

CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA



Thursday 18th February 2010

at 10.00 am

**in the Council Chamber,
Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM:

Councillors Aiken, S Akers-Belcher, Brash, Coward, Cranney, Hall, Hargreaves, Laffey, Lauderdale, London, Morris, Payne, Richardson, Shaw, Simmons, Sutheran, Thompson, Tumilty and Worthy

Resident Representatives: Ronald Breward, Liz Carroll, Bob Farrow, Ted Jackson, Jean Kennedy, Evelyn Leck, Alan Lloyd, Brenda Loynes, Brian McBean and Julie Rudge

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 meeting of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum held on 17th December 2009
 - 4.2 Matters arising (maximum of 10 minutes) – Feedback sheet from last meeting attached
 - 4.3 To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Central Area Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum held on 28th January 2010 (*to follow*)

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME and WARD ISSUES (maximum of 30 minutes)

Park
Rift House
Stranton
Burn Valley
Elwick
Foggy Furze
Grange

6. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION

No items

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR INFORMATION

- 7.1 Town Centre Communities Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP), Draft for consultation – *Assistant Director of Housing and Regeneration*
- 7.2 Planning Aid – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*
- 7.3 National Policy Statement on Nuclear Power Generation and Identification of Site for New Power Station at Hartlepool – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*
- 7.4 Hartlepool Core Strategy – Public Consultation on the Preferred Options Report – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*

8. ITEMS FOR DECISION

No items

9. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum will take place on Thursday 8th April 2010 at 2.00pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre.

The next meeting of the Central Area Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum will take place on Thursday 22nd April 2010 at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre.

WARDS

Burn Valley
Elwick
Foggy Furze
Grange
Park
Rift House
Stranton

CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM

17 December 2009

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



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

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Kevin Cranney - Foggy Furze Ward

Vice-Chair: Evelyn Leck (Resident Representative)

Councillor Jonathan Brash	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor Gerard Hall	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor John Lauderdale	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor Frances London	- Foggy Furze Ward
Councillor Robbie Payne -	- Stranton Ward
Councillor Carl Richardson	- Grange Ward
Councillor Jane Shaw	- Stranton Ward
Councillor Victor Tumilty	- Grange Ward

Resident Representatives: Ted Jackson, Brenda Loynes and Julie Rudge

Public: Christine Blakey, John Bunter, Mary Diver, Gordon Johnson and Stella Johnson

Council Officers: Denise Ogden, Head of Neighbourhood Management
Clare Clark, Neighbourhood Manager (Central)
Jon Wright, Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager
Derek Reynolds, Project Technical Manager, Schools Transformation Team
Simon Cuthbert, Operations Co-ordinator Client Services
John Smalley, Principal Environmental Health Officer
Irene Cross, Neighbourhood Development Officer (Central)
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

Police Representatives: Graeme Handley and Mark Say

Housing Hartlepool Representative: Libby Griffiths

New Deal for Communities Representative: Brian Dixon

25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Martyn Aiken, John Coward, Pamela Hargreaves, Pauline Laffey, George Morris, Chris Simmons and Hilary Thompson and Resident Representatives Liz Carroll and Bob Farrow.

26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

27. MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM MEETING HELD ON 15 OCTOBER 2009

Agreed

28. MATTERS ARISING

Rift House – Dog Control Orders – At the previous meeting Councillor Stephen Aker-Belcher had requested that this issue be referred to scrutiny, particularly the inclusion of the recreation ground in Westbrooke Avenue as he felt this was detrimental to responsible dog owners. The Chair noted that the Forum had previously been consulted on Dog Control Orders on two occasions and advised that in order for this matter to proceed through scrutiny the Forum needed to give authorisation. Members duly agreed that this issue be referred to scrutiny.

29. MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL AREA POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY CONSULTATIVE FORUM MEETING HELD ON 12 NOVEMBER 2009

Received

30. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND WARD ISSUES

Park

Hart Lane – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes requested that the bins by the black path near Tesco be emptied more regularly

Ambulance Station – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes asked if a mini-roundabout could be installed at the right turn into the station. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager advised that this had been discounted previously given its proximity to the existing traffic signals. However further investigations could be undertaken.

Stranton

Marina – Councillor Robbie Payne reported ongoing problems with parking on dropped kerbs which was leading to complaints from residents.

Cleaning of Council buildings – Councillor Jane Shaw thanked the Assistant Director for her prompt action on the rubbish outside the Civic Centre. However parking issues outside Bryan Hanson House meant the cleaners were unable to clear all of the rubbish from outside the building and complaints were being received.

War Memorial – Councillor Jane Shaw raised concerns that skateboarders were damaging the Victory Square memorial.

Stockton Road – Resident Representative Jean Kennedy queried why repairs were outstanding following a vehicle collision with the small wall outside Marks and Spencer. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager advised that the wall had gone through a minor cycle of damage and repair. The debris had been cleaned as much as

possible and talks with a landscape architect with a view to improving the overall design for the area.

Waldon Street – Resident Representative Jean Kennedy raised serious anti-social behaviour problems in this area, which had been ongoing for at least three years. Residents were unable to get proper nights sleep due to evening work at Cameron's Brewery and disturbance from drinkers coming home. Bottles from the Sports Bar were regularly being broken. Resurfacing was also needed due to damage caused by brewery lorries. The Neighbourhood Manager to arrange a meeting with residents in the new year to discuss these issues. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager would arrange for the area to be cleaned more often.

Burn Valley

Cornwall Street – Councillor John Lauderdale advised that tenants of the new flats were parking in Cornwall Street itself despite the provision of a car park for their exclusive use. This would be brought to the attention of Endeavour Housing. The Vice-Chair indicated that the tactiles on the pavements outside the flats had been damaged by lorries and the bollards had been removed. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager reported that the bollards had been removed and would be used elsewhere. The condition of the tactiles would be looked at.

Caroline Street Clinic – The Vice-Chair advised that there was a large pothole outside the entrance which was causing a problem for people with disabilities. Councillor Jonathan Brash indicated that as the Clinic was run by the PCT they should be approached.

Burn Valley Gardens – Councillor Jonathan Brash highlighted a recent

incident whereby two girls were approached in the Burn Valley Gardens. He asked if sixth form students were being given appropriate safety advice pending future improvements to the gardens. The Chair indicated that all students using the Gardens as a cut through were advised to take the long way round. The Vice-Chair acknowledged this but felt that young people believed they were safe in groups when this might not be the case and asked if PCSOs could be despatched to the area during peak times. A police representative advised that shift allocations had been changed that morning to ensure a presence. The Neighbourhood Manager agreed to arrange a visit to the college by the local area Crime Prevention Officer and Victim Support Worker to provide advice and assistance to students.

Arncliffe Gardens – Councillor Gerard Hall queried whether they were able to park next to bus stops which were no longer in use owing to route changes. Councillor Jonathan Brash advised that this would be allowed upon removal of the legal notice when the route changes became permanent. Councillor Hall also referred to problems with the service re-routing on Baden Street but Councillor Brash indicated that a meeting would be held that week and residents' issues would be listened to.

31. DRAFT PUBLIC CONVENIENCE STRATEGY

The Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services) gave a brief presentation on the proposed and newly developed policy for the future provision of public conveniences in Hartlepool. Current Service provision of public toilets was outlined and details of the refurbishment of facilities across the town given. In an effort to deter vandalism on, CCTV would

be installed in existing sites when funding opportunities became available. It was unlikely that there would be funding for additional toilet facilities and it was therefore proposed to encourage businesses to open their amenities to the general public in return for a monetary incentive. Existing public conveniences in council buildings would be promoted. Another way of increasing public conveniences in the town would be via a clause when new developments were given planning permission.

Resident John Bunter queried why a functional toilet on the Marina was closed and changed into a store room. The Assistant Director advised that vandalism problems had caused its closure. The facilities were made of porcelain and had not been built to an acceptable specification by the Teesside Development Corporation. The cost of refurbishment had been felt too high and the Council felt such spending was unjustified when public toilets were available in the Museum.

Mr Bunter also asked why the Coronation Drive toilets were unisex. The Assistant Director reported that this had been a direct result of public consultation.

Councillor Gerard Hall referred to a previous scrutiny investigation into the provision of public toilets which he had chaired. One of the major issues to come out of this investigation had been the lack of disabled toilets in Hartlepool and he asked if it would be possible for officers to look into hiring proper disabled facilities for use in the Marina during public events such as the Tall Ships.

Councillor Jonathan Brash raised issues with paying local businesses to allow the public to use their facilities, saying he would prefer this to be achieved through planning or licensing legislation. However he commented that if toilets

were unmanned they were almost certainly be abused and he did not feel the public should be exposed to that. The Assistant Director advised that the council used to employ attendants and charge for the facilities toilets but staff had previously been physically abused and their safety would always be paramount, the risk is heightened when cash is on the premise. Councillor Brash also queried what would happen in areas that did not have businesses or existing facilities.

The Chair thanked the Assistant Director for attending the meeting and answering questions.

32. DRAFT EMPTY HOMES STRATEGY

The Principal Environmental Health Officer (EHO) gave a brief introduction to the draft Empty Homes Strategy. This had been formulated following concerns from the community and Members on the numbers of empty private houses and associated issues. The Strategy aimed to bring empty private houses back into use, maximise the use of existing housing and contribute towards neighbourhood sustainability and community well being. There would be a focus on prioritising houses, streets and areas for action using an assessment form and to introduce new options for the Council. Appendices to the report provided details of what action could be taken as well as areas which had already been identified, including the Marina. The consultation period would run up to 1st February 2010. An assessment form was available for completion, these could be sent to the Principal Environmental Health Officer or the Housing Strategy Officer (Karen Kelly) via email along with any comments. Full contact details were provided within the report.

Councillor Jonathan Brash welcome the strategy saying he hoped the process would be very quick as the more

properties that were brought into use and public ownership the better. The Principal Environmental Health Officer acknowledged this but said that some processes necessarily took a long time. Councillor Brash also asked that the strategy be properly financed in its own right rather than appended to an existing job.

Resident Representative Evelyn Leck expressed her disagreement with the aims of the strategy saying she was against compulsory purchase, which could lead to a person's home and/or inheritance being taken from them. A better route would be for Housing Hartlepool to contact owners and request that they be allowed to make improvements and rent the property out. Housing Hartlepool would get half of the proceeds and the landlord the other half. Councillor Jonathan Brash commented that compulsory purchase was only used when other avenues had failed and landlords were always approached first. However if they refused to help bring the property back into use then any subsequent actions were perfectly acceptable.

Resident Representative Christine Blakey felt that it was important to get the balance right and not allow landlords to tie the Council's hands. If the Council took too much action this might set a precedent. She also felt that methods used to contact landlords and businesses needed to be improved and more personalised than a standard letter.

Councillor Gerard Hall queried whether there would be a problem with HBC taking privately owned properties back into use. The Principal Environmental Health Officer advised that HBC would be unable to take ownership but discussions with Housing Hartlepool were currently ongoing with a view to their taking over management responsibility. However

there could be limits on the amount of money that could be recouped in rent, something which HBC might have to cover. Councillor Brash indicated that housing associations were required legally to bring homes up to certain standards that private landlords were not, something which could be costly. Resident Representative Christine Blakey commented that the application of differing rules on property standards to housing associations and private landlords was unfair and changes should be recommended to Central Government.

The Chair thanked the Principal Environmental Health Officer for attending the meeting and answering questions.

33. BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE UPDATE

The Project Technical Manager for the Schools Transformation Team gave a brief update on the proposed outline planning applications for alterations to Manor College of Technology and Catcote School. These outline proposals were required as part of the original funding application and although no detailed proposals had yet been drawn up there were certain design and planning constraints which would have to be taken into account. Sport England had also imposed significant constraints on the Manor College plans. Pre-application consultations had been held on the school sites in November 2009. The public consultation would run to the end of January 2010 with a detailed planning application scheduled for October 2010.

The Chair thanked the Project Technical Manager for attending the meeting.

34 MINOR WORKS PROPOSALS DECEMBER 2009

A number of schemes were put forward for approval by the Forum. These were:-

Front Street, Hart Village – renewal of safety railings - £5,887

North Lane, Elwick Village – renewal of timber fence safety barrier - £200

Greta Avenue – visual improvements - £1,000

Baden Street – traffic calming scheme - £9,126

Macauley Road and Sinclair Road – installation of fencing - £700

Maritime Avenue – construction of a cross path - £500

Councillor Gerard Hall commented upon the use of partnership funding on several of the schemes, an example of how much more could be achieved. Councillor Jonathan Brash was particularly pleased with the Baden Street scheme which he felt would help address problems getting empty properties occupied. The Chair commented that he was happy that improvements had been made to the minor works scheme which appeared to be encouraging more public involvement.

The meeting concluded at 11:20am

CHAIR

ACTION SHEET FOR CENTRAL FORUM

17 DECEMBER 2009

PARK WARD

Hart Lane – bins near Tesco need emptying (Brenda Loynes)

This issue was passed to the North Area Coordinator to action. After monitoring of the situation a larger bin has now been installed at this location.

Ambulance Station – request for a mini-roundabout at the right turn (Brenda Loynes)

This has previously been investigated and cannot be installed due to the existing road lay-out ie the proximity of this junction to the signalized junction. HBC Traffic Manager Peter Frost has agreed to investigate further with Middlesbrough Council who is the lead authority for traffic signals to see if there are any alternatives to improve this busy junction.

STRANTON

Marina – Motorists parking on dropped kerbs (Robbie Payne)

The enforcement powers now fall within the Local Authorities remit to issue FPN's to the owners of vehicles that park across dropped crossings. Unfortunately these powers can only be used on adopted public highway which therefore leaves all non adopted public highways, such as at the current location referred to, the responsibility of the land owner.

Bryan Hanson House – complaints that car park could not be cleaned thoroughly because of parking issues (Jane Shaw)

This can, and will be cleaned over a weekend when the car park is free from parked vehicles.

War Memorial – skateboarders causing damage (Jane Shaw)

This issue was also raised at the Police and Community Safety Forum. The police have agreed to pay extra attention to this area especially on an evening when patrols are passing by. This will include more attempts to engage with young people and use greater use of enforcement powers where appropriate.

Stockton Road – request for repairs to small wall outside Marks and Spencer asap (Jean Kennedy)

New designs for this scheme have now been drawn up. Works on the scheme should be complete by the end of the financial year.

Waldon Street – problems with anti-social behaviour caused by patrons of the Sports Bar. Work at Cameron's brewery keeping residents awake. Resurfacing needed because of damage caused by lorries (Jean Kennedy)

A meeting has been held with Waldon Street residents to discuss these issues.

BURN VALLEY WARD

Cornwall Street – residents of new flats parking in Cornwall Street despite having access to own car park (John Lauderdale)

The Council's parking enforcement team has been asked to undertake additional patrols in this area. If the issue persists the Council will investigate installation of double yellow lines at this location.

Cornwall Street flats – tactiles need repairing (Evelyn Leck)

This has now been made safe and will be renewed in the new financial year when further funds become available.

Caroline Street clinic – Large pothole outside entrance (Evelyn Leck)

The pot holes at this location have now been repaired.

Burn Valley Gardens – request for increased police presence following attempted attacks (Jonathan Brash / Evelyn Leck)

Additional patrols were instigated by the Central Neighbourhood Police Team following incidents in the Park. After meeting with the Head of the Sixth Form College the Central Area Crime Prevention Officer and Victim Support Worker have also delivered two crime prevention and personal safety sessions with those groups of students currently using the park as a cut through when traveling from the Elwick Road to Brinkburn site. These Officers have also held a general drop-in at the College canteen when mobile telephones were security marked and crime prevention advice given.

Baden Street – problems with re-routed bus service (Gerard Hall)

Stagecoach are currently reviewing existing bus routes. Problems associated with the re-routed service and the pressures on Baden Street have been fed into this process for consideration.

WARDS

Burn Valley
Elwick
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Stranton

CENTRAL POLICE & COMMUNITY SAFETY CONSULTATIVE FORUM

28th January 2010

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



The meeting commenced at 10.00 am at
Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre, Kendal Road, Hartlepool

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Kevin Cranney – Foggy Furze Ward

Vice Chair: Resident Representative Evelyn Leck

Councillor Frances London	- Foggy Furze Ward
Councillor Carl Richardson	- Grange Ward
Councillor Chris Simmons	- Grange Ward
Councillor Hilary Thompson	- Elwick Ward
Councillor Victor Tumilty	- Grange Ward -

Resident Representatives:

Bob Farrow, Jean Kennedy, Brenda Loynes and Julie Rudge

Residents: Demi Coull, Shauna Hanley, Sam Holland, Gordon and Stella Johnson, Kira Lund, Robert Maiden, Z McKenna, Daniel Patten, Brian Staunch, Ray Waller and Juliette Ward

Officers:

- Clare Clark, Neighbourhood Manager (Central)
- Sally Forth, Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator
- Irene Cross, Neighbourhood Development Officer (Central)
- Jean Shenava, New Deal Anti Social Behaviour Officer
- Carl Gatenby, Police Anti Social Behaviour Officer
- Julie Hetherington, Community Safety Assistant
- Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

Cleveland Police: Acting Chief Inspector Mick Brown, Acting Inspector Peter Howarth and Sergeant Dave Galloway

Cleveland Fire Brigade: Peter Bradley and Stu Simpson

Housing Hartlepool: Natalie l'Anson and Linda Smith

Safe in Tees Valley: Christine Davidson and Genevieve Crawford

20. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Martyn Aiken, Jonathan Brash, John Coward, Pauline Laffey, Jane Shaw and Gladys Worthy and Resident Representatives Liz Carroll and Ted Jackson.

21. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 NOVEMBER 2009

The minutes were confirmed as a true record subject to the inclusion of Bob Farrow's apologies and the correction of "quay arsonist" to "marquee arsonist"

22. MATTERS ARISING

Resident Representative Julie Rudge advised that problems around street audits had been resolved.

The Vice-Chair highlighted increased drug activity in Stockton Road. A police officer had telephoned her and been quite aggressive in her opinion. Nothing seemed to have been done to stem the problem. The Chair requested police officers act upon this information.

23. UPDATE FROM THE POLICE

Acting Chief Inspector Mick Brown provided an overview of crime in the Cleveland Force and also the Central area of Hartlepool. Force-wide figures were down for House Burglaries, Violent Crime, Criminal Damage, Vehicle Crime and other theft while Drugs activity had risen. This positive trend had continued in Hartlepool, with the exception of violent crime which had risen by 8.6%. The numbers of arrests, cautions, charges, warrants, AS13s and Street encounters in

the Central area of the town were also given.

Acting Chief Inspector Brown also highlighted a number of items of interest including Police and Communities Together (PACT), Operation Vantage and Cuppa with a Coppa. Members were advised that following issues raised by residents a cannabis farm had been discovered in the Addison Road area, a male suspected of indecently assaulting three females had been arrested and work to combat anti-social behaviour in the Cornwall Street area had achieved positive results.

The following issues were then raised:

PACT – Councillor Chris Simmons indicated that a recent PACT event involving projection onto Sheriff Street had been well attended while another held indoors had been less so. He recommended that these events be held exclusively outdoors in the future.

Cuppa with a Coppa – Councillor Chris Simmons requested that these be held in Asda and Morrisons as well as Tesco in order to enable a wider variety of the public to attend. Resident Ray Waller commented that changes to the bus service would have a detrimental effect on attendance.

Grange Ward – Councillor Chris Simmons praised the work of the police and PCSOs in the Grange Ward, particularly their regular attendance at Residents Association meetings.

Burn Valley Residents meeting – The Vice-Chair asked if the police could be represented at a residents meeting to be held on 2nd February

“Al Capone” – The Vice-Chair referred to a criminal in the Burn Valley area who was felt to be untouchable. Acting Chief Inspector Brown reminded those present that the real Al Capone had eventually been convicted for tax evasion, saying it was not always the most straightforward approach which netted the best results. He pledged to bring an update on this situation to the next police forum.

Children and Young People – Resident Representative Jean Kennedy highlighted problems with children drinking alcohol in the Central area, suggesting somewhere should be found where they could congregate safely. The Chair advised that this was covered by the Safe in Tees Valley Assertive Outreach Service which would be discussed later in the meeting. Cost was an issue but Mrs Kennedy felt as the future of Hartlepool they were worth the money. Reference was made to the large number of young people in attendance at the meeting which was felt to be beneficial to the forum and the young people. The Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator indicated that the young people were present as part of a voluntary inspection of the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit. Resident Representative Bob Farrow highlighted the 25th anniversary of the Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre this year. The main reason the centre had been opened was to give children and young people something to do and he was proud of the young people who had used the centre and were now good citizens.

Elwick – Councillor Hilary Thompson paid tribute to the work being undertaken by PCSO Cath Jones in tackling problems being experienced by farmers. Praise was also given for the resurrection of Ringmaster.

Elwick Road – Resident Ray Waller asked that police carefully consider where

they held public events in Elwick Road as bad weather and problems with buses could lead to traffic gridlock. Acting Chief Inspector Brown noted these comments.

Bad behaviour – Resident Representative Christine Blakey referred to a press report that an elected member had threatened a police officer at a North Neighbourhood Forum meeting, saying the code of conduct should prevent such occurrences and that adults should set a good example to the young. Councillor Carl Richardson called for the member in question to be identified.

Neighbourhood Forums – Resident Representative Christine Blakey highlighted comments made by Councillor Victor Tumilty regarding the usefulness of the forums. Councillor Tumilty advised that he believed the forums did an excellent job but some presentations were overlong. On occasion he had witness elected members sleeping during meetings, something which would be unacceptable if they were at work. He also criticised councillors for taking over meetings with issues which they could easily resolve through officers. Residents should lead these meetings. Resident Ray Waller referred to his previous tenure as Chair of the Forum when he felt more senior officers had attended than did now. He felt residents were being dismissed and neighbourhood forums were nothing more than a series of presentations. The Chair commented that he always tried to allow the residents to have their say before resident representatives and councillors.

The Chair thanked Acting Chief Inspector Brown for attending the meeting and answering questions.

24. REDUCING REOFFENDING TEAM

Due to the unavailability of the CJIT Operations Manager this item was withdrawn from the agenda.

25. UPDATE FROM THE FIRE BRIGADE

The Fire Brigade representative, Peter Bradley, gave details of the number of incidents in the Central Area of the town between November 2009 and January 2010, where there had been a drop in all types of fire. It was acknowledged however that the inclement weather may have contributed to these figures. The work of the arson task force was highlighted as was the fact that there had been no fire related injuries reported for the period. He acknowledged the Tunstall Court fire had been a blot on an otherwise excellent record but since then fire officers had met with the owners and been given the go-ahead to brick up the ground floor. Apprentices from Hartlepool College of Further Education would be helping with this.

Resident Ray Waller referred to reports that a new fire station was being built in Stranton and the old station at the Headland refurbished. Mr Bradley confirmed this, saying work would commence in 2012. There would be six new stations throughout Cleveland county and a new headquarters. The new station at Stranton would have full community facilities. Councillor Hilary Thompson queried plans for Elwick but Mr Bradley was unable to give details.

The Chair thanked the Fire Brigade representative for attending the meeting and answering questions.

26. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR UNIT UPDATE

The Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator gave details of recent activity in the unit, including information on which categories complaints had fallen into, whether cases had been dosed satisfactorily and what action had been taken to close the case. This information was provided for the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit and Housing Hartlepool, as was information on customer satisfaction rates. Details were also given of take-up of the Good Tenant Scheme.

Members were advised that a number of categories relating to anti-social behaviour and good citizenship had been introduced to the annual Pride in Hartlepool awards. Information on various awards to staff from the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit and Housing Hartlepool was outlined and members were advised the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit website had recently been updated with details of anti-social behaviour by ward and category.

Members were also advised that a recent change in the law meant that any young person caught with alcohol three times could be prosecuted through the criminal justice system. A resident asked if this would be publicised, the Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator indicated that the youth service had been informed and a publicity drive was planned. Parents of persistent offenders would also be advised.

Councillor Hilary Thompson queried what percentage of customer satisfaction surveys were returned. The Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator advised that 62% of Housing Hartlepool questionnaires were returned but had no figures for the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit.

Resident Ray Waller reminded members that the vast majority of young people did not engage in anti-social behaviour. The

bulk of all anti-social behaviour was caused by people coming into the central area from elsewhere but it was not necessarily young people causing it.

The Chair thanked the Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator for attending the meeting and answering questions.

27. SAFE IN TEES VALLEY ASSERTIVE OUTREACH SERVICE

Christine Davidson, Cleveland Police Youth Manager, gave a brief presentation on the work of the Safe in Tees Valley Assertive Outreach Service. This was a service for children and young people which identified vulnerable children and young people to try to reduce and prevent anti-social behaviour by challenging inappropriate behaviour and signposting them to local activities and services. Details of the service core elements, introductory key performance indicators and introductory delivery were outlined and contact information given.

The Chair queried whether the work of the FAST team had been linked in with Safe in Tees Valley. The Youth Manager confirmed that it had although Safe in Tees Valley had taken over their contract through the tendering process. The Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator commented that the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit were still working with the FAST team as well as Safe in Tees Valley- it was only the Friday and Saturday night Outreach Service that had been tendered- FAST was otherwise still providing the same service as previously and working closely with Safe in Tees Valley.. The Neighbourhood Manager queried how Safe in Tees Valley would be liaising with the Joint Action Groups, the Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator indicated the link was through the tasking meetings. Safe in Tees Valley gathered their intelligence from reports reaching

the Anti-social Behaviour Unit. The young people present praised the service.

The Chair thanked the Cleveland Police Youth Manager for attending the meeting and answering questions.

28. CRIME AND DISORDER CO- ORDINATION UPDATE

Sergeant Dave Galloway gave a brief update on the work of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership in reducing crime and disorder. Activities were highlighted including regional events attended by crime prevention officers and a mapping exercise which had been carried out in relation to youth activity.

The Chair thanked Sergeant Galloway for attending the meeting.

29. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No issues

30. ISSUES RAISED BY COUNCILLORS AND RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor Jane Shaw had submitted the following questions in her absence through the Chair:

“War memorial – request for more police attention on an evening – police driving past ignoring youths congregating and skateboarding”

“Alleygates – being left open at Raby Road triangle – can we take steps to ensure they are locked in the future”

Resident Representative Bob Farrow indicated he had seen rats on Kendal Road

Councillor Victor Tumilty thanked the Community Payback Team for their work in restoring the Hart Lane garden

The meeting concluded at 11.40am

Chair

Report of: Assistant Director of Housing and Regeneration

Subject: TOWN CENTRE COMMUNITIES NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLAN (NAP), DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Neighbourhood Consultative Forum of the draft Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP), which has been prepared for the Town Centre Communities area and, to note the proposed 8 week consultation period on the draft Plan from mid February 2010.

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 strategic policy framework for the Borough.
- 2.2 The Town Centre Communities neighbourhood, is the former New Deal for Communities (NDC) area plus a small part of the Burn Valley (BV) ward. The BV area has been split from Rift House and incorporated within the original NDC neighbourhood, as it was felt that the BV area has a more natural affinity with the NDC neighbourhood due to shared issues and priorities. Since it has been renamed Town Centre Communities.
- 2.3 The NAP is an update of the Plan prepared in 2007 for the NDC area, and includes the BV area, as described above in paragraph 2.2. The Town Centre Communities area boundary stretches from North Cemetery and Hart Lane in the North, to the Belle Vue roundabout in the South.

3.0 CONSULTATION AND PROGRESS TO DATE

- 3.1 Work commenced on developing the NAP for the Town Centre Communities area in September 2009. A door to door Household Survey has been conducted in the BV area, to which over 130 responses were received. This was to ascertain more detailed information in relation to this specific part of the neighbourhood, to complement the Ipsos MORI 2008 data for the NDC area.
- 3.2 A conference was held in November 2009 to bring people together, to identify the key issues and priorities of the neighbourhood. Residents, Ward Councillors and those who deliver services in the area were all in

attendance. Work with local Primary and Secondary Schools has also commenced.

- 3.3 Whilst consultation with residents was ongoing, service providers through their Theme Partnership were asked to prepare a Theme Assessment to inform the development of the NAP. 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 Town Centre Communities area and to highlight any opportunities for future development.

4.0 FUTURE CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Further consultation sessions will be undertaken on the draft Plan. This will potentially include an on-line consultation, drop-in sessions, Coffee Mornings, further work with schools serving the area, plus meetings with residents' associations, community/voluntary organisations and partners. The draft Plan will also be considered by the Theme Partnerships, for comments.
- 4.2 The aim of the second round of consultation is to ensure the document provides a real understanding of the issues affecting the quality of life of local people. It will provide an opportunity to make sure that the views and comments received have been incorporated and accurately reflected in the document.

5.0 THE FORMAT OF THE PLAN

- 5.1 As identified in paragraph 2.1, NAPs are used to deliver the NRS at a local level and therefore follow the same 8 Themes of the Community Strategy; Hartlepool's Ambition.
- 5.2 The format of the document differs from any NAP that has been developed previously. The Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum is asked to note the changes in the format.

6.0 FEEDBACK ON THE DRAFT PLAN

- 6.1 Copies of the draft Plan will be available at the meeting of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum. If you wish to make any comments prior to the next round of consultation commencing, you may do so in the following ways:
- Telephoning Gemma Clough, Principal Regeneration Officer at Hartlepool Borough Council on Tel: 01429 523598;
 - Submitting comments in writing to Gemma Clough, Principal Regeneration Officer, Hartlepool Borough Council, Bryan Hanson House,

Hanson Square, Hartlepool, TS24 7BT or to
gemma.clough@hartlepool.gov.uk; or

- Contacting Gemma Clough, Principal Regeneration Officer to arrange to meet with you individually or as a group for an informal chat.

7.0 IMPLEMENTATION

- 7.1 Annual Action Plans will be prepared each year to take forward this NAP. The first of these for 2010/11 will be prepared in consultation with residents, Ward Councillors and local community/voluntary organisations and, will be attached as an Appendix to the final Plan when it is considered by partners for endorsement. The Action Plan will identify priorities from the NAP to be tackled in that year.
- 7.2 The implementation of this Action Plan will be overseen by Hartlepool Borough Council's Central Neighbourhood Manager, who will work with service providers and existing local groups to develop specific schemes that will help to improve the quality of life of residents in the Town Centre Communities neighbourhood.
- 7.3 The Action Plan will be monitored locally and progress will be reported to the Hartlepool Partnership's Performance Management Group and Theme Partnerships.

8.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 In addition to the WNF (Residents' Priority Budget), which has been allocated to the Town Centre Communities NAP (for Burn Valley) in 2010/11 and funding for NAP priorities from the NDC programme, via the Neighbourhood Management project, this Plan will also be influential in the future allocation of resources. The NAP provides a strategic analysis of the issues and priorities 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 a more efficient co-ordination of activity.

9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 The Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum is requested to note the progress made in the development of the draft NAP for the Town Centre Communities area, along with the proposed consultation arrangements.

10.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 It is essential that the draft Town Centre Communities NAP is widely consulted upon, to ensure that the views of the local community are reflected within the document. This is vital, as the Town Centre Communities NAP will enable local people and organisations to continue to work together to

successfully integrate policies at a local level, improving the ways that services are provided, to achieve goals of lower unemployment and crime, better health, skills, housing and physical environment, and a stronger community with improved culture and leisure opportunities.

- 10.2 It will also continue to 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 Town Centre Communities NAP area.

11.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 11.1 The first draft of the Town Centre Communities NAP has been approved as a consultation document by the Town Centre Communities Forum on 13 January, the Transport and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder on 18 January and the Hartlepool Partnership on 29 January. As stated in paragraph 5.1, the NAP document relates back to the Community Strategy and the NRS.

12.0 CONTACT OFFICER

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

Report of: Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Subject: Planning Aid

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Forum of the services of Planning Aid. A presentation will be made by Kevin Lillie, the Regional Manager of Planning Aid North.

2. BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Kevin Lillie, the Regional Manager, of Planning Aid North, will give a presentation on Planning Aid.
- 2.2 Planning Aid is part of the Royal Town Planning Institute. It offers free and independent professional planning advice to community groups and individuals who cannot afford to pay professional fees. It works with communities to help them play a role in the planning process. Planning Aid is completely independent being neither part of Central Government nor the Local Planning Authority.
- 2.3 Planning Aid helps communities to understand the planning system and to comment on planning applications. It also helps people to comment on national policy statements and nationally significant infrastructure projects
- 2.4 Planning Aid can be contacted ntco@planningaid.rtpi.org.uk

5. RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 That the service offered by Planning Aid be noted.

Report of: Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Subject: NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT ON NUCLEAR
POWER GENERATION & IDENTIFICATION OF SITE
FOR NEW POWER STATION AT HARTLEPOOL.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Forum that the Government has issued for public consultation until 22 February 2010 a draft National Policy Statement on nuclear power generation and the siting of a new nuclear power station in Hartlepool.

2. BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION

- 2.1 On 9 November 2009 the Government issued a number of draft planning policy Statements on energy issues. One of the draft National Policy Statements relates to nuclear energy and identified Hartlepool as one of 10 potential sites for a new nuclear power station in England & Wales. The others sites are Bradwell, Braystones, Heysham, Hinkley Point, Kirkstanton, Oldbury, Sellafield, Sizewell and Wylfa.
- 2.2 The Government is encouraging residents of the town and others to have their say on the Government's draft Nuclear National Policy Statement (NPS) and a list of Power Station sites, which includes Hartlepool.
- 2.3 The draft National Policy Statement explains the assessment of each power station site, why nuclear power is needed and also outlines Government policy on managing radioactive waste.
- 2.4 The new plant would be built by EDF Energy, which now incorporates British Energy, and could be up and running by 2025. The lifespan of the existing Hartlepool plant takes it to 2014, but there is the option of applying for an extension in three years time.
- 2.5 In an initial phase of public consultation in May 2009, the Government asked views on the information supplied by EDF Energy relating to its case for proposing Hartlepool as a possible site for a power station in Hartlepool. In response to that consultation, Hartlepool Council said that the nomination of the town as the site for a new power station merits consideration by the Government.
- 2.6 Following the issue of the draft National Policy Statement the Government's Department of Energy & Climate Change undertook a short public consultation event at the Hartlepool Maritime Experience.

- 2.7 In addition the Borough Council undertook its own consultation exercise to give more information to residents and elected members so they can form their views on the issues.
- 2.8 On 26 January 2010 the Council held a Question Time session at the Hartlepool Maritime experience attended by over 72 people.
- 2.9 The Borough Council also undertook an online consultation during January 2010 when 158 people responded.
- 2.10 Cabinet on 15 February 2010 is considering the responses from the Council's consultation on the National Policy Statement and will form the Borough Council's own response to the consultation.

3. NEXT STEPS

- 3.1 It is still possible to make comments on the draft National Policy Statement direct to the Department of Energy & Climate Change.
To do this and to view the Government's Consultation documents visit www.energynpsconsultation.decc.gov.uk and respond on the electronic form.
- 3.2 Whilst DECC has encouraged responses to be made via the website they can also be made on hard copy paper forms or by letter, fax or email to Robin Clarke, OPM, 252b Gray's Inn Rd, London, WC1X 8XG Fax: 0845 055 1700 (FAO Robin Clarke)
Email: energynpsconsultation@opm.co.uk

The Government's consultation closes on 22 February 2010.

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 That interested parties be encouraged to submit any comments on the draft National Policy statement and the siting of a new nuclear power station in Hartlepool direct to the Department of Energy & Climate Change by 22 February 2010.

Report of: Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Subject: HARTLEPOOL CORE STRATEGY – PUBLIC
CONSULTATION ON THE PREFERRED OPTIONS
REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Forum of the public consultation arrangements for the Preferred Options Report for the Hartlepool Core Strategy.

2. BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Preferred Options Report forms part of the second stage in the production of the Hartlepool Core Strategy. The Core strategy is the main planning document covering the next 15 years.
- 2.2 In 2007 & 2008 the first stage had involved the publication of an Issues and Options Report which highlighted the various issues which are relevant in setting out a strategy for the Borough. It set out a number of possible options on where new development might be. Feedback from the consultation on that report has been assessed and where appropriate used in the selection of the Preferred Options.

The Preferred Options Report sets out the spatial vision for Hartlepool for 2026 and explains why certain options have been selected.

The consultation will be wide ranging and in accordance with the adopted Statement of Community Involvement and will last for eight weeks until the 26 March 2010.

3. The Preferred Options Report

In brief the Preferred Options report sets out the following broad principles for the development of the town up to 2026:-

- a south western and western expansion of the town for new housing with a new road access northwards off the A689.
- small expansions at Wynyard Woods and Tunstall Farm for Executive Housing
- Wynyard Park remains as Key Employment Site in line with Regional Spatial Strategy
- Victoria Harbour now allocated as port related uses
- the Town Centre boundary extended to include the Mill House Area and the football ground

- Improvements and extensions to green wedges around the town, notably an extension towards the town of the Middle Warren green wedge and new green wedges in the Claxton area to minimise the impact of new housing development
- Part of the Southern Business Zone including Graythorp is identified as an area for a centre of excellence for environmental waste management / eco industries
- Potential new Nuclear Power Station identified

4. THE NEXT STEPS

- 4.1 The Preferred Options Report has been published so that the community has an opportunity to make comments on the proposed strategy. The report is available for consultation until **Friday 26 March 2010**.
- 4.2 During the consultation period there will be displays in the Libraries, in the shopping centre and at other locations including the main town centre supermarkets, with the aim of getting as many people as possible involved in guiding the future direction of development in Hartlepool through the Core Strategy
- 4.3 There are various ways to submit comments. Either complete a questionnaire and return it to Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square, Hartlepool TS24 7BT – questionnaires are available at Bryan Hanson House, the Civic Centre and the Central Library or can be requested by phoning 01429 523280 or emailing planningpolicy@hartlepool.gov.uk. Alternatively the questionnaire can be completed on the Borough Council's online consultation website at <http://planningpolicy.hartlepool.gov.uk>. Comments by letter can also be sent to the Planning Policy team at Bryan Hanson House or may be email to planningpolicy@hartlepool.gov.uk.
- 4.4 All representations put forward within the eight week period will be considered, and will be used in the preparation of the next stage which is the publication of a full draft of the Core Strategy. For further information regarding the Core Strategy please ring 01429 523280.

5. RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 That the report be noted and that interested parties be encouraged to submit any representations on the Core Strategy Preferred Options Report during the consultation period which ends on 26 March 2010.