

# **CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA**



**Thursday, 19 August 2010**

**at 6.00 pm**

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

**MEMBERS: CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM:**

Councillors Aiken, S Akers-Belcher, Brash, Cranney, Hall, Ingham, Laffey, Lauderdale, London, Maness, Morris, Payne, Richardson, Shaw, Simmons, Sutheran, H Thompson, Wells and Worthy

Resident Representatives: Elizabeth Carroll, Ted Jackson, Robert Farrow, Peter Goodier, Evelyn Leck, Brenda Loynes, Steven Mailen, Brian McBean, Julie Rudge and Hilda Wales

- 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 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010
  - 4.2 Matters arising.
  - 4.3 To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Central Area Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2010

**5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME and WARD ISSUES**

Burn Valley  
Elwick  
Foggy Furze  
Grange  
Park  
Rift House  
Stranton

**6. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION**

No items

**7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR INFORMATION**

- 7.1 Town Centre Communities Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) – *Acting Assistant Director of Regeneration and Planning*
- 7.2 Presentation - Improvements to the North Cemetery – *Friends of North Cemetery*
- 7.3 Housing Hartlepool's proposal to form a group with Tristar Homes – *Housing Hartlepool Representative*

**8. ITEMS FOR DECISION**

- 8.1 Central Neighbourhood Forum Minor Works Budget – August 2010 – *Neighbourhood Manager (Central)*

**9. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum will take place on Thursday, 21 October 2010 at 2pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre.

The next meeting of the Central Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum will take place on Thursday, 11 November 2010 at 10am at Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre, Kendal Road

**WARDS**

Burn Valley  
Elwick  
Foggy Furze  
Grange  
Park  
Rift House  
Stranton

# ***CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM***

## **1 July 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)

Councillors: Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher - Rift House Ward  
Councillor Peter Ingham - Stranton Ward  
Councillor Pauline Laffey - Park Ward  
Councillor John Lauderdale - Burn Valley Ward  
Councillor Sarah Maness - Grange Ward  
Councillor Dr George Morris - Park Ward  
Councillor Carl Richardson - Grange Ward  
Councillor Chris Simmons - Grange Ward  
Councillor Hilary Thompson - Elwick Ward  
Councillor Ray Wells - Park Ward

Resident Representatives: Bob Farrow, Peter Goodier, Brenda Loynes, Steven Mailen, Brian McBean, Julie Rudge and Hilda Wales.

Public: Ian Campbell, Edith Eglintine, Beryl Horner, Evelyn Horner, Gordon Johnson, Stella Johnson, Jean Kennedy, Dennis Loynes, Ray McAndrew, Tom Sant, Ray Waller, Helen Wells

Council Officers: Alison Carberry, Senior Environmental Enforcement Officer  
Yasmin Green, Senior Environmental Enforcement Officer  
Jon Wright, Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager  
Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

Police Representatives: Sergeant Dave Halliday,

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Aiken, Brash, Hall, London, Dr Morris, Payne, Shaw,

Simmons and Worthy and Resident Representative Liz Carroll.

## 2. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed Members and Resident Representatives to the meeting and introduced new Members and Resident Representatives.

## 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

## 4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 APRIL 2010

These were confirmed as an accurate account with the following amendments.

*Jean Kennedy to be added to the list of attendees.*

*Huckelhoven Way – Resident Representative Jean Kennedy raised concerns about speeding traffic. The Highways, Traffic and Transportation Manager to take appropriate action*

*Central Library – Resident Representative Jean Kennedy advised that there were currently problems with the heating and revolving door.*

## 5. MATTERS ARISING

**Burn Valley Signage** – Ray McAndrew stated that more signage was still needed in the park.

**Co-op Building, Park Road** – Ray McAndrew stated that the pointing work on the building had not been completed to the standard required of a listed building. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager agreed to contact the appropriate Council department.

**High Tunstall Parking** – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes clarified that there were numerous vehicles parking on the grass verges.

**Potholes** – It was clarified to Resident Representative Brenda Loynes that all areas of the Brooke Estate had been inspected. Ian Campbell also highlighted a large pothole next to the cricket club in Seaton Carew.

**Navigation Point** – Resident Representative Brian McBean referred to sewerage problems on the Anchor Retail Park. Discussion took place in relation to the substandard sewerage system in place on Navigation Point and how this was a stumbling block in relation to the adoption of the Marina by the Local Authority.

**Grange Conservation Area** – Ray McAndrew asked why it was taking so long to issue guidance leaflets for residents and whether works which had been carried out which contravened the guidance would be removed. The Chair advised the resident to continue to raise issues with the Authority's heritage planning department.

**Transport Interchange** – Ray Waller asked when this would be completed and was assured that it would be finished in time for the Tall Ships 2010 races.

**Junction Osborne Road and Park Road** – Ray Waller highlighted dangers pedestrians faced when attempting to cross this junction. He was informed that the traffic department had undertaken a study and was awaiting the results of this.

**Coal Lane, Elwick** – Resident Representative Steven Mailen asked whether potholes had been filled in on this road and was informed that this work would be undertaken imminently.

## 6. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CENTRAL AREA POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY CONSULTATIVE FORUM

These were received by the Forum.

## 7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

### Stranton

Resident Representative Julie Rudge highlighted a number of issues which needed resolving:-

- dead trees in the car park on Murray Street
- areas at the rear of the laundrette and on the corner of Eliot Street and Murray Street which had graffiti on them
- Many residents felt intimidated by youths congregating beside the telephone box near Mill House Leisure Centre

**Post Office Depot in Clark Street** – Councillor Ingham highlighted problems with parking in this vicinity and was informed that the cars parking illegally would have enforcement notices placed on them.

Resident Representative Evelyn Leck highlighted issues with numerous gulleys being blocked in this ward.

### Burn Valley

Ray McAndrew highlighted a number of issues which needed resolving including:-

- why there were so much signage in resident parking zones.
- difficulties in traffic flow whilst traffic was waiting to turn right into the One Life Centre car park.

- potholes at the Cornwall Street, Shrewsbury Street Junction, York Road traffic lights and L & P's garage
- he had been advised to park in Park Road during the Tall Ships event but was informed that this would not be feasible.

**Budget Cuts** – Ray Waller asked because of the Central Government cuts which would lead to cuts in service, whether there would be a consultation exercise with the public. Councillor Thompson agreed to raise at the next meeting of Cabinet.

Resident Representative Evelyn Leck highlighted a number of issues to be followed up:-

- a foul smell at the bottom of the gardens which could be smelt in residents' homes.
- dog fouling in the streets and rear alleys surrounding Burn Valley
- fly-tipping on Stockton Road and Marske Street
- Loud music coming from the RAFA club which did not have an entertainment licence
- Broken tactile crossings in Stockton Road, Westbourne Road and Osborne Street
- Youths drinking in Burn Valley

Resident Representative Bob Farrow referred to a problem with pigeons in Westbourne Road and asked whether this could be alleviated.

### Elwick

Resident Representative Steve Mailen highlighted a number of issues including:-

- drainage on the recreation ground which needed rectifying before the

Playbuilder scheme was completed.

- 30 mph signs were faded and needed replacement
- Area behind shed near to warden controlled bungalows in Manor Close and Martindale Close needs tidying up

Councillor H Thompson highlighted issues including:-

- Many of the footpaths in the village were in a bad state of repair.
- Gulleys in North Close needed flushing out.

### **Foggy Furze**

Resident Ian Campbell highlighted a number of issues including

- The need for traffic calming measures in Caledonian Road.
- Motorists unsure who had priority at the mini roundabout at the junction of Caledonian Road and Catcote Road.

Resident Representative Bob Farrow outlined a number of issues to be followed up:-

- Potholes in South Parade and on Southbum Terrace
- Dog fouling on Greenbank and Studley Road
- Foul smells and explosions at Longhill Industrial Estate
- Fencing needed for linear park

### **Grange**

Councillor Sarah Maness highlighted complaints about speeding traffic in The Oval, Glendale Avenue and Grange Avenue following the introduction of traffic calming measures in Linden Grove and asked that a traffic survey be carried out.

Brian McBean highlighted issues in this Ward including:-

- Congratulations to the Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager on sorting out problems with the substation on topcliffe street.
- Debris remaining on the road at the top of Stephen Street following a Road Traffic Collision
- Alleygates crashing against a house in Stephen Street
- Wall damaged in Stephen Street by recycling vehicles
- Alleygates have been re-aligned so that access can be gained to Stephen Street from Weldeck Road. Consultation should be done with residents to see whether this was popular
- Roseberry Road resurfacing. When was this scheduled to take place?

**Keys for alleygates** – members of the forum discussed at length rumours that unauthorised people had master keys for the alleygates. Sgt Halliday said police would follow up any information received.

Councillor Carl Richardson highlighted a number of issues on behalf of Councillor Christopher Simmons. These included:-

- Concerns about businesses not locking alleygates
- Problems with parking in Weldeck Road and Grange Road corner whilst building work was being carried out
- Vehicles parked inconsiderately on Cobden Street
- Seagulls attacking rubbish left out on Roseberry Mews
- Seagulls nesting in Byron Street
- Flooding of drains on St Paul's Road

Resident Ray Waller highlighted that many people used their recycling bins to clear leaves from the vicinity but would be penalised if their bins were stolen and had to be replaced.

### Park

Councillor Ray Wells highlighted:-

- A depression on the road surface between Wooler Road and the Dunston Road.
- The Oval was being used as a rat run by motorists trying to avoid busy Wooler Road. A traffic survey was requested.
- Inconsiderate car parking on the Parade and asked that consideration be given to yellow lining it.
- Inconsiderate parking on Elwick Road/Park Avenue junction.

Councillor Sarah Maness asked that consideration be given to the installation of a pedestrian crossing on Wooler Road in the vicinity of the White House.

Councillor Pauline Laffey reminded the forum of a Planning Committee agreement that if trees were felled, they should be replaced.

Resident Representative Brenda Loynes raised a number of issues including:-

- Debris and algae in the Ward Jackson Park pond
- Duck beheaded in Ward Jackson Park
- Prohibited fishing in Ward Jackson Park pond
- Anti-social behaviour at the rear of Hilton Close
- Litter in Saddleston Close from pupils of High Tunstall School
- Ward Jackson Park still open at 10.30 pm

- Road signage on Whinston Close needs replacing
- Dog Fouling in Stranton cemetery

### Rift House

Resident Representative Hilda Wales reported:-

- The need for more litter bins at Rift House Shops
- More bins needed in play area at the top of Oxford Road
- Mud on roads surrounding new build in Kipling Road.
- Grass verges being churned up where building work taking place in Laurel Gardens
- Hanging Baskets need securing once in place
- Foul smells in Summerhill

Councillor Stephen Akers Belcher highlighted:-

- Problems with litter at the new Oxford Road playbuilder site. Young people should be educated to look after this site.
- Dog Owners should have a designated area where dogs could be walked freely in the area
- Future Jobs Fund working hard in Rift House, cutting grass and residents appreciated this.
- Community Garden was in need of swings

Councillor Hilary Thompson updated the forum on college involvement in the Rift House recreation ground.

All of the above issues would be raised with the appropriate Council department.

## 8. CENTRAL AREA ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

The Senior Environmental Enforcement Officer update the Forum on topics covered by her team. These included waste carrier licensing, stray dogs, untaxed vehicles, issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices for littering and dog fouling. The Forum was updated on the current policy on Dog Control Orders. The Forum was urged to ring 523333 if they had information or concerns in relation to the above.

**Saddleston Close** – In response to a matter raised earlier in the meeting, the Enforcement Team outlined details of measures taken to deter pupils from littering in the area, including lunchtime patrols and a Pride in Hartlepool initiative.

**Stranton Linear Park and Burbank Community Garden** – It was clarified that these were subject to the same measures as other parks in the town with regards to dog control orders

**Residual rubbish after waste and recycling collections** – the Environment Team agreed to bring this to the attention of Recycling Officer.

**Ownership of more than 4 dogs** – it was clarified that no steps could be taken to control the amount of dogs owned by one person if the animals were in good health. The Dog Control Orders were limited to when the animals were in a public place.

**Residents using other resident's bins** – the Team re-iterated that the public should use the aforementioned telephone number if they had any information on issues of concern.

**Beach Ban** – it was clarified that there was no dog control order at the Block Sands

**Rift House Play Site** – Councillor S Akers Belcher felt that common sense should prevail when imposing the dog control orders as not all residents could get to Summerhill. It was also clarified that football teams using the area had been issued with bin bags in order to keep the area tidy.

**Stray Dogs** – Concerns were raised by Councillor S Akers that there was no out of hours service and cited a particular instance. The team agreed to look into this.

**Inappropriate use of refuse bin** – Resident Gordon Harrison highlighted that someone was placing bags containing dog faeces into his bin when it was out ready for collection. He was advised that a dog bin could be placed the vicinity of his home.

Several members of the Forum congratulated the team on the enforcement action that they had carried out. The Chair thanked the team for their attendance at the meeting.

## 9. MINOR WORKS BUDGET

Various schemes were put forward for consideration. These were:-

Compton Road – removal of grassed verge

Summerhill Lane – security fence

Haswell Avenue – levelling of footway

Stratford Road – tarmac entrance to rear alley

Caledonian Road – traffic calming measures

Studley Road provision of trip rail fence

Alston Street – additional street lighting

Elwick – replacement of trees

These schemes were approved by the Forum.



**10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Resident Representative Julie Rudge expressed concerns with inaccuracies in the Neighbourhood Management and Empowerment Strategy in relation to the North Cemetery. It was agreed that this issue should be brought to a future meeting for discussion.

The meeting concluded at 12.21 pm.

CHAIR

## **Action Sheet for Issues Raised at Central Neighbourhood Forum 1 July 2010**

### **BURN VALLEY WARD**

#### **More signage required for Burn Valley park (Ray McAndrew)**

A site inspection has now been undertaken in relation to the request for additional signage. This established that twelve additional signs were required. These new signs have now been erected.

#### **Burn Valley A foul smell at the bottom of the gardens which could be smelt in residents' homes, dog fouling in the streets and rear alleys surrounding Burn Valley and Fly Tipping on Stockton Road and Marske Street. (Evelyn Leck)**

All issues have been passed to relevant departments to deal with who will monitor all environmental issues raised and take appropriate action in the areas identified.

#### **Loud music could be heard coming from the RAFA club which did not have an entertainment licence (Evelyn Leck)**

An anonymous call was received on 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday July 2010 regarding noise in Marske Street at 22:49 hours – on arrival it was determined that the noise was coming from the former RAFA club. Officers entered the premises to find a live band playing in the rear room with the rear door propped open. After speaking to the management they agreed to immediately turn down the volume and to keep all doors and windows closed. This was monitored through the rest of the shift and no further problems were observed. No further problems have been reported.

#### **Broken tactile crossings in Stockton Road, Westbourne Road and Osborne Street (Evelyn Leck)**

This has now been repaired

#### **Youths drinking in Burn Valley (Evelyn Leck)**

All the new signs have been erected in the Burn Valley in relation to the consumption of alcohol, and the police have agreed to increase patrols. However the Police note that it is important that residents feed in times etc when incidents occur so that they can be appropriately responded to.

#### **Pothole in Seaton Carew near to Golf Club (Ian Campbell)**

This issue was passed to the South Area Coordinator and an order has been raised for it's repair.

**Pointing work not satisfactory for a listed building on Co-op Building, Park Road (Ray McAndrew) – Jon Wright to contact Peter Graves**

Peter Graves, Conservation Officer reports that enforcement on conservation issues would be good, but would depend upon the Planning Committee affording it sufficient importance to take action. The Conservation Officer reports enforcement against bad pointing would be difficult.

**Pigeons in Westbourne Road – resident feeding them and causing nuisance for neighbours (Bob Farrow)**

The resident in question has been visited by HBC Public Protection Team and informed of the adverse impact on neighbours of feeding pigeons.

**STRANTON**

**Sewerage problems on Anchor Retail Park (outside Matalan). Brian McBean.**

This area is not in the ownership of Hartlepool Borough Council, however the owners have been informed of the concerns.

**Junction Osborne Road and Park Road – problems for pedestrians attempting to cross (Ray Waller)**

HBC Traffic Team has been asked to investigate this request.

**Dead trees Murray Street car park (Julie Rudge)**

A request for funding to replace the trees is included in the August Central Forum Minor Works report.

**Graffiti – back of laundrette in Murray st and on land at corner of Elliott St and Murray St (Julie Rudge)**

The offensive graffiti has been removed. The remaining graffiti being more difficult to remove with standard detergent has been programmed for removal.

**Right turn into One Life Centre, Park Road (Ray McAndrew) highlighted problems with build up of traffic attempting to go straight on whilst waiting for traffic to turn right into the centre.**

This problem has been recognised and a No Right Turn ban will be implemented within the next couple of weeks.

**Potholes Ray McAndrew highlighted problem potholes at the Cornwall Street, Shrewsbury Street Junction, York Road traffic lights and L & P's garage.**

An order has been raised and the repairs should be undertaken within the next couple of weeks.

### **ELWICK WARD**

#### **Drainage on the recreation ground which needed rectifying before the Playbuilder scheme was completed. (Steve Mailen)**

A scheme to address this issue is included in the Central Forum Minor Works Report.

#### **30 mph signs were faded and needed replacement (Steve Mailen)**

New 30mph signs have been ordered and will be installed upon arrival.

#### **Area behind shed near to warden controlled bungalows in Manor Close and Martindale Close needs tidying up Steve Mailen**

This area has been cleaned.

#### **Elwick footpaths in poor state of repair (Hilary Thompson)**

This general issue has been passed to the Highway Section for consideration whilst updating the five year scheduled maintenance program, however essential maintenance will be carried out as and when required.

### **FOGGY FURZE**

#### **Mini roundabout junction Caledonian Road. Who has priority? (Ian Campbell)**

The traffic flows around this roundabout operate in the same way as any other would, giving way to oncoming traffic to the right.

#### **Potholes in South Parade and on Southburn Terrace (Bob Farrow)**

An order has been raised and the repairs should be undertaken within the next couple of weeks.

#### **Dog fouling on Green space and Studley Road (Bob Farrow)**

This issue was picked up by the Environmental Enforcement Team who were present at the Forum and patrols have been increased in an attempt to identify the perpetrator and take appropriate action.

#### **Foul smells and explosions at Longhill Industrial Estate (Bob Farrow)**

The Authority is aware that there are occasional explosions from the frag plant at EMR which are normally due to gas cylinders within baled scrap. The plant is regulated by the Environment Agency under an environmental permit and they are aware of the explosion issues. EMR have policies in place to

minimise the occurrences but they will never be able to give 100% guarantee that explosions will not occur. The Principal Environmental Health Officer will check with contacts at the EA if they are aware of any odour issues from EMR. However to note - there have been some recent issues with odours from Niramax and from JB Recycling in Baltic Street and these smell like rubbish and not gas. If the odours are emanating from any of the waste sites on the estate residents are requested to report this to the Environment Agency on 0800 807060 when it occurs. Residents can also report any incidents to ourselves on 01429 523325 and we will investigate and if necessary pass on any relevant information to the EA.

#### **Fencing needed for linear park (Bob Farrow)**

This was included in the Forum Minor Works Report in July and the funding was agreed.

#### **Grange – speeding traffic in The Oval, Glendale Avenue and Grange Avenue since traffic calming measures put in Linden Grove. (Sarah Maness) Can traffic survey be carried out.**

Traffic surveys will be carried out as requested and if there is evidence to demonstrate the need for traffic calming measure to be put in place, a scheme will be looked at and funding sought to implement it.

#### **GRANGE WARD**

#### **Debris remaining on the road at the top of Stephen Street following a Road Traffic Collision (Brian McBean)**

This area has been cleaned and all debris removed.

#### **Alleygates crashing against a house in Stephen Street (Brian McBean)**

This problem has now been rectified through the installation of a stopper to prevent the alleygate hitting the gable end of the adjacent house.

**Wall damaged in Stephen Street by recycling vehicles (Brian McBean)** The suggestion that the damage to the house may have been caused by a Council vehicle is concerning, however the Waste and Recycling Manager reports that all vehicles that operate in that area have been checked and there are no reports of vehicle damage, therefore without further detail of a time, date and possible vehicle registration then we are unable to carry out any further investigation

**Alleygates have been re-aligned so that access can be gained to Stephen Street from Weldeck Road. Consultation should be done with residents to see whether this was popular.**

Arrangements have now been made to replace the existing lock on the alleygate referred to.

**Roseberry Road resurfacing. When was this scheduled to take place?**

This is programmed to be resurfaced in October of this financial year.

**Grange - Councillor Carl Richardson on behalf of Councillor Chris Simmons - concerns about businesses not locking alleygates**

This has been an ongoing issue in some areas since gates were installed and a lot of work has been carried out through the Crime Prevention Officer with business's to raise awareness of the impact on feelings of safety and potential criminal activity if gates are left open and therefore the importance of gates being closed as much as possible whilst recognising the need for access. All HBC operatives working in the area are also informed of the need to close all gates when working in the area, and PCSOs have been asked to close gates whilst on patrol. However there is no legislation that can be used to enforce businesses to close gates – therefore we remain very much reliant upon all being vigilant.

**Problems with parking in Weldeck Road and Grange Road corner whilst building work was being carried out, and vehicles parked inconsiderately on Cobden Street**

These issues have been brought to the attention of HBCs Parking enforcement team. Although problems in relation to building works are unavoidable the traffic team have been active in both Weldeck Road and Cobden Street in an attempt to monitor parking issues and improve traffic flow.

**Seagulls attacking rubbish left out on Roseberry Mews - Seagulls nesting in Byron Street**

Under new legislation there is nothing that the Council or any other agency can do with regard to Gull's because of a national 50% decrease in their population. Any action taken would be severely dealt with by English Nature by way of a substantial fine. However residents can Gull proof there property by way of bird spikes to prevent nesting, such as those seen underneath bridges and listed buildings.

**Flooding of drains on St Paul's Road**

This issue has been raised with Mike Blair for his team to prioritise.

**Gulley flushing requested – St Paul's Road (as above), Stranton (E Leck), North Close, Elwick (Cllr Thompson)**

All gullies are cleansed at least once per financial year, additional gulley cleansing can be requested when and where necessary. These above locations have been actioned.

## **PARK WARD**

### **A depression on the road surface between Wooler Road and the Dunston Road (Cllr Ray Wells)**

This has previously been identified and forms part of a schedule of works currently being carried out by an external contractor.

### **Inconsiderate car parking on the Parade and Elwick Road/Park Avenue Junction (can consideration be given to yellow lining in relation to the former). (Cllr Ray Wells)**

The parking enforcement team and the Traffic Team Leader have been made aware of these concerns and will monitor the situation and assess the need for the measures requested.

### **Councillor Sarah Maness requested consideration be given to installation of pedestrian crossing on Wooler Road near to White House.**

HBC Traffic Team will investigate this request, however initial thoughts of the team are that a pedestrian crossing at this location would be too close to the roundabout and likely to create further safety problems.

### **Trees – if trees are cut down they should be replaced with another (Cllr Pauline Laffey)**

There is currently no Council Policy in relation to replacing damaged/dead trees. However a local tree strategy is currently being written up that will take this into account suggesting replacement in such circumstances. A budget would need to be identified to enable such a strategy to be implemented.

### **Brenda Loynes – Park Ward - Debris and algae in the Ward Jackson Park pond**

Algae in the lake - this can be one of a large number of types of water plants or Algae's, most of them being beneficial to the lake and its flora and fauna. If the reference is to Blanket weed (an Algae) there are numerous methods available to tackle it, however most of them require large capital input or the use of man made chemicals. Consequently HBC have opted to use natural methods, mainly barley straw which is placed in the water and slowly breaks down releasing enzymes in to the lake water that inhibit the growth of the blanket weed algae whilst at the same time not damaging pond weeds which are essential to a healthy pond. The lake is checked regularly and the growth of blanket weed is monitored.

### **Fishing in Ward Jackson Park pond which is prohibited (Brenda Loynes)**

The Park Manager reports that there are designated areas where fishing is permitted in Ward Jackson Park Pond.

**Anti-social behaviour at the rear of Hilton Close**

This has been passed to the Police and ASBU unit to deal with.

**Litter in Saddleston Close from pupils of High Tunstall School -**

HBC continue to litter pick and cleanse the area, along with the emptying of the litter bins. The Environmental Enforcement Teams patrol on a regular basis and as reported at the Forum has carried out education awareness with the children and local business's.

**Ward Jackson Park still open at 10.30 pm**

As explained at the Forum the park is closed at dusk and 10:30pm is probably about the correct time for this time of year.

**Road signage on Whinston Close needs replacing**

The new Street Nameplate has been ordered.

**RIFT HOUSE WARD**

**Problems with litter at the new Oxford Road playbuilder site. Young people should be educated to look after this site (Cllr Akers-Belcher)**

The increase in litter had already been anticipated and measures have been put in place to increase the frequency of cleansing – additional bins are also being investigated.

**AOB**

**Julie Rudge** - concerns with inaccuracies in the Neighbourhood Management and Empowerment Strategy in relation to the North Cemetery. It was agreed that this issue should be brought to a future meeting for discussion.



**WARDS**

Burn Valley  
Elwick  
Foggy Furze  
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Rift House  
Stranton

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

**29 July 2010**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**



The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm 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 Gerard Hall	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor Frances London	- Foggy Furze Ward
Councillor George Morris	- Park Ward
Councillor Carl Richardson	- Grange Ward
Councillor Jane Shaw	- Stranton Ward
Councillor Chris Simmons	- Grange Ward
Councillor Ray Wells	- Park Ward

Resident Representatives: Bob Farrow, Peter Goodier, Brenda Loynes, Brian McBean, Julie Rudge and Hilda Wales

Residents: J Ince, Gordon Johnson, Stella Johnson, Jean Kennedy and Ray Waller

Council Officers:

- Clare Clark, Neighbourhood Manager (Central)
- Julie Bower, Selective Licensing Co-ordinator
- Nicholas Stone, Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer
- Laura Gallagher, Anti-Social Behaviour Officer
- Andrew Hughes, Community Safety Project Officer
- Irene Cross, Neighbourhood Development Officer (Central)
- Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

Police Representatives: Inspector Dave Halliday

Fire Brigade Representative: Abby Burton

Housing Hartlepool Representative: Libby Griffiths

New Deal for Communities Representative: Mary Diver

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Pauline Laffey, Sarah Maness and Hilary Thompson and Resident Representative Liz Carroll

**2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22 April 2010**

These were approved as a true record

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

Councillor Carl Richardson noted that Councillor Chris Simmons had been marked as present and as having submitted apologies at the previous meeting. The Chair suggested this may have been due to erroneous apologies being given coupled with a late arrival.

**4. UPDATE FROM THE POLICE**

Inspector Dave Halliday provided an overview of crime forcewide and in Hartlepool during June 2010. Force-wide figures were down for House Burglaries, Criminal Damage, Vehicle Crime and other theft while Drugs activity had risen. However violent crime had increased by over 10%. In Hartlepool increases in violent crime and other theft had led to a general increase in all crime of over 13%. The number of arrests, cautions, charges, warrants, AS13s and Street encounters in the Central area of the town were given.

A number of items of interest were also highlighted including work to combat anti-social behaviour. Inspector Halliday expressed his disappointment that the efforts of the Central Officers had not been rewarded at the recent Neighbourhood Policing Awards. Members requested that their support

and thanks be passed on to the central officers.

The following issues were then raised by members.

**Neighbourhood Policing** - Councillor Carl Richardson referred to recent press reports suggesting a possible reduction in the number of neighbourhood police officers. Inspector Halliday confirmed that there were concerns across the country with Durham Constabulary issuing a 90 day notice to all its civilian staff and PCSOs. However no such action had been taken by Cleveland Police and it was thought that all their staff were safe, particularly as there was a recruitment freeze in place. He acknowledged that if PCSO numbers were cut then Neighbourhood Policing would be destroyed. The Chair queried whether some of Hartlepool's cohort might be redeployed to other Tees Valley areas. Members expressed their support for Neighbourhood Policing, and asked that these comments be passed on to the Government. Councillor Gerard Hall urged police to promote the positive aspects of neighbourhood policing to show the detrimental impact that cuts would have. This might also have an effect on future Neighbourhood Policing Award results.

**Anti-Social Behaviour Orders** - Councillor Chris Simmons referred to recent press reports that ASBOs were being scrapped. The Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer advised that staff were as informed as the general public in this matter at the moment. In terms of claims that ASBOs were ineffectual he indicated that in Hartlepool they had led to an 86% reduction in anti-social behaviour. While ASBO recipients might publically claim them as a badge of honour in private it was a different story. Should ASBOs be scrapped he was unable to say what

would happen to current ASBOs or what would ultimately replace them. However there were other powers which could be used to curb anti-social behaviour. Resident Ray Waller commented upon the recommendation that volunteer staff be used to manage Anti-Social behaviour Unit work in the future. He queried who would volunteer for such a task unpaid.

**Eldon Grove/Park Road** – Resident Ray Pocklington requested additional patrols in this area following an increase in rowdiness during the early hours of the morning. Inspector Halliday to discuss specific needs with Mr Pocklington after the meeting

**Waldon Street** – Resident Jean Kennedy raised concerns about children climbing over the fence into the One Life Centre. Inspector Halliday to check the security provisions of the centre and the suitability of the fence before updating Mrs Kennedy.

**Police overtime** – Councillor George Morris queried whether police overtime had been banned. Chief Inspector Halliday advised that while there was no formal ban there had been an unofficial stoppage for a long time due to budget pressures. However it was available when needed.

**Burn Valley** – The Vice-Chair raised an issue around assault and racist abuse of an elderly resident. A resident also highlighted a recent incident at the guest house she owned involving a con man. Chief Inspector Halliday to take the relevant information at the end of the meeting

The Chair thanked Inspector Halliday for attending the meeting and answering questions.

Abby Burton from Cleveland Fire Brigade gave an update on the number of fires which had occurred in the Central area between April and June 2010. Comparison figures with the same quarter 2009/10 had shown increases in deliberate dwelling fires and accidental rubbish fires. To combat this a series of spot check home fire safety visits would be taking place. All other types of fire had shown a decrease. A number of items of interest were also highlighted including diversionary activities with young people at the Rifty and a forthcoming 6 week programme at Burn Valley, working with police and other partners to reduce anti-social behaviour and promote fire safety.

The following issues were then raised:

**Budgets** – Resident Ray Waller raised concerns that there had been no mention of any budget protection for the fire service in any of the recent Government announcements. Ms Burton advised that the service was currently undergoing an internal review which was expected to be complete in October 2010. Until then work on the previously agreed new fire buildings at the Headland and Stranton had been suspended. Mr Waller asked if someone in authority would be able to provide an update to a future meeting. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that she was due to meet with the Fire Brigade's Director of Community Protection shortly and would ask him to attend the next meeting. Councillor Gerard Hall reiterated his previous comments regarding promoting the positive work carried out by the fire service in order to avoid future cuts. Councillor Chris Simmons thanked fire officers for their preventative work visiting homes and schools. However he requested that in the future statistics be provided in number form rather than as percentages

## 5. UPDATE FROM THE FIRE BRIGADE

**Longhill Industrial Estate** – The Vice-chair queried whether there had been any fires on this site recently. Ms Burton did not have this information but would advise the Vice-Chair at a later date.

**Baden Street** – Councillor Frances London highlighted the need for a concerted effort to put right problems in this area.

The Chair thanked Ms Burton for attending the meeting and answering questions.

#### 6. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR UNIT UPDATE

The Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer updated members on the current work being undertaken by the Unit. A proposed review strategy had been put on hold pending the results of the general election. Subsequently an announcement had been made that ASBOs were to be rebranded and redefined. In the absence of more detailed information officers had decided to commence work on the review strategy. Members were given a questionnaire listing possible priorities for the Anti-Social Behaviour strategy and were urged to complete this and return it to the Unit.

The Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer also gave details of the Unit's activity for the period April – June 2010 in comparison with the previous year as well as case outcomes for the previous 3 month period.

**Marske Street** – The Vice-Chair highlighted anti-social behaviour around this area, commenting that the positive statistics presented in the report were not borne out by the reality of daily life. The Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer indicated that the statistics referred to those incidents which the Unit had been made aware of. The Vice-chair indicated

that complaints regarding excessive noise had been made and the lack of response was disheartening. The Senior Anti-Social Officer reported that noise was dealt with by Public Protection and a 24-hour helpline had recently been launched by them. The Chair urged the Vice-Chair to keep up the pressure on departments.

**Young people** – Councillor Gerard Hall expressed his support for the idea of prioritising the strategy but criticised the questionnaire for its implication that anti-social behaviour was primarily committed by young people. He felt that demonising young people would not encourage them to be upstanding members of the community. The Anti-Social Behaviour Officer advised that this had not been the intention as most complaints about anti-social behaviour were made by adults about adults.

**Rebranding** – Councillor Gerard Hall expressed the hope that any future rebrand of ASBOs would not introduce unnecessary targets.

The Chair thanked the Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer for attending the meeting and answering questions.

#### 7. CRIME AND DISORDER CO-ORDINATION UPDATE

The Community Safety Project Officer gave a brief update on the work of the Crime and Disorder Unit. He advised that work with schools, colleges and the probation service would continue despite the recent announcement of a 10% cut in mainstream funding. A large amount of planning had taken place with the Emergency Planning Unit around the forthcoming Tall Ships event and a number of crime prevention initiatives were also in place. Figures showed a significant drop in domestic burglaries, vehicle crime and serious acquisitive crime however the number of small

assaults had increased. Members queried whether this was due to the world cup.

Councillor Gerard Hall suggested that people holding ASBOs be required to engage in a form of community service as payback. However the Community Safety Project Officer indicated that while officers would love to do this the type of work would be limited. Additional supervisory staff would also be needed and recent budget cuts meant this could be problematic.

Resident Ray Waller referred to a recent Government announcement that short term prison sentences were to be axed. He asked what preparations had been made for this. The Community Safety Project Officer advised that he had no specific information on this at the moment however staff were preparing for all eventualities.

The Chair thanked the Community Safety Project Officer for attending the meeting and answering questions.

#### **8. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Councillor Frances London expressed her support for all the issues raised at the meeting, commenting that it was good to see people working smarter and managing resources while also looking after society.

Resident Representative Hilda Wales highlighted the large number of professional people who gave their time for free to volunteer for a wide range of community projects.

Resident Representative Brian McBean raised concerns about who had access to alleygate keys, as this undermined the integrity of the whole system. Inspector Halliday acknowledged this was an issue and police were taking steps to combat it.

Resident Representative Bob Farrow referred to foul odours and explosions which continued to occur on the Longhill Industrial Estate. The Chair requested that officers from the Environment Department be contacted.

#### **9. ISSUES RAISED BY COUNCILLORS AND RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES**

No items

The meeting concluded at 3:40pm

**Report of:** Acting Assistant Director of Regeneration and Planning

**Subject:** TOWN CENTRE COMMUNITIES  
NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLAN (NAP)

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## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum of the Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update, which has been prepared for the Town Centre Communities area.

## **2.0 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 NAPs are the local area 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 Community Strategy: Hartlepool's Ambition, which provides a strategic policy framework for the Borough. NAPs have been developed in line with government policy for each of the Hartlepool wards that fall within the 10% most deprived wards nationally.
- 2.2 Neighbourhood Action Plans are important in encouraging local people and organisations to work together to narrow the gap between the most deprived wards and the rest of the country. The objective of the NAP is to integrate policies at the local level to improve the way that services are provided.
- 2.3 The Town Centre Communities NAP area covers a number of neighbourhoods that skirt the western and southern boundaries of the Town Centre. The area encompasses the former NDC area, plus a proportion of the Burn Valley ward, and stretches from the North Cemetery and Hart Lane in the north to the Belle Vue roundabout in the south, comprising approximately 4,970 households with a population of around 9,720 (Tees Valley JSU, 2009).
- 2.4 The Town Centre Communities NAP (2010-2015) is an update of the Plan that was produced in 2007, and reflects the addition of the (proportion of) Burn Valley ward that was formerly adjoined with the Rift House NAP area. It was felt that the Burn Valley area has a more natural affinity with the NDC neighbourhood due to shared issues and priorities and therefore the change in boundary was approved by the Hartlepool Partnership, and implemented in 2009.

### **3.0 CONSULTATION AND PROCESS UNDERTAKEN**

- 3.1 Work commenced on developing the NAP for the Town Centre Communities area in September 2009. A door to door Household Survey was conducted in the Burn Valley 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 Household Survey data available for the NDC area.
- 3.2 A conference was held in November 2009 to bring residents, Ward Councillors and service providers together to identify and discuss key issues and priorities for the neighbourhood. Consultative workshops with the local schools were also undertaken.
- 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 of their theme. Each Theme Assessments set out a broad understanding of the existing local service provider provision, established gaps in current provision from the service provider's perspective, identified what service providers feel are the key priorities for the Town Centre Communities area, and highlighted any areas for future development.
- 3.4 Following the consultation outlined above, the draft Plan was prepared and agreed by the Town Centre Communities Forum, the Transport and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder and Hartlepool Partnership in January 2010, as a consultation document. To complement the initial work, and to seek comments on the draft Plan, a consultation period of eight weeks was agreed. During this time, a range of further consultation sessions were undertaken including; an online consultation, distributing the draft Plan to all key community venues within the Town Centre Communities neighbourhood, holding a coffee morning at St Matthew's Hall and meeting to discuss the draft Plan with community and voluntary organisations, and key stakeholders. The Theme Partnerships also received a copy of the draft Plan for consideration. The five year Plan has received positive feedback, and has helped to develop a framework that provides an understanding of the issues affecting the quality of life of people living in the NAP area. The Plan also outlines the action that is required to improve the neighbourhood and provides a vision of what the Town Centre Communities area will be like in the future.
- 3.5 The final version of the Plan was endorsed by the Town Centre Communities Forum on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2010, and will also be taken to the Transport and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder and Hartlepool Partnership, in September 2010, to seek endorsement from these partners too.

#### **4.0 CONTENTS OF THE PLAN**

- 4.1 As identified in Paragraph 2.1, NAPs are used to deliver the NRS at a local level and therefore follow the same eight themes of the Community Strategy: Hartlepool's Ambition.
- 4.2 This format differs from any previous NAP that has been developed and includes a Glossary of Terms. The format and content of the Plan have been well received by the local community with positive responses being received throughout the further round of consultation.
- 4.3 Further to the endorsement of the NAP, the Plan will be available on both the Hartlepool Borough Council and Hartlepool Partnership websites.

#### **5.0 AIMS FOR THE TOWN CENTRE COMMUNITIES AREA**

- 5.1 The information in paragraphs 5.2 to 5.9 illustrates the vision for the Town Centre Communities area as detailed in the NAP document.
- 5.2 Jobs and the Economy
- Less workless households.
  - Increased opportunities for training and volunteering.
  - More practical work experience opportunities for young people and exposure to the expectations of a working lifestyle.
  - Further developed local business associations and more established links between them and the community.
- 5.3 Lifelong Learning and Skills
- Raised aspirations of young people in the area and enable them to fulfil their potential.
  - A reduction in young person disengagement from education, employment or training.
  - Increased training and learning opportunities for all, to gain new skills, qualifications and confidence.
- 5.4 Health and Wellbeing
- Accessible physical and mental health and related services for all diverse sections of the community.
  - Healthier, fitter communities, especially young people.
  - Less people dependent on drugs and alcohol.
  - Lower smoking levels.
- 5.5 Community Safety
- A strong cohesive community where everyone respects each other.
  - A safe and clean environment where people want to live and work.
  - A community that invests in its young people and parental responsibility is taken seriously.
  - Reduced offending and reoffending.
- 5.6 Environment



- A cleaner, greener environment for people to live and work in.
- Improved play facilities.
- Increased resident satisfaction in the area.
- Increased resident participation in recycling schemes.

#### 5.7 Housing

- Increased access to good quality affordable housing.
- A better managed private rented sector.
- A greater 'mix' of housing choices in the area.
- Reduced population turnover.

#### 5.8 Culture and Leisure

- Increased activities for young people.
- Increased use of community facilities.
- Enhanced and protected children's play areas.
- Increased multi cultural and intergenerational activities.
- Continued improvement and maintenance of Burn Valley Gardens.
- Continued improvement of culture and leisure facilities.

#### 5.9 Strengthening Communities

- To be able to live in streets where neighbours know, get on with and respect one another.
- Increased resident involvement and participation in activities related to the improvement of the neighbourhood.
- Activities and services are easily accessible to all diverse sections of the community.

### 6.0 IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 Annual Action Plans based on the eight themes outlined in 5.2 to 5.9 will be prepared by the Town Centre Communities Forum to take forward the Plan starting this year.

6.2 The Forum which comprises residents, Ward Councillors, service providers and other key partners including community and voluntary organisations will undertake a Prioritisation Exercise to produce its Annual Action Plan. The Exercise includes reviewing progress of the previous year and ensuring any outstanding actions are carried forward, analysing any further neighbourhood data sources that have become available (for example Ipsos MORI Household Surveys, Project Evaluations, Tees Valley JSU data and any relevant Project Monitoring), and ensuring that the Action Plan is complementary to the priorities and actions that are outlined in the NAP.

6.3 The implementation of the Plan will be overseen by Hartlepool Borough Council's Central Neighbourhood Manager, who will continue to 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 area.

- 6.4 The Forum has a budget of £64,390 in 2010/2011 to begin to address the issues and priority concerns outlined in its Annual Action Plan, and has adopted a commissioning process in the allocation of these funds. The Forum will continue to liaise with all key partners to ensure that funding (including any subsequent match funding that is levered in) is utilised to address the community's priorities.
- 6.5 Progress on the Action Plan will be monitored by the Forum through a detailed theme update being provided at every meeting, and the Neighbourhood Manager's Annual Report which is reviewed by the Forum, the Hartlepool Partnership's Performance Management Group and the Theme Partnerships.

## 7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION AND RISK

- 7.1 In addition to the current monies allocated to the Town Centre Communities Forum from the NDC Neighbourhood Management Pot and Working Neighbourhoods Fund (WNF), it is anticipated that the NAP will continue to be influential in the future allocation of resources. The NAP provides a strategic analysis of the current needs and priorities of the community, and the gaps in current service provision. A significant impact has been made on priorities by using mainstream resources more efficiently and effectively, and it is anticipated that this will continue. This will coincide with a continuous improvement to services by all partners through a more efficient coordination of activity.
- 7.2 There are no substantial risks in the NAP implementation process as the Neighbourhood Management Framework through which NAPs are delivered is well established. Hartlepool Borough Council's Central Neighbourhood Manager has managed the same process in other neighbourhoods within the Central area, and has worked in conjunction with Forums to allocate funding. There is a degree of risk with securing future resources post 2010/2011, however the Forum and key Officers will continue to work in partnership with other service providers to ensure that all funding opportunities are utilised. The NAP Officers Group, which meets regularly, also continues to consider and review NAP delivery, looking at ways of strengthening processes and activity.

## 8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 The Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum is requested to **note the Town Centre Communities NAP**.

## 9.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 As previously outlined in paragraph 2.3, the Town Centre Communities NAP is an update of the Plan that was produced in 2007, and reflects the addition of the (proportion of) Bum Valley ward that was formerly adjoined with the Rift House NAP area.

- 9.2 The endorsement of the Town Centre Communities NAP will enable local people and organisations to continue to work together to tackle issues that face the local area, and to continue to allocate resources to address local priorities. The Town Centre Communities outlines the shared priorities of people living and working in the Town Centre Communities area, alongside the information gathered from service providers.
- 9.3 The Town Centre Communities NAP will continue to integrate policies at a local level through the implementation process outlined in section 6.0. This will improve the ways that service are provided to achieve goals of lower unemployment and crime, better health, skills, housing and environment and, creating a stronger community with improved culture and leisure opportunities.
- 9.4 The NAP will also continue to seek out mechanisms for making services more efficient and effective for the local community, and will aid local service providers and users to continue to ensure that identified gaps between existing and desired services are considered to effectively add value and improve the quality of life in the Town Centre Communities area.

## **10.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 10.1 The original NDC NAP was produced and approved in March 2007.
- 10.2 The Town Centre Communities NAP was endorsed by the Town Centre Communities Forum on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2010, and is due to go to the Transport and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder and Hartlepool Partnership on Monday 6 September 2010 and Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2010 respectively. As stated in section 2.1, the NAP document links back to the Community Strategy: Hartlepool's Ambition and the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy.

## **11.0 CONTACT OFFICER**

- 11.1 Gemma Clough, Principal Regeneration Officer, Department of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods, Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square, Hartlepool, TS24 7BT. Tel: 01429 523598. E-mail: [gemma.clough@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:gemma.clough@hartlepool.gov.uk).
- 11.2 Copies of the Town Centre Communities NAP will be made available at the meeting. Should you require a copy prior to this, please contact the named Officer detailed above.



# Friends of North Cemetery

## Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2010

**Julie Rudge**

Vice Chair

**A Member of the National Federation of Cemetery Friends**

# The Present

- **With in excess of 54,000 burials the Cemetery is now closed, though some internments may still take place in family plots**
- **Losing its identity (Pics right)**
- **It's become a place to socialise & as a through route for many users, including local schools**
- **Prioritised by residents due to Crime, ASB & Vandalism**
- **Its been included in the Hartlepool Plan which allocates it under policy GN3 (Protection of Green Space Area)**



# **Master Plan**

**The group formed a unique partnership with a variety of stakeholders**

**A Master Plan developed to :**

- **Reduce Crime & Fear of Crime, Anti Social Behaviour**
- **Reduce Vandalism, collapse and removal of headstones**
- **Tackle Maintenance issues & Abuse by users**
- **Encouraging more bio-diversity**
- **Increase public use**
- **Tackle Boundary walls & paths**
- **With an emphasis on opportunities for young people & local schools to be involved in any project development**



# Environment

- **Bulb & shrubs have been planted along both sides of the mound (Top right) and along the through route between Raby Rd/Jesmond Rd (bottom right)**
- **Areas of grass has been left to grow**
- **Installed Bird & Bat boxes and more Litter & Doggy Bins**
- **Improved maintenance eg grass cutting & clean ups (Litter Picks)**
- **Victorian style lighting installed**
- **Security to the sub station improved**



# Tree Felling & Planting



- **A National Tree o'clock event was staged with local Schools**
- **Supports the HBC Tree Strategy for the Cemetery**

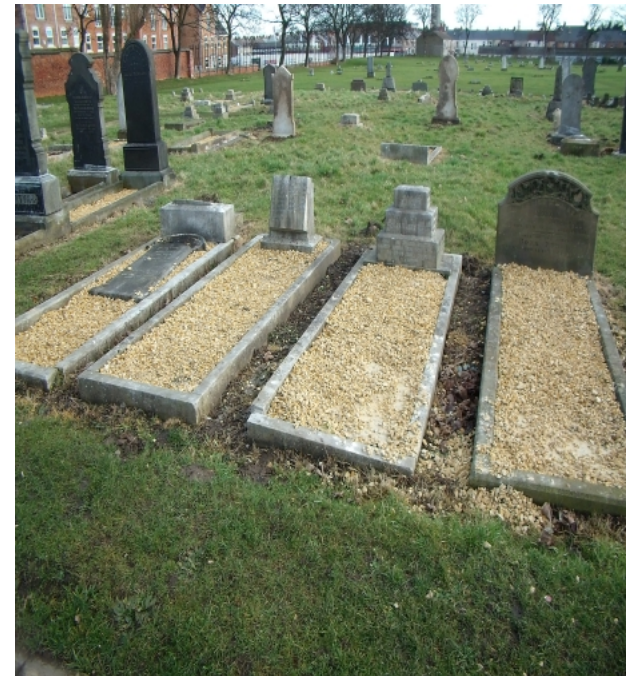
- **4 bird Sculptures created from felled trees**
- **Planted saplings**





# Heritage

- **Along with instances of ASB, drug & Alcohol activities- Vandalism & Collapse of Graves is and remains a priority (Bottom Left)**
- **Increased Police Patrols**
- **Movers & Shakers of West Hartlepool's early development**
- **Grave repairs-on-going as when funding becomes available**
- **History Trails**



# Seating

**Commissioned David Gross to work with teenagers through “FAST” to design & create seating.**

**All carvings were created by the young people with inspirations coming from plants, wildlife and headstones within the Cemetery**



# **Gate Project**

**The Group have been Awarded approx 99k to replace 4 gates and further planting**

**HBC have agreed to be the accountable body with the proviso that the HBC sign a lease and partnership agreement with the Friends, which is currently with legal**

**The plan is to commission a metalworker/ Blacksmith to work with the 4 local schools through a number of workshops to design the gates then fabricate and hang the gates.**

**Other work such as paving & planting are likely to be undertaken by other contractors**

**Expressions of interest have gone out.**

**When complete it is planned to have an event**

# **Support & Funding**

**Through the partnership & support of officers, the Friends have been able to draw in additional funding of approx 213k**

**From:**

- **Pride in Hartlepool**
- **Hartlepool Borough Council- Scrapt**
- **Dykehouse, Stranton, Grange Nap**
- **S17 Community Safety Capital Fund**
- **NDC Target Hardening budget**
- **Town Centre Communities Nap**
- **Woodland trust**
- **Community Spaces**

**Excludes Hart Lane wall repairs**

# **Achievements**

- **Reduction in Crime & Fear of Crime, Anti Social Behaviour & Vandalism**
- **An improved visual appearance-Safe, cleaner & green**
- **Greater confidence as lead to an increase in users**
- **Increased the bio-diversity- towards developing a Nature Walk**
- **Contributes to the local Neighbourhoods being more desirable to live in**

**Complimenting & Supporting the regeneration work of the Dyke House, Stranton, Grange Nap, New Deal for Communities, Town Centre Communities Nap, Community Safety, the HBC'S protected Green Space Policy, Every Child Matters, Social Cohesion & Strengthening Communities**

**Awards: Civic Society & Pride in Hartlepool Best Environmental Project 2008, Nominated in 2009, HVDA-Hartlepool Partnership Theme Housing & the Environment 2010**

**Report of:** Neighbourhood Manager (Central)

**Subject:** Central Neighbourhood Forum Minor Works  
Budget – August 2010

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## **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 / CURRENT POSITION**

The total available spend on minor works schemes 2009/10 is **£87,000** and the total committed spend to date is **£66,935**. However £1,600 is to be returned to the Minor Works Budget from a previous approval in relation to tree planting in Elwick - see below item 3.1 (d). Therefore total Minor Works Budget available to spend is **£21,665**.

## **3.0 PROPOSED SCHEMES**

- 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.

### **(a) Elwick Village**

This scheme will enable drainage works to be carried out at the play area within Elwick Village currently suffering from flooding. The work involves the installation of a 150mm plastic pipe in the playing field next to the perimeter fence at the base of the embankment. This will intercept the natural spring water which appears to discharge from the hillside. The Forum is asked to approve £2,950 of Central Forum Minor Works Funding to enable the scheme to go ahead.

**Total cost of scheme: £2,590**

**Total cost to Forum: £2,590**



**(b) Eltringham Road**

This scheme has been requested by local residents and Ward Councillors to help improve the aesthetics of an open piece of land on the corner of Eltringham Road and Clifton Avenue. It is also intended that the scheme will create a safer area for children to play, whilst at the same time minimising any disturbance to local residents resulting from children playing football in this locality. Alongside a number of measures identified to improve this particular site this scheme will create two shrub beds; one in front of the fence line to the side of number 33 Clifton Avenue, (approx 18LM x 1M wide), and a second to the front of the palisade fencing around the electrical substation (approx 13LM x 1M wide). *Berberis Stenophylla*, an evergreen shrub with yellow flowers in May/June will be planted - 1m in height. The Forum is asked to approve the total cost of this scheme to enable it to go ahead.

**Total cost of scheme: £600**

**Total cost to Forum: £600**

**(c) Victoria Road**

Residents of Barbara Mann Court have asked for trees to be planted in this area due to the recent removal of a number of trees due to damage. Seven standard sized trees will be planted. The total cost of the scheme is £2,100 and there is a contribution towards replacement from the NDC Beautification pot. The Forum is therefore requested to allocate a contribution of £1,100 to enable the scheme to go ahead.

**Total cost of scheme: £2,100**

**Total cost to Forum: £1,100**

**(d) Park Ward**

At the last meeting of the Forum members agreed to allocate funding to plant four trees in Elwick Village that would compensate for the loss of eight trees that had been removed due to being categorised as dangerous. However it has since come to the attention of Officers that the trees in question are to be located at Elwick Road near to Elwick Rise which falls within Park as opposed to Elwick Ward as reported to the Forum previously. The Forum is therefore asked to reconsider this request for funding in light of this recent information.

**Total cost of scheme: £1,600**

**Total cost to Forum: £1,600**

#### **4.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 The Forum is requested to recommend to the Neighbourhoods and Transport Portfolio Holder that the schemes be approved from the Minor Works Budget
- 4.2 The total cost of schemes proposed is: **£5,890**
- 4.3 Minor works monies remaining if schemes approved is: **£15,775**

Residents and members of the Forum are reminded to contact members of the Neighbourhood Management team with details of any schemes for future consideration by the Forum.