

NORTH AND COASTAL COMMUNITY FORUM



Wednesday 28 February 2018

at 1.00pm

in Committee Room B, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR: NORTH AND COASTAL COMMUNITY FORUM:

Councillors Beck, Belcher, Black, Cook, Fleming, Harrison, Hind, McLaughlin, Moore, Riddle, Robinson, Smith, Springer, Tennant and Thomas.

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 Neighbourhood Forum meetings held on 13 December 2017.

4.2 Matters arising.

5. QUESTIONS FOR THE POLICE

6. FIRE SERVICE UPDATE

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

8. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION

No items



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

- 9.1 Brus Tunnel/Pathway Issues – Verbal Update – *Team Leader (Enforcement Services)*

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

Next meeting – To be confirmed



NORTH AND COASTAL COMMUNITY FORUM MINUTES

13th December 2017

The meeting commenced at 10.30am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Chair: Councillor Brenda Harrison - De Bruce

Vice Chair: Councillor Paul Beck - Hart

Councillor Rob Cook - De Bruce

Councillor George Springer - Jesmond

Public: John Maxwell, Sue Little, S Nicholson and Alan Vale

Police Representatives: Chief Inspector Mal Suggitt and Inspector Darren Bainbridge

Officers: Clare Clark, Community Safety and Engagement Manager
Peter Frost, Highways, Traffic and Transport Team Leader
Phil Hepburn, Team Leader (Enforcement Services)
Kate Ainger, Projects Officer
Irene Cross, Neighbourhood Development Officer (Central)
Jo Stubbs, Democratic Services Officer

16. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were submitted by Councillor John Tennant.

17. Declarations of Interest

None

18. Minutes of the meeting held on 18th October 2017

The minutes were approved subject to the amendment of Arctic Crescent in Public Question Time and Ward Issues to Arkley Crescent.

19. Questions for the Police

Chief Inspector Mal Suggitt was present and invited questions from the public:

Gun crime - In light of a recent armed robbery at a shop in Rossmere were there signs of an increase in gun related crime? Chief Inspector Suggitt advised that there were sporadic incidents but no particular upward trend to be concerned about.

Car crime – Was a recent spate in car crime in Seaton due to cuts in benefits? Chief Inspector Suggitt commented that this was not unique to Seaton and was an issue across Hartlepool. However the majority was caused by people failing to secure their vehicles properly or leaving valuables inside and visible. Electronic devices which could open cars without a key were available but so far had never been used in Hartlepool. He urged all owners to ensure their vehicles were locked at night and any valuable items removed.

Allotments – had any progress been made to discover the perpetrators of recent fires at Chester Road. Chief Inspector Suggitt was unaware of any fire being reported but there had been a number of burglaries. They had had some success in finding the culprits and would continue to work with the allotment holders. However the secluded nature of the allotments meant this was difficult.

Retirement – Chief Inspector Suggitt informed those present that he would be retiring from the force in April 2018 and as such his replacement, Inspector Darren Bainbridge, would be commencing a handover process from January. He introduced Inspector Bainbridge to those present. Inspector Bainbridge would now be attending these meetings.

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

20. Public Question Time and Ward Issues

Christmas trees – Residents queried why there was no Christmas tree on the Green at Seaton or in Hartlepool town centre. The Highways, Traffic and Transport Team Leader would investigate the matter and report back.

Fast food – A resident requested information on the Council's healthy eating initiative in the light of the number of fast food premises in Seaton. The Chair of Planning Committee confirmed that the Council did have a healthy eating strategy however previously applications which had been refused by the Council had been approved on appeal by the Planning Inspector. He suggested that residents contact the Council's Health Improvement Practitioner for further information.

Seaton community facilities – A resident requested an update on

previous pledges that following the closure of the youth club and sports hall community facilities would be provided in Seaton Park. A member suggested that the ward councillors be contacted regarding this.

Warrior Park – A resident noted that a pot hole at the bottom of Warrior Park had still not been filled in despite having been raised at a previous meeting. The Highways, Traffic and Transport Team Leader understood this work had been completed previously but would investigate.

Con men – A resident highlighted problems with people knocking on doors asking for payment for window cleaning and milk delivery which they had not carried out themselves.

Identity theft – A Councillor highlighted a spate of bins being emptied in the Marina area by criminals looking for personal documents to aid in identity theft. He suggested a article be placed in Hartbeat reminding the public to dispose of personal documentation properly. A resident suggested that the Council provide a secure shredding service.

Snow and Ice – Following the recent wintry weather problems were being experienced by a number of pedestrians due to pavements being icy underfoot, particularly the elderly. A number of solutions were proffered including more grit bins and more action by shop owners and home owners to remove snow and ice directly outside their property. Responsibility of developers for new build areas was also highlighted. The Highways, Traffic and Transport Team Leader confirmed that grit bins were placed based on criteria, one of which was a high concentration of elderly people.

Disposal of waste – A resident asked for information as to whether the introduction of charges for disposal of certain household waste had led to an increase in flytipping and if so what the cost of this had been. The Enforcement Services Team Leader advised that flytipping had been a problem before the introduction of these charges and had not increased noticeably. Confusion and uncertainty around what was charged for and the cost did not help and felt that a message on the side of the Council's bin wagons outlining the charges might be useful. A resident suggested that this information also be put into the next issue of Hartbeat.

21. **Update from Tees Valley Rural Community Council**

This item had been removed from the agenda as nobody from the organisation was available to attend

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and wished all a very nice Christmas

The meeting concluded at 11am.

CHAIR