

NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA



Wednesday, 19 October 2011

at 2.00 pm

**at West View Community Centre,
Miers Avenue, Hartlepool**

MEMBERS: NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM:

Councillors Barclay, Cook, Fenwick, Fleet, Fleming, Griffin, Jackson, J Marshall, J W Marshall, McKenna, Robinson, Rogan, Shields, Thomas and Wright

Resident Representatives: Christine Blakey, John Cambridge, John Maxwell, Joan Norman, Bob Steel, Joan Steel and Ian Stewart

- 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 North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum meeting held on 29th June 2011
 - 4.2 Matters arising
- 5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (maximum of 30 minutes)**

6. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION

- 6.1 Presentation - Recycling Services – *Waste Management Team Leader*

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR INFORMATION

- 7.1 Presentation – Review of Community Involvement and Engagement –
Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)
- 7.2 CCTV – Old Cemetery Road – *Senior Community Safety Officer*

8. ITEMS FOR DECISION

- 8.1 Minor Works Proposals – *Neighbourhood Manager (North)*

**9. WARD ISSUES FROM WARD MEMBERS AND RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES
(maximum of 30 minutes)**

10. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 15th February 2012 at 2pm at
Throston Grange Community Centre

WARDS

Brus
Dyke House
Hart
St Hilda
Throston

NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM

29 June 2011

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



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

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Mary Fleet - Dyke House Ward

Vice Chair: Bob Steel (Resident Representative)

Councillor Rob Cook	- Hart Ward
Councillor Mick Fenwick	- Brus Ward
Councillor Sheila Griffin	- Brus Ward
Councillor Jean Robinson	- Hart Ward
Councillor Linda Shields	- Dyke House Ward
Councillor Edna Wright	- Hart Ward

Resident Representatives:

Christine Blakey, John Cambridge, Linda Shields and Joan Steel

Public: John Lynch, David Nin, Cath Torley, Alan Vale

Officers:

- Karen Oliver, Neighbourhood Manager
- Garry Jones, Neighbourhood Services Officer
- Peter Nixon, Senior Traffic Technician
- Ann Callaghan, Neighbourhood Development Officer
- Peter Gouldsbro, Community Safety Officer
- Karen Kelly, Housing Strategy Officer
- Scott Parker, Trainee Technician (Traffic)
- Phil Hepburn, Parking Services Manager
- Alison Carberry, Senior Environmental Enforcement Officer
- Helen Beaman, Environment Coordinator
- Kate Ainger, Environmental Projects Officer
- Scott Parker, Trainee Technician (Traffic)
- Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer

Fire Brigade Representative: Peter Calvert

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Fleming, Resident Representative Joan Norman, and Liz Torley.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 6 APRIL AND 18 MAY 2011

Approved subject to the inclusion of apologies for absence in relation to the minutes of 18 May 2011 on behalf of Councillors Rob Cook, Edna Wright and Resident Representatives Bob and Joan Steel.

4. MATTERS ARISING

None

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Installation of White Lines on Cycle Path from St Hild's School to Hart Station

In response to a resident's concerns regarding the purpose of installing a white line dividing the cycle path from St Hild's School to Hart Station, the Senior Traffic Technician reported that the line was to indicate to residents the area where parking was permitted. The resident reiterated disappointment that parking had been permitted on cycle paths and outlined the disadvantages of this arrangement. The Neighbourhood Manager added that the Parking Enforcement Manager was in attendance

at the meeting to provide an update in relation to parking control issues and would provide further information in this regard later in the meeting.

6. DOG CONTROL ORDERS

The Environmental Projects Officer gave a brief presentation on the current Dog Control Orders consultation which was running until 31st July. Information was given as to the orders currently in place and proposed new orders. Participants were asked whether they lived in Hartlepool, whether they owned or regularly walked a dog in town and for their opinions of the current and proposed orders. Questionnaires were available online or in paper copy from Council offices and libraries. Responses would be considered by the relevant Portfolio Holder in September.

The following issues were then raised:-

Enforcement – Following a Member's request for clarification, the Forum was advised of the enforcement process.

Dog Control Sites - A Resident Representative suggested that dogs should not be allowed in Redheugh Gardens or war memorial sites.

A resident referred to the need to control vehicle access to the Brus Tunnel. Whilst it was noted that this was a police matter, it was acknowledged that this was an ongoing problem which the Council would explore to determine a way forward.

Effectiveness of Existing Orders/Enforcement Action - A Resident Representative referred to dog control and dog fouling issues in Seaton Carew and queried the effectiveness of enforcement action. It was reported that

areas were monitored 7 days a week and the majority of penalties were issued to tourists from outside of the town.

Dog Fouling - Concerns were expressed regarding the problem of dog fouling generally in various areas of the town. The Environmental Projects Officer reminded residents to report infringements of this type so that enforcement officers could be present at the appropriate time.

Banning Orders on Beaches – A Member reported that dog owners were allowing dogs off the lead on beaches despite controls being in place to prevent this and suggested that banning orders on beaches should not be restricted to the summer months and should be introduced all year round.

7. ALLOTMENT IMPROVEMENTS

The Environment Coordinator gave a brief presentation on the current consultation into the allotments service. Two concurrent surveys were being run, one aimed at allotment holders and the other at nearby residents and stakeholders. Details were given of the questionnaire which was available online or via Council offices and libraries.

Details requested on the questionnaire included feedback on tenancy rules, problems with allotment sites/plots, ideas on how to raise funding to meet maintenance costs and participants' views on proposals for raising allotment rents.

The following issues were raised:-

Allotment Improvements – A Member referred to funding previously utilised for improvements to allotment sites in the south of the town and queried if there were any proposals to improve the allotment site in the Brus Ward which was in need of investment. The Environment

Co-ordinator advised that there was insufficient funding available to undertake large scale improvements. External funding had been utilised to undertake improvements to allotments to the south of the town. The benefits of sharing good practice and establishing links between allotment holders was highlighted. Concerns were expressed regarding the visual impact of allotment sites in the town and a number of allotment sites in need of investment were identified which included Nicholson Field.

A Resident Representative emphasised the importance of considering families on low incomes when reviewing allotment rents and indicated the benefits of encouraging people to grow their own vegetables. The Environment Co-ordinator stated that the questionnaire sought users' views on what they would be prepared to pay for a standard allotment plot. In the discussion that followed, Members were of the view that current rents were unrealistically low and in need of review.

A Resident Representative raised concerns regarding a number of telephone calls she had made to the Council and had not received a response.

Waiting list – A Member stated that some people were unable to obtain an allotment despite being on the waiting list for a number of years. It was suggested that the allocation process be reviewed.

8. CCTV OLD CEMETERY ROAD

The Community Safety Officer presented the report which sought the Forum's consideration of the options for the replacement of a CCTV camera to monitor the Old Cemetery Road locality in replacement of the former camera irrevocably destroyed. The report included background information to the installation of a CCTV camera in

2002/2003 and details of attacks on the camera equipment which resulted in the destruction of the equipment.

A report to the Forum on 6 April 2011 set out a number of proposals in respect of the potential replacement of the previous cameras, a summary of which was included in the report. Following discussion it was agreed that a site visit and meeting to include technical expertise be arranged to review the implications of the proposed options. This was subsequently held on 13 May 2011. During the visit and subsequent meeting, a further option emerged and it was agreed that the following two preferred options be further explored including the financial implications:-

- Reinstatement of the camera at its previous location.
- Installation of a camera within the proposed IT transmission hub.

Agreement, in principle, had been reached with PD ports for the proposed IT transmission hub. However, progression would be subject to a full survey of radio transmission levels and bandwidths and approval by the Council of the relevant business case.

The Forum was advised of the financial implications of the two options, as detailed in the report.

It was recommended that the option to install a camera within the proposed North IT transmission hub be progressed recognising:-

- substantially enhanced security of equipment and operation;
- greater flexibility within camera operation which would substantially increase geographical viewing area

capability and enhance image quality;
- projected cost benefits

In the event that the hub proposal was not feasible then the option would remain to fall back on reinstatement at the previous location or a review of alternative options. There would not be any significant difference in revenue costs of operating a camera at either location.

In the discussion that followed, the Community Safety Officer provided clarification in response to queries regarding the suggested recommendation.

Decision

- (i) That the installation of a camera within the proposed IT transmission hub, be further explored as the Forum's preferred option.
- (ii) That the preferred option be further considered by the Forum upon receipt of the result of a survey report of radio transmission levels and bandwidths as well as business case.
- (iii) That a progress report be provided to the next meeting.

9. HOUSING STRATEGY

The Housing Strategy Officer gave a brief presentation on the Housing Strategy consultation. This was a consultation on the housing strategy which would cover Hartlepool from 2011-2015. The closing date had recently been extended to the end of July to enable as many people as possible to participate and register their comments. The draft strategy was based on previous consultation with partners and stakeholders and considered issues of social and environmental sustainability. These included the development of new homes and sustainable communities around those homes, improving existing homes and meeting specific housing needs. Given cuts in funding and resources it was more important than ever to have a strategy in place to target future resources. The consultation document was available online or via the department.

A Resident Representative queried the outcome of the strategy for the north of the town. Members were advised that whilst the strategy was town wide, the strategy would identify housing needs at a neighbourhood level. A Member commented on the lack of bungalow accommodation within the town and the need to address this need. The Housing Strategy Officer stated that there was a need to balance aspirations and needs against what developers could deliver. A Member suggested that the option to build terraced bungalows should be further explored.

The Forum went on to discuss the importance of developers being encouraged to meet the housing needs of the town and a Member commented on the impact of Government restrictions on housing delivery. The Forum was advised that the strategy would aim to

address specific needs including the difficulties in obtaining mortgages, housing benefit reforms, under occupancy issues as well as affordability issues.

10. PARKING CONTROL/ ENFORCEMENT

The Parking Services Manager gave a brief update on the recent parking enforcement through use of the 'camera car'. Restrictions were plotted on a digital map and an onboard computer and the camera system allowed the vehicle to record any vehicle parked in contravention. Evidence was reviewed by a senior officer and a Penalty Charge Notice was posted to the registered keeper of the vehicle. Areas such as school keep clears, cycle paths, pedestrian zig zags, bus stops and loading bays were all covered. Predominantly these were contraventions where no parking or loading concessions were allowed. The camera car was not being used to record yellow lines offences as they still required a physical check by enforcement officers to ensure a disabled badge or valid permit was not being displayed. The car was also not being used to record speeding offences, mobile phone use or drivers not wearing seat belts. The Parking Services Manager reiterated that the camera car was not enforcing any new contraventions. It was, however, proving to be a much more efficient way of enforcing problematic contraventions and appeared to be having a significant effect on driver compliance. Taxis were given exemption to pick up and drop off in bus stops. However, there were no exemptions for any vehicles to park on school keep clear markings. In the 6 weeks since the project had 'gone live' 700 penalty notices had been issued.

In the discussion that followed there was general support for the enforcement

scheme in the interest of safety. However, some concern was raised that many motorists may not be aware they were in breach to which the Parking Services Manager stated that the camera car was not enforcing any new contraventions.

Installation of White Lines on Cycle Path from St Hild's School to Hart Station - The Parking Services Manager advised that whilst the concerns regarding the installation of white lines on cycle paths were acknowledged, some form of parking provision was necessary. The white lines had been introduced to clarify to motorists where parking was permitted.

11. 20S PLENTY

The Forum was referred to the ongoing consultation regarding altering the speed limit to 20mph on designated Hartlepool roads. A map showing the intended areas had been erected at the rear of the room and the Senior Traffic Technician would be available to answer questions following the meeting.

A Member referred to the dangers of road humps in certain areas of the town and, in particular King Oswy Drive.

12. CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM MINOR WORKS PROPOSALS 2011/12

The Forum were asked to consider the following minor works schemes:-

1. Snowdon Grove - installation of 2 chicane barriers - £1,100
2. Throston Street Small Area Regeneration Project - The scheme had been broken down into smaller schemes to allow Members to consider the full

scheme or a possible phased approach:-

- (i) Provision of Fencing to rear of Headland Social Club £1,700
- (ii) Provision of trees with protective cages £2,450
- (iii) Resurface alley/access road to rear of Headland Social Club - £7,560

Decision

That the minor works schemes, as outlined above, be approved.

13. WARD ISSUES FROM WARD MEMBERS AND RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES

A Resident Representative reported that the cobble stones at the front of the Independent Chapel had been broken and in need of repair. The Neighbourhood Manager agreed to investigate and report back to the representative following the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 12.15 pm.

Report of: Senior Community Safety Officer

Subject: CCTV – OLD CEMETERY ROAD

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update the meeting regarding the progress of the replacement of a CCTV camera to monitor the Old Cemetery Road area as a result of the former camera being destroyed.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Peter Gouldsbro - the Community Safety Officer who was responsible for Hartlepool's public space CCTV cameras retired from the Authority with his last day at work being 15th July 2011.
- 2.2 Responsibility for public space CCTV cameras has been split between Nicholas Stone - Senior Community Safety Officer and Andrew Dent – Electrical Engineering Team Leader. (responsible for CCTV camera maintenance and repair)
- 2.3 At the North Consultative Forum on 29th June 2011 a report was presented from the Community Safety Officer regarding the options for the replacement of a CCTV camera to cover the Old Cemetery Road area.
- 2.4 It was agreed that this replacement CCTV camera would be co-located with the proposed north wireless I.T transmission hub at P.D. Ports which would allow for the connection of the camera to the towns CCTV Monitoring Centre. (option 3)

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 Work is ongoing to progress the north wireless I.T transmission hub between Northgate - the Council's I.T supplier and P.D. Ports.
- 3.2 A draft licence has been produced by Paul Diaz – the council's ICT Support and Development Manager and P.D. Ports regarding using an existing lighting column at the port to site the wireless I.T hub and CCTV cameras. This licence is awaiting approval by Hartlepool Borough Council's Legal Department and P.D. Ports management board.
- 3.3 Northgate have produced a quote for the survey equipment and feasibility study required for the wireless I.T hub which the Community Safety Team has agreed to fund.

- 3.4 It is anticipated that Northgate will be able to carry out the hub survey week commencing 17th October 2011, subject to weather conditions and also their Legal Department providing an indemnity agreement to the Council to protect against any costs that may arise due to their survey.
- 3.5 Subject to the completion of these actions and a satisfactory outcome from the hub survey, it is anticipated that the north wireless I.T hub will be installed, along with the replacement CCTV camera to cover Old Cemetery Road by the end of December 2011.

4. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 4.1 CCTV – Old Cemetery Road Report by Community Safety Officer dated 29th June 2011.

5. CONTACT OFFICER

Nicholas Stone, Senior Community Safety Officer.

Report: Neighbourhood Manager (North)

Subject: MINOR WORKS PROPOSALS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

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

2. SCHEME ONE - WHARTON TERRACE

- 2.1 Wharton Terrace is in the Dyke House Ward and as part of the current regeneration works that we have carried out in this area over the past three years, both ward Councilors' and local residents have requested that we look at ways to improve the overall appearance of Wharton Terrace to continue the programme on environmental regeneration improvements in that specific location. Therefore, in keeping with existing street design, the proposed scheme involves a road resurface, new street furniture and tree planting in existing hard surfaces. This also involves the construction of three build outs to accommodate trees with protective guards and grills. There are 10 trees that are to be planted in Wharton Terrace. **(See Appendices 1, 2 and 3).**

2.2 Costs for this scheme

- To supply and install 5 trees with protective tree guards and grills in hard surfacing outside Wharton Terrace Annex £5,500
- To supply and install 5 trees with protective tree guards and grills in hard surfacing with the addition of constructing 3 build outs in the carriageway £11,500
- To supply and install five bollards (street furniture) £1,000

The total cost of this scheme is £18,000

3. SCHEME TWO - BAKERS MEAD NOTICE BOARD

- 3.1 Residents have made requests for the installation of a Neighbourhood notice board, to the main entrance into the above estate. The notice board would include a drawing of the estate, plus the added provision for community notices to be displayed.
- 3.2 The cost to supply and install the notice board is £1,100

4. SCHEME 3 – NORTH LINEAR PARK PROJECT:

- 4.1 As reported to this forum in the recent past, residents ward members and officers are currently working on developing a North Linear Park. The two areas currently being developed include:
- Improvements to Clavering Park
 - Developing a formal linear park to the open space bordering Central Estate and Old Cemetery Road
- 4.2 So far the group (North Linear Park Group, which consist residents, ward members and officers) have developed proposed designs for the above areas, identified potential funding streams and have carried out a series of consultation events with the wider community.
- 4.3 Feedback from the consultation provides sound evidence that the proposals to improve both Clavering Park and the open space at Central Estate have resounding support from the local community.
- 4.4 In order to proceed with the aspirations for this project the group are asking the forum for a contribution of £15,000 to assist with the development and to provide match funding for the wide range of external funding which they are currently applying for.
- 4.5 Proposed plans and information relating to the above outlined project will be available at the forum on 19th October, 2011.
- 4.6 Total Amount of Moneys Available to the forum £45,190
Total amount of Schemes put foreword £34,100
Leaving, if schemes are approved by the Forum, £11,090

APPENDIX 1



APPENDIX 2



APPENDIX 3

