

**SOUTH AREA POLICE AND  
COMMUNITY SAFETY  
CONSULTATIVE FORUM**  
at  
**Owton Manor Community Centre,  
Wynyard Road, Hartlepool**  
on  
**Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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**

Fens  
Greatham  
Owton  
Rossmere  
Seaton

***SOUTH POLICE &  
COMMUNITY SAFETY  
CONSULTATIVE FORUM***

**14 January 2011**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**



The meeting commenced at 10.00 am at Owton Rossmere Resource Centre,  
Wynyard Road, Hartlepool

**PRESENT:**

Chair:	Councillor Ann Marshall	- Rossmere Ward
	Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher	
	Councillor Steve Gibbon	- Rossmere Ward
	Councillor Cath Hill	- Fens Ward
	Councillor Marjorie James	- Seaton Ward
	Councillor Trisha Lawton	- Owton Ward
	Councillor Alison Lilley	- Rossmere Ward
	Councillor Geoff Lilley	- Fens Ward
	Councillor Paul Thompson	- Greatham Ward
	Councillor Mike Turner	- Seaton Ward

Resident Representatives: Rosemarie Kennedy and Angie Wilcox

Residents: Donna Hotham, H Oxley, J Smith and Michael Ward

Council Officers:

- David Frame, Neighbourhood Manager (South)
- David Mitchell, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator
- Nicholas Stone, Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer
- Sue Grey, Anti-Social Behaviour Officer
- Peter Gouldsbro, Community Safety Officer
- Andrew Hughes, Community Safety Project Officer
- Julie Hetherington, Community Safety Assistant
- Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

Police Representatives: Chief Inspector Lynn Beeston and Inspector Dave Toor

Fire Brigade Representative: Peter Bradley and D Charnley

Housing Hartlepool Representative: Andy Elvidge

## 9. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were submitted by Resident Representative Peter Joyce.

## 10. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 NOVEMBER 2010

Approved subject to the following amendment:

**Crime and Disorder Co-ordination Update – Greatham Village** – Councillor Alison Lilley had been referring to excessive speeds along the main road rather than the pathway as was stated in the minutes.

## 11. MATTERS ARISING

**Visual audits and PACT meetings** – Councillor Steve Gibbon commented that today's South Forum was as well attended as the last PACT meeting at the Fens Shops. Inspector Toor advised that PACT meetings would be attended by himself or a Sergeant as well as on-duty PCSOs. However he wanted his staff to be out within their communities as much as possible.

**Middleton Grange Shopping Centre** – Resident Michael Ward raised concerns about neighbourhood officers being abstracted to patrol the shopping centre. Chief Inspector Beeston advised that only officers from the central area were being utilised for this initiative and that south officers remained in their area. She confirmed that officers were being moved around the area as required while still remaining in the South. However Mr Ward commented that the original idea of neighbourhood policing had been to have officers dedicated to a particular area and not moved around.

**Jutland Road Police Station** – The Chair requested an update. Chief

Inspector Beeston indicated that the building was scheduled to be ready by the end of March however she expected it to be completed by the end of February.

## 12. UPDATE FROM THE POLICE

Inspector Dave Toor gave an overview for performance for December forcewide and specific to Hartlepool. Instances of crime had fallen in all categories leading to a drop in total crime of over 20% for Cleveland and over 19% for Hartlepool. Details of performance in the South area in relation to arrests, detections and incidents were given along with feedback on concerns previously raised by residents in relation to Rossmere Park. A number of points of interest were highlighted.

The Vice-Chair highlighted the reference to a young male on the Southside who had recently been brought to account for his behaviour. She queried why he had not been referred to Manor Residents Association. The Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer advised that in this case his behaviour had escalated so quickly that they had felt it necessary to move directly to the court order stage. Youth Offending Officers had indicated that they did not want any other type of intervention. Inspector Toor acknowledged the excellent work done by Manor Residents Association.

Resident Representative Rosemarie Kennedy suggested that telephone surveys carried out by the police would be completed quicker using a computer-based system rather than by hand. She went on to thank the Community Safety Assistant for her hard work over the years.

The Chair thanked Chief Inspector Beeston and Inspector Toor for attending the meeting and answering questions.

### 13. UPDATE FROM THE FIRE BRIGADE

Peter Bradley from Cleveland Fire Brigade gave an update on the number of fires which had occurred in the South area between October and December 2010. Comparison figures with the same period 2009/10 showed no increase in any category of fire, with all remaining static or decreasing. There had been a drop in the number of home fire safety visits but this was thought to be due to the inclement weather.

Mr Bradley also discussed various diversionary activities including the Saturday Night Breakaway. Plans were in place for the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) owned by the fire service to be deployed at a number of locations in the South throughout the spring and summer months. Mr Bradley also advised that the bonfire strategy had resulted in an 8% reduction in bonfires between 22<sup>nd</sup> October and 12<sup>th</sup> November. However officers had hoped for a 28% reduction so this had not been as successful as hoped. There were funding concerns around future bonfire strategies.

Councillor Marjorie James highlighted the possibility of cancelling the Seaton Carew bonfire from next year as part of the budget cuts. Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, of which she was chair, were strongly opposed to such a move as they felt the lack of an organised activity would lead to a proliferation of independent unregulated bonfires. Any savings made by cancelling the bonfire could be swallowed up by compensation from injuries caused by random fires. She hoped the police, fire service and forum would put their weight behind retaining the Seaton Carew bonfire. Financial support from other organisations would also be welcomed. Mr Bradley reported that the District Manager for Hartlepool was already preparing a case for

retention. Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee had also suggested that partnership with other services as a way to share the financial burden of the event should be considered.

Resident Donna Hotham asked whether shops could be prevented from selling fireworks in October. Chief Inspector Beeston advised that shops were legally allowed to sell fireworks 3 weeks before bonfire night and for a period at Christmas. Inspector Toor asked that any concerns regarding illegal sales to under-age children be passed onto police officers. Councillor Marjorie James felt the problem was adults procuring fireworks for children rather than children purchasing themselves.

The Chair thanked the Cleveland Fire Brigade representative for attending the meeting.

### 14. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR UNIT UPDATE

The Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer gave details of a number of initiatives which had been carried out by the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit recently. These included resident focus groups as part of the development of a new social behaviour strategy and work with residents in the Rift House, Owton and Fens areas. Members were offered a further opportunity to contribute to the resident focus groups should they wish to.

The annual Anti-Social behaviour Awareness Day involving Hartlepool's year 8 pupils was due to start on 8<sup>th</sup> February. Anybody wishing to attend was asked to contact the officer. The Vice-Chair queried which voluntary sector organisations had been invited. The Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer indicated that approximately 18 groups had been invited, including the Police,

Fire Brigade, Safe in Tees Valley and Housing Hartlepool. Members were also offered a further opportunity to contribute to the resident focus groups.

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

#### **15. CRIME AND DISORDER CO-ORDINATION UPDATE**

The Community Safety Project Officer gave details of the results of the 12 month Strategic Assessment review which had recently been completed. Priorities for 2011/12 were highlighted, including alcohol treatment, criminal damage and confidence and cohesion. Details were also given of the new objectives of the unit for 2011-2014.

Councillor Steve Gibbon thanked officers for their hard work and efforts in the South area over the past year.

Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher asked whether an impact assessment had been carried out on the department in light of the budget cuts. Were any of the priority services at risk and would partners be able to work to the same level? The Community Safety Project Officer was unable to comment on any contingency plans as there would be no official confirmation on budget cuts until March. Every effort would be made to continue to deliver the best service possible.

Resident Michael Ward asked if statistics were available to prove the impact which the unit had on its objectives previously. The Community Safety Project Officer said that there were no statistics relating to individual teams. Every project carried out by the unit was evaluated but this might be through public feedback rather than statistical data. Chief Inspector Beeston felt that it was difficult to quantify

exactly what element of the partnership had led to the reduction. Mr Ward felt statistics would help in making decisions on where to make budget cuts. The Neighbourhood Manager acknowledged this but did not want the positive outcomes to be forgotten.

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

#### **16. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No items

#### **17. ANY ISSUES TO BE RAISED BY COUNCILLORS AND RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES**

Councillor Geoff Lilley expressed his sadness at the recent death of Ray Waddington who had cleaned the South's shopping precincts as part of the cleansing team. He moved that a letter of condolence be sent from the forum to his family. This was seconded by Councillor Marjorie James.

Councillor Marjorie James asked whether there had been any action taken regarding the lack of supervision at the Solid Rock youth club. Inspector Toor would follow this up.

The meeting concluded at 11:05 am