

NORTH AND COASTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM AGENDA



Wednesday 16th July 2014

at 10.00am

in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: NORTH AND COASTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM:

Councillors Ainslie, Atkinson, Beck, Cook, Dawkins, Fleet, Griffin, Hind, Jackson, Payne, Riddle, Robinson, Springer, Thomas 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 meeting held on 2nd April 2014
 - 4.2 Matters arising.
- 5. ASK THE POLICY 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 Selective Licensing Consultation – *Assistant Director (Regeneration)*
- 8.2 Middle Warren Play Park (Verbal update) – *Councillor Paul Beck*

9. WARD MEMBER BUDGETS

- 9.1 Ward Member Budgets 2014/15 – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

11. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 15th October 2014 at 2.00pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

NORTH AND COASTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM MINUTES 2nd April 2014

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

Present:

Chair:	Councillor Sylvia Tempest	- De Bruce
Vice Chair:	Councillor Paul Beck	- Hart
	Councillor Jim Ainslie	- Headland and Harbour
	Councillor Rob Cook	- De Bruce
	Councillor Keith Fisher	- Hart
	Councillor Mary Fleet	- Jesmond
	Councillor Sheila Griffin	- De Bruce
	Councillor Peter Jackson	- Headland and Harbour
	Councillor Robbie Payne	- Headland and Harbour
	Councillor Jean Robinson	- Hart
	Councillor Linda Shields	- Jesmond

Also present: Councillors Kevin Cranney and Chris Simmons

Public: R Campbell, Malcolm Husband, Sue McBride, Iris Ryder, Joan Steel, Ian Stewart, W Templeton, Cath Torley

Officers: David Frame, Neighbourhood Manager
Joan Stevens, Scrutiny Manager
Adele Wilson, Community Development and Regeneration Coordinator
Ann Callaghan, Neighbourhood Development Officer
Julie Hetherington, Neighbourhood Support Officer
Garry Jones, Neighbourhood Services Officer
Sue McBride, Neighbourhood Development Officer
Jo Stubbs, Democratic Services Officer

Police Representative: Inspector Mal Suggitt

Housing Hartlepool Representative: Janis Ledger

30. Councillor Cath Hill

Prior to the commencement of the meeting a minutes silence was held in memory of Councillor Cath Hill

31. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were submitted by Councillors Kelly Atkinson and Keith Dawkins

32. Declarations of Interest

None

33. Presentation by the Chair of Children's Services Committee

The Chair of Children's Services Committee, Councillor Chris Simmons, updated residents on the work carried out by the Children's Services Department. Children's Services has a £19 million budget and use it to provide education services and children's services. However recent Government cuts mean that this budget would decrease by at least £1 million by 2016. Councillor Simmons highlighted some of the Department's achievements in 2013/14. These included exceptional OFSTED results, continued improvements in GCSE results and the provision of a new care home for vulnerable children. Hartlepool had been ranked the second most improved local authority in England for GCSE results with the most improved secondary school (Dyke House) in the country. Nursery provision in Hartlepool had been expanded and healthy activity programmes for young people had been introduced including free school swims. There had been an increase in the number of apprentices taken on by Hartlepool Borough Council and funding had recently been secured to carry out improvements to 3 of Hartlepool's schools. The ultimate aim of the department was to have all schools in Hartlepool to have a minimal OFSTED ranking of 'good' by December 2015. They also hoped to improve the careers programme, tackle youth employment and extend nursery provision for 2-year-olds.

The following issues were then raised:

A resident referred to the recent closure of Seaton Carew nursery school and subsequent opening of a nursery at Holy Trinity School. She felt that by opening a Church of England nursery parents' choice in terms of a religious education was being taken from them. Councillor Simmons disputed this saying there was no requirement for children at the nursery to attend church or be a practising Christian. Seaton Carew Nursery had been performing badly at great expense to the Council whereas this offered parents the chance to send their children to a brand new outstanding nursery. A Councillor queried whether all those children who attended the nursery at Holy Trinity would be given a place at the school. Councillor Simmons advised that a place at the nursery did not guarantee a place at the school. However there was a catchment area policy in place and it was hoped that as many Seaton children as possible would be given a place at the school.

A resident commented that whilst the town's primary schools were acknowledged as being good standards tended to reduce in secondary schools. She queried whether high unemployment figures were giving children nothing to aim for. Councillor Simmons felt that aspiration was certainly a factor but schools were trying to teach children the importance of education as a general concept rather than a means to an end. The expense of keeping children in education was also highlighted as a major issue for parents. Councillor Simmons believed this was caused by short term changes on the part of successive Governments and there should be less interference. A Councillor felt every effort should be made to bring apprenticeships to Hartlepool in an effort to reduce the youth unemployment rates

A Councillor referred to 3 schools in Hartlepool which were underachieving and asked what the timescales were for their improvement. Councillor Simmons advised that these schools were all working extremely hard but improvements would not come overnight. Nevertheless OFSTED felt 1 school would have made the necessary improvements by September 2014 and Councillor Simmons believed the December 2015 deadline was achievable in all 3 cases.

Concerns were also raised that Key Stage 2 grades given at primary schools tended to be somewhat disputed by secondary schools. Councillor Simmons indicated that this needed to be addressed nationally and that the outcomes of a universal test should be trusted. A resident commented that schools tended to teach children solely to pass exams but Councillor Simmons felt this happened at all times of life not just in primary schools. Nevertheless education needed to have a broader brief than the ability to successfully pass tests.

A Councillor queried whether academies received HBC services free of charge. Councillor Simmons advised that services provided to academies by the Council were charged at their normal cost plus overheads so there was no cost to the Council. Nevertheless HBC would continue to support academies as they were ultimately responsible for the standard of education being delivered by them.

A Councillor highlighted the problem of non-attendance at schools and queried how those children would be able to put their views across. Councillor Simmons disputed that there were large numbers of children regularly playing truant saying that the vast majority of children were in school most of the time. Those that were not would be identified and targeted by the Youth Participation Team. Another Councillor echoed these concerns saying fining people for taking their children on holiday was the tip of the iceberg.

A Councillor queried at what point careers advisors were brought into schools to talk to the children. Councillor Simmons indicated that careers advice was given in Year 9 during the options stage.

The Chair thanked the Chair of Children's Services Committee for attending the meeting and answering questions.

34. Public Questions to Policy Committee Chairs

Regeneration Services Committee
No issues

Adult Services Committee
No issues

Neighbourhood Services Committee

A Councillor highlighted a problem with a dangerous pothole outside Powlett Road flats. The Neighbourhood Services Officer would ensure repairs were being progressed.

Finance and Policy Committee
No issues

35. Minutes of the meeting held on 11th December 2013

Approved – subject to the removal of Councillor Jim Ainslie from the list of apologies.

36. Matters Arising

None

37. Minutes of the joint North and Coastal & South and Central Neighbourhood Forum meeting held on 6th March 2014

Approved – with the correction that the 'development site' accessed off Coronation Drive was actually a recycling site rather than a housing development

38. Matters Arising

None

39. Public Question Time and Ward Issues

A resident referred to a new housing development being built on King Oswy Drive commenting that the wagons being used by the builders were damaging the footpath. The Neighbourhood Services Officer would speak

to the contractors and arrange for any necessary repairs to be carried out. A Councillor requested an assurance that any repairs would be paid for by the developer. The Neighbourhood Manager to advise the relevant department.

A resident queried whether there were any plans to clear up the walkway from the Headland going past the Central Estate. Of particular concern was overhanging thorn bushes causing a potential hazard to cyclists and children in pushchairs. The Neighbourhood Services Officer to investigate.

A resident highlighted a problem with a van parking illegally across a cycle track on King Oswy Drive at night. The Neighbourhood Manager to arrange for an inspection to be carried out. The PCSOs for that area would also be contacted.

A resident advised that 3 streetlights on Chester Road were currently out of action. Similar problems were also reported on the sea front near Wainwright Walk and Coronation Drive. The Neighbourhood Services Officer to speak to residents after the meeting to ascertain exact locations and progress repairs as soon as possible. The Chair reminded residents that their Ward Councillors were always available to raise such issues in the future if progress was slow. A resident queried whether the slow rate of repair was due to the imminent switch to LED lighting. The Neighbourhood Services Officer would investigate this and report back.

A resident referred to the recent closure of a number of businesses on the Marina asking whether Council officials could meet with Mandale regarding this. The Chair of Regeneration Services Committee advised that he would investigate whether there had been negotiations between Mandale and the Regeneration Department as a compromise was needed to ensure businesses remained viable and local jobs were retained.

40. Cleveland Police Presentation

Inspector Mal Suggitt gave a brief presentation on the work of Cleveland Police in light of recent structural changes to the organisation. Government funding cutbacks meant the force had been amalgamated into 4 different commands – Operations, Tasking Co-ordination & Performance, Crime & Justice and Neighbourhood Policing & Partnerships. Neighbourhood Policing and Partnerships in Hartlepool was headed by Chief Inspector Beeston over viewing the South and Central Wards, North and Coastal Wards and general Volume Crime. These changes had been implemented in November 2013 and had so far shown significant improvements in terms of intelligence sharing, officer skill sets and increased patrol time. Officers had expressed their support for the changes due to the larger variety of work it allowed them to undertake despite the reduction in rest days which had resulted.

In terms of performance there had been an overall 3.9% reduction in crime for the previous year, with burglaries down by 9.8% and non-dwelling burglaries down by 10%. However there had been increases in shoplifting (9%) and vehicle crime (9%). In the case of the latter the majority of these

were caused by cars being left unlocked overnight. Specific detail on crime and issues in each of the wards was also given.

A Councillor was of the opinion that the increases in crime were as a direct result of Government cutbacks leading to the loss of 17 PCSOs. Residents were already noting the lack of visible PCSO presence in the wards. The Police and Crime Commissioner had told a previous meeting that Neighbourhood Policing was a priority but that did not seem to be the case. Inspector Suggitt disputed this saying Neighbourhood Policing continued to be a priority albeit he acknowledged that PCSOs would be less visible than previously. However this may have been due their patrolling less busy areas at that time. Hartlepool had been extremely fortunate in the past with the amount of funding and number of officers allocated to it. Inspector Suggitt also felt that the recent increase in crime may have been due to offenders being released back into the community

The Vice-Chair queried the presence of PCSOs in local supermarkets for extended periods of time. Inspector Suggitt highlighted the 9% increase in shoplifting saying this was about prevention and targeting areas where there was a need.

A resident highlighted the lack of acknowledgment of the contribution made by the Neighbourhood Watch in the presentation. Inspector Suggitt apologised for this oversight but explained that he had been unable to list all the organisations which worked in partnership with the police in such a brief presentation.

A Councillor criticised the recent actions of Cleveland Police in applying an increase to their Council Tax precept when the Council had frozen Council Tax, particularly given the reductions in PCSOs across Hartlepool. He queried whether the increase in crime was due to repeat offenders or if those of previously good character were forced into crime due to austerity. Inspector Suggitt felt it tended to be repeat offenders. He acknowledged the comments regarding the precept and cuts but reassured those present that officers would continue to do their best.

A Councillor asked whether there were plans in place for any pilot schemes in the future particularly in light of the recent restructure. Inspector Suggitt said there were not.

A Councillor criticised the current prison system and lack of action taken against repeat offenders. Inspector Suggitt sympathised but his job was to put offenders behind bars. Any action taken after that was outside of his remit. A Councillor highlighted a reoffending conference which was due to take place at Hartlepool College of Further Education the following day.

A Councillor referred to rumours that a Tees Valley MP was in favour of abolishing Cleveland Police. Inspector Suggitt indicated that he was not in a position of such seniority as to have been party to such discussions but was not unduly concerned. Should such actions be taken there would be

little change to day to day policing, the only change would be the name of the person in charge.

The Chair thanked Inspector Suggitt for attending the meeting and answering questions.

41. Ward Member Budgets (Assistant Director (Neighbourhoods))

The report outlined the current position in relation to Ward Member Budgets in the North and Coastal Neighbourhood Forum area encompassing De Bruce, Hart, Headland & Harbour, Jesmond and Seaton wards.

All Ward Members were allocated £5,500 in 2012/13 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. In February 2014 Council had agreed that the Ward Member Budget allocation of £5,000 be ringfenced by 20% (£1,000 per ward member) for the continuation of the Environmental Apprenticeship Scheme and that any unspent funds from the previous allocations be set aside and utilised to continue the Ward Member Budget programme post 2014/15.

Decision

That the report be noted

4.2 Any other business which the Chair considers urgent

A Councillor highlighted that this was the final meeting of the Forum for both the Chair and the Neighbourhood Manager. Members paid tribute to both and both thanked members for their kind comments, with the Chair in particular thanking those committee chairs and officers who had attended during the previous year.

A Councillor advised those present of the forthcoming open day for the Middle Warren play area on Saturday 10th May. The Chairman of the Council would perform the opening ceremony which would feature face painting, food stalls and representative from Cleveland Police and Fire Brigade amongst other things. Hartfields Retirement Village had agreed to allow the use of their facilities on the day.

A Resident queried why the fire brigade were not in attendance. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that they had been invited but were not in attendance. At the previous meeting they had given an update

presentation.

The meeting concluded at 4.00pm.

CHAIR

NORTH AND COASTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

16 July 2014



Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration)

Subject: SELECTIVE LICENSING CONSULTATION

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 For information only.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 At their meeting in May 2014 Members of the Regeneration Services Committee gave approval for consideration of a new Selective Licensing scheme for private landlords in priority areas of the town and accordingly, also gave approval for the mandatory consultation to be carried out.

2.2 This report provides the Forum with the details of the comprehensive and extensive consultation which complies with prescribed Government guidance and is necessary in order to pursue the proposal to introduce a new Selective Licensing designation.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The aim of Selective Licensing is to improve and raise the standards of management within the private rented sector, by the regulation of landlords through a mandatory licensing scheme. The scheme allows the authority to require all private landlords operating within a designated area to obtain a licence for each property and subsequently to demonstrate compliance with a range of prescribed conditions, relating to acceptable management standards.

3.2 Although landlords are already required by law to comply with an extensive range of regulations, in the absence of a licensing scheme, they are relatively 'free' to choose whether or not they comply and some may continue to operate unchecked. Indeed, some inexperienced or 'amateur' landlords operating in the town may not even be aware that they are obliged to meet any legal requirements, particularly those who have become an 'accidental landlord', as there is no prerequisite acceptable standard of

knowledge and / or awareness required of anyone wishing to enter this line of business and become a landlord.

- 3.3 There are also significant areas of tenancy management which are not subject to any existing primary legislation and licensing provides the opportunity to ensure that, where this is the case, recognised best practice is implemented across the board by all landlords, regardless of their experience or professional status.

4. THE PROPOSED SCHEME

- 4.1 The proposal for a further licensing scheme for private landlords is detailed within the main consultation document and will be available at the meeting.
- 4.2 The legislation governing Selective Licensing allows local authorities to introduce a scheme where there is robust evidence in relation to the area to satisfy one or both of the prescribed general conditions relating to low housing demand and anti-social behaviour. The proposed streets are also detailed within the consultation document.

5. CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 5.1 The Selective Licensing Consultation is scheduled to run for a minimum of ten weeks and is due to begin on 1st July 2014.
- 5.2 The Consultation has been carefully planned and managed in order to ensure that all parties likely to be affected by a new designation will be given the opportunity to shape the outcome of the final proposals for the scheme. The final proposal to designate a Selective Licensing Scheme will then be prepared for consideration by Members and will include the evidence supporting the proposal alongside the outcome to the consultation process.
- 5.3 It should be noted that at the end of the consultation exercise there is a legal obligation placed on the authority to consider representations and respond accordingly before a final decision to designate is made. In the event that any designation is implemented without remedying any defective element of the proposed scheme, there is a real risk to the authority, through a Judicial Review, to have the scheme quashed by the court. This would obviously also incur substantial irrecoverable costs to the Council.

6. TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION PROGRAMME

- 6.1 The following table details the consultation events planned at the time of writing this report, additional dates and venues may also be organised throughout the consultation period as required;

Belle Vue Community Centre	17 th July - 10am to 12pm
Belle Vue Community Centre	7 th August - 3pm to 5pm
Burbank Community Centre	23 rd July - 11am to 1pm
Owton Manor Library	5 th August - 10am to 12pm
St Mathews Hall ,	31 st July -10am to 12 pm
Salaam Community Centre	11 th August -1am to 3pm
Mill House Leisure Centre	14 th July -11am to 1pm
Mill House Leisure Centre	20 th August – 12pm to 2pm
Central Library	28 th July -10am to 5:30pm
Central Library	28 th August -10am to 5:30pm
'Face the Public' - Middleton Grange Shopping Centre	15 th August -10am to 3pm

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Up until April 2010, a scheme could only be implemented following approval by the Secretary of State, however local authorities can now approve Selective Licensing Schemes themselves. It should be noted that local authorities are still expected to competently evaluate proposals and ensure the necessary requirements have been met before making a designation.
- 7.2 Any new designation may be the subject to legal challenge, by Judicial Review. This is a type of court proceeding in which a Judge must review the lawfulness of a decision or action by a public body. It will focus on the way in which the decision was made and whether the correct procedures have been followed rather than the conclusions. Challenges could arise for example on the grounds of:
- Failure to provide robust evidence in support of the final 'Proposal to Designate a Selective Licensing Scheme'; or
 - Failure to properly consult on the proposal(s).

8. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 The introduction of Selective Licensing has financial implications for the Council in terms of cash-flow. The law allows local authorities to recover the costs of performing the function of a Selective Licensing Scheme, through licence fees however, it is not allowed to use the income to deliver or subsidise other services and must not 'make a profit' from it.
- 8.2 The associated costs will depend on the size of the scheme however, fees will be set to recover costs and therefore the scheme is expected to be budget neutral to the Council over the lifetime of the scheme. The resource implications associated with any enforcement activity related to unlicensed properties will be covered by existing capacity within the service, resourced by the Council's General Fund. Legal fees would be paid from the general Housing Services budget.

9. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.1 There are no staffing considerations in relation to this consultation.

10. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 10.1 There are no asset management considerations in relation to this consultation.

11. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 11.1 The Consultation is being carried out according to the guidelines set out by government and will comply with all equality and diversity considerations.

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

- 12.1 The implementation of a further Selective Licensing designation is likely to contribute to reductions in crime and anti-social behaviour.

13. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13.1 The North and Coastal Neighbourhood Forum are asked to note the contents of the report.

14. CONTACT OFFICER

Damien Wilson
Assistant Director (Regeneration)
Level 3
Civic Centre
Hartlepool
TS24 8AY

Tel: (01429) 523400
E-mail: damien.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk

Lynda Igoe
Principal Housing Advice Officer
Housing Options Centre
Park Tower
Park Road
Hartlepool
TS24 7PT

Tel: (01429) 284177

Email: lynda.igoe@hartlepool.gov.uk

NORTH AND COASTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

16 July 2014



Report of: Director of Regeneration & Neighbourhoods

Subject: WARD MEMBER BUDGETS 2014/15

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 North and Coastal Neighbourhood Forum area, encompassing De Bruce, Hart, Headland and Harbour, Jesmond and Seaton wards.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 On 30 April 2012, Ward Member Budgets and the associated application and approval framework were approved by Cabinet. 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.
- 3.2 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 is taken to Neighbourhoods Committee for information.

4. APPROVED SCHEMES

- 4.1 Attached at **Appendix A** is a breakdown of spend to date in relation to each of the Ward Members Budgets in 2014/15. Attached at **Appendix B** is a running total of Ward Councillors' budgets to date for 2014/15.

5. UNAPPROVED SCHEMES

- 5.1 There are no unapproved schemes to report at this stage.

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 Neighbourhood Services 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 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.

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

8. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 On 14 February 2013, Council approved a recommendation from Members (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 6 February 2014, Full Council agreed a further allocation of £5,000 per Ward Member for 2014/15, top slicing 20% (£1,000) to continue the Environmental Apprenticeship Scheme for a further year.

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

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

Denise Ogden
Director of Regeneration & Neighbourhoods
Level 3
Civic Centre
Hartlepool
TS24 8AY

Tel: (01429) 523300
E-mail: denise.ogden@hartlepool.gov.uk

Clare Clark
Head of Community Safety and Engagement
Level 4
Civic Centre
Hartlepool
TS24 8AY

Tel: (01429) 523100
E-mail: clare.clark@hartlepool.gov.uk

APPENDIX A

Ward Member Budget Spend 2014/15

Ward Councillor	Nature of Scheme	Date Approved	Funding Approved
De Bruce			
Councillor Rob Cook	Hartlepool People Centre (Running Costs)	05.05.14	£100
	Hartlepool Male Voice Choir (Sound Equipment)	05.05.14	£500
	St. Luke's District Infant Welfare Mothers Club (Outings)	05.05.14	£100
	Kensington Court Social Group (Outing - Transport Cost)	05.05.14	£74
	West View Advice & Resource Centre (Macmillan Benefits Advice Service)	05.05.14	£500
	Hartlepool Youth Ministry (Outdoor Education Project)	06.05.14	£367
	Boys Brigade Camp	25.06.14	£100
Councillor Sheila Griffin	Hartlepool People Centre (Running Costs)	05.05.14	£100
	Hartlepool Male Voice Choir (Sound Equipment)	05.05.14	£500
	St. Luke's District Infant Welfare Mothers Club (Outings)	05.05.14	£100
	Kensington Court Social Group (Outing - Transport Cost)	05.05.14	£74
	West View Advice & Resource Centre (Macmillan Benefits Advice Service)	05.05.14	£500
	Hartlepool Youth Ministry (Outdoor Education Project)	06.05.14	£367
	Boys Brigade Camp	25.06.14	£100
Councillor Sylvia Tempest	West View Advice & Resource Centre (Macmillan Benefits Advice Service)	05.05.14	£500
	Hartlepool Male Voice Choir (Sound Equipment)	05.05.14	£100
	Kensington Court Social Group (Outing - Transport Cost)	05.05.14	£62
Councillor Stephen Thomas	Boys Brigade Camp	25.06.14	£100
Hart			
Councillor Paul Beck	Hartlepool Male Voice Choir (Sound Equipment)	05.05.14	£500
Jesmond			

Councillor Keith Dawkins	34th Hartlepool Guides, Brownies and Rainbows Units	16.04.14	£420
	Springwell School (Solar Panels)	23.05.14	£500
	Dyke House Sports & Technology College (Costumes)	23.05.14	£400
Councillor Mary Fleet	34th Hartlepool Guides, Brownies and Rainbows Units	16.04.14	£420
Councillor Linda Shields	34th Hartlepool Guides, Brownies and Rainbows Units	16.04.14	£420
Seaton			
Councillor Kelly Atkinson	Friends of Seaton Park (August Fun Day)	12.05.14	£750
	Dyke House Sports & Technology College (Costumes)	29.05.14	£250
Councillor Paul Thompson	Friends of Seaton Park (August Fun Day)	12.05.14	£750
	Dyke House Sports & Technology College (Costumes)	29.05.14	£250

APPENDIX B

Ward Member Budget Overview 2014/15

Ward Councillor	Funding Available 14/15	Funding Approved 14/15	Total Funding Remaining
De Bruce			
Councillor Rob Cook	£4,000	£1,741	£2,259
Councillor Sheila Griffin	£4,000	£1,741	£2,259
Councillor Steven Thomas	£4,000	£762*	£3,238
Hart			
Councillor Paul Beck	£4,000	£500	£3,500
Councillor David Riddle	£4,000	£-	£4,000
Councillor Jean Robinson	£4,000	£-	£4,000
Headland and Harbour			
Councillor Jim Ainslie	£4,000	£-	£4,000
Councillor Peter Jackson	£4,000	£-	£4,000
Councillor Robbie Payne	£4,000	£-	£4,000
Jesmond			
Councillor Keith Dawkins	£4,000	£1,320	£2,680
Councillor Mary Fleet	£4,000	£420	£3,580
Councillor George Springer	£4,000	£420*	£3,580
Seaton			
Councillor Kelly Atkinson	£4,000	£1,000	£3,000
Councillor Thomas Hind	£4,000	£-	£4,000
Councillor Paul Thompson	£4,000	£1,000	£3,000
TOTAL	£60,000	£8,904	£51,096

Please note that as outlined in Section 8.2, 20% of the total Ward Member Budget allocation was ring fenced for the delivery of the Environmental Apprenticeship Scheme in 2014/15; this leaves £4,000 per Ward Member available for expenditure this financial year.

*Expenditure was incurred prior to the Local Election held on 22 May 2014 by Councillors Sylvia Tempest (succeeded by Councillor Stephen Thomas) in De Bruce ward and Linda Shields (succeeded by Councillor George Springer) in Jesmond ward.