

CENTRAL AREA POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY CONSULTATIVE FORUM

in

**Committee Room B,
Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

on

**Thursday 6th 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 12th 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

Burn Valley
Elwick
Foggy Furze
Grange
Park
Rift House
Stranton

***CENTRAL POLICE &
COMMUNITY SAFETY
CONSULTATIVE FORUM***

12 March 2009

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

PRESENT:

Chair:	Councillor Lilian Sutheran	- Rift House Ward
Members	Councillor Martyn Aiken	- Foggy Furze Ward
	Councillor Jonathan Brash	- Burn Valley Ward
	Councillor Gerald Hall	- Burn Valley Ward
	Councillor Pauline Laffey	- Park Ward
	Councillor Frances London	- Foggy Furze Ward
	Councillor Carl Richardson	- Grange Ward
	Councillor Jane Shaw	- Stranton Ward
	Councillor Christopher Simmons	- Grange Ward
	Councillor Victor Tumilty	- Grange Ward

Resident Representatives:

Liz Carroll, Ted Jackson, Brenda Loynes and Brian McBean.

Residents: G M Harrison, G & S Johnson, D Loynes, M E Lumley, Julie Rudge, Mrs Thorburn, Ray Waller

Council Officers:

Sally Forth, Antisocial Behaviour Co-ordinator
Clare Clark, Neighbourhood Manager, (Central)
Jon Wright, Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager
Irene Cross, Neighbourhood Development Officer (Central)
Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

Police Representatives: Inspector Tony Green, Sgt Chris Dawber, Sgt Dave Halliday, PCSO Mark Say

Fire Brigade Representative: Stuart Simpson

Housing Hartlepool Representative: Libby Griffiths

47. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chair Councillor Lillian Sutheran welcomed residents, Councillors, Resident Representatives and Officers.

48. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Kaiser, Morris and Worthy and Resident Representatives Evelyn Leck and Bob Farrow.

49. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 JANUARY 2009

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record.

50. MATTERS ARISING

Policing Pledge - Resident Representative Brian McBean asked what had been done to spread the word regarding the Policing Pledge and was informed that it was not planned to advertise it until appropriate systems in the Police Communications Centre had been put in place.

Cycling on Footpaths – Councillor Chris Simmons thanked officers for following up this issue.

Good Tenants Scheme – Resident Julie Rudge said that the Tenant Referencing Officer had attended a residents meeting about this.

51. UPDATE FROM POLICE

Inspector Tony Green updated the Forum with regard to crime and performance figures for the District for the period December 2008 – February 2009. All

categories of crime had shown a decrease except for vehicle crime and robbery. He referred to Operations which had been carried out in the district including ones to tackle antisocial behaviour (ASB) in the central area. Arrests had been made for breach of ASBOs.

Burglary Detection - Councillor Carl Richardson asked whether the detection rate for burglaries had increased and was informed that it was currently around 50%. Inspector Green stated that there had been 26 burglaries in the district the previous month which was a huge decrease compared with previous years when monthly figures were approximately 250.

Dent Street - Resident Julie Rudge thanked officers for action taken in the Dent Street area but said that there was still some breach of ASBOs. She asked whether the camera located in Lowthian Road could be utilised to capture this.

52. UPDATE FROM FIRE BRIGADE

Cleveland Fire and Rescue representative Stuart Simpson outlined the figures for fires in January and February 2009.

He outlined safety measures including a 'flat box' which was placed over residents' letter boxes as a measure to combat deliberate fires.

He also referred to a query from the last meeting regarding the Regional Control Centre and confirmed that the building was behind schedule. He added that the building was currently being utilised for staff training.

Deliberate Fires - Councillor Ged Hall stated that he had heard rumours that there had recently been a spate of fires in

the town and was informed that this was likely to refer to a number of deliberate fires at the Steetley site.

Health Issues - Councillor Ged Hall also mentioned how fire fighters were in a position to find out resident's health problems whilst visiting their homes. Stuart Simpson agreed with this and referred to packs which were distributed to those who smoked in bed as a safety precaution.

53. UPDATE FROM ANTI-SOCIAL 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 and outcomes of referrals. She referred to 8 ASBOs which had been imposed and one eviction in relation to a Housing Hartlepool tenant. Stranton Ward had had the most AS13 forms issued mainly to young people. She referred to successes with the good tenant scheme and work with the selective licensing team. She also mentioned work with partners to carry out Operation Staysafe on two occasions thus far and work with the FAST Project where there were 3 new workers to engage with and divert young people who gather on Friday nights to other organised activities.

FAST Team - Resident Ray Waller asked how the FAST team gained the information on where young people were gathering and was informed that the team worked with the police.

Evictions - Resident Representative Brian McBean asked what the town-wide figures for evictions was and was informed that there had been only the one and this was used as a last resort by the

Housing Hartlepool team who would support and try and get problem tenants to change their behaviour. Eviction was a last resort.

CRASBO - It was clarified that a CRASBO was a criminal ASBO which could only be actioned by Police.

Good Tenant Scheme - Resident Julie Rudge asked whether private sector landlords in Hartlepool who were part of the selective licensing scheme had to use the good tenant scheme and was informed that landlords could not be forced to use this but were encouraged to do so. Councillor Ged Hall said that he welcomed the introduction of selective licensing.

54. DESIGNATED PUBLIC PLACES 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 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.

Park Road - Resident Ray Waller asked why Park Road would not be the subject of such an order and was informed that there had to be evidence that such an order was necessary.

Church Street & York Road - Councillor Pauline Laffey queried why Church Street and York Road were not included in the Orders and was informed that the research into where the orders were needed was carried out prior to the smoking ban and this ban may have changed where locations were

necessary. However further orders could be applied for they were deemed suitable areas.

55. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Police Contacts - Resident Representative Liz Carroll asked why details of PCSOs in the Park Ward had not been distributed to residents as promised at the Central Joint Action Group on 21 October. Inspector Green said that updated photographs had been taken and posters would be made as soon as possible. Letters would be distributed to residents by the end of that week.

Ward Jackson Park - Resident Representative Liz Carroll also referred to ASB which had occurred in Ward Jackson Park. She was informed that 4 youths had received reprimands and final warnings in relation to this.

High Tunstall School Traffic Congestion - Resident Representative Ted Jackson referred to congestion at school leaving time in the High Tunstall area and was informed that this was a town-wide problem but officers would endeavour to ensure that there was a police presence where practicable. Resident Ray Waller agreed that other schools were as busy, if not busier than High Tunstall. It was suggested that roads should be widened, although acknowledged that there were not enough funds to do this.

Ringmaster - Resident Mr Johnson stated that he had not received a message via the Ringmaster system for some time and was informed that messages were only sent to residents who may be affected by a particular problem.

Police Helicopter - Councillor Victor Tumilty informed the meeting that Cleveland Police would have its own helicopter from 1 April 2009 and a new one was to be purchased in 2012.

Signage - Resident Mrs Thorburn asked whether 'No ball games' signage could be erected in the area of Saddleston Close and was informed that these signs could not be enforced therefore they would not be put there.

Saddleston Close - Resident Representative Brenda Loynes referred to an incident of ASB which had occurred in Saddleston Close when police had not attended immediately. Inspector Green apologised for the delay but Officers were busier on a Friday evening than other nights. He offered to visit the victim.

High Tunstall School Pupils - Resident Representative Brenda Loynes informed the meeting that she was to visit High Tunstall School to point out the effects of ASB to pupils.

Sydenham Road - Councillor Martyn Aiken referred to a manhole cover being removed in Sydenham Road and was informed that this would be passed to the Environmental Action Team.

The meeting concluded at 11.15 am.