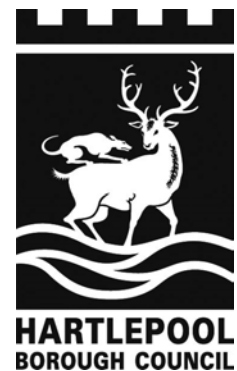


CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA



Thursday, 8 April 2010

at 2.00 pm

in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: 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 held on 18th February 2010
 - 4.2 Matters arising.

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

Rift House
Stranton
Burn Valley
Elwick
Foggy Furze
Grange
Park

6. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION

No items

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR INFORMATION

- 7.1 50-Plus Forum – Verbal Update – *50-Plus Development Officer, HVDA*
- 7.2 Grange Conservation Area – Verbal Update – *Landscape Planning and Conservation Manager*
- 7.3 Highways and Transportation Issues – Verbal Update – *Transportation and Traffic Manager*
- 7.4 Pride in Hartlepool Campaign Update – *Pride in Hartlepool Officer*
- 7.5 Dog Control Orders – Referral – *Chair of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum*

8. ITEMS FOR DECISION

- 8.1 Minor Works – *Neighbourhood Manager (Central)* (To follow)

9. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Central Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum will take place on Thursday 22nd April 2010 at 10am in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre

The date, time and venue of the next Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum are to be confirmed.

WARDS

Burn Valley
Elwick
Foggy Furze
Grange
Park
Rift House
Stranton

CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM

18 February 2010

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 John Coward	- Park 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 Hilary Thompson	- Elwick Ward

Resident Representatives: Ted Jackson, Jean Kennedy, Brenda Loynes, Brian McBean and Julie Rudge

Public: Mary Diver, George Harrison, Gordon & Stella Johnson, Dave and Diana Kirkwood, Sarah Maness, Ray McAndrew, William Morrish and Ray Waller

Council Officers: Clare Clark, Neighbourhood Manager (Central)
Jon Wright, Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager
Richard Waldmeyer, Team Leader Policy, Planning and Information
Irene Cross, Neighbourhood Development Officer (Central)
Tom Britcliffe, Principal Planning Officer
Gemma Clough, Principal Regeneration Officer
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

Police Representatives: C Broughton, D Carter and G Westmoreland

Fire Brigade Representative: Peter Bradley

Housing Hartlepool Representative: Lynn McPartlin

Planning Aid Representative: Kevin Lillie

35. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Martyn Aiken, Pamela Hargreaves and Chris Simmons and Resident Representatives Liz Carroll and Bob Farrow.

36. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

37. MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM MEETING HELD ON 17 DECEMBER 2009

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved subject to the following amendments:

- The inclusion of Resident Representative Jean Kennedy in the list of attendees
- **Ambulance Station** – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes had asked if a mini-roundabout could be installed to provide a right turn into Wooler Road rather than the station.

The minutes were duly amended.

38. MATTERS ARISING

None

39. MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL AREA POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY CONSULTATIVE FORUM MEETING HELD ON 28 JANUARY 2010

Received by the Forum.

40. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND WARD ISSUES

Park

Ward Jackson Park – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes reported complaints that the current map signage did not fit in with the overall surroundings. Mrs Loynes also referred to a possible timing problem with the lighting in the public toilets.

Dunston Road – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes advised that a catering van was regularly parking on the wrong side of the road at lunchtime and churning the grass up. The Chair requested that an enforcement officer action this.

Stranton

Burbank – Resident Representative Jean Kennedy requested transport be provided to take residents to and from the new health centre. The Chair agreed that transport was a problem for disabled residents but this was not exclusive to Burbank. He suggested a PCT representative be invited to a future meeting of the Forum. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that a health audit was currently being undertaken on Burbank with the results to be presented to the PCT in due course

Marina – Resident Representative Jean Kennedy indicated that there were ongoing problems with the drainage. She acknowledged that the council were not obliged to act but felt Mandale should be made to honour their commitments to businesses and residents in the area particularly given the reliance there would be on the restaurants during the Tall Ships event. Councillor Jonathan Brash

commented that ward councillors had involved themselves in this issue for some time but had been unsuccessful. Attempts had been made to encourage Mandale to take their responsibilities seriously but to no avail.

Waldon Street – Resident Representative Jean Kennedy referred to ongoing problems with the developer, Corillian. The Neighbourhood Manager was aware of these problems and the contact residents had had with them. She would ensure that a representative from Corillian attended the next residents meeting.

Mill House crossing – Councillor Jane Shaw felt this was situated too close to the corner in terms of visibility and speed of traffic. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager took these comments on board and would ask traffic and transportation officers to look into a possible move. However this would have massive cost implications and would necessitate the erection of barriers.

Camerons Brewery – Councillor Jane Shaw asked that signage be made available in advance of the introduction of the one-way system. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager advised that the appropriate signage was not in stock but had been ordered.

Recycling Centre – Councillor Jane Shaw advised that a resident had undertaken some DIY in his home but had been unable to dispose of the waste in the recycling centre because he had been using a trailer. He had been told to get a special pass but had advised that it was not commercial waste. Councillor Shaw felt that such an attitude did not encourage people to dispose of waste responsibly and could lead to incidents of flytipping.

War Memorial – Councillor Jane Shaw highlighted further damage caused by youngsters on bikes.

Southburn Terrace – Resident Mary Diver reported that the potholes were getting bigger. The Chair indicated this was a town wide problem resulting from the severe winter weather.

Burn Valley

Osborne Road West – Resident Ray Waller highlighted incidents of vehicles parking on the pavement from Park Road to Clifton Avenue. The Police to pursue possible enforcement action.

Burbank pedestrian crossing – Resident Ray Waller queried why a pedestrian crossing was being installed on Burbank and Burn Valley when a request for a crossing on Park Road and Osborne Road had been denied because there was not sufficient traffic to warrant it. Councillor Jonathan Brash advised that the Burbank crossing had been highlighted as a Central Forum priority for the coming year and funding would be sought.

Grange Conservation Area – Resident Ray MacAndrew referred to leaflets which had recently been produced on maintenance of historic homes. The area had been designated a conservation area 6 years ago so he queried why the pamphlets had taken so long to be produced. Did this mean that developers had not been abiding by these regulations in the interim? Had the pamphlets been made available to all the conservation areas or were they exclusive to the Grange? He also noted the lack of photographs within them of the rear of properties saying this inferred that they were less important than the front.

Mr McAndrew also queried the conservation area boundary down the

centre of Park Road saying it suggested that the appearance of the houses on one side were strictly controlled while those on the other were not. The Chair noted these comments and asked that they be forwarded to the relevant planning officer. Councillor Jonathan Brash suggested that the Landscape Planning and Conservation Manager be invited to a future meeting of the Forum.

Dog Control Orders – Resident Ray McAndrew advised that there had been a major crackdown on responsible dog owners in the Burn Valley recently. However people engaging in other banned activities such as littering or drinking alcohol did not seem to be targeted as much. Additionally the signage designating the area an alcohol free zone had disappeared in favour of the dog control orders notices. Councillor Jonathan Brash advised that the designated public places orders had recently been extended so updated signage would be erected in due course. In terms of the Dog Controls Orders Mr McAndrew was not the first person to raise this issue and it had been referred to the scrutiny work programme for 2010/11. He supported the principle behind Dog Control Orders but they had to be applied fairly. The Chair advised that an update on this issue would be provided at the next meeting of the Forum.

Redcar Close – Councillor John Lauderdale requested provision of a sandbag to enable gritting of icy roads. The Chair indicated that gritting was the subject of a current investigation.

Dog Fouling – The Vice-Chair highlighted an increase in dog fouling in the alleys behind Marske Street, Stockton Road and Penryth Street and asked if patrols could be increased.

Burn Valley roundabout – The Vice-Chair referred to problems with speeding cars damaging the crash barriers. Councillor Jonathan Brash advised that he had raised this issue and new crash barriers would be in place shortly

Stockton Road – The Vice-Chair reported problems with broken pavement and stray pieces of tarmac on the pathway.

Baden Street – The Vice-Chair requested that better lighting be provided

Elwick

Footpaths – Councillor Hilary Thompson indicated that she had been in contact with the Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager regarding this issue.

Potholes – Councillor Hilary Thompson highlighted a problem with a large pothole on the way into the village.

Foggy Furze

Ward Surgery – Councillor Frances London advised residents that a ward surgery would be taking place at 10am on 9th March.

Caledonian Road – The Chair requested that this area be considered as a 20mph zone utilising the minor works budget for 2010/11.

Stranton Cemetery – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes referred to problems with people drinking alcohol in the cemetery, stealing items from gravesides and allowing their dogs to foul the area. The Vice-Chair suggested that the warden be reinstated.

Oxford Street – The Residents Association had asked that the council consider allowing parking on one side of the road only to hinder speeding traffic.

41. TOWN CENTRE COMMUNITIES NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLAN (NAP), DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

The report described the background to Neighbourhood Action Plans with a specific focus on the Town Centre Communities NAP covering the former New Deal for Communities area plus a small part of the Burn Valley ward. It outlined the current position with regard to the consultation process, from an initial door to door household survey in the Burn Valley area to consultation with residents, ward councillors and other interested parties. The first draft had been approved by the Town Centre Communities Forum, Hartlepool Partnership and Transport & Neighbourhoods Portfolio. Further consultation sessions were planned and comments would be sought from the Theme Partnerships. Copies of the draft plan were available at the meeting and details given within the report of the various avenues available for comment.

Members were generally supportive of the document but felt that the name could be more simplified. Councillor Jonathan Brash was sympathetic to this viewpoint but felt the previous name – ‘New Deal for Communities’ – had been equally confusing. The Principal Regeneration Officer welcomed any suggestions for an alternative name. Councillor Carl Richardson suggested that a map showing which areas were covered be included when the draft document was issued.

42. PLANNING AID

Kevin Lillie, Planning Aid Representative, gave a brief presentation on Planning Aid which offered free and independent professional planning advice to community groups and individuals who

could not afford to pay professional fees. Neither part of Central Government nor the Local Planning Authority, Planning Aid could be contacted on ntco@planningaid.rtpi.org.uk

Resident Representative Jean Kennedy referred to the recent consultation on the siting of a new nuclear power station and its result showing 73% of respondents were in favour of a second power station. She questioned the validity of these results saying only the benefits had been highlighted and not the disadvantages. The relatively small number of respondents was also an issue as such an important decision should not be made by 1000 people on a Council register. Once the power station was built it would never be removed and leave future generations open to the threat of terrorist attack. The Planning Aid representative advised that the role of Planning Aid was to help the public challenge planning applications effectively. The primary consultation on this topic was being carried out by central government as part of the National Policy Statement.

Resident Ray Waller commented that the government had a responsibility to consider the results of this consultation carefully. He also referred to plans to transfer the power to make decisions on nationally significant planning applications away from local government to central government, saying this would leave local councils unable to deliver the aspirations of residents. Councillor Carl Richardson advised that this only covered nuclear power. Solar and wind power would still be considered by the Planning Committee.

The Chair thanked the Planning Aid representative for attending the meeting and answering questions.

43. NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT ON NUCLEAR POWER GENERATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF SITE FOR NEW POWER STATION AT HARTLEPOOL

The Team Leader for Planning, Policy and Information advised the Forum that the Government was undertaking public consultation on a draft National Policy Statement on nuclear power generation and the siting of a new nuclear power station in Hartlepool. The statement explains the assessment of each power station site, why nuclear power is needed and outlines Government policy on managing radioactive waste.

In May 2009 the Government had asked for views on the case for Hartlepool as a possible site for a new power station. In response HBC had said that the nomination of Hartlepool was worth consideration. Following the issue of the draft statement the Department of Energy and Climate Change had held a public consultation event at the Maritime Experience. Further consultation had been undertaken by HBC and a Question Time session held in January 2010. In February 2010 Cabinet had considered the consultation responses however the Government consultation was still due to run until 22 February 2010. Responses could be made via www.energyngpsconsultation.decc.co.uk as well as by letter, fax or email. Contact details were provided within the report.

Resident Representative Jean Kennedy called for a referendum on the issue saying this was the only way to be sure of a true reflection of views. The majority of people in Hartlepool did not have access to the internet and would prefer to respond in writing. Councillor Jonathan Brash challenged this assertion and queried how the cost of a referendum would be borne given recent budget cuts.

In terms of the previous consultation whereby 73% of 1300 people had supported the proposals Councillor Brash noted that national pollsters sampled on average 1000 so the figures had genuine credence. He questioned whether Mrs Kennedy would support the results of a town-wide referendum if they showed a majority in favour of a second power station. She confirmed that she would, the issue was that people had not been given the right to make their views heard. The Chair would pass these comments on to the Mayor.

The Team Leader highlighted that the consultation which had been carried out by the department had been done in addition to that legally required. The Government announcement had been made on 9th November, since then there had been an events at the Historic Quay including a Question Time and debate forum. This had been a public meeting although attendees did have to register in advance. Users of Viewpoint had also given their opinions, there had been an article highlighting the consultation in Hartbeat and the issue had been considered by Cabinet twice. Officers felt they could not have done more.

The Chair thanked the Team Leader for Policy, Planning and Information for attending the meeting and answering questions.

44 HARTLEPOOL CORE STRATEGY – PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE PREFERRED OPTIONS REPORT

The Principal Planning Officer informed the Forum of the public consultation arrangements for the Preferred Options Report of the Hartlepool Core Strategy. The Core strategy is the main planning document covering the next 15 years and the Preferred Options report forms part of the second stage in its production. It sets out the broad principles for the

development of the town up to 2026 including expansions within the town and a potential new Nuclear Power Station. The report was available for consultation until 26th March 2010 and during the consultation period there would be public displays in libraries, the shopping centre and town centre supermarkets. Details were given of how to submit comments.

Councillor Robbie Payne requested an update on Tunstall Farm. The Principal Planning Officer advised that it had been identified as a site for executive housing. Officers had tried to include it in the Local Plan for 2006 but it had been removed by the Inspector because at that time Victoria Harbour had been earmarked for housing and this was felt to be sufficient. However since the re-designation of Victoria Harbour as a dock area there was a need for more housing sites. Resident Representative Ted Jackson referred to problems with drainage in this area and commented that the Park Residents Association would not be in favour of housing on this site. The drainage problems needed to be resolved before any new building commenced. The Principal Planning Officer reported that these issues would be addressed when any planning application was made

Councillor Jonathan Brash queried the proposed balance of housing and business on Wynyard Woods and whether it was tilted too far in favour of business. The Principal Planning Officer indicated that 100 executive houses had been allocated to this site. A decision had been made not include housing on the other side of the road because of its detachment from Hartlepool and the concern that this could create a new town. There would also be no social housing due to the detachment of the area from the centre of Hartlepool. Councillor Brash acknowledged this but commented that this happened in villages and suggested that officers consider this

again. However Councillor Hilary Thompson felt that residents had moved to that area for increased space which they would lose if the site were overdeveloped.

Councillor Thompson went on to highlight the definition of 'village' housing within the strategy, saying this was rather vague. The Principal Planning Officer advised that a separate study would be needed on housing needs in the villages. Councillor Thompson also expressed concern about the proposed road linking the A689 and A179. The Principal Planning Officer confirmed that this would eventually cut across the countryside but said that would happen far into the future. Anyone with serious concerns about this should raise it during this consultation process.

Councillor Jonathan Brash asked whether the empty properties strategy had been factored into the figures for new housing. The Principal Planning Officer indicated that the empty homes strategy was not units which were currently empty and did not include new developments. Officers would continue with the process of housing renewal.

Resident Representative Jean Kennedy referred to a previous governmental decision to set aside 73 hectares of land for industrial use. She felt the centre of Hartlepool was being kept industrialised at the detriment of housing. The Principal Housing Officer reported that officers were looking at reallocating some of the land previously earmarked for industry to enable housing developments to be built. However certain areas such as land near Baker Petrolite and the Power Station could clearly never be used for housing because of their proximity.

Resident Ray Waller highlighted the rubbish being left by those on the Sandgate Industrial Site and asked if a

requirement to clean up could be included in the strategy. He added that officers needed to include a strategy to use existing housing stock. The Principal Planning Officer advised that this would be covered by the Strategic Housing Policy. A further document including 10% affordable housing on all new sites was also being formulated. Both these documents would eventually tie into the Core Strategy. Mr Waller referred to a recent Planning Committee decision to reject affordable housing on the Bishop Cuthbert development asking why this had been proposed when the affordable housing document was still in draft form. He suggested that there should be a debate on affordable housing and how to address the steady decline in town centre housing at a future forum.

The Chair thanked the Principal Planning Officer for attending the meeting and answering questions. He asked that any persons or groups interested in the issues raised contact the Officer after the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 12:10pm.

CHAIR

Report of: Pride in Hartlepool Officer

Subject: Pride in Hartlepool Campaign Update

Date: 8 April 2010

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update the Central Area Neighbourhood Forum on the progress of the Pride in Hartlepool Campaign and to request further funding for the coming year.

2. PRIDE IN HARTLEPOOL UPDATE

2.1 Pride in Hartlepool has supported the following campaigns and events in the Central Area during 2009/10:

2.2 Good Neighbour Day 26th May 2009

Pride in Hartlepool supported the Good Neighbour Day event in Burbank Street on the 26th May by funding and running hanging basket workshops for residents. Residents of Burbank Street brought along their hanging baskets to the workshop and were provided with compost and plants and shown how to refill them. They then took them home to hang in the back street.

- 2.2.1 A stall was also held at the event offering advice and freebies for people interested in finding out how being greener can help to save money.

2.3 Eco Day at St Joseph's School 21st April 2009

Pride in Hartlepool helped St Joseph's School organise their first eco day which was held on the 21st April. The children picked litter from the site, built bird boxes, a mini beast hotel and a greenhouse, planted vegetable seeds and learned how to look after their new outdoor classroom. The school have since put in a bid for Pride in Hartlepool funding for further developments for the site.

2.3 Big Tidy Up Campaign – Central Area Tidy Ups

The Big Tidy Up campaign continues to run across Hartlepool. Although the campaign runs all year round there are two big promotions to get people involved. The first of these is Spring Clean Hartlepool, which usually runs during April and May, but in 2009 had to be extended until the end of June due to demand from groups wanting to organise community clean ups.

- 2.3.1 The second promotion falls in September and October. In September 2009 Hartlepool Borough Council were selected as one of 11 "Local Authority Champions" of the Big Tidy Up campaign. As part of this we have pledged to run a number of Big Tidy Ups across the town helped by a high profile

advertising campaign funded by Tidy Britain. The advertising campaign, under the heading “Lets Tidy Hartlepool Together”, used bill boards and posters across the town to spread the Big Tidy Up message.

2.3.2 Pride in Hartlepool is also planning to link the Big Tidy Up campaign to the Tall Ships event in August by asking groups and businesses to join the “Tall Ships Green Team”. This initiative aims to help community groups, residents and businesses to clean up the town ready for the big event. Groups and organisations that sign up to join the Green Team will receive practical help to clean up their neighbourhoods, including free loan of equipment, skip hire and funding towards additional costs.

2.3.3 During 2009/10 13 Big Tidy Ups have been carried out in the Central Area and 73 bags of rubbish have been collected.

2.4 Clean Streets Campaign

The Clean Streets Campaign was launched on the 22nd April 2009. The campaign has been developed by the Pride in Hartlepool Officer in partnership with the Dogs Trust and aims to promote responsible pet ownership. The campaign targets schools through a fun, interactive assembly which teaches children how to worm their pets and how to clean up after them safely. The children then design posters to be displayed on around the school perimeter fencing asking people to keep their school routes free of dog fouling.

2.4.1 During 2009/10 3 Clean Streets Assemblies have been held in Central Area schools.

2.5 Smarter Living Roadshows

The Smarter Living Roadshows were developed as a partnership project between the Pride in Hartlepool, Climate Change and Recycling Officers, the Sustainable Travel Team and the Countryside Wardens. We also have three external partners: Hartlepool Water, Rossmere Allotments Association and Dogs Trust. The aim of the Smarter Living Roadshow is to take the environmental improvement message directly to the people of Hartlepool.

2.5.1 The Roadshow combines a traditional information stall offering leaflets and information for families on how they can make small changes to become greener and which can also save money off their household bills; with displays, demonstrations and fun practical activities. Some of these include “vegetable gardening on a shoestring” demonstrations, a design-a-bag-for-life activity and making natural Christmas decorations.

2.5.2 The Roadshow was launched in time for World Environment Day in June 2009 and has featured at various events across the town including Dockfest, the Recycle Now Week event in Middleton Grange Shopping Centre and the Horticulture Show in the Borough Hall. The Smarter Living Roadshow will continue to run at venues across the town throughout 2010 and the Pride in Hartlepool Officer is currently working with the partners to bring the Roadshow to the Tall Ships event in August.

2.6 Tree O’Clock Event

National Tree Week ran from the 26th November to the 6th December 2009. To support this initiative Pride in Hartlepool teamed up with the Countryside Wardens, the Ecologist and the Arboricultural Officer to hold an event on the 5th December in the North Cemetery which involved pupils, parents and staff from Jesmond Road Primary School. The event formed part of a national world record attempt to plant the most trees in one hour organised by the BBC Breathing Places Campaign. Pride in Hartlepool funded the cost of the 345 native trees planted by the group which were added to the national total.

2.7 Great Big Autumn Tree Giveaway

In November 2009 Pride in Hartlepool hosted its second annual Great Big Autumn Giveaway. To tie in with the National Tree Week events this year trees were given away free to schools and community groups across Hartlepool. In all, 31 sets of 10 mixed native “whips” and 12 pairs of fruit trees were given away. The aim of the Giveaway was to increase tree cover in the town to enhance local neighbourhoods, improve air quality and provide food and shelter for wildlife.

2.8 Pride in Hartlepool Awards

The Pride in Hartlepool Awards were held on the 9th December 2009 at Hartlepool’s Maritime Experience. The Central Area was well represented at the Awards with nominations from:

- The Friends of Hartlepool Station
- Middleton Grange Shopping Centre
- St Joseph’s School
- Lynnfield School

2.9 Small Grant Scheme Projects

The following projects all received an award from the Pride in Hartlepool Small Grant Scheme during 2009/10:

- Burbank Street Residents Group received £2,500 for their community garden area
- Cobden Area Residents Association received £266 for a hanging basket project
- Rift House Community Association received £2,425 towards the cost of a hanging basket project for the Catcote Shops area
- The Rifty Youth Project received £1,000 for their community garden project
- Eldon Grove School received £1,000 towards their school allotment project
- St Joseph’s School received £1,000 towards the cost of their outdoor eco classroom project
- Elwick Wildlife Garden received £215 towards equipment for the wildlife garden
- West Park School received £1,000 towards the cost of their school garden project
- **Total spend in the Central Area - £9,406**

3. PREDICTED FUTURE SPEND IN THE CENTRAL AREA 2010/11

- 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 2010/11 as this will be dependant on what projects apply to the Scheme. However, the 2009/10 projects outlined above serve as an example for the 2010/11 spend where spending in the Central area substantially exceeded the amount donated from the Forum.
- 3.2 Therefore, Pride in Hartlepool request funding of £5,000 from the Central Area Forum for 2010/11.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Report of: Neighbourhood Manager (Central)

Subject: MINOR WORKS PROPOSALS APRIL 2010

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

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

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Forum has been delegated a total Minor Works Budget of £87,000 for the financial year 2010/2011. This includes an allocation of £20,000 from highways budgets to address specific highways issues raised by the Forum in the Central Area, and a further £15,000 to address the common issue of the conversion of grass verges to hard standing.

Total Budget: £87,000

- 2.2 As in previous years the framework when considering proposed schemes is as follows:-

- (i) Outline schemes proposed by Members, Residents, Resident Representatives, or Officers.
- (ii) The Chair and Vice Chair of the Neighbourhood Consultative Forum to assess the proposal, and where appropriate instruct Officers to cost the works and report to the Forum.
- (iii) Reports to the Forum will include estimated costs, alternative options where appropriate, residents' views, and any other related information.

- 2.3 Additional guidance relating to the Minor Works Budget was agreed by the Forum in September 2009 and this is attached at **Appendix A**.

3.0 PROPOSALS

- 3.1 A number of schemes are detailed below to address concerns raised by Elected Members, Residents' Representatives, and residents in the Central Forum area.

(i) PARK WARD**Dunston Road Lay-By**

The request for a lay-by at Dunston Road has been discussed at many previous Consultative Forum meetings and this year residents have identified the need to improve road safety at this location as a priority.

Problems in relation to road safety in this area, generated by buses parking on the main highway, are exacerbated by the fact that Dunston Road is a main access road to neighbouring estates and is close to High Tunstall School.

The planned scheme will thus improve road safety by facilitating off road parking for the buses that use this route, in addition to providing clear access for all other road users. The estimated total cost of this scheme is £35,000. The Forum is requested to approve a contribution of £15,000 towards the scheme while the Transport and Highways Manager investigates alternative sources of funding to enable this scheme to go ahead this financial year.

Total cost of scheme £35,000

Total cost to Forum £15,000

(ii) BURN VALLEY WARD**Puffin Crossing Blakelock Road**

The request for a crossing at Blakelock Road has been discussed at many previous Consultative Forum meetings as a much needed road safety measure in Burn Valley Ward, and has been identified by Town Centre Communities residents as a priority for this financial year. The Engineering Consultancy is currently designing the scheme for Blakelock Road and the estimated total cost of the scheme is £40,000. The Forum is requested to approve a contribution of £15,000 towards the scheme and there is an anticipated contribution of £10,000 from the Town Centre Communities Forum. The remaining £15,000 that would enable the scheme to go ahead is being sought by the Transport and Highways Manager through the Local Transport Plan.

Total cost of scheme £40,000

Total cost to Forum £15,000

(iii) GRANGE WARDMilton Road back street resurfacing

Responding to requests from local residents, Ward Councillors have requested that the rear alleyway between 72 and 102 Milton Road which is in a poor state of repair be resurfaced. The total cost of the scheme is £9,000 and the Forum is requested to approve the total cost of funding the scheme.

Total cost of scheme: £9,000

Total cost to Forum: £9,000

(iv) CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA SCHEMESTactile Crossings

The Forum is asked to consider the request to continue its annual support of the dropped crossing programme with a £3,500 contribution to schemes in the Central Neighbourhood area.

Total cost to Forum £3,500

Pride in Hartlepool

The Forum is asked to consider the request to continue its annual support of the Pride in Hartlepool project by contributing £5,000 to schemes in the Central Neighbourhood area.

Total cost to Forum £5,000

4.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 The Forum is requested to recommend to the Neighbourhoods and Transportation Portfolio Holder that the schemes be approved from the Minor Works Budget
- 4.2 The cost of schemes proposed is **£47,500**
- 4.3 The total Minor Works monies remaining is **£39,500**
- 4.4 Residents and Ward Councillors are reminded to contact members of the Neighbourhood Management team if there are any new schemes you would like the Forum to consider in the new financial year.

MINOR WORKS BUDGET ALLOCATION GUIDANCE

The following guidance was agreed by the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum in September 2009.

- (a) Where possible the Minor Works Budget should be allocated equally across all seven wards within the Central Neighbourhood Area.
- (b) The Forum should aim to limit the level of funding to individual schemes to enable the benefit of the budget to be spread more widely across each Ward in the Central Neighbourhood Area. (Figures of £5,000, £10,000, and £20,000 all being suggested as possible limits)
- (c) Flexibility should be retained to allow the Forum to pool their budget when it would benefit the whole of the Central Neighbourhood area such as the current annual contribution to 'Pride in Hartlepool' of £5,000 and an allocation of £3,500 to dropped crossings.
- (d) The Minor Works budget should where possible be matched with contributions from other funding sources eg Local Transport Plan Monies, Community Safety Grant Monies, although the absence of such funding would not be a barrier to approval.
- (e) The Minor Works budget should not be used to fund major town projects eg parks
- (f) More information where possible should be provided to aid decision making in relation to particular schemes. This to include:
 - Evidence of need
 - How the community has been involved in developing the scheme
 - The partners involved in putting schemes together and the responsible officer for taking the scheme forward
 - Why the funding is needed ie why it will not be forthcoming from other sources.
 - How the scheme links with other schemes/initiatives in the area
 - When the scheme is expected to be completed
 - Options for particular schemes that include a value for money assessment, including for example how many residents will benefit from the scheme
 - Any risks to the project being delivered
 - Whether the schemes will result in an ongoing cost to the authority
- (g) Continuous monitoring of the budget should be provided. This to include a running total of how much funding has been allocated to each Ward, and contributions from other sources that add value to the Minor Works Budget.
- (h) A dedicated meeting at the beginning of each financial year to take place to enable full consideration to be given to priorities, and to determine how the Minor Works Budget can be used to best effect across the Central Neighbourhood Area.

ACTION SHEET FOR CENTRAL FORUM

18 FEBRUARY 2010

Park Ward

Ward Jackson Park – map signage doesn't fit in with the surroundings – also toilet lights on during the day and off at night – possible timing problem – Brenda Loynes.

Chris Wenlock, Parks and Countryside Manager, has advised that officers will investigate this request with a view to replacing map signage if budgets permit. The lighting issue has been reported to HBC Property Management section.

Dunston Road – catering van parked on wrong side of road and churning grass up – Brenda Loynes.

The van in question has a permit for trading anywhere in the town and whilst time limited in any one location for up to 15 minutes trading, may be at any one location longer than this because of time allowed for setting up and shutting up. Following concerns raised by residents the trader at this location has, and continues to be monitored. Officer observations reveal that during this period this particular trader has followed the rules almost to the minute. Photographs reveal that staff pick up litter before leaving and that the van is parked where it should be ie the Golden Lion side of the road with the hatch on the pavement. Investigating officers have examined rubbish in the locality and concluded that this was from shops in the area rather than the van in question.

Stranton Ward

Health Centre – concern about transport for Burbank residents – possible drop off service – Jean Kennedy – Chair suggested possibly invite PCT to next meeting.

As informed at the last Forum meeting there is currently a health audit being undertaken on the Burbank Estate by the local NHS Board. The audit is being undertaken in partnership with the Burbank Forum and local voluntary organizations and is due to report later in the year. The report will assist in identifying what new services are needed, if any, and how existing services such as transport need to change to meet the health needs of Burbank residents. The Chair has concluded that because this piece of work is already underway it would be beneficial to invite the NHS to the Forum at a later date.

Marina – problem with drains – Council need to make Mandale honour their commitments – Jean Kennedy.

Council Officers and Elected Members have been actively pursuing this issue for quite some time and are continuing to seek a speedy resolution.

Waldon Street – Problems with Corillian – residents concerns being left unanswered – Jean Kennedy – CC to make sure Corillian attend next meeting

HBC Central Neighbourhood Management Team has continued to arrange and facilitate meetings with Corillian and local residents. Prior to, and during the construction process meetings have been arranged every two months to ensure that residents concerns could be addressed. During this period Corillian have failed to attend on only two occasions for entirely legitimate reasons. Residents have a direct contact on site and many issues raised by residents have been resolved. The next meeting with Corillian and Waldon Street residents is being held on 30 March 2010.

Mill House crossing – too close to corner – very dangerous – Jane Shaw – JW to feed comments into traffic section.

These comments were passed to HBC's Traffic Management Team who note that this crossing is much safer than the York Road 'give way' which it replaced 10-15 years ago. The Traffic Management Team also report that whilst this crossing could be upgraded, due to the fact that there has been no reported accidents at the crossing in the last 3 years this would not be classed as a priority. However the Forum could, if it wished, look to allocate funding from their Minor Works budget to upgrade this crossing to a puffin crossing.

Camerons Brewery – signage needed re 1 way system – Jane Shaw.

Traffic Management report that this request for a one way system on the southern section of Waldon Street wouldn't be a good idea due to the fact that wagons accessing the brewery would then have to leave via an alternative residential street.

Council tip – man with trailer told to get a business pass – not commercial waste – request that skips be available around Greenwood Road twice a year – Jane Shaw.

Unfortunately the council skip service was withdrawn for financial reasons many years ago. We now provide a free bulky waste collection service for any bulky household items, with up to eight items collected in one call. Calls should go to the contact centre on 523333 who will book request and advise date of collection.

In relation to the disposal of household waste - the household waste recycling centre (HWRC) has a permit system in place for large vehicles and trailers. This needs an application form filling in (available at the HWRC) and then a permit will be issued after necessary checks are carried out on the vehicle etc.

If the vehicle is registered to carry trade waste then a permit is not granted. Trade waste is not permitted on the HWRC and the permit scheme is one way that the authority can keep a check on the types of waste entering the site.

War memorial – kids on bikes and skateboards causing damage – Jane Shaw.

This area is subject to ongoing monitoring and enforcement action from HBC's Environmental Enforcement Team and the Police. Due to these ongoing problems Victory Square has been designated a priority for the Central Area Joint Action Group this year. Over the coming months this group will be looking very closely at appropriate action for implementation and consideration of a longer term solution to the problem.

Southburn Terrace – potholes getting bigger – Mary Diver.

These works have now been completed.

Burn Valley Ward

Osborne Road (Park Road to Clifton Avenue) – cars parking on pavement – Ray Waller

Consultation has been undertaken with reference to daytime restrictions along the whole length of Osborne / St. Paul's Rd, from Park Road right through to Grange Road. Once the responses from the consultation have been analysed the best option, in line with the consultation, will be adopted. In the meantime, in the absence of parking restrictions, the Police continue to patrol the area and will use their statutory powers where vehicles are obstructing the pavement.

Park Road and Osborne Road – request for pedestrian crossing – Ray Waller.

Officers have investigated the idea of introducing a signalised junction rather than a pelican crossing at this location. Following discussions with Middlesbrough Borough Council Traffic Signals it has been agreed in principle that this would be beneficial. Junction surveys carried out also back up this view. However, whether or not this scheme goes ahead is dependant upon funding.

Grange Conservation Area – why did leaflets take so long to be produced? – who decided to put the boundary down the middle of Park

Road – Ray McAndrew – CC suggestion that Sarah Scarr meet with residents.

The Conservation Officer will be in attendance at the April meeting of the Forum.

Dog Control Orders – major crackdown in Burn Valley but nothing done about alcohol and broken glass from drinkers – Ray McAndrew.

The Burn Valley Gardens are patrolled by PSCO's during the day and youths drinking alcohol are challenged and dealt with. The gardens are also locked and secured at dusk by the Councils security contractor, NES. In addition there are three operatives that work within the Burn Valley Gardens who are responsible for cleansing and maintaining the area. Issues of anti-social behaviour are reported to the Neighbourhood Police via their Supervisor. Genuine users of the gardens are urged to report incidents to the Neighbourhood Police as quickly and accurately as possible.

Redcar Close – request for sandbags to grit paths during snow – John Lauderdale.

This has been passed to Mike Blair for consideration whilst reviewing the Winter Maintenance Policy.

Marske St/Stockton Rd/Penryth St – dog fouling in back alleys – Evelyn Leck.

These rear alleyways are cleansed once a week. The dog fouling issue has been passed to the Environmental Enforcement team for action.

Burn Valley roundabout – cars keep crashing into barriers – Evelyn Leck.

These have now been repaired.

Stockton Rd – broken pavements and pieces of tarmac on pavements – Evelyn Leck.

The Highways Inspector has inspected the area and identified the areas for repair. Orders have been raised.

Baden Street – request for lighting – Evelyn Leck

The lighting in Baden Street has recently been upgraded as part of the ongoing improvements. However HBC street lighting engineer has agreed to undertake a night time inspection. If it is recommended that additional lighting is needed there will be a further need to source funding as there is no funding identified for this in any mainstream budget this year.

Elwick Ward

Footpaths need addressing – Hilary Thompson.

The footways have been inspected and actionable defects repaired. Those footpaths that are beyond patching will be fed into the five year scheduled maintenance program for consideration by the Transportation and Highways Manager, Mike Blair.

Foggy Furze Ward

Caledonian Road – request for 20mph – Kevin Cranney

The Traffic and Transportation section is in the process of introducing pilot schemes (without traffic calming measures) in 3 areas – Elwick Road area, Davison Drive and Seaton Front. The success of these schemes will be monitored and if successful, will be rolled out to other areas of the town. Caledonian Road has been highlighted as a Central area priority.

Stranton Cemetery – thefts/drinking/dog fouling – Brenda Loynes – request for warden reinstatement.

Unfortunately there is no budget available to provide such a service. However there are other control measures in place such as the operatives that work within the cemetery during the day time who do clean the area and report damage if seen; the Environmental Enforcement Team who do patrol the area and issue FPN's for dog fouling and litter offences when witnessed; and NES who lock and secure the perimeter of the Cemetery. All genuine users of the Cemetery are urged to report incidents to the Neighbourhood Police as quickly and accurately as possible.

Oxford Street – request for parking on one side only – Evelyn Leck.

This will be investigated and feasibility established.