

# **NORTH AREA POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY CONSULTATIVE FORUM**

**At**

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

**on**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2009  
commencing at 2.00 pm**

## **A G E N D A**

1. Apologies for absence
2. MINUTES
  - (a) To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2009
  - (b) Matters arising.
3. Update from the Police
4. Update from the Fire Brigade
5. Anti-Social Behaviour Unit Update
6. Crime and Disorder Co-ordination Update
7. Public Question Time
8. Any issues to be raised by Councillors and Resident Representatives
9. Any Other Business Agreed by the Chair

**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](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 fines 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