

NORTH AND COASTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM AGENDA



Wednesday 23rd January 2013

at 10.00am

in Committee Room B, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: NORTH AND COASTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM:

Councillors Ainslie, Atkinson, Beck, Cook, Dawkins, Fisher, Fleet, Griffin, Hill, Jackson, Payne, Robinson, Shields, Tempest and Thompson

- 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 and Coastal Neighbourhood Forum meeting held on 3rd October 2012.
 - 4.2 To confirm the minutes of the North and Coastal Neighbourhood Forum meeting held on 31st October 2012.
 - 4.3 Matters arising.
- 5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME & WARD ISSUES**
- 6. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION**
 - 6.1 Potential for early closure of Public Houses and Clubs in the town centre
Presentation – *Principal Trading Standards and Licensing Officer*



7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR INFORMATION

- 7.1 Presentation – *Cleveland Police*.
- 7.2 Ward Members Budgets.

8. ITEMS FOR DECISION

None.

9. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Forum meeting will take place on Wednesday 10th April 2013 at 2pm in Committee Room B, Civic Centre, Hartlepool.



WARDS

De Bruce
Hart
Headland and
Harbour
Jesmond
Seaton

***NORTH AND COASTAL
NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM***

3 October 2012

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



The meeting commenced at 2.00 p.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

PRESENT:

- | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Chair: | Councillor Mary Fleet | - Jesmond |
| Vice Chair: | Councillor Rob Cook | - De Bruce |
| | Councillor Jim Ainslie | - Headland and Harbour |
| | Councillor Paul Beck | - Hart |
| | Councillor Sheila Griffin | - De Bruce |
| | Councillor Robbie Payne | - Headland and Harbour |
| | Councillor Linda Shields | - Jesmond |
- Also in attendance: Councillors Ged Hall
Lol Craven, Cleveland Fire Brigade
Dave Turton, Cleveland Fire Brigade
Jan Ledger, Housing Hartlepool
- Public: Rueben Atkinson, Sacha Bedding, P.J. Buckler, John Cambridge,
S Grasby, Mrs J Holman, Ann Marshall, John Maxwell, Jean Norman,
Norman Pinkney, Jane Shaw, Ian Stewart, Ruth Stoddard, Cath Torley,
Liz Torley, Alan Vale, Dennis Wilson
- Officers: Adele Wilson, Community Regeneration and Development Co-ordinator
Ann Callaghan, Neighbourhood Development Officer
Antony Steinberg, Economic Regeneration Manager
David Frame, Neighbourhood Manager
Denise Ogden, Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer
Elaine Hind, Scrutiny Support Officer
Garry Jones, Neighbourhood Services Officer
James Walsh, Scrutiny Support Officer
Julie Hetherington, Neighbourhood Support Officer
Patrick Wilson, Employment Development Officer
Rachael White, Democratic Services Officer
Sue McBride, Neighbourhood Development Officer

Police Representatives: Chief Inspector Steve Jermy and Inspector Paul Haytack

18. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

19. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Tempest.

20. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

21.1. MINUTES OF NORTH AND COASTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUMS HELD ON 4TH JULY AND 19TH JULY 2012

The minutes of the meeting for the 4th July 2012 were confirmed subject to the inclusion of Councillor Robbie Payne's apologies for absence.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 19th July 2012 were also confirmed.

21.2. MATTERS ARISING

None.

22. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND WARD ISSUES

The Chair announced that Residents would be able to ask questions and raise any issues or concern that they had.

De Bruce

A Resident spoke of an issue which had been raised at the previous Neighbourhood Forum regarding West View Cemetery and asked if there had been any progress on the matter of

alcohol consumption within the grounds. The Resident was informed that action had been taken regarding the issue. The Resident also expressed concern in relation to grass cutting on the former Brus Pub site. Residents had previously been informed that the grass was cut via a Community Payback Scheme. However it was queried whether the scheme still operated as the grass had become long and unsightly. The Resident was informed that the Community Payback Scheme was still in operation and the comments had been noted.

A Resident informed the Forum that he had reported the condition of the coastal walk way by the Brus tunnel at the Civic Centre and was told that an officer would be in contact to gain further details. After 3 months of having received no contact the Resident contacted his Ward Councillor Sheila Griffin. As a result he received a phone call from an officer who informed him that the issue would be dealt with. However this had still not been resolved. The Neighbourhood Services Officer informed the Resident that officers would investigate the issues raised. The Resident queried whether the department had enough officers to carry out the work rather than employing other agencies. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that there was sufficient resources to carry out the work and that the department would try to utilise the workforce in the most efficient way. The reasons as to why a response had not been provided would be investigated.

A Resident commented on the need for a shuttle bus service from Kensington Court to Winterbottom Avenue bus stop to assist elderly residents and suggested that funding be sought through the Ward Member budgets to provide the service. Councillor Cook advised the Resident that the Ward Members had spoken to the Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering) and the Traffic Team Leader

who had been in discussion with the bus companies and hoped to have a response shortly.

It was asked by a Resident that officers explore the possibility of blue badge holders temporarily being able to park on both sides of Holdforth Road while the roundabout was closed. The Resident was advised that this option would be explored.

Hart

Officers from the North Neighbourhood Management Team were thanked for the improvements that had been made to Bishop Cuthbert. Those thanks had also been expressed by Iain Wright MP.

Headland and Harbour

On behalf of a resident, a Member queried why the speed survey at Schooner Court was being carried out during the day. The Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services) advised the Member that the survey should be a 24 hour electronic survey.

Concern was also expressed by Residents regarding the condition of the steps to the Pier. The Neighbourhood Services Officer provided assurances that the area had been investigated and was being monitored.

A Resident raised concerns regarding speeding traffic on King Oswy Drive in the evening and was advised that the situation would be investigated.

Residents spoke of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership Face the Public Event meeting that had taken place recently and that they had raised concerns in respect of lighting on Old Cemetery Road as there were several lights which were damaged and not working. The Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)

advised that the Public Lighting Manager was dealing with the issue and would be informed of the concerns raised.

Jesmond

On behalf of the Friends of North Cemetery Residents Group, concern was expressed that whilst the group had been informed that they would be consulted on the issue of dog control orders, none had been brought to the group's attention. The group requested that enforcement of dog control orders include the Cemetery. The Residents Group also had concerns regarding the grass cutting method as some damage had occurred. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that the concerns would be fed back to the relevant department.

Seaton

A Resident raised concerns in relation to landscaping of the Jutland Road play area in certain areas and suggested that this should be tidied. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that the issue would be dealt with.

23. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION

The two items for consultation were as follows:

23.1 Scrutiny Investigation:- Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum – Employment Presentation

The Chair of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum introduced the presentation giving an overview of the Scrutiny Forums and the remit they have within the Council. It was highlighted that the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum would be looking at Employment over the coming year.

The Economic Regeneration Manager provided a detailed and comprehensive presentation which detailed the objectives of the Council's Economic Regeneration Strategy and the links to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. A number of key issues were identified along with the level of need in Hartlepool. The presentation concluded by examining who was at risk if continued support and investment was not provided to businesses, including new start up businesses.

Members of the public were encouraged to take part in an interactive question and answer session on matters relating to presentation.

A Resident expressed concern regarding the number of young people leaving school without sufficient grades to gain a place in higher education and the difficulty of them finding a job. The Employment Development Officer reported that work was being carried out with Child and Adult Services and partners and programmes were hoped to be introduced to help try and prevent this happening. Members expressed concern regarding the emphasis on qualifications. It was highlighted that more needed to be done to help the less academically minded individuals especially in the time leading up to them leaving school.

In response to a query from a Resident, the Employment Development Officer informed the Forum of the facts and statistics of poverty levels in Hartlepool.

During the question and answer session of the presentation, discussion took place regarding the plans for Oakesway Business Park, Jacksons Landing and the future of the Power Station. The Economic Regeneration Manager informed the Forum that the opportunities available in the areas would be beneficial to Hartlepool and could create business

opportunities and jobs for the unemployed.

23.2 Scrutiny Investigation: - Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum – Environment Presentation

The Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services) provided a detailed and comprehensive presentation which examined the key issues, risks and level of need in relation to climate change, noise pollution, air and water quality and cleanliness.

Members of the public were encouraged to take part in an interactive question and answer session on matters relating to the presentation.

During the presentation a Resident queried why water pollution checks had been carried out at Seaton Carew and were there any other areas that could be checked. The Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services) reported that only beaches classified under the EU regulations by the Environment Agency as 'bathing beaches' were checked. The Resident was advised that the query would be fed back to the Scrutiny Forum.

In response to some concerns regarding noise pollution, the Assistant Director advised that if anyone was to have an issue they needed to report the problem so that it could be investigated. If the problem was out of office hours, there was an out of hour's phone number to ring on the Hartlepool Borough Council Website.

A Resident spoke of an issue regarding residents in Bishop Cuthbert putting their recycling bins and bags out the day before collection as this had often resulted in rubbish being blown around the streets. The Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services) advised the Resident that the Council could not

enforce people to only put their recycling out on the day of collection, but did encourage this. The Resident also queried whether there would be an option for battery collection in the future. The Assistant Director reported that the department had been looking into battery collection however no decision had been made on the matter. Until a decision was made residents were advised to dispose of batteries at the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Burn Road. The issue of residents not being able to travel to the recycling centre was noted.

A Resident informed the Forum that when a recycling box or bag had been misplaced, residents were able to obtain a replacement without out charge. However if a wheeled bin were to go missing they would have to pay. Some concern was expressed regarding the fairness of this arrangement. The Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services) advised that the Council had previously spent thousands on replacing recycling bins and as a result a charge had been introduced. The Forum was advised that the contract for the collection of dry recyclable waste had gone out to tender and was due back within a few days. Efficiency of the service would be reviewed as part of the process.

In response to further questioning of the recycling service, the Assistant Director informed the Forum that there was an assistive scheme in place to collect recycling bins for the elderly/disabled. If a resident was having a problem putting the bins out for collection, they needed to ring to find out whether they would be eligible for the scheme.

24. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR INFORMATION

The two items for discussion/and or information were as follows:

24.1 Presentation – Cleveland Fire Brigade

Dave Turton, the District Manager for Cleveland Fire Brigade, provided a detailed and comprehensive presentation. This examined how many incidents had occurred since 2007/08, the number of Home Fire Safety Visits that had taken place and also the community activities the Fire Brigade had been involved in. Residents were informed that the Headland Fire Station was to be demolished and views of Residents on the rebuild of the station would be sought. Residents were informed that if they had any issues that they felt needed reporting to inform their Neighbourhood Manager.

During the presentation Mr Turton's colleague Lol Craven gave a detailed report on the arson statistics for Hartlepool highlighting the main areas of concern, community activities and an overview of the Stay Safe and Warm campaign. It was noted that there had been a significant reduction in the number of incidents of arson in the town.

A Member spoke of the issue of hoax calls as it had previously been a big problem. Mr Turton advised that the number of hoax calls had decreased and the Fire Brigade were tracing phone calls received through working with phone companies. If a hoax call was to be made, the phone line traced would be cut off as a result.

A Member spoke of the service that was being provided where residents could have locks placed on their letter boxes which could prevent potential arson attacks. The Member had received very positive feedback from residents who had received the service and felt that the service should be publicised more especially in the lead up to Bonfire Night.

In response to concern expressed regarding carbon monoxide poisoning, Mr Turton advised the Forum that the Fire Brigade could loan out carbon monoxide detectors to residents. However with the detectors being so expensive, the Fire Brigade could not afford to provide the same service as they provided for smoke alarms.

Residents and Members thanked Cleveland Fire Brigade for the work they did in the town and also the work within the community.

24.2 Ward Member Budgets

The North and Coastal Neighbourhood Manager reported that all Ward Members had been allocated £5,500. There was a process to be followed when applying for the use of the funding and the Neighbourhood Management Team was available to help with applications. The report included a table which provided a breakdown of current spend to date in relation to each of the Ward Members budgets. Appended to the report was a schedule that set out the current running total for each Ward Member and their remaining budgets.

25. ITEMS FOR DECISION

There were no items for decision.

26. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

A Special Meeting would be held on 31st October 2012 at 2.00pm in Committee Room B.

The next full meeting will be held on 23rd January 2013 at 10.00am in the Committee Room B.

The meeting concluded at 4.20 pm.

WARDS

De Bruce
Hart
Headland and
Harbour
Jesmond
Seaton

***NORTH AND COASTAL
NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM***

31 October 2012

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



The meeting commenced at 2.00 p.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

PRESENT:

Vice Chair:	Councillor Rob Cook	- De Bruce
	Councillor Jim Ainslie	- Headland and Harbour
	Councillor Keith Fisher	- Hart
	Councillor Sheila Griffin	- De Bruce
	Councillor Linda Shields	- Jesmond
	Councillor Sylvia Tempest	- De Bruce

Also in attendance:

Public: Rueben Atkinson, John Cambridge, John Lynch, John Maxwell, Joan Norman, Iris Ryder, Cath Torley, Liz Torley, Dennis Wilson

Officers: Ann Callaghan, Neighbourhood Development Officer
Carol Purdy, Principal Awards Officer
David Frame, Neighbourhood Manager
Garry Jones, Neighbourhood Services Officer
John Morton, Assistant Chief Finance Officer
Liz Cook, Principal Benefits Officer-Appeals and Security
Rachael White, Democratic Services Officer
Ritchie Starrs, Strategy and Performance Officer
Sue McBride, Neighbourhood Development Officer
Tracy Rowe, Community Regeneration Officer

27. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

28. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Paul Beck, Keith

Dawkins, Mary Fleet (Chair), Cath Hill, Peter Jackson, Robbie Payne, Paul Thompson and Stacey Heyman from Families Information Service Hub (FISH).

29. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

30.1. MINUTES OF NORTH AND COASTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUMS HELD ON 3rd OCTOBER 2012.

The minutes of the meeting on the 3rd October 2012 to be confirmed at the Forum held on 23rd January 2013.

31. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION

The two items for consultation were as follows:

31.1 Health and Wellbeing Strategy Presentation:

The Strategy and Performance Officer provided a detailed presentation examining the strategy being developed by the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board. Details of the statistics of health and wellbeing in Hartlepool and the reasons behind why the strategy was being developed were given. The results from the consultation that had taken place were provided, identifying the issues thought to be most important by the residents of Hartlepool. An overview of the draft strategy was also given. The presentation concluded with members of the public taking part in an interactive question and answer session on matters relating to strategy.

The factors identified by the majority of residents in attendance as important when taking forward the Health and Well Being Strategy were as follows:

- Levels of Child Poverty
- Children being prepared for moving into school, early years education (up to age 5) and Good quality pre-school childcare
- Having the level of income needed for leading a healthy life and Impact of Welfare reform on family income

- Educational attainment, Job aspirations and Young people not in education or training

The difference between the answers received in the South and Central Neighbourhood Forum were identified during the session. A Resident queried whether there could be a correlation between the answers given at the Neighbourhood Forums and the amount of private home owners in the areas. The Strategy and Performance Officer informed the Resident that it could be a contributing factor and that the feedback from both sessions would be examined.

31.2 Localisation of Council Tax Reform:

The Assistant Chief Finance Officer provided a detailed and comprehensive presentation which examined the Government welfare reform changes, the proportions of people receiving council tax benefit in Hartlepool and the implications for Hartlepool Borough Council as a result of the central government funding cuts for a new local council tax support scheme to replace council tax benefit. The Officer advised that a new Local Council Tax Support Scheme needed to be in place for April 2013 and a timetable of the process was provided for residents. A draft Local Council Tax Scheme had been approved by Cabinet and public consultation was being undertaken. The Consultation was based around the following 6 principles:

- Every working age household should pay something towards council tax
- Everyone in the household should make a contribution
- Benefits should not be paid to people with large amounts of savings
- People should be encouraged to work
- The scheme should be easier for people to understand

- War widows and war pensioners should be protected

Residents were advised that the final decision on a Local Council Tax Support Scheme needed to be made by full Council. This was scheduled for sometime in January 2013 and once this decision was made a letter would be sent out to all of the affected households. This would inform them of the future changes and also inform them that most households would not have to do anything as their new Council tax support entitlement for 2013/14 would be calculated by the council's Benefits Team using information the Council currently had. Residents were advised that a working group of the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee was exploring methods that would have the least impact on the community when introducing the changes.

During the presentation a Resident queried whether a default scheme would be in place after the changes were implemented. The Chief Finance and Customer Service Officer advised that it was not considered 'affordable' to have a default scheme. However the department were happy with the robust calculations of the draft scheme but would not be certain that it would work until it had been applied.

Members of the public were encouraged to take part in an interactive question and answer session on matters relating to the presentation. Some examples of situations in relation to the principals were given by the Principal Awards Officer. During the session the following was discussed.

A Resident queried whether the figures in the presentation would alter when the other welfare reform changes were introduced. The Chief Finance and Customer Services Officer advised that

the Universal Credit changes were not under Hartlepool Borough Council's control but the Department for Working Pensions (DWP). Therefore factors such as housing benefit changes would not be included in the figures for council tax.

In relation to the principal to restrict backdating of Council Tax support from six months to four weeks, a Resident questioned the procedure for when a claim had been delayed. The Chief Finance and Customer Service Officer advised that in 2013 the backdated money for council tax would be funded by Hartlepool Borough Council rather than the DWP. When looking into council tax being backdated the department would look at factors contributing to the situation such as, had there been a family trauma, was there a fault on behalf of the DWP, had the documentation not arrived through the post etc. Each situation would be examined individually.

32. ITEMS FOR DECISION

There were no items for decision.

33. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next forum meeting will be held on 23rd January 2013 at 10.00am in the Committee Room B.

The meeting concluded at 3.30 pm.

NORTH & COASTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM (January 2013)

Report of: NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGER

Subject: WARD MEMBER BUDGETS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the Forum of the current position in relation to Ward Member Budgets in the North and Coastal Neighbourhood Forum area.

2. BACKGROUND

As agreed by Cabinet on 30 April 2012, Ward Members have been allocated £5,500 each to be used for the wider and discernable community benefits of their ward.

3. APPROVED SCHEMES

The following table provides a breakdown of current spend to date in relation to each of the Ward Members Budgets. Please note that a number of projects are currently being developed and will be reported at a future Neighbourhood Forum meeting. Attached at Appendix B is the current running total for each Ward Member and their remaining budgets.

Ward Councillor	Nature of Scheme	Date Approved	Funding Approved
De Bruce			
Councillor Rob Cook	Fun Day Contribution (2 September 2012)	09/08/12	£237.50
	Environmental Apprentice Scheme	21/12/12	£500
Councillor Sheila Griffin	Fun Day Contribution (2 September 2012)	09/08/12	£237.50
	Environmental Apprentice Scheme	21/12/12	£500
Councillor Sylvia Tempest	Fun Day Contribution (2 September 2012)	09/08/12	£237.52
	Environmental Apprentice Scheme	21/12/12	£500
Hart			
Councillor Paul Beck	Hartfields Christmas Event	11/12/12	£150
	Bishop Cuthbert Residents Association	28/11/12	£500

	Police Bikes	11/12/12	£300
	Clavering Youth Project	11/12/12	£800
	Environmental Apprentice Scheme	21/12/12	£500
Councillor Jean Robinson	Hartfields Christmas Event	11/12/12	£150
	Police Bikes	11/12/12	£300
	Environmental Apprentice Scheme	21/12/12	£500
Headland & Harbour			
Councillor Jim Ainslie	Heugh Battery Trust Outreach Worker	18/09/12	£1,000
	Environmental Apprentice Scheme	21/12/12	£500
	Rural Transport	03/01/13	£500
Councillor Peter Jackson	Environmental Apprentice Scheme	21/12/12	£500
Councillor Robbie Payne	Environmental Apprentice Scheme	21/12/12	£500
Jesmond			
Councillor Keith Dawkins	Young Carers Allotment	05/10/12	£350
	Winchester Walk Raised Bed Scheme	05/10/12	£780
	Environmental Apprentice Scheme	21/12/12	£500
Councillor Mary Fleet	Environmental Apprentice Scheme	21/12/12	£500
Councillor Linda Shields	Environmental Apprentice Scheme	21/12/12	£500
Seaton			
Councillor Kelly Atkinson	Environmental Apprentice Scheme	21/12/12	£500
Councillor Cath Hill	Environmental Apprentice Scheme	21/12/12	£500
Councillor Paul Thompson	Environmental Apprentice Scheme	21/12/12	£500

4. UNAPPROVED SCHEMES

Scheme	Amount
TOTAL	

5. RECOMMENDATION

The North and Coastal Neighbourhood Forum is asked to note the contents of the report outlining Ward Member Budget spend to date.

Appendix B**NORTH AND COASTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM – WARD MEMBER BUDGETS**

Ward Councillor	Funding Available	Funding Approved	Funding Remaining
De Bruce			
Councillor Rob Cook	£5,500	£737.50	£4,762.50
Councillor Sheila Griffin	£5,500	£737.50	£4,762.50
Councillor Sylvia Tempest	£5,500	£737.52	£4,762.48
Hart			
Councillor Paul Beck	£5,500	£2,250	£3,250
Councillor Keith Fisher	£5,500	-	£5,500
Councillor Jean Robinson	£5,500	£950	£4,550
Headland and Harbour			
Councillor Jim Ainslie	£5,500	£2,000	£3,500
Councillor Peter Jackson	£5,500	£500	£5,000
Councillor Robbie Payne	£5,500	£500	£5,000
Jesmond			
Councillor Keith Dawkins	£5,500	£1,630	£3,870
Councillor Mary Fleet	£5,500	£500	£5,000
Councillor Linda Shields	£5,500	£500	£5,000
Seaton			
Councillor Kelly Atkinson	£5,500	£500	£5,000
Councillor Cath Hill	£5,500	£500	£5,000
Councillor Paul Thompson	£5,500	£500	£5,000