

NORTH AREA POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY CONSULTATIVE FORUM

At

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

on

**Wednesday 16th March 2011
commencing at 2.00 pm**

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence
2. MINUTES
 - 2.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2011
 - 2.2 Matters arising.
3. Update from the Police
4. Update from the Fire Brigade
5. Anti-Social Behaviour Unit Update
6. Public Question Time
8. Any issues to be raised by Councillors and Resident Representatives
9. Any Other Business Agreed by the Chair

WARDS

Brus
Dyke House
Hart
St Hilda
Throston

***NORTH AREA POLICE &
COMMUNITY SAFETY
CONSULTATIVE FORUM***

12 January 2011

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. at West View Community Centre, Miers Avenue, Hartlepool

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Mary Fleet – Dyke House Ward

Councillor Sheila Griffin - Brus Ward
Councillor John Marshall - St Hilda Ward
Councillor Stephen Thomas - Dyke House Ward

Resident Representatives: Christine Blakey, John Cambridge, Joan Noman and Linda Shields

Residents: Mary Power, Cath Torley, Liz Torley, Alan Vale

Officers: Karen Oliver, Neighbourhood Manager
Nick Stone, Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer
Shelley Watson, Project Officer
Peter Gouldsbro, Community Safety Officer
Ann Callaghan, Neighbourhood Development Officer
Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

Police: Chief Inspector Lynn Beeston and Inspector Mick Brown
Fire: Peter Bradley, Community Liaison Officer

9. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting.

10. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Barker, J W Marshall

and Wright as well as Resident Representatives Bob and Joan Steel.

11. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 NOVEMBER 2010

These were confirmed as an accurate account.

12. MATTERS ARISING

None.

13. UPDATE FROM THE POLICE

Inspector Mick Brown provided an update with details of District and North area performance over the last three months as well as Forcewide and Hartlepool for December 2010. Overall crime rates were falling and during December there had been an overall 33% reduction in crime.

Inspector Brown highlighted a number of items of interest concerning the Headland, Gray Street, North cemetery, Hartfields, King Oswy Shops and St Hild's School. He reminded the Forum that there had been a decrease in neighbourhood policing staff available because some had been deployed on Operation Respect which targeted known criminals. He highlighted that diversionary activities were still being run for young people. The Forum was informed of the new Domestic Violence Protocol which had recently been introduced to tackle the problem.

King Oswy Site – A resident mentioned an offence of theft of fencing which he had reported to Officers. However he had experienced a delay in being able to report this offence as the West View Office was not open 7 days a week. He was advised to ring 01642 326326 to report any crime as this was answered 24 hours every day. Inspector Brown advised the meeting of the metal strategy whereby the police worked closely with scrap metal dealers to combat crime.

Nuisance and Malicious Snowballing – A resident and his neighbours had experienced anti-social snowballing during recent bad weather which he had advised police of, and been told that

friendly snowballing did not constitute anti-social behaviour. He also advised the meeting of an instance where King Oswy Drive had been blocked by snowballs. Inspector Brown said that these activities would be taken seriously and had since followed up the complaint.

Threat to Safety – A resident reported an incident when he had felt threatened after finding an intruder and then a firework in his garden. Inspector Brown said that he hoped that people would be brought to justice and the community could feel safe. The Fire Brigade Community Liaison Officer said that a letterbox lock could be fitted.

Crime Statistics – A resident representative queried the statistics presented to the forum and was assured that these figures were accurate but they could be presented in a different format in order to make them more user friendly.

Response by Call Taker – A Member expressed concern at the response given to a resident when phoning the police. The Chief Inspector said that staff received training in handling calls but if anyone had a complaint as to how they had been treated, this would be followed up as all calls were monitored.

The Chair thanked the Chief Inspector and Inspector for attending the meeting.

14. UPDATE FROM THE FIRE BRIGADE

Officer Peter Bradley attended the meeting in order to give an update on Fires which had occurred in the North area of the town. Both F1 (of monetary value) and F3 (rubbish) fires had decreased since same period the previous year. Fewer home safety checks had been carried out but this was because of the recent bad weather. He

advised the Forum of diversionary activities in Chatham Road.

Brus Tunnel Fire – A resident asked for details of a recent fire at the security hut on this site and Officer Bradley stated that there was now new security on the site.

The Chair thanked Officer Bradley for his input.

15. UPDATE FROM THE ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR UNIT

The Senior Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Officer advised the Forum on various items of interest at the unit including publicising the annual Anti-Social Behaviour Awareness Day at the Borough Hall on 8 February which was to be attended by all Year 8 pupils across the town. As part of the development of a new Social Behaviour Strategy, two focus groups had been carried out with resident to elicit their views.

Evictions – A resident expressed concern asking where residents would go if they were served with notice. The Senior ASB Officer stated that these were only served as a last resort and continued efforts would be made to work with the residents in order to rectify any problems. A Member expressed concern that problem residents would be moved from one area to another and cause distress to neighbours. He stated that families could be told to move out of their home and then move into private rented accommodation and cause problems there as well. The Senior ASB Officer assured the meeting that residents were supported by many partner agencies and cases were not closed until the problem was resolved.

The Senior ASB Officer was thanked for his presentation.

16. CRIME AND DISORDER CO-ORDINATION UPDATE

Project Officer Shelley Watson updated the meeting on the 12 month Strategic Assessment Business Process. The priorities for the next 4 years included reduction of crime and repeat victimisation, reduction of harm caused by alcohol and substance misuse, the creation of confident, cohesive and safe communities and the reduction of offending and re-offending. The annual priorities for 2011/12 were also outlined.

Crime Reduction – A Member commented that no matter what preventative measures were put in place, crime would never be nil.

ASB in Owner Occupied Premises – Following a question from a resident representative, it was clarified that resident owners of premises could also be the subject of an ASB Order.

Cyber Bullying – A resident representative praised police who had recently been involved in an incident of this.

The Project Officer was thanked for her attendance.

17. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Spion Kop – A resident highlighted that intruders on quad bikes were gaining entrance to this area via the embankment. Inspector Brown said that he was aware of the problem and action had been taken.

CCTV Operation – A resident representative highlighted that an incident had occurred in Asda but CCTV footage was unavailable. She asked that CCTV

operators keep an eye out for suspicious incidents.

Anti-Social Behaviour – A resident representative asked what measures Hartlepool had in place to ensure that ASB did not result in tragic consequences like the Fiona Pilkington case in Leicestershire. Chief Inspector Beeston said that the police did their utmost to support those suffering similar problems.

Land Adjacent to Durham Street Methodist Church – A Member advised the meeting that fly tipping was taking place in this area which had been under restoration for some time. The Fire Officer stated that he had been liaising with the owner with a view to clearing up the site. The Member suggested enforcement action should be considered.

Lack of CCTV Cameras in the North Area – A Member highlighted the lack of CCTV cameras in the North Area of the town. He cited that other areas had recently received funding for upgrading of their systems whilst the Old Cemetery Road camera had never been replaced after being vandalised. The Neighbourhood Manager said that the Joint Action Group was currently looking into the possibility of funding. The Community Safety Officer agreed to provide an update at the next meeting.

18. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT
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No items.

The meeting concluded at 11.49 am.

CHAIR.