be included in the package for boundary development.

79. RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE ISSUES

Emergency Planning – A Resident Representative asked whether contingency plans had been drawn up in the event of the failure of prominent businesses within Hartlepool. He suggested that an item on this issue be included on the agenda for the next meeting. This was agreed by the Chair.

Sun Inn, Northgate – A Resident Representative asked if something could be done about the fencing and scaffolding round this site. The Neighbourhood Manager indicated that the owners had been approached to remove the fence and had told officers that bungalows earmarked for the site would be built soon. The fencing was currently in place for the best of reasons. In terms of the scaffolding the owners had also been asked to consider removing this however all their resources were currently being put into their other property, Victoria Building. The Council were taking what enforcement measures they could but did not want to take too much of a hard line approach as they were keen to see Victoria Building completed. Therefore there was currently no date in place for the removal of the scaffolding.

Middle Warren – A Resident Representative referred to recent break-ins at show homes on the Estate. A meeting between Persimmon, Bellway and Charles Church had been arranged to discuss this.

Neighbourhood Watch – A Resident Representative highlighted her role on the Neighbourhood Watch Committee

Tall Ships Public House – A Resident Representative thanked officers for the repairs to the surrounding road.

Cleveland Road – A Resident Representative advised that the crossing had not been built correctly and was not fit for purpose. The tactiles were not in on the pavement and the site was subject to flooding. The Senior Traffic Technician was unaware of any problems but would investigate further. The Neighbourhood Manager commented that these issues had been discussed through the NAP. Flooding was a problem but the cost of improving the drainage system would be

high. The site was cleaned out on a regular basis but flash flooding tended to complicate matters. The design of the crossing had been legal at the time of construction, unfortunately the regulations had changed since then and there was no funding available to redesign. The Resident Representative asked whether disabled people had been consulted prior to construction to which the Neighbourhood Manager responded that the design had been thoroughly debated at the NAP and Central Forums.

Off-Road Bike – A Resident Representative reported that a green bike had been seen in the Headland back lanes, particularly Seaview Terrace. A Police Representative advised that they could not challenge people on bikes as they had no protective equipment. Community intelligence was needed to help apprehend the culprits however there were suspicions regarding the identity of the individual in question. Updates would be provided when available.

80. WARD MEMBERS AND WARD ISSUES

Brus Corner – A Councillor requested a progress update. The Neighbourhood Manager reported there had been a lot of negotiation with the site owner with the result that the rubble and stones had been piled in a mound. The owners were unable to do more than this at the moment owing to the current financial situation.

Middlegate – Issues had previously been raised with buses causing an obstruction in this area. Buses were using Middlegate as a terminus when they should be using Durham Street. A Stagecoach Representative was present and explained that passengers would regularly ask if they could be taken to Middlegate immediately rather than

having to wait at Durham Street for 10 minutes. Members of the Forum acknowledged this but felt that Middlegate should not be used, particularly since drivers would leave their engines running and consequently exhaust fumes would go into nearby shops. The stop at Durham Street should be more publicised. Stagecoach Representatives would speak to their Manager regarding these concerns. The Chair asked that a solution to this problem be brought to the next Forum meeting.

Coast Road – A Councillor requested that the fence line be painted, using the relevant departmental budget rather than minor works funding.

Wiltshire Way – A Councillor requested traffic calming measures following recent traffic incidents. The Senior Traffic Technician referred to the existing register wherein road improvements were prioritised based on the number of accidents and the average speed of cars on the road. Following this request a speed survey would be commissioned, in the meantime appropriate signage would be erected. The Councillor asked that he be kept informed on this issue.

81. MINOR WORKS – FINANCIAL YEAR 2009/10

The Neighbourhood Manager reported details of the Minor Works Budget allocation for 2009/10 and the Forum's role with regard to the proposal and approval of schemes. The Forum had been delegated £52,000 for this financial year, with an additional £20,000 made available from Highways Budgets to address specific highways issues in the North area raised by the Forum. A further £15,000 had also been allocated to address grass verge re-instatement. Any recommendations for funding would be submitted to the Portfolio Holder for

Neighbourhoods and Communities for final approval.

The report was duly noted.

82. 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 advised that the final consultation event had taken place in April and the final recommendations were due to be considered by Cabinet in July. There were not expected to be any alterations to the recommendations which would be implemented in the new municipal year. Among issues raised by members of the North Forum were better advertising of the forums, possibly utilising local radio, a change of name and restrictions on the number of presentations per meeting.

The update was duly noted.

83. ITEMS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

Inspector Mick Brown introduced Sergeant Tim Brown who had been brought in to run the West View Office, replacing Chris Stonehouse.

The meeting concluded at 11.40am

North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum

27 May 2009

Issues Raised/Action Sheet

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
<u>Matters Arising</u> Cars parking on pavements and causing obstruction to pedestrians – Possible traffic calming measures to be implemented Fish Sands – Update on installation of handrail on steps to the Fish Sands. Designs were currently being considered by the Conservation Society prior to implementation.	Tempest Road assessment to be carried out on the provision of bollards to prevent pavement parking The Conservation Society were contacted week commencing 15 June 2009, still waiting for feedback.	P Frost/P Nixon G Jones
<u>Public Question Time</u> Thorpe Street – Footpath and bench in place. Planting to be soon. Headland Development Building – Potholes in front of the building. Waiting for a repairs start date from the contractor. Central Estate - Request for more litter/dog foul bins.	The benches are in place, planting will be completed once the annual bedding is complete. The worst areas have been temporarily filled in. Still waiting for a contractor to be appointed. Areas are to be identified and bins placed where deemed necessary.	G Jones G Jones G Jones
<u>North Tree Strategy</u> Prepare press release to educate people re: benefits of trees – also school lesson plan	A leaflet entitled 'Right Tree, Right Place' has been produced for general distribution and are always seeking to gain positive publicity whenever the opportunity arises. A lesson plan is being prepared.	T Dixon

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
<p><u>Tree Strategy Proposal</u></p> <p>Request for tree removal at Sunningdale</p> <p><u>Resident Representative Issues</u></p> <p>Sun Inn, Headland - Request for action regarding fencing/scaffolding around site.</p> <p>Cleveland Road - crossing is not fit for purpose and is prone to flooding.</p> <p>Sea View Terrace - use of green off-road bikes on Headland back lanes. The Police could not challenge people on bikes as they had no protective equipment. Community intelligence was needed to help apprehend the culprits however there were suspicions regarding the identity of the individual in question.</p> <p><u>Ward Members Issues</u></p> <p>Brus Corner Update – rubble and stones being piled in a mound</p> <p>Middlegate - Problem with Stagecoach drivers parking up at Middlegate instead of Durham Street</p> <p>Coast Road – it was requested that the fenceline be painted request using the relevant departmental budget rather than the minor works.</p> <p>Wiltshire Way - Request for traffic calming, preferably speed humps, in Wiltshire Way. Traffic Section to carry out a speed survey and appropriate signage to be erected.</p>	<p>The dead tree removal enquiry has been passed to the Council's Horticultural Services team.</p> <p>Building works started.</p> <p>Works order placed for exploratory works.</p> <p>Updates would be provided when available.</p> <p>The owner had made attempts to tidy up the site. The Regeneration and Planning Department to take action.</p> <p>New Service arrangements to be made in August will help to reduce this problem.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Manager to look at funding possibilities over the next year.</p> <p>Awaiting speed survey before assessment can be made on Road</p>	<p>T Dixon</p> <p>G Jones</p> <p>G Jones</p> <p>Police</p> <p>G Jones/P Burgon</p> <p>P Nixon/P Frost</p> <p>K Oliver</p> <p>P Frost/P Nixon</p>

Report of: Parks Development Officer

Subject: MASTER PLAN FOR THE REFURBISHMENT OF THE UPPER PART BURN VALLEY GARDENS AND BEYOND, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATIONAL AND INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE PEOPLE OF HARTLEPOOL.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

Purpose

To involve all the residents of Hartlepool in the development of a Master Plan for the refurbishment of the upper part of the Burn Valley Gardens and beyond and in the preparation of the environmental educational / involvement program

Why is the report is being brought to the meeting

So that residents of Hartlepool are given an opportunity to comment on and have their views heard on a possible major refurbishment of one of the main parks in the town and in the environmental educational / involvement program

What is intended to be achieved

To allow residents of Hartlepool to be involved in steering a possible refurbishment of one of the main parks in the town and to have commented on a possible environmental educational / involvement program.

2. BACKGROUND

To improve access to and use of natural green spaces, and improvement of their ecological value is the fundamental aim of this project. This aim is closely linked in with the need to improve people's knowledge of and active involvement in these quality green spaces, to develop ownership of sites and improve their mental and physical wellbeing both now and in the future.

The project need was drawn from various sources over a wide demographic area within Hartlepool and includes local public consultation and officer experience, plus national research.

A fundamental survey by Banks of the Wear (2003) was funded by the Doorstep Greens initiative to identify the communities' views on the development of Burn Valley Gardens. This resulted in significant improvements to the lower Burn Valley and recommended developments for

the upper Burn Valley that are part of this proposed project. The funding mix for the lower Burn Valley Project of £299,625 was successfully managed by the Friends of Burn Valley in partnership with HBC. The project was delivered on time and within budget and is very well used.

HBC Viewpoint citizen's panel is regularly consulted on various issues about the borough including several aspects regarding the use of green spaces (Trenchard, 2003, 2004; Allen, 2005). Results indicate that most respondents have little knowledge of natural green spaces and Rights of Way, or their locations within the borough; however when asked how important it was to conserve natural green spaces the majority of respondents indicated that they were very important. Unfortunately even the most well known sites like Summerhill suffer from under use, with less than half of those who know of the site, actually visiting it. This indicates the need for a project that will introduce people to the many natural green spaces available in Hartlepool.

A 2008 study (N=2635) by the HBC Countryside Access Team into the use of Hartlepool's LNR's by young people concluded that although recreational activities are an important reason for visiting, the key factor determining use is social interaction, primarily with friends, but also with family. When asked for reasons to encourage further use of natural green spaces, more events, supervised activities and better facilities were the top choices. This indicates not only a need for introduction to natural green spaces using supervised activities and events but that these spaces are located close to urban areas so that young people can easily access them with family and friends using footpaths, cycle ways or public transport.

In June 2008 the results of PPG17 was accepted by the HBC Cabinet and a survey of Open Spaces was carried to act as part of the evidence base in the development of the Local Development Framework. An additional community needs study sought the views of 1500 randomly selected households regarding their views on public open spaces and was fed into the PPG 17 report. The study concluded that the Central area in which Rossmere Park and Burn Valley Gardens are located has a deficit of accessible natural green space but an abundance of park and garden, leading to the conclusion that it would be beneficial to change areas within parks to provide more natural habitats improved with increased biodiversity value.

Academic research on the benefits of green spaces for their positive effect on physical and mental wellbeing is well documented in studies carried out Petty *et al.* (2005) Kellert (2002) and Kaplan (1989). This research is backed by numerous national studies carried out by the Government (DTLGR, 2002), ODPM, 2000)

3. PROPOSALS

Project Aim

The aim of the project is to draw people into their green spaces and to facilitate opportunities for them to appreciate, improve and conserve them sustainably. Through provision of learning experiences we will offer children and adults opportunities through training, environmental education, events and monitoring programmes. Once engaged in an urban setting, the community will be offered opportunities to access the wider countryside, primarily at the LNRs & NNRs to enhance their experiences of the natural areas of Hartlepool.

1 Access

To provide structural and biodiversity improvements to the towns green infrastructure including the enhancement of the riparian habitat of the Burn Valley, a fundamental green corridor linking Hartlepool with the countryside

2 Bursary

To enable schools from super output areas to visit Teesmouth Field Centre (TFC) and other less accessible sites.

3 Community

To enhance community involvement through the creation or resurrection of Friends groups. To ensure that major sites have sustainable community support, active management and access to future funding.

4 Health and Wellbeing

To promote the benefits of local green spaces for physical, mental and social wellbeing. The project will provide similar health benefits to young people through the Young Warden's scheme and active play.

5 Diversity

Provide social networking and volunteering opportunities to all sections of the community including BMA and challenged groups.

6 Learning and development

Partnership working with Houghall College will provide NVQ training opportunities

Delivery of a wide range of events, guided walks, after school clubs, free-play and adventurous outdoor activities borough wide

TFC will deliver a new environmental education programme using Phenology and digital photography to monitor the effects of global warming on green spaces which will be fed into National databases. Sustainability will be achieved by encouraging schools to continue recording at the end of the project.

TFC will provide an exciting programme for groups:

- Environmental play leader training to enable self-led play
- Natural history workshops and walks
- Environmental education to support Young Wardens scheme
- Talks and presentations

4. OTHER SECTIONS WHICH MAY BE INCLUDED IN A REPORT

- RISK IMPLICATIONS

The main risk to the proposed project is funding.

- FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Funding for this proposed project is being sought from a program known as Access To Nature and the proposed project had been identified as one of Hartlepool's main green infrastructural green corridor within the Tees Valley Green Infrastructure project; this currently has no funding attached but may do in the future.

- LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

The sites that are possible to have capital spent on them are all in the ownership of HBC.

- EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

At all stages this is being considered and built into the proposed project and minority groups would be positively encouraged to participate in this project.

- STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

If this project was to take place and funding could be obtained then it would secure employment for 2 fulltime posts and one half time post (one of these positions would be in TFC and the others in HBC) for the duration of the project. In addition the proposed project would provide training, education and qualifications for others, that would increase their ability to find employment.

- ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

There would be no negative affects only positive improvements to HBC assets.

- SECTION 17

Throughout the planning and modelling stages of this proposed project the section 17 agenda has been considered and built in.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

That this proposed project is accepted and positively supported.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

There are many positives to be gained for Hartlepool out of this project with no negatives.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

8. CONTACT OFFICER

Richard Harlanderson 01429 284124.

Report: Director Neighbourhood Services

Subject: MINOR WORKS BUDGET 2009/2010

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider improvement schemes for potential funding from the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum Minor Works Budget.

2. OUTLINE OF CONTENTS

Scheme One Various Wards - Dropped Crossings

- 2.1 The dropped crossing strategy was introduced to all three Forums in 2001/02. Since this time each Forum have, each financial year, continued to commit the sum of £3,500 toward the ongoing rolling programme to provide dropped crossings throughout the town.
- 2.2 To enable the rolling programme to progress as planned it is requested that the North Forum allocate £3,500 as a continuing commitment to this strategy.
- 2.3 Contribution cost towards Dropped Crossing Strategy £3,500.

Scheme Two Sandbanks Drive - Verge Works (**Appendix A**)

- 2.4 Both residents and ward members state that vehicle parking is a major problem in Sandbanks Drive, and that vehicles are overriding the grass verges outside their properties making them unsightly and dangerous. Following on from previous minor works a scheme is proposed to remove the grass verge and infill with tarmac to provide an area where vehicles can pull onto and allow unimpeded vehicle access to the remaining properties.
- 2.5 A full consultation of properties between numbers 17 and 60 Sandbanks Drive has taken place, with the overall majority agreeing to have the grass verges replaced with tarmac. Properties affected are numbers 17 to 47 and 30 to 36.
- 2.6 Cost of this scheme is £18,000.

Scheme Three Telford Close Footpath (**Appendix B**)

- 2.7 A ward member has made a request for a footpath to be constructed across an open space to link up two sides of Central Estate. The area is between Telford Close and Brunell Close. The original design of the estate did not include a footpath to link up both sides.

- 2.8 At present the area is a grassed open space. The cost of this scheme is £11,800.

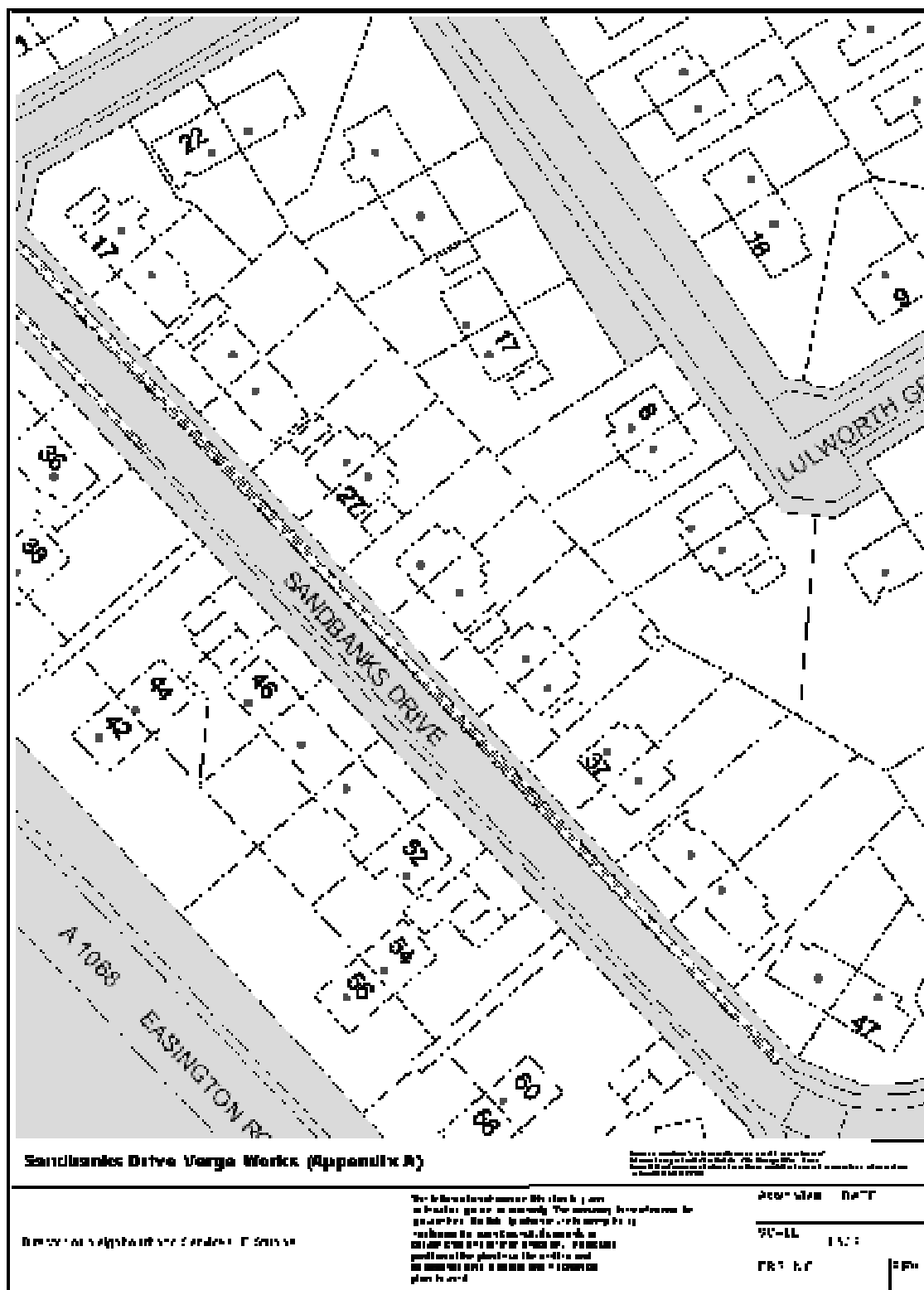
Scheme Four: Ridlington Way Parking Scheme (Appendix C)

- 2.9 Residents and Ward members have made requests for improved parking in Ridlington Way. Opposite house numbers two to twenty. There is a slightly raised grassed area opposite these houses that get overridden by cars and large delivery vehicles causing damage to parked cars and the grass verge.
- 2.10 The proposed scheme is to remove a two metre width strip of grassed area by 30 metre and replace with Tarmac in front of numbers two to twelve, and to do the same in front of house numbers twelve to twenty.
- 2.11 The total cost to deliver both parts of this scheme would be £16,800 or if decided one part of this scheme could be delivered this financial year and the next part possibly be delivered in the next financial year.

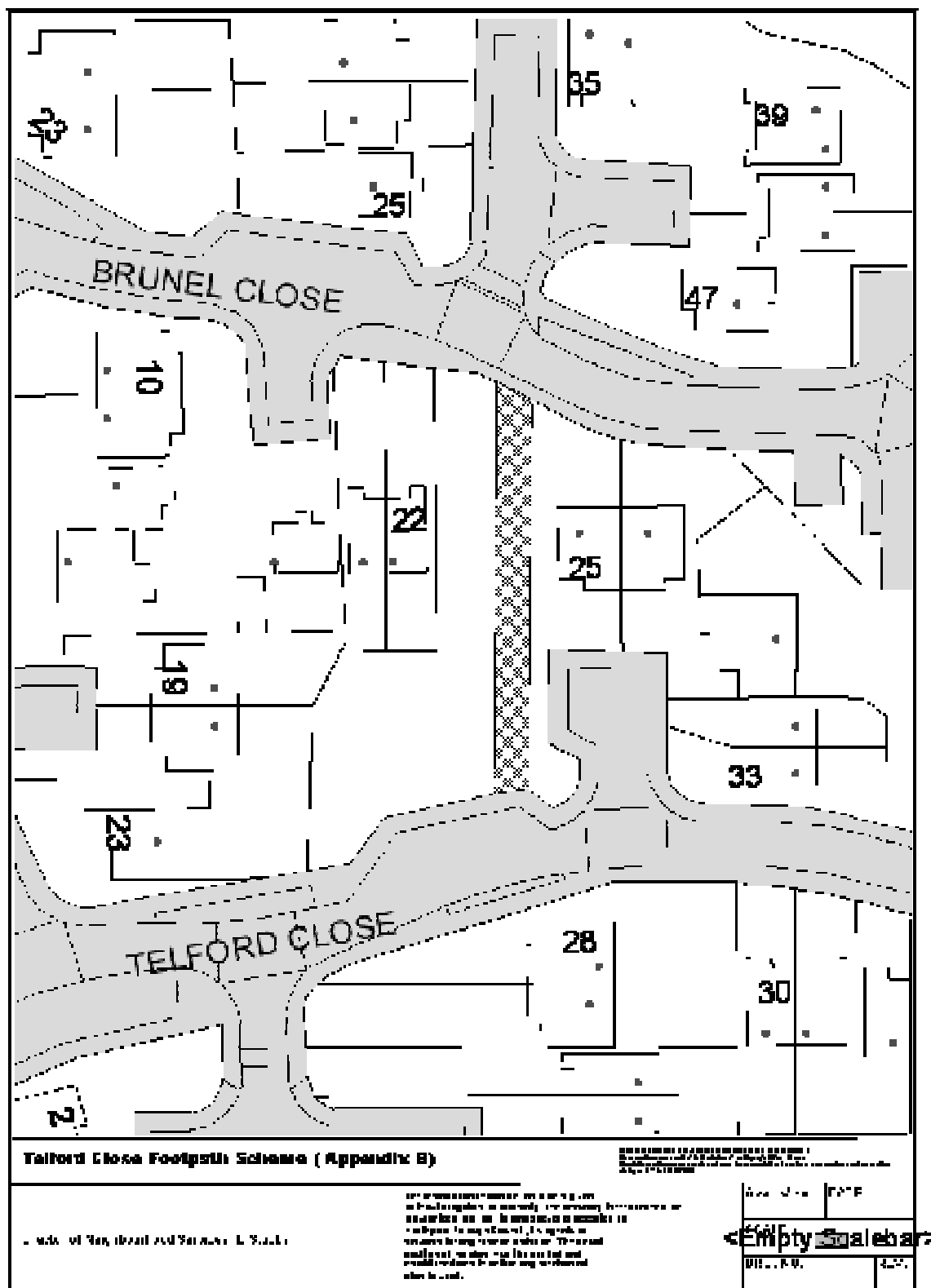
3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Forum is asked to consider the above schemes. Approved schemes will need to be presented to the Neighbourhoods and Transport Portfolio for final approval.

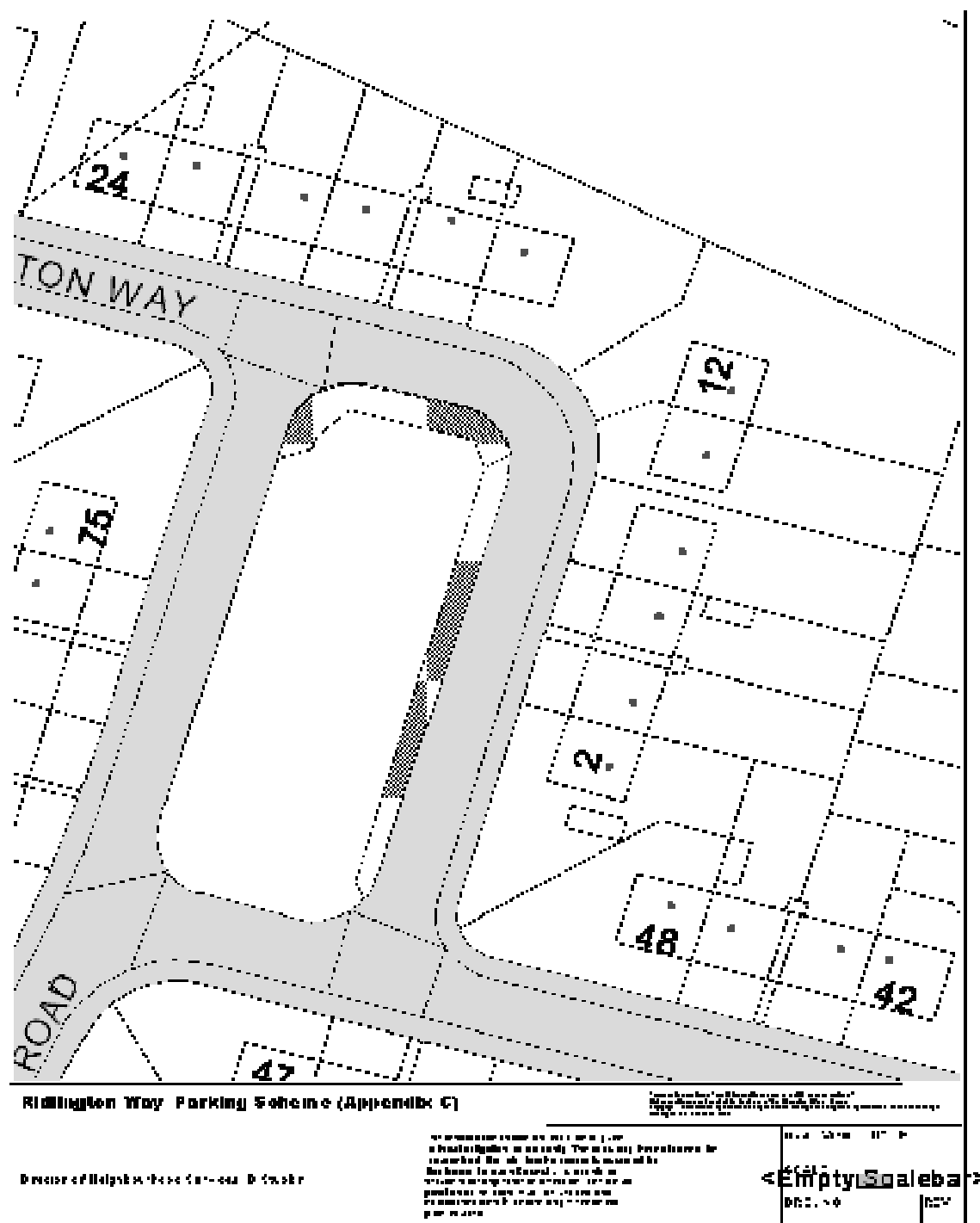
Appendix A



Appendix B



Appendix C



North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum**Minor Works - 2009/2010 - £87,000**

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

Ward	Name of Scheme	Date Approved	Minor Works Funding	Other Funding
			£	
All Wards	Tree Strategy	27 May 2009	50,00	

Total spend £50,000
Balance £37,000

Minor Works Schemes – 2009/2010

Ward	Total cost of Schemes
Brus	
Dyke House	
Hart	
St Hilda	
Throston	
Various	50,000 Tree Strategy
TOTAL	£50,000

Report of: PRIDE IN HARTLEPOOL OFFICER

Subject: PRIDE IN HARTLEPOOL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Date: July 2009

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update the North Area Neighbourhood Forum on the progress of the Pride in Hartlepool Campaign.

2. PRIDE IN HARTLEPOOL UPDATE

2.1 New Pride in Hartlepool Officer appointed

The new Pride in Hartlepool Officer, Kate Ainger was appointed on 1st July 2008.

2.2 Pride in Hartlepool campaign rebranded

The Pride in Hartlepool campaign has been rebranded and given a new identity, which includes a new aim and objectives. The new aim of the campaign is to “engage the community in improving and valuing Hartlepool’s built and natural environment.”

There are also four new objectives:

- To highlight the positive aspects of the town to show “Why Hartlepool is great!”
- To encourage communities to make a positive contribution
- To raise Hartlepool’s profile both regionally and nationally
- To encourage communities to feel proud of our natural history and heritage

The purpose of these new aim and objectives is to keep the strengths of the past campaign, but to look for new ways of expanding it to reach new audiences. In order to achieve this, a new campaign strategy was also developed. All the current campaigns were grouped thematically and gaps identified for new initiatives to be slotted in. As a result there are now five strands to Pride in Hartlepool and all the activities of the campaign fit into one or more of these strands:

1. Adopt a Plot (this is the same as the previous Adopt a Plot initiative where groups identify and adopt derelict council land for improvement. Also includes Adopt a Beach)
2. Tidy Town (all the “tidying” activities such as litter picks, Spring Clean Hartlepool, etc.)

3. Hartlepool in Bloom (all planting activities such as hanging baskets, bedding schemes, etc.)
4. I Love Hartlepool (promotional activities such as the Pride in Hartlepool Awards)

2.3 Pride in Hartlepool has supported the following campaigns and events in the North Area during 2008/9:

Creatures of the Night Walks 23rd September 08 and 8th May 09

Two Creatures of the Night Walks have now been held in the North Cemetery and around 100 people have now experienced spotting owls, bats and moths in the cemetery. The walks have been organised by Pride in Hartlepool in conjunction with Council Ecologist Ian Bond and the Friends of North Cemetery.

Make a Difference Day 22nd October 08

Twelve Year 10 pupils from Dyke House School spent the day in the North Cemetery planting 150 young trees and 1,100 spring bulbs to increase the bio-diversity in the cemetery and to attract more visitors. The trees and bulbs were funded by Pride in Hartlepool and assistance on the day was provided by the Countryside Wardens. The young people also conducted a litter pick around the Tweed Walk area adjacent to the cemetery.

Pride in Hartlepool Awards 10th December 2008

The North Area was well represented at the 2008 Pride in Hartlepool Awards with nominations from:

- Friends of North Cemetery
- Friends of Regent Square
- St Hild's School
- Throston School
- St John Vianney's School
- Phoenix Funsters

Many of these projects won the award they were nominated for: The Friends of North Cemetery won the Best Environmental Project of 2008 Award, whilst David Maiden from St Hild's School won the Young Eco Champion Award.

St John Vianney's School did particularly well, winning the Green School Award for their recycling work. The fact that they are the first school in Hartlepool to send nothing at all to landfill also led to them winning the Pride in Hartlepool Award for best overall entry.

Tree Planting in Wiltshire Way 7th April 09

Five young people and three adults from the Star Centre on Flint Walk planted 250 trees on a site on Wiltshire Way. The activity was organised by Pride in Hartlepool and Council Ecologist Ian Bond as part of the North Area Tree Planting Strategy. The cost of the trees was funded by Pride in Hartlepool.

Tidy Town Campaign and Spring Clean Hartlepool Autumn 2008 and Spring 2009

Pride in Hartlepool has developed a new package to encourage more groups to take part in litter picks, called the Big Tidy Up package. This involves groups signing up to do a two-hour clean up of an area of the town. Pride in Hartlepool supplies them with litter pickers, gloves, high vis vests and bin bags and arranges free rubbish collection. As an added incentive groups that do a Big Tidy Up also qualify for up to £100 towards the costs of the event.

The Big Tidy Up package was trialled in October 2008 with a group from the Star Centre in time for the Autumn Clean Up. It was then officially launched in April 2008 for Spring Clean Hartlepool.

This year's Spring Clean Hartlepool ran from 6th April until the 29th May; however demand was so great it had to be extended until the end of June. Groups from the North Area took part in all 3 of the activities on offer:

North Area Big Tidy Ups

- St Hild's School
- John Howe Gardens Group
- Springwell School
- Throston School
- St Helen's School

In all 24 bags of rubbish were collected from streets, green spaces and school fields in the North Area.

Clean Streets Campaign

To tackle dog fouling Pride in Hartlepool has worked with Dogs Trust to develop a Clean Streets package for primary schools. The package includes a school assembly where the children discuss the health risks of dog fouling as well as the legal and moral responsibilities of pet ownership. The children are also shown how to pick up after their pets safely and cleanly.

The package also includes a poster competition with prizes funded by Pride in Hartlepool. The children design posters asking people to keep the streets near their schools free from dog mess. The winning design from each school is then reproduced and laminated and the children put them up around their school perimeter.

North Area schools taking part in the Clean Streets Campaign:

- St John Vianney's
- St Helen's
- Jesmond Road
- Brougham

Litter Assemblies

A litter assembly has also been developed, which explores why people drop litter and how we can stop them from doing it. The activity also covers what litter is and how we can all work together to keep the town clean.

North Area Schools taking part in a litter assembly:

- St Helen's
- Throston

Small Grant Scheme Projects

The following projects from the North Area all received an award from the Pride in Hartlepool Small Grant Scheme during 2008/9:

- Central Estate Management Organisation received £1,007 for hanging baskets for the Central Estate
- Chatham House/Brougham School received £813 towards the costs of their new school garden
- Clavering School received £2,735 for their Key Stage 1 garden project
- Friends of Regent Square received £1,000 for planters for their community garden
- Headland NAP/Groundwork received £5,000 towards the costs of the Thorpe Street Project
- West View School received £660 for the costs of their wildlife pond and equipment
- **Total £11,215**

3. PREDICTED FUTURE SPEND IN THE NORTH AREA 2009/10

- 3.1 As the contribution from the Forum is used to award grants via the Small Grant Scheme it is difficult to predict how it will be spent over 2009/10 as this will be dependant on what projects apply to the Scheme. However, the 2008/9 projects outlined above serve as an example for the 2009/10 spend.
- 3.2 Also, applications to the Small Grant Scheme have grown significantly over the past year and by the end of 2008/9 totalled more than the Forum contribution. In addition the maximum grant awarded has been increased from £1,000 to £5,000, which potentially means that the entire Forum contribution for the year could be allocated to just 3 projects.
- 3.3 Therefore, Pride in Hartlepool request funding of £5,000 from the North Area Forum for 2009/10.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 That the North Area Forum note the report and consider the request for funding for the Pride in Hartlepool Small Grant Scheme.

Report of: Head of Regeneration

Subject: THROSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLAN (NAP)

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Neighbourhood Consultative Forum of the Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP), which has been prepared for the Throston area.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 NAPs are the local elements of Hartlepool's Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy (NRS), which are used to inform and improve service delivery within the priority neighbourhoods identified in the NRS. The Strategy forms part of the updated Community Strategy; Hartlepool's Ambition, which provides a new strategic policy framework for the Borough.
- 2.2 In the new Community Strategy; Hartlepool's Ambition, Throston has been added as a priority neighbourhood. Although the 2007 Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) does not place Throston in the bottom 10% overall, in the key areas of employment, health, deprivation and disability it is within the bottom 10% nationally. As these factors are key priorities for the Hartlepool Partnership it was agreed that Throston should be included as a priority neighbourhood in the NRS, resulting in a NAP being developed for the area.
- 2.3 Throston is located in the north of the Borough and covers most of the Throston Ward. The neighbourhood is encircled by Throston Grange Lane and Wiltshire Way, extends to the west to include St David's Walk and Caernarvon Grove and to the east to include Salisbury Place.

3.0 CONSULTATION PROCESS UNDERTAKEN

- 3.1 Work commenced on developing the NAP for the Throston area following the endorsement of the revised Community Strategy; Hartlepool's Ambition in July 2008. A Family Fun Day, held in September 2008, marked the launch of the NAP for Throston and the start of the consultation process, to begin to identify the main issues and priorities facing the neighbourhood. The event was well received by the local community with over 300 local people attending.
- 3.2 Following this event, a door-to-door Household Survey was conducted in the area to which over 200 responses were received. This was another method of identifying the issues affecting the quality of life of residents in Throston. Two Community Conference events have also been held, in October and December 2008, to further identify the community's priorities. Attendees were also involved in an exercise to prioritise key concerns, as identified by local people, the results of which were used to inform the allocation of the Working Neighbourhoods Fund (WNF) budget for 'quick win' projects in the

neighbourhood for 2008/09. These schemes have been implemented and include the replacement of concrete bollards with static and collapsible bollards to improve access for street cleansing, the installation of additional litter bins and dog litter bins on Flint Walk, the resurfacing of existing parking areas in Bodmin Grove and Plymouth Walk, upgrading and replanting of raised flower beds and planting trees. In addition to these environmental improvements, work has been undertaken with local service providers to look at what improvements were required in relation to youth provision in the neighbourhood, particularly to begin to address gaps in service provision for young people aged between 11 and 12 years and, to improve the availability of activities throughout the holiday periods of 2009.

- 3.3 Whilst consultation with local people and Ward Councillors was ongoing, service providers through their Theme Partnership were asked to prepare a Theme Assessment to inform the development of the NAP, alongside the information received from local people. Theme Partnerships utilised available neighbourhood statistics and sought to involve as many partners as possible in developing the assessment for their Theme. Each Theme Assessment set out to gain a broad understanding of existing local service provision, to establish gaps in current provision from the service provider's perspective, to identify what service providers feel are the key priorities for the Throston neighbourhood and to highlight any opportunities for future development. In addition, local survey information, such as the TellUs3 Survey, has also been used to inform the NAP document.
- 3.4 Following the consultation outlined above, the draft Plan was prepared and agreed by both the Neighbourhoods and Communities Portfolio Holder and the Hartlepool Partnership Board, in March 2009, as a consultation document. To complement the initial work and, to seek comments on the draft Plan, a consultation period of 8 weeks was agreed. During this time, a wide range of consultation exercises were undertaken including; an online consultation, drop-in sessions, distributing the Plan with an accompanying questionnaire to every household, a Coffee Morning, work with schools serving the Throston area plus meeting with key community/voluntary organisations, including youth groups, and key stakeholders. The draft Plan has also been considered by each of the Theme Partnerships, for comments. All feedback on the Plan has been positive and constructive and helped to ensure the Plan provides a real understanding of the issues affecting the quality of life of local people. The Plan also outlines what action needs to be taken to improve the neighbourhood and provides a clear vision of what Throston will look like in the future.
- 3.5 The final version of the Plan was approved by the Hartlepool Partnership, at its meeting on Friday 26th June, subject to a number of minor amendments to reflect some late comments received through the consultation process, which were not available when the plan went to print. The Plan will also be taken to the Transport and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder for endorsement on Monday 20th July 2009, the outcome of which will be verbally reported to the Forum meeting.

4.0 THE CONTENTS OF THE PLAN

- 4.1 As identified in paragraph 2.1, NAPs are used to deliver the NRS at a local level and therefore follow the same eight Themes of the Community Strategy; Hartlepool's Ambition.
- 4.2 This format differs from any previous NAP that has been developed. The format and content of the Plan have been well received by the local community with many positive responses received throughout the second round of consultation.
- 4.3 Once the Plan has been endorsed it will be available on both the Borough Council and Hartlepool Partnership websites, along with a supplementary document (an A-Z), which outlines the key resources and programmes that are available to residents of the Throston area.

5.0 AIMS FOR THROSTON

- 5.1 The information in paragraphs 5.2 to 5.9 has been taken from the Throston NAP and details the shared aims for Throston under each of the eight Themes of the NAP; the style illustrates the new format of the document.

5.2 Jobs and the Economy

- Support is available within the neighbourhood to assist residents into education, employment, training and self-employment opportunities, which are widely advertised.
- Opportunities for volunteering are actively promoted within the neighbourhood.
- Shopping provision is accessible to all residents.
- Older people can access the financial services and support they require.

5.3 Lifelong Learning and Skills

- Learning provision is delivered locally, is responsive to the needs of the community and is widely advertised to ensure local residents take part.
- Support is provided within the neighbourhood to encourage young people into education, employment or training.
- Further Education opportunities, apprenticeship and entry to employment programmes are actively promoted in the neighbourhood.
- There is a successful Children's Centre at Throston Primary School.
- Support is available to ensure a greater number of pupils within the neighbourhood achieve 5 or more A*-C Grade passes at GCSE level or equivalent.

5.4 Health and Wellbeing

- Locally based health services and facilities are provided which are convenient, accessible, co-ordinated and of high quality.
- Healthy lifestyle choices are available and actively promoted within the neighbourhood.
- Information, advice and guidance is available to support local people to improve their overall health and wellbeing.

5.5 Community Safety

- Anti-Social Behaviour including rowdy and nuisance behaviour, misuse of motorbikes and criminal damage in particular vehicle related crime, graffiti and vandalism is deterred.
- Neighbourhood safety and public confidence is high and fear of crime is low.
- Information, advice and guidance relating to community safety issues is readily available.
- Residential properties are secure, particularly vulnerable homes and those belonging to vulnerable residents.

5.6 Environment

- The local environment is enhanced and the general appearance of the area has been upgraded.
- Pedestrians, cyclists and motorists can access the neighbourhood safely.
- Residents take pride in their neighbourhood and assist in creating a high quality environment.
- Local shopping parades are attractive and accessible.

5.7 Housing

- Social housing and accommodation meet and exceed the 'decent homes standard'.
- People have access to good quality affordable housing.

5.8 Culture and Leisure

- A range of culture and leisure activities are available locally, including those for the elderly and young people.
- Community facilities and play areas are available locally, with good access to nearby facilities.
- Public access to I.T. facilities including internet, e-mail and printing facilities are available within local venues and are well publicised.

5.9 Strengthening Communities

- Local groups and organisations have access to support and guidance to assist them in the delivery of their services.
- Opportunities are available for residents to influence decisions that affect their area and play a larger role in helping to improve their neighbourhood.
- Support is available to enable all residents to feel part of the wider community.
- Activities are held regularly to encourage people of all ages to get on well together.
- There is a thriving community/voluntary sector.

6.0 **IMPLEMENTATION**

- 6.1 Annual Action Plans will be prepared each year to take forward the Plan. The first of these, for 2009/10, will focus on the three themes of Jobs and the Economy, Lifelong Learning and Skills plus Health and Wellbeing.

- 6.2 Firstly, a commissioning template will be circulated to key service providers and local community/voluntary organisations, to enable them to propose potential schemes, which will seek to address one or more of the actions identified in the Plan.
- 6.3 A 'Prioritisation Event' will then be held in September 2009. All local residents will be encouraged to attend this event, to choose which of the submitted schemes should be supported by the £20,000 Residents Priorities Budget allocated from the WNF, this year. Names and addresses of people interested in taking part in such a process have already been collected, through the survey work undertaken as part of the consultation process. Twenty six residents from the area indicated that they would be interested in taking part in a local Forum; these people will be directly invited to attend the event. Posters and leaflets will also be used to publicise the event to other local residents, who may also be interested in attending. The projects selected will feed into the Annual Action Plan, which will include named project leads (sponsors), actions to be addressed, support requirements and resources and, the date the scheme is scheduled to be completed.
- 6.4 Following the Prioritisation Event a NAP Forum will be established to receive progress and monitoring reports from each of the project sponsors for the schemes making up the basis of the Action Plan. The Throston NAP Forum will meet quarterly and will be open to all residents (with the nucleus being those who have already registered an interest and/or attended the Prioritisation Event), Ward Councillors, local community/voluntary organisations and service providers. Themed discussions will also take place at these meetings, to develop actions to deliver services to 'narrow the gaps', particularly with regard to the three initially targeted theme areas. Each Forum meeting will conclude with a series of agreed actions to be carried out and reported on at the meeting planned for the following quarter.
- 6.5 Progress on the Action Plan will also be monitored through the Council's Covalent system, with annual reports being received by Hartlepool Partnership's Performance Management Group and Theme Partnerships.
- 6.6 This streamlined implementation framework is a new approach to NAP delivery in the town. It will be reviewed toward the end of the financial year and any resulting lessons learnt will be fed back to the Partnership and to other NAP Forums.

7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

- 7.1 In addition to the monies allocated to the Throston NAP from the WNF, it is anticipated that the NAP will also be influential in the future allocation of resources. The NAP provides a strategic analysis of the current needs and priorities of the community and the gaps in current service provision, which could be tackled should any new funding streams emerge. Impact upon priorities is expected to be made by using more efficiently and effectively existing mainstream resources on the more disadvantaged areas. This will coincide with a continuous improvement to services by all partners, which

often only involves a series of small adjustments and more efficient co-ordination of activity.

- 7.2 There are no substantial risks in the NAP implementation process as the Neighbourhood Management framework is already well established. The implementation process will operate slightly differently to established procedures in other NAP areas however, as noted in paragraph 5.6 this new approach is to be reviewed at the end of 2009/10. The Borough Council's North Neighbourhood Manager has managed similar processes throughout other neighbourhoods in the North area of Hartlepool and worked with Forums in the allocation of WNF budgets. There is, however, a degree of risk associated with securing future resources, over and above the existing WNF monies for this year. The Local Forum and the relevant officers will, however, be continually working in partnership with other service providers/organisations to ensure that every funding opportunity is utilised.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 **The North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum is requested to note the Throston NAP.**

9.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 As previously outlined in paragraph 2.2, in the new Community Strategy: Hartlepool's Ambition, Throston was added as a priority neighbourhood. The 2007 Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) places Throston in the bottom 10% nationally in the key areas of employment, health, deprivation and disability, resulting in a NAP being prepared for the area.
- 9.2 The endorsement of the Throston NAP has enabled local people and organisations to work together to look at the issues that face the local area. To date this has enabled the allocation the WNF Residents' Priority Budget to address some of the local priorities through the 'quick win' projects identified in 3.2. The Throston NAP outlines the shared priorities of people living and working in Throston and the local area alongside the information provided by service providers.
- 9.3 The Throston NAP will integrate policies at a local level through the implementation process outlined in 6.0. This will improve the ways that services are provided, to achieve goals of lower unemployment and levels of deprivation and better health.
- 9.4 The NAP will also look at how services can be made more efficient and effective for the local community and help local service providers and users to continue to ensure that gaps between existing and desired services are identified and considered by service providers, to effectively add value and improve the quality of life in the Throston NAP area.

10.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 The Throston NAP was endorsed by the Hartlepool Partnership on 26 June 2009 and is due to go to the Transport and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder on 20 July 2009 for endorsement. As stated in paragraph 2.1, the NAP

document relates back to the Community Strategy: Hartlepool's Ambition and the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy.

11.0 CONTACT OFFICER

11.1 Gemma Clough, Principal Regeneration Officer, Regeneration and Planning Services, Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square, Hartlepool, TS24 7BT. Tel: 01429 523598. E-mail: gemma.clough@hartlepool.gov.uk.

11.2 Copies of the NAP document will be made available at the meeting. If however you would like a copy prior to this, please do not hesitate to contact the named officer detailed above.