

SOUTH AND CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM AGENDA



Wednesday 2nd April 2014

at 10.00am

in Committee Room B, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: SOUTH AND CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM:

Councillors C Akers-Belcher, S Akers-Belcher, Barclay, Brash, Cranney, Gibbon, Hall, Hargreaves, James, Lauderdale, A Lilley, G Lilley, Loynes, Martin-Wells, Morris, Richardson, Simmons and Sirs

- 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 held on 11th December 2013
 - 4.2 Matters arising.
 - 4.3 To confirm the minutes of the Joint North and Coastal & South and Central Neighbourhood Forum meeting held on 6th March 2014
 - 4.4 Matters arising

5. POLICY COMMITTEE CHAIRS ISSUES

- 4.1 Presentation by the Chair of Children's Services Committee
- 4.2 Public Questions to Policy Committee Chairs

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME and WARD ISSUES (maximum of 30 minutes)

7. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION

None

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR INFORMATION

- 8.1 Presentation – Cleveland Police

9. WARD MEMBER BUDGETS

- 9.1 Ward Member Budgets – *Assistant Director (Neighbourhoods)*

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

11. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

To be confirmed

SOUTH AND CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM MINUTES

11th December 2013

The meeting commenced at 2.00pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Chair: Councillor Kevin Cranney - Foggy Furze

Vice Chair: Councillor Marjorie James - Manor House

Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher

	-	Foggy Furze
Councillor Alan Barclay	-	Manor House
Councillor Steve Gibbon	-	Fens and Rossmere
Councillor Ged Hall	-	Burn Valley
Councillor John Lauderdale	-	Burn Valley
Councillor Alison Lilley	-	Fens and Rossmere
Councillor Geoff Lilley	-	Fens and Rossmere
Councillor George Morris	-	Rural West
Councillor Carl Richardson	-	Victoria

Public: W R Hall, Ted Jackson, Gordon and Stella Johnson, Peter Joyce, Michael Piercy, Ray Pocklington, Julie Rudge, F Sowerby, G Stamper, Michael Unwin and Ray Waller

Fire Representative: Les Jones

Housing Hartlepool Representative: Janis Ledger

Officers: Denise Ogden, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Clare Clark, Neighbourhood Manager
Adele Wilson, Community Regeneration and Development Coordinator
Jon Wright, Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager
Irene Cross, Neighbourhood Development Officer (Central)
Jo Stubbs, Democratic Services Officer

18. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were submitted by Councillors Stephen Akers-Belcher, Brenda Loynes, Ray Martin-Wells and Chris Simmons.

19. Declarations of Interest

None

20. Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd October 2013

Approved – subject to the additions of Councillor Alan Barclay and residents Chris Banks and W R Hall as being present. The importance of signing the attendance sheet was emphasised.

21. Matters Arising

A resident requested an update on a proposed footpath in Greatham. The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods advised that the recent floods had breached Greatham creek and therefore the footpath would remain closed.

A resident queried the pollution being caused by the landfill site at Greatham. The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods to action this.

A resident requested an update on the request for fencing on Masfield Road. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager indicated that costings had come back showing this would be extremely expensive and it would therefore need to be considered carefully. The resident felt that given the proximity to a school and risk to children the work should be carried out irrespective of cost.

It was noted that the figures had been included on a feedback sheet for distribution at the meeting however this had not happened. A Councillor requested that said feedback sheet be distributed with the minutes of this meeting.

A resident queried the costings for the allotment fencing which the Neighbourhood Manager had provided to him. The Neighbourhood Manager reported that her investigations had been thorough and the figures were accurate. The resident disputed this and asked to see invoices. The Chair asked that the resident and Neighbourhood Manager discuss this matter outside of the meeting.

A resident referred to the Neighbourhood Planning Update expressing concern that Councillors felt that ward boundaries and neighbourhood plan boundaries should be the same. He disputed this, commenting that neighbourhood plans were not designed to be viewed in isolation but formed a part of the national planning policy framework. The Chair felt that while Councillors were not opposed to neighbourhood plans as a concept there was concern that they were too many separate plans and no joined up thinking. There had also been concern as to the role Ward Councillors would play in those neighbourhood plans where they did not live in the designated area. The resident confirmed that Ward Councillors would have a vote as a resident if they lived in the area concerned but would not be

entitled to a vote as a Ward Councillor. A Councillor suggested that the differential between ward boundaries and neighbourhood plan boundaries suggested that the last boundary review had failed to represent communities adequately. The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhood indicated that neighbourhood plan boundaries would be discussed at Planning Committee on 18th December.

22. Presentation by the Chair of Finance and Policy Committee

The Chair of the Finance and Policy Committee delivered a detailed and comprehensive presentation in relation to the Council's budget proposals for 2014/15. Since May 2013 the Council had introduced the Hartlepool Living Wage, created additional apprenticeships and signed a new ICT contract which had resulted in significant budget savings and the creation of 235 jobs. Members had also supported households affected by the Government's welfare reform bill particularly in relation to Council Tax support and it was intended to continue this support as part of the 14/15 budget proposals. Also proposed was a freeze in Council tax and over £4 million in departmental savings, details of which were given.

A resident queried whether consideration had been given to the impact caused by foster children staying with foster families to the age of 21. The Chair of Finance and Policy Committee advised that the Council supported foster children to remain with foster families to the age of 25. If children decided to leave their foster families earlier than this then chose to go back they would be supported in this also.

A resident asked what percentage of cuts was being made to the overall Council budget. The Chair of Finance and Policy Committee indicated that the savings equated to 10% of the overall budget. He felt that by changing the way services were provided the impact to the general public of the budget cuts for 2014/15 would be disproportionate when compared to the actual amount of savings being made. The cuts for 2015/16 would be very different however and the impact would be felt in terms of staff cuts and risk to non-statutory services.

A resident queried how the public could remain informed of the proposed cuts in order to look at alternative mechanisms – with particular reference to the Central Library Cafe and Shopmobility. The Chair of Finance and Policy Committee reported that the tender for the Central Library cafe had been advertised with no interest being shown. As the cafe was being fully supported by the Council and running at a loss the decision had been taken to replace the cafe with vending machines and a seating area. The future of the Wingfield cafe would be looked at as part of a wider consultation on the quay. In terms of Shopmobility this had been a decision made as part of wider Community Pool provision which was due to be reconsidered at Finance and Policy Committee on 19th December. It was hoped that the Community Pool in the future would concentrate more on family poverty.

However individual voluntary organisations which might be affected could request contributions from Ward member budgets

With reference to the implementation of the Living Wage a resident queried whether the 11% increase included additional pension contributions. The Chair of Finance and Policy Committee advised that the 11% was the wage increase for the lowest paid Council employees and not all employees had been affected to this extent. It did include additional pension contributions. The overall cost per year was approximately £150 thousand and while the funding was there for the next 2 years at a future point there would be an annual budget pressure of approximately £20 thousand.

A Councillor highlighted that the renegotiation of the ICT contract has saved existing jobs as well as saving money. The Chair of Finance and Policy Committee agreed, commenting that the recent welfare reform bill had led to an increase in benefits staff in order that the reforms be implemented.

A Councillor asked whether Council Tax was expected to rise in the future. The Chair of Finance and Policy Committee indicated that this was dependent on future settlement grants. In the event that a 2% rise was needed a referendum would be carried out and the choice between a freeze in Council Tax and the loss of services put in the hands of the public. Every attempt would be made to keep Council Tax rises as low as possible for the future.

The Chair thanked the Chair of Finance and Policy Committee for attending the meeting and answering questions.

23. Public Questions to Policy Committee Chairs

A resident queried how many schools were no longer supported by the Local Authority. The Vice-Chair of Children's Services Committee advised that all schools in Hartlepool were supported by the Council in some way, with the exception of Dyke House School which was supported externally.

24. Public Question Time and Ward Issues

A resident asked whether a parking lay-by could be implemented on the eastern side of High Tunstall School as the verge was subject to ploughing up by tyres. The Chair asked officers to look at this.

A Councillor highlighted that rubbish caused by the bins being overturned by the recent high winds had still not been cleared up a week after the event. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager to look into this

The Chair highlighted problems with the collection of grey bins.

A Councillor referred to a recent visit to the Christchurch Art Gallery when half the lights were not working and the toilets were out of order. The Chair

would ask the Assistant Director for Community Services to respond.

25. **Cleveland Fire Service Update**

Cleveland Fire Brigade's Head of Community Safety gave a presentation on the work of the fire brigade covering the following areas:

- Prevention
- Incident Reduction
- Economic Cost Of Fire
- Community Health and Wellbeing Services
- Vulnerable Persons Process
- Stay Safe and Warm Initiatives
- Children and Young Persons Services
- Use of Volunteers
- Campaigns

In the last 10 years there had been a 72% reduction in incidents which showed the effectiveness of such initiatives as home fire safety visits and engagement with young people

The Chair queried whether funding would continue to be available for preventative actions in the future. The Fire Brigade Head of Community Safety advised that funding was available to the end of the current financial year. After that the funding situation would be evaluated in consultation with partners.

A resident queried whether fire officers conducted follow-up checks on home fire safety visits, given the finite life of smoke alarms. The Fire Brigade Head of Community Safety advised that return visits were carried out between 1 and 10 years after the original visit depending on the risk assessment. This would also cover the 10 year life span of smoke alarms.

A resident highlighted the contribution the fire service made to all planning applications which had not been covered by the presentation.

The Chair asked what impact the Government cuts would have on the fire service. The Fire Brigade Head of Community Safety indicated that £4.4 million had been cut from fire service budgets over the next 3 years. The Chief Fire Officer was committed to prevention as there were less resources available to fight fires than there had been 10 years ago.

The Chair thanked the Fire Brigade Head of Community Safety for attending the meeting and answering questions.

26. **Ward Member Budgets** *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

The report outlined the current position in relation to Ward Member budgets

in the South and Central Neighbourhood Forum area encompassing Burn Valley, Fens and Rossmere, Foggy Furze, Manor House, Rural West and Victoria wards.

All Ward Members had been allocated £5,500 to use for the wider and discernible community benefits of their ward with a further allocation of £5,000 per Ward Member agreed by Council in February 2013.

Breakdowns were given of the current spend to date in relation to each of the Ward Members' budgets along with a schedule setting out the current running total for each Ward Member and their remaining budgets. The Community Regeneration and Development Co-ordinator highlighted that the report had been prepared 4 weeks previously and any figures quoted had been correct at that time. More current information was available online or via the officers

Decision

That the report be noted

27. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

The Chair asked those present to sponsor Yusuf Khan for the Boxing Day dip.

He reminded those present that there was a joint Neighbourhood Forum meeting scheduled for Thursday 6th March 2014 at 5pm.

He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and invited them to help themselves to a mince pie before they left.

The meeting concluded at 3:45pm.

CHAIR

JOINT MEETING OF NORTH AND COASTAL AND SOUTH AND CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUMS

MINUTES

6 MARCH 2014

The meeting commenced at 5.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

- | | | | |
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| Chair: | Councillor Kevin Cranney | - | Foggy Furze |
| | Councillor Jim Ainslie | - | Headland and Harbour |
| | Councillor Rob Cook | - | De Bruce |
| | Councillor Mary Fleet | - | Jesmond |
| | Councillor Steve Gibbon | - | Fens and Rossmere |
| | Councillor Sheila Griffin | - | De Bruce |
| | Councillor Ged Hall | - | Burn Valley |
| | Councillor Peter Jackson | - | Headland and Harbour |
| | Councillor John Lauderdale | - | Burn Valley |
| | Councillor Brenda Loynes | - | Rural West |
| | Councillor George Morris | - | Rural West |
| | Councillor Linda Shields | - | Jesmond |
| | Councillor Chris Simmons | - | Victoria |
| | Councillor Kaylee Sirs | - | Foggy Furze |
| | Councillor Sylvia Tempest | - | De Bruce |
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| Public: | Dennis Wilson, Alan Vale, Peter Joyce, Phil Matthews,
G Stamper, Julie Rudge, J Stewart, D M Clark, Michael Unwin,
Sue Little, Paul Little, Jean Kennedy, Ray Pocklington and
Iris Ryder. |
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| Officers: | Alastair Smith (Asst Director, Neighbourhoods),
Clare Clark (Neighbourhood Manager, Community Safety) ,
David Frame (Neighbourhood Manager, South),
Joan Stevens, Scrutiny Manager
Kieran Bostock (Senior Engineer (Environmental Engineering)),
Mike Blair, Highways, Traffic and Transport Manager
Tara Davison, Neighbourhood Development Officer (South and
Central)
Jon Wright, Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager
Helen Beaman, Environmental Services Team Leader
Ann Callaghan, Neighbourhood Development Officer, North
Garry Jones, Neighbourhood Services Officer |
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1. Apologies for Absence

Councillors Christopher Akers-Belcher, Stephen Akers-Belcher, Ray Martin-Wells and Robbie Payne.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Neighbourhood Services Committee – Face the Public

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance. The Chair then introduced the Chair of the Neighbourhood Services Committee, Councillor Peter Jackson who gave a presentation to the Forum on the role and remit of the Neighbourhood Services Committee and the principal issues it had considered so far this municipal year. The Assistant Director, Neighbourhoods then set out the main roles and responsibilities of the Neighbourhood Services Division of the Council. This section of the presentation included input from the various managers within the division. During the presentation the Chair allowed questions from Councillors and the public and the various issues raised are summarised below.

- Did the Council have a programme for constructing and replacing drains? Officers indicated that Northumbrian Water Limited (NWL) had responsibility for all drainage systems and water mains. The Council did have a close working relationship with NWL and if people reported any issues appropriate work could be prioritised.
- There appeared now to be no extra gulley cleaning undertaken in the spring. Officers indicated there was a rolling programme of gulley cleansing and if there were areas that needed special attention, then they were built into the programme. Unfortunately, with the budget cuts, services were being reprioritised. If there were any issues of flooding, then the authority would do its best to address the issue. Officers did meet NWL on a regular basis and had a very good working relationship with them, particularly in addressing flooding problems.
- Were the new houses being built next to Stranton Cemetery linked into the mains drainage as there are problems with flooding in the site. Officers indicated that the drainage scheme for the site had some retention built into it so that water could be held in underground tanks following heavy rain and released into the main drainage system in a controlled manner.
- A resident complained that contaminated waste from all over the country was being brought for disposal at the Seaton Meadows site. The resident considered that the site was being poorly managed and that contaminated waste was being dumped on the site on a night time. Permission had also been given by the local authority for the height of the tip to be increased over its original permission. The Assistant Director indicated that the site had been approved by the Environment

Agency and was regularly monitored. It was understood that some were opposed to the operations of the site and the comments had been noted.

- A resident commented that over recent weeks, two of the three roads into Seaton Carew had been subject to major road works severely restricting residents. The route that remained open, Coronation Drive, was itself prone to flooding. The development site accessed off Coronation Drive was causing problems with vehicles not being cleaned properly before accessing the road and then leaving considerable amounts of mud on the road which was being washed into the gullies, blocking them. The Assistant Director indicated that the developers had a duty to keep the road clean and contact would be made with them to ensure they were doing all that was required.
- A Councillor commented that a recent flood alleviation scheme had been undertaken by NWL on the Headland following three flooding incidents in the past five years at Albion Terrace / South Crescent.
- A Councillor referred to the flooding in the Bruce Ward last year where residents had untreated sewerage coming into their gardens and some cases their houses and asked what measures had been taken to ensure this would not be repeated. Officers indicated that there had been an issue with a NWL pumping station and the company was looking at a resolution. The local authority was also looking to assist through diverting some of the water from ditches in the area. It was hoped the issue would be resolved in the next six months.
- A resident noted from the presentation that the Council was looking to purchase more yellow buses to run the shuttle service between Hartlepool and North Tees Hospitals. The resident indicated that they understood that the Health Trust would be paying for this service and that the local authority and the people of the town shouldn't be paying for this service. The Assistant Director clarified the situation and indicated that the Council was not paying for the service. The Integrated Transport Unit had developed a stringent business case for a public-public partnership with the Health Trust to provide the service. The Council was selling an economic service to the Trust and was not funding the service.
- A resident questioned the time being taken to repair street furniture. Officers indicated they would look into the examples raised by the resident.
- A Member asked if there was any update on the potential bus service between the Headland and West View. Officers stated there was no further movement on such a service.
- A Member asked if there were plans to address the road safety issues at Powlett Road / Easington Road where it was becoming increasingly difficult to cross the road. Officers stated that the concerns had been raised with them and potential solutions were being examined but much would depend on any available budget.
- Following an update on the plans to switch to LED lighting on all the town's street lights at a potential energy saving of around £400,000 per annum, members and residents questioned the difference the new white lighting would make to nearby households, the potential for 'dark spots'

and the time taken to implement a LED solution. The Assistant Director indicated that the Council had been waiting for the technology in LED lighting to settle towards a limited number of specific solutions. The Council now believed that point had been reached and a number of manufacturer's lights had been trialled in Greatham with very positive feedback from the public. LED lighting was a white light that would be very directional in that the light would be cast downwards in a very controlled cone of light. This avoided wasteful light being directed into households. As the cone of light was very controlled, the lighting areas between lamp columns would be more defined but there would be no dark spot, simply a move from one area of brighter white light to another. The Council would not be using the lowest wattage available but a slightly increased output to alleviate any safety concerns. The comments and the introduction of the new lighting was welcomed by the forum.

- The meeting was updated by the Assistant Director on the Sea Coaling Working Group which involved local residents and was looking to come forward with solutions to some of the problems being experienced.
- Following an update on waste collection and recycling a resident complained that the clean-up crew that came the following day after a wheelie bin collection could, if the collection was on a Friday, not turn up often until Tuesday the following week. This had left residents in the Dent Street area having to deal with lots of wind-blown waste. The recycling collection vehicle was also supposed to use the back street but operatives were instead bringing wheelie bins and boxes out into the main street and leaving them there after the collection. Officers indicated that this should not be the case and they would fast track a solution for the residents.
- A resident complained of the charges for collection of large waste, such as mattresses. Officers indicated that the charges reflected the charge to the council for dealing with waste.
- An allotment holder complained of the limit to the number of fires he could have during the year. Officers indicated that the Council didn't want to encourage the burning of waste and allotment holders could obtain a permit to take waste to the recycling centre. If there were issues with fly-tipping the Council would respond.
- A resident complained about the recycling of paint cans and the fact that they couldn't be included in the household recycling collections. Officers indicated that there were facilities to recycle paint cans at the recycling centre but they would try to address the resident's concerns.
- A Member of the public asked what guidance householders had as to when they should put their wheelie bins out for collection. There were some problems with bins being knocked over and left in the street causing obstruction after collection. It was stated that collections started from 7.30 am and it was okay for residents to put their bins out after 7.00 pm the preceding evening for collection. If there were problems regularly experienced with anti-social behaviour these could be reported to the Police.
- A resident raised concerns with the general appearance and lack of neighbourhood facilities in the Stranton area. The Council seemed to be

concentrating all its efforts and expenditure on the Marina area. The Assistant Director indicated that there was neighbourhood development work going on in the Stranton area and he would ask the appropriate officers to get in touch with the resident.

In his closing remarks, the Chair of the Neighbourhood Services Committee indicated that services such as the recycling contract were producing good outcomes for the town and generating welcome income. The pressure on budgets was still very acute and there would be further budget cuts in the next financial year that would undoubtedly affect services. It was still the Council's aim to provide the best service it could to Hartlepool within the budget available and all officers would be working towards that target.

The Chair thanked all the residents present for attending the meeting and raising the issues they had with officers.

The meeting concluded at 7.05 pm.

CHAIR

SOUTH & CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

2 April 2014



Report of: Assistant Director (Neighbourhoods)

Subject: WARD MEMBER BUDGETS

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 For information only.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To inform the Forum of the current position in relation to Ward Member Budgets in the South and Central Neighbourhood Forum area, encompassing Burn Valley, Fens and Rossmere, Foggy Furze, Manor House, Rural West and Victoria wards.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 On 30 April 2012, Ward Member Budgets and the associated application and approval framework were approved by Cabinet. Ward Members were allocated £5,500 each to be used for the wider and discernable community benefits of their ward, with further allocations of £5,000 per Ward Member agreed by Council in February 2013 (for 2013/14) and 2014 (for 2014/15).

3.2 It is assumed that the budgets are not available for individuals, or intended to be expended on services provided by the Local Authority or other public agencies, unless the purpose is to enhance or supplement what is being delivered. Ward Members are expected to consult each other to ensure that there is no duplication in expenditure and projects supported must be lawful, and cannot undermine the Council or partners' priorities or service delivery.

3.3 Procedural arrangements have been implemented to ensure accountability and transparency, with all Ward Member Budget submissions being subject to an approval process under delegated authority of the Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods (in conjunction with Legal and Finance Departments). Progress on Ward Member Budgets is reported on a quarterly basis to the Neighbourhood Forums and is published online. In addition to this, an annual report will be taken to Neighbourhoods Committee for information.

4. APPROVED SCHEMES

- 4.1 Attached at **Appendix A** is a breakdown of spend in relation to each of the Ward Members Budgets in 2013/14. Attached at **Appendix B** is the final outturn for each Ward Member in 2013/14, and their remaining budgets.
- 4.2 In the Fens and Rossmere, Foggy Furze and Victoria wards, Ward Members have allocated a proportion of their Ward Budgets to establish a community fund for local voluntary and community groups to access.

5. UNAPPROVED SCHEMES

- 5.1 One unapproved scheme has been received in 2013/14.

6. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Through the implementation of the application and approval framework, a robust and transparent process has been put in place to ensure that the expenditure of Ward Member Budgets is for the purpose for which it is intended. In addition to this, consultation with other Ward Members, the community, and key partners is required through the application process to guarantee that monies are not used adversely and that projects and / or schemes are responding to local need.
- 6.2 In addition to quarterly reporting to the Neighbourhood Forums, an annual report is taken to Neighbourhoods Committee for consideration. All expenditure related information associated with Ward Member Budgets is also available online.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Within the original Cabinet decision on 30 April 2012 to approve Ward Member Budgets, it was agreed that a delegation of powers to the Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)¹ be awarded; this was facilitated through 'executive arrangements' outlined within the Local Government Act 2000 which enables decision making powers to be delegated by the executive, individual Portfolio Holders, or through an Officer.
- 7.2 Ward Member Budgets must be used for purposes which originally fell within the 'well-being powers' enshrined in the Local Government Act 2000. The well being powers as far as they relate to England have now been repealed under Schedule 1 of the Localism Act 2011 which provides for the broader 'general power of competence'. This gives local authorities an explicit freedom to act in the best interests of the community, unless the local authority is prevented from taking that action by the common law, specific legislation or statutory guidance. As such, the new power of competence

¹ From December 2012, this power has fallen to the Director of Regeneration & Neighbourhoods.

can be applied to working in the best interests of Hartlepool Borough Council's Ward Member Budgets and also Ward Profiles which were endorsed by Cabinet in October 2012.

8. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 On 14 February 2013, Council approved a recommendation from Cabinet (4 February 2013) allocating a total of £165,000 for 2013/2014 for Ward Member Budgets, equating to £5,000 per Elected Member. As part of this decision, it was also outlined that any underspend remaining from the 2012/13 allocation could be carried forward by each individual Ward Councillor for their use in 2013/14.
- 8.2 On 19 September 2013, as part of the 2014/15 budget proposals, Finance and Policy Committee recommended allocating £165,000 from the reserves review to continue Ward Member Budgets in 2014/15 (i.e. £5,000 per Member). It was subsequently recommended by Finance and Policy Committee on 19 December 2013 that the Ward Member Budget allocation for 2014/15 be top sliced by 20% (£1,000 per Ward Member) for the continuation of the Environmental Apprenticeship Scheme, and that any unspent funds from the 2012/13 and 2013/14 allocations be set aside and utilised to continue the Ward Member Budget programme post 2014/15. This was agreed by Full Council on 6 February 2014.

9. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.1 There are no staff considerations for the Forum's attention in this case.

10. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 10.1 There are no asset management considerations.

11. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 11.1 There are no equality or diversity implications.

12. SECTION 17 OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 CONSIDERATIONS

- 12.1 There are no Section 17 implications.

13. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13.1 The South and Central Neighbourhood Forum is asked to note the contents of the report outlining Ward Member Budget spend for 2013/14.

14. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 14.1 On 30 April 2012, Ward Member Budgets and the associated application framework were approved by Cabinet. As part of this decision, it was agreed that expenditure be reported to the relevant Neighbourhood Forum on a quarterly basis.

15. CONTACT OFFICER

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APPENDIX A

Ward Member Budget Spend 2013/14

Ward Councillor	Nature of Scheme	Date Approved	Funding Approved
Burn Valley			
Councillor Jonathan Brash	Fourth Hartlepool Boys Brigade Contribution	04/07/13	£750
	St Matthew's Hall Equipment Donation	19/09/13	£570
	Burn Valley Ladies Bowling Club Donation	19/09/13	£100
	Hartlepool Table Tennis Club Donation	19/09/13	£100
	HVDA Contribution	13/12/13	£1,500
	Hartlepool Carers Contribution	11/02/14	£200
	Hartlepool Gymnastics Club Contribution	28/02/14	£200
	St Matthew's Hall Parent and Toddler Group Contribution	28/02/14	£300
	Burn Valley Gardens Contribution	28/02/14	£1,000
	Hartlepool Families First Contribution	28/02/14	£393
Councillor Ged Hall	Fourth Hartlepool Boys Brigade Contribution	04/07/13	£150
	Friends of North Cemetery Donation	04/07/13	£100
	Stranton Senior Group Donation	04/07/13	£100
	The ORB Centre Youth Project	04/07/13	£75
	Colenso Street Car Parking Scheme	11/10/13	£1,000
	Asylum Seekers & Refugee Group (plus contribution for Advice Worker)	21/11/13	£100
	Burn Valley Ladies Bowling Club Anniversary Donation	21/11/13	£100
	Hartlepool Chinese Association Donation	21/11/13	£150
	Stranton Generic Advisory Service Contribution	21/11/13	£100
	Hartlepool Gymnastics Club Contribution	21/11/13	£200
	Saturday Club Donation	21/11/13	£100
	University of the Third Age (U3A) Contribution	21/11/13	£100
	Stroke Association Contribution	28/02/14	£400
	Burn Valley Gardens Contribution	28/02/14	£2,325
Councillor John Lauderdale	The ORB Centre Youth Project	04/07/13	£200
	Fourth Hartlepool Boys Brigade Contribution	04/07/13	£200
	Friends of North Cemetery Donation	04/07/13	£200
	Stranton Senior Group Donation	04/07/13	£200
	Hartlepool Table Tennis Club	23/09/13	£100

	Donation		
	ORB Centre Community Youth Project Activity Programme	23/09/13	£150
	Stranton Generic Advisory Service Contribution	23/09/13	£200
	Asylum Seekers & Refugee Group (plus contribution for Advice Worker)	23/09/13	£200
	ORB Centre Software Donation	23/09/13	£323
	Burn Valley Ladies Bowling Club Anniversary Donation	23/09/13	£200
	Colenso Street Car Parking Scheme	11/10/13	£1,000
	Hartlepool Chinese Association Donation	11/10/13	£100
	Saturday Club Donation	11/10/13	£150
	HVDA Contribution	13/12/13	£1,000
	Burn Valley Allotments Association Contribution	05/02/14	£300
	Oxford Road Residents Association Easter Activity Programme	05/02/14	£250
	Burn Valley Gardens Contribution	05/02/14	£227
Fens and Rossmere			
All Ward Councillors	Brightsparks Group Donation (Play Equipment)	22/05/13	£500
	Fens Monday Club Donation	22/05/13	£300
	Friday Club Group Donation	22/05/13	£400
	Hartlepool Table Tennis Club Donation	30/07/13	£500
	Rossmere Craft & Social Group Donation	30/07/13	£300
	Dundee Road Grassed Verge Scheme	15/11/13	£4,000
	Cameo Ladies Friendship Group Contribution	27/11/13	£380
	Bramley Court Whist Club Donation	02/12/13	£60
	Bramley Court Bingo Club Donation	02/12/13	£88
	Friends of Wild Green Spaces Contribution	02/12/13	£1,500
	HVDA Contribution	13/12/13 28/02/14	£3,000
	St Teresa's RC School Contribution	28/02/14	£452
	Rossmere Art Group Contribution	28/02/14	£100
	COOL Project	28/02/14	£1,500
	Bike Storage Unit (Rossmere Youth Centre)	28/02/14	£1,200
	Fens Interpretation Board	03/03/14	£605
	Rossmere Park Flooding Scheme	03/03/14	£3,000
Foggy Furze			
All Ward Councillors	St Cuthbert's RA Donation	07/05/13	£225
	Queens Meadow RG Donation	21/05/13	£295
	Foggy Furze Fun Day	21/05/13	£1,500

	Westbrooke Avenue Fencing	10/06/13	£1,500
	Browning Avenue Baptist Church Equipment Donation	14/06/13	£942
	Wildlife Foundations Allotment Fencing	14/06/13	£850
	The ORB Centre Youth Project	09/07/13	£400
	Belle Vue Residents' Association Donation	13/08/13	£440
	Allot a Love Allotment Refurbishment Donation	13/08/13	£600
	Chinese Association Donation	13/08/13	£300
	St Cuthbert Friendship Group Donation	13/08/13	£450
	St Cuthbert's Residents' Association Donation	13/08/13	£550
Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher	Frensham Drive Horticultural Works	19/08/13	£518
	Rift House Recreational Ground Improvement Works	20/08/13	£785
	Waverley Terrace Community Garden Project	12/11/13	£451
	St Cuthbert's Primary School Contribution (Adventure Play Area)	28/02/14	£366
	Rift House East Residents Association Contribution	28/02/14	£365
Councillor Kevin Cranney	Refugee / Asylum Seekers Donation	27/07/13	£300
	Hartlepool Gymnastics Club - Competition	04/11/13	£250
	Rift House East Residents Association Outing	12/11/13	£200
	Marmion Estate Residents Association Contribution	15/11/13	£335
	Hartlepool Access Group Contribution	02/12/13 20/02/14	£2,000
	ORB Community Youth Project	12/12/13	£300
	Hartlepool PATCH Contribution	20/02/14	£305
Councillor Kaylee Sirs	Hartlepool PATCH Contribution	20/02/14	£860
	Belle Vue Community, Sports and Youth Centre Activities	20/02/14	£1,980
	HVDA Contribution	20/02/14	£850
Manor House			
All Ward Councillors	The Rifty Room Hire Costs	29/11/13	£2,000
	Rift House CAT Contribution	29/11/14	£400
	OFCA Contribution	11/12/13	£2,300
	Galsworthy Road Grassed Verge Removal	10/02/14	£2,200
	Darown Grove Grassed Verge Removal	10/02/14	£3,400
	HBC / Housing Hartlepool Grassed Verge Removal Scheme	28/02/14	£7,700
Councillor Stephen Akers-	Hartlepool Table Tennis Club Donation	21/08/13	£250

Belcher	Hartlepool Gymnastics Club Contribution	06/12/13	£200
Councillor Marjorie James	Hartlepool Table Tennis Club Donation	21/08/13	£250
	Manor House Child Poverty Project (School Uniform)	17/09/13	£2,000
Councillor Angela Wilcox*	The Rifty Room Hire	05/07/13	£1,500
Rural West			
All Ward Councillors	Ward Jackson Park Fountain Refurbishment	17/04/13	£1,500
	Rural Community Transport Scheme	23/04/13	£1,600
	Friends of Victory Square Donation	19/06/13	£200
	Junior Football Team Contribution	15/07/13	£600
	Greatham Community Centre Renovation Fund	16/08/13	£300
	Rural Broadband Project	18/10/13	£1,000
	Hartlepool Gymnastics Club	23/10/13	£450
	Park Residents Association Contribution	27/10/13	£900
	Serpentine Gardens Bulb Planting	28/11/13	£375
	Hartlepool Music Society Contribution	29/11/13	£1,000
	HVDA Contribution	13/12/13	£4,500
	Friends of Ward Jackson Park Contribution	18/12/13	£1,000
	Hartlepool Stroke Society Contribution	30/01/14	£300
	Hartlepool Access Group Contribution	30/01/14	£1,000
	Rural Transport Scheme Contribution	30/01/14	£3,000
	West Park MUGA Contribution	20/02/14	£5,000
	Tunstall Farm Flood Assessment	18/03/14	£2,654
Councillors Brenda Loynes & George Morris	Dalton Piercy Tree Planting	20/06/13	£200
	Hardwick Court Tree Planting	06/02/14	£805
Victoria			
All Ward Councillors	Cobden Area RA Donation	12/04/13	£500
	Hartlepool Art Club Donation	12/04/13	£100
	St Lukes Infant Welfare Mothers Club Donation	12/04/13	£200
	Hartlepool Chinese Association Donation	22/04/13	£358
	Grange Road Friendship Club Donation	22/04/13	£400
	Friends of Victory Square Donation	22/04/13	£30
	Hart Gables Donation	19/06/13	£130
	Salaam Centre Donation	19/06/13	£1,200
	Park Residents Association – Fountain Donation	19/06/13	£300

	Asylum Seeker & Refugee Group Donation	19/06/13	£500
	ABC Residents Donation	19/06/13	£300
	Grange Road Living Skills Group Donation	03/09/13	£450
	Grange Road Methodist Church Donation	03/09/13	£192
	Lynnfield COOL Project	19/09/13	£572
	Hart Lane Fencing	19/09/13	£288
	Friends of St Joseph's Court Christmas Activity	21/10/13	£458
	Healthy Wellbeing Group – ESOL Classes	21/10/13	£400
	U3A Donation	21/10/13	£300
	Hartlepool Chinese Association Contribution	19/11/13	£500
	Dent/Derwent Residents Association Contribution	19/11/13	£300
	Stranton Bowling Club Donation	19/11/13	£100
	HVDA Contribution	19/12/13 28/01/14	£3,000
	Breathe Easy Group Contribution	28/01/14	£110
	GATACS Contribution	28/01/14	£600
	Wharton Trust Contribution	28/01/14	£155
	First Stroke Association Contribution	28/01/14	£150
	Hartlepool Access Group Contribution	28/01/14	£1,500
	Hartlepool PATCH Contribution	28/02/14	£750
	Hartlepool Hospice Security Scheme Contribution	28/02/14	£500
	Brougham Primary School Contribution	28/02/14	£600
	Friends of North Cemetery Contribution	28/02/14	£375
	St Joseph's Court Contribution	28/02/14	£600
	Headland History Group	28/02/14	£450
	RASC & RST (Royal Army Service Corps and Royal Corps of Transport) Contribution	28/02/14	£100
	Grange Road Friendship Club Contribution	28/02/14	£250
	CARA Contribution	28/02/14	£308
	St Luke's Contribution	28/02/14	£138
	Asylum Seeker & Refugee Group Donation	28/02/14	£218
	ABC Residents Contribution	28/02/14	£218
	LARA Contribution	28/02/14	£218
	Thornton / Mitchell Street Residents Contribution	28/02/14	£218
	Dent/Derwent Residents Association Contribution	28/02/14	£218

*Succeeded by Councillor Allan Barclay on 15 August 2013.

Ward Member Budget Overview 2013/14

Ward Councillor	Carryover from 12/13	Funding Available 13/14	Funding Approved 13/14	Total Funding Remaining
Burn Valley				
Councillor Jonathan Brash	£113	£5,000	£5,113	-
Councillor Ged Hall	-	£5,000	£5,000	-
Councillor John Lauderdale	-	£5,000	£5,000	-
Fens and Rossmere				
Councillor Steve Gibbon	£965	£5,000	£5,962	£3.00
Councillor Alison Lilley	£960	£5,000	£5,962	-£2.00
Councillor Geoff Lilley	£960	£5,000	£5,962	-£2.00
Foggy Furze				
Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher	£169	£5,000	£5,169	-
Councillor Kevin Cranney	£1,374	£5,000	£6,374	-
Councillor Kaylee Sirs	£1,373	£5,000	£6,373	-
Manor House				
Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher	£2,950	£5,000	£7,950	-
Councillor Marjorie James	£4,250	£5,000	£9,250	-
Councillors Angie Wilcox / Allan Barclay	-	£5,000	£5,000	-
Rural West				
Councillor George Morris	£3,745	£5,000	£8,745	-
Councillor Brenda Loynes	£3,665	£5,000	£8,665	-
Councillor Ray Wells	£3,995	£5,000	£8,995	-
Victoria				
Councillor Pamela Hargreaves	£1,084	£5,000	£6,084	-
Councillor Carl Richardson	£1,084	£5,000	£6,084	-
Councillor Chris Simmons	£1,084	£5,000	£6,084	-
TOTAL	£27,771	£90,000	£117,772	-£1.00