

# **NORTH AND COASTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM AGENDA**



**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

**at 10.00am**

**in Committee Room B, Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

**MEMBERS: NORTH AND COASTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM:**

Councillors Beck, Belcher, Black, Cook, Harrison, Hind, Jackson, Moore, Riddle, Robinson, Springer Tempest, Tennant, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016
  - 4.2 Matters arising.
- 5. ASK THE POLICY CHAIRS**
- 6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME and WARD ISSUES (maximum of 30 minutes)**



**7. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION**

7.1 Local Plan – Presentation – *Planning Policy Team Leader*

**8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR INFORMATION**

8.1 Police Update – Verbal Presentation – *Chief Inspector Lynn Beeston*

**9. WARD MEMBER BUDGETS**

9.1 Ward Member Budgets 2016/17 – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*

**10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT**

**11. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 5.30pm in the Civic Centre.



# **NORTH AND COASTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM MINUTES 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016**

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

## **Present:**

Chair:	Councillor Paul Beck	-	Hart
Vice Chair:	Rob Cook	-	De Bruce
	Councillor Jim Ainslie	-	Headland and Harbour
	Councillor Sandra Belcher	-	Jesmond
	Councillor Mary Fleet	-	Jesmond
	Councillor Sheila Griffin	-	De Bruce
	Councillor George Springer	-	Jesmond
	Councillor Steve Thomas	-	De Bruce
	Councillor Paul Thompson	-	Seaton

## **Also Present:**

Councillors Christopher Akers-Belcher, Alan Clark, Kevin Cranney and Marjorie James

Public: J. Beckenkraeger, Joseph Hall, Brenda Harrison, M. Husband, Aileen Kendon, John Lynch, John Maxwell, Peter Robinson, Iris Ryder, Joan Steel, Bob Steel, Ian Stewart, Cath Torley and Alan Vale

Cleveland Fire Brigade Representative: Ian Dixon

Wharton Trust Representative: Sacha Bedding

Officers: Clare Clark, Community Safety and Engagement Manager  
Phil Hepburn, Parking Services Manager  
Ann Callaghan, Neighbourhood Development Officer (North and Coastal)  
Sue McBride, Neighbourhood Development Officer (North and Coastal area)  
Jo Stubbs, Democratic Services Officer

## **68. Apologies for Absence**

None

**69. Declarations of Interest**

None

**70. Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

Minutes confirmed

**71. Matters Arising**

**King Oswy Drive traffic issues** – A resident reported that following a police presence parents appeared to have stopped parking directly outside St Hild's School. However they had taken to parking outside the newly-built bungalows. The Chair of Neighbourhood Services Committee (NSC) advised that discussions were ongoing between Council officers and members of the governing body of Barnard Grove regards parents parking in the smaller streets around the schools as this was causing problems for the residents.

**Civic Steps** – A member highlighted the urgent need for this work to be carried out. The Parking Services Manager indicated that the timing of the work was dependent on the availability of the funding however the Leader of the Council understood that it would be carried out during the 2015/16 financial year thanks to an under spend in the civic repairs budget. The Community Safety and Engagement Manager to update the Leader on this.

**Old Borough Cemetery** – A resident asked whether a report had come back on this issue and if so what it had found. The Parking Services Manager confirmed that the back wall was not the responsibility of the Council however he was aware of the problems and would feed those back to the developer.

**72. Minutes of the joint meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2016**

Approved

**73 Matters Arising**

None

## 74 Ask the Policy Chairs

### Neighbourhood Services Committee

The Chair of Neighbourhood Services Committee (NSC) was present and responded to the following query:

**Thornhill allotments** – A Councillor referred to problems with vandalism on the site and queried whether Council funding could be provided for the purchase of security cameras. The allotment holders would be happy to erect them themselves. The Chair of NSC was not prepared to pledge extra money for cctv in any allotment sites, regardless of who would erect them. The Parking Services Manager suggested that the allotment association could apply for grant funding. However both he and the Chair of NSC highlighted the legalities around covert cameras on Council land including the need for robust evidence. Any vandalism issues should be reported to the Council in the same way homeowners would be expected to report instances of anti-social behaviour

### Regeneration Services Committee

The Chair of the Regeneration Services Committee (RSC) was present and responded to the following query:

**Power station** – A resident referred to the extension of the power station contract to 2020 and asked whether enquiries had been made as to the possibility of compensation should the power station be required to close at short notice and business rates no longer applicable. The Chair of Regeneration Services Committee (RSC) advised that the Leader had recently spoken to the Secretary of State on this matter with no positive outcome.

### Finance and Policy Committee

The Chair of Finance and Policy Committee was present. There were no issues.

### Children's Services Committee

There were no issues

### Adult Services Committee

The Vice-Chair of Adult Services Committee was present. There were no issues.

## 75. Public Question Time and Ward Issues

### Seaton

**Resurfacing** – A resident referred to resurfacing work which had been carried out approximately 2 years ago as part of which the gate to a residence had been removed and never re-attached. Despite numerous phone call and letters to Council officers there had been no response. The Chair of NSC suggested that the resident contact her ward councillors regarding this issue. A Ward Councillor for Seaton was present and indicated he would pursue this.

### De Bruce

**Parking in bus lay bys** – A resident queried how many enforcement notices had been issued for drivers parking illegally in bus lay bys in the King Oswy and Brus areas. The Parking Services Manager indicated that these figures were available on the website but could be included for future Neighbourhood Forums. He further responded that taxis did not have a 15 minute exemption to park there and were subject to the same enforcement issues as regular drivers.

**Dog bin** – A dog foul bin outside the new housing development on King Oswy Drive had fallen to the bottom of the pole. The Chair of NSC would ask officers to adjust the bracket accordingly.

**Recycling** – Following a query from a resident the Chair of NSC confirmed that the blue box was being withdrawn and all items currently deposited in the blue box would go into the grey bin. This would take place across Hartlepool from 1<sup>st</sup> April. There would be no other changes. Potential savings could not be confirmed but there would be no increase in cost and hopefully an increase in quality as the service was being brought back in-house.

**School parking** – A resident raised issues around parents of children at St John Vianney Primary School and other schools in that area parking on the bend on King Oswy Drive. The Chair of NSC commented that this was an issue across the country. The camera car was despatched to schools during pick-ups and drop-offs regularly but could not be everywhere at once. Discussions were ongoing with the governors at Barnard Grove Primary School on potential ways to resolve these issues.

### Headland and Harbour

No issues

### Jesmond

**Powlett Road / Easington Road / Raby Road** – A Councillor raised serious concerns around problems with traffic in this area. These included a lack of time to utilise the crossing and open spaces across the new housing on Raby Road allowing children to run across a main road unhindered. The Parking Services Manager acknowledged these concerns, saying that the highways department would need to progress this.

#### Hart

The Vice-Chair asked whether something could be done about the lack of barriers protecting the play park and skate park from the Coast Road. The Parking Services Manager had visited this site and had asked the Parks and Recreation Department to identify any potential funding for this.

## 76. **Presentation by Dr Boleslaw Posmyk, Chair of Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group**

Dr Posmyk referred to the Local Health and Social Care Plan Working Group which had been set up in June 2015. Chaired independently its aim was to identify health and social care planning priorities for use in the development of a local plan for the delivery of integrated health and social care services across Hartlepool, including the University of Hartlepool Hospital site. Dr Posmyk highlighted a number of drivers for service change, including people living longer with complex health needs, reductions in budgets and an ageing health and social care workforce. Demographic challenges were also highlighted such as high levels of deprivation and unemployment and a decreasing working age population. A short animated video was played which showed an example of how service areas could be integrated to improve the patient's experience.

The following issues were then raised by those present:

**Hartlepool Hospital** – A resident referred to previous plans to extend the hospital and allow helicopters access. Dr Posmyk felt this demonstrated the need to change healthcare planning as circumstances change. Evidence had shown that helicopters should be used for major trauma transfers and these were best serviced by Newcastle and James Cook hospitals. The decision had been taken therefore that helicopter access to Hartlepool Hospital was not required.

**GP appointments** – Arrangements for booking GP appointments differ depending on which GP you are registered with. Could a more uniform service be provided? Dr Posmyk advised that the low number of GPs was a problem but the 111 service could book appointments for patients if they were deemed necessary and the GPs were obligated to provide them urgently. They were also required to provide 24-hour access to vulnerable patients. GP practices were also encouraged to provide appointments with

pharmacists if this was appropriate and GPs were not available.

**Prescriptions** – Residents experienced problems ordering prescriptions over the phone as the lines tended to be engaged. Dr Posmyk advised that repeat prescriptions could be ordered online through pharmacies and smaller practices would deliver repeat prescriptions. For those unable to access these services he advised that they phone the practice in the afternoon as the phone lines tended to be busy on the morning and staff would usually switch this type of work to the afternoon. In more urgent cases when pharmacies were closed or otherwise unavailable the minor ailments centre at the One Life complex did hold urgent items such as antibiotics and painkillers in stock so patients in need could access them if there were no pharmacies open. However these items could only be accessed during pharmacy shut down or if it was felt they would make a legitimate difference to the patient within the next few hours.

**Finances** – Members expressed their support in principle for the integration of social services and keeping people in their own homes but this would not come cheap and there would be a £10.9 million deficit in social care funding by 2020. There needed to be more connection between healthcare and social services as well as more funding. Dr Posmyk agreed with this assessment saying the process had already begun through the shifting of funding into the Better Care Fund.

**Healthcare priorities** – Given funding reductions what were the priorities for the CCG? Dr Posmyk advised that they prioritised tackling issues such as diabetes and smoking cessation. If people were kept fitter for longer they were able to more for themselves and would not need social care. There were limits on the amount of money and number of professionals available to deliver services.

**Legal action** – The Council had threatened legal action against the Trust. What impact would this have on the recruitment of GPs? Dr Posmyk indicated that as GPs were not directly employed by the Trust any legal action would have no impact. Of more importance to medical professionals looking for employment was professional satisfaction, the ability to help people in need and the availability of senior clerical support.

**Accessibility of services** – There were less services available to the people of Hartlepool and East Durham than those living in Stockton and Middlesbrough. Dr Posmyk disputed this saying major services were accessible to all when they were needed. While major trauma was centred at James Cook the One Life complex provided a reasonably integrated service to deal with minor injuries or ailments. This situation was no different to that experienced by all deprived areas across the region. Access to care was available 24/7 albeit outcomes reduced at weekends. However efforts were being made to rectify this.

**Local Health and Social Care Plan Working Group** – Members expressed their support for the positive aspects of the working group



meetings and the efforts being made to improve healthcare in Hartlepool. Criticism was levelled at the 111 service but the service provided by staff within James Cook Hospital was excellent. Existing staff needed to be encouraged to stay and junior doctors treated better. Dr Posmyk thanked members for their positive comments. He acknowledged that the 11 system could be better but patient use and feedback would help inform improvements.

The Chair thanked Dr Posmyk for attending the meeting and answering questions.

**77. Presentation on Combined Authority and Devolution**  
*(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

Deferred to the next meeting of the Forum

**78. Presentation of Dyke House Big Local Plan** *(Wharton Trust Manager)*

Dyke House Big Local is part of phase 2 of the Big Local Initiative covering Dyke House and the surrounding areas. Big Local is part of the Local Trust, an independent organisation working with £200 million from the Big Lottery Fund to improve communities by giving them the tools to better themselves. Dyke House had received a million pound investment over 10 years and following local consultation had identified the following priorities:

Learning and Skills Development  
Employment and Enterprise  
Environment  
Health and Welfare

Sacha Bedding from the Wharton Trust advised the forum what had actions the Dyke House Big Local had taken so far. These included sponsorship of 2 local people to study at Durham University and London, the transformation of the local church hall car park into an open access space for use by the community and a planned sculpture to celebrate a local World and Commonwealth Games Woman's Boxing Gold Medallist. The Partnership of the Big Local was comprised of 15 people and all were required to sign off on any proposals enabling group responsibility and decisions by consensus. For more information on the project residents were directed to the website [www.tenyearsfromnow.org.uk](http://www.tenyearsfromnow.org.uk).

Those present commended Mr Bedding on the project and the work which was taking place to make improvements to the area. The Chair thanked Mr Bedding for attending the meeting

## **79. Update by Cleveland Fire Brigade**

Ian Dixon from Cleveland Fire Brigade (CFB) gave a brief update on the implementation of new resources. These included refurbishments to the Headland fire station, building of the new CFB headquarters and a planned refurbishment to the Stranton fire station later in the year. He gave assurances that there would be no disruption to services during these changes.

The Chair thanked Mr Dixon for attending the meeting.

## **80. Ward Member Budgets 2015/16 – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods***

Members were informed of the current position relating to Ward Member Budgets in the South and Central Neighbourhood Forum area. Ward Member budgets and the associated application and approval framework had been approved by Members in April 2012. In 2014 Council had approved a budget of £4,000 per member for 2015/16 with a limit placed on the level of expenditure for each member prior to the May election of one-twelfth spend between 1st April and the date of the election.

### **Decision**

That the report be noted

The Chair noted that this was the last meeting of the Forum for this municipal year. He thanked Council officers and members for their hard work and the support they had given him as chair.

The meeting concluded at 4.10pm

CHAIR

# NORTH AND COASTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

15 June 2016



**Report of:** Director of Regeneration & Neighbourhoods

**Subject:** WARD MEMBER BUDGETS 2016/17

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## 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 Ward Member budgets were introduced in April 2012, they 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 with 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 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 Neighbourhood Services 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 2016/17. Attached at **Appendix B** is a running total of Ward Councillors' budgets to date for 2016/17.

## **5. UNAPPROVED SCHEMES**

- 5.1 All schemes were approved in this quarter to-date.

## **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. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 7.1 Ward Members will receive a budget of £4,500 each for 2016/17. In line with previous years there was a limit placed on the level of expenditure for each Ward Member prior to the Election in May i.e. all members were allocated 1/12<sup>th</sup> of their 2016/17 budget to spend between 1<sup>st</sup> April and the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2016. In addition, where Members carried over funds from 2015/16 into the current financial year, the same 1/12<sup>th</sup> restriction applied.
- 7.2 In considering the issues outlined in this report, Members are reminded that significant additional Government Grant cuts will be made over the period 2017/18 to 2019/20. As a result the Council will face a significant budget deficit for the next three years, the extent of which will depend on the level of Council Tax increases approved by Members over this period. Detailed proposals for achieving 2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20 budget reductions will need to be developed. Any additional budget pressures will increase the level of budget cuts which will need to be made and will need to be referred to the Finance and Policy Committee for consideration.

## **8. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 8.1 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). 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.

- 8.2 Ward Members 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 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 common law, specific legislation or statutory guidance. As such, the power of competence can be applied to working in the best interests of Hartlepool Borough Council's Ward Member Budgets.

## **9. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY**

- 9.1 There are no child and family poverty implications in this instance.

## **10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 10.1 There are no direct equality and diversity considerations in relation to Ward Member Budgets.

## **11. SECTION 17 OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 CONSIDERATIONS**

- 11.1 There are no Section 17 implications in this instance.

## **12. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS**

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

## **13. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

- 13.1 Asset management considerations are not applicable in this instance.

## **14. RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

## **15. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

**16. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 16.1 There are no background papers to this report.

**17. CONTACT OFFICER**

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## Ward Member Budget Spend 2016/17

Ward Councillor	Nature of Scheme	Date Approved	Funding Approved
<b>Hart</b>			
Councillor Paul Beck	Hart Parochial Church Council (Queen's 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration)	07.04.16	£150
	Asylum Seekers and Refugees Group (Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration)	17.05.16	£50
Councillor David Riddle	Hart Parochial Church Council (Queen's 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration)	07.04.16	£150
	Seaton Carew FC (Defibrillator cabinet and training)	17.05.16	£100
	Aeronauts Trampoline Club (Trampoline)	17.05.16	£250
	Red Dreams (Creative Crew Project)	17.05.16	£300
Councillor Jean Robinson	Hart Parochial Church Council (Queen's 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration)	07.04.16	£150
<b>Seaton</b>			
Councillor Paul Thompson	Seaton Carew FC (Defibrillator cabinet & associated training)	19.05.16	£900

## Ward Member Budget Overview 2016/17

Ward Councillor	Carryover from Previous Years	Funding Available 16/17	Funding Approved 16/17	Total Funding Remaining
De Bruce				
Councillor Rob Cook	To be confirmed	£4,500	-	£4,500
Councillor Brenda Harrison (formerly Councillor Sheila Griffin)		£4,500	-	£4,500
Councillor Steven Thomas		£4,500	-	£4,500
Hart				
Councillor Paul Beck	To be confirmed	£4,500	£200	£4,300
Councillor David Riddle		£4,500	£800	£3,700
Councillor Jean Robinson		£4,500	£150	£4,350
Headland and Harbour				
Councillor Shane Moore (formerly Councillor Jim Ainslie)	To be confirmed	£4,500	-	£4,500
Councillor Peter Jackson		£4,500	-	£4,500
Councillor Sylvia Tempest		£4,500	-	£4,500
Jesmond				
Councillor Sandra Belcher	To be confirmed	£4,500	-	£4,500
Councillor John Tennant (formerly Councillor Mary Fleet)		£4,500	-	£4,500
Councillor George Springer		£4,500	-	£4,500
Seaton				
Councillor Thomas Hind	To be confirmed	£4,500	-	£4,500
Councillor Paul Thompson		£4,500	£900	£3,600
Councillor James Black (formerly Councillor Kelly Atkinson)		£4,500	-	£4,500
TOTAL	TBC	£67,500	£2,050	£65,450