

# **SOUTH AND CENTRAL COMMUNITY FORUM**



**Tuesday 26 June 2018**

**at 1.00pm**

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

**CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR: SOUTH AND CENTRAL COMMUNITY FORUM:**

Councillors C Akers-Belcher, S Akers-Belcher, Barclay, Buchan, Cranney, Hall, Hamilton, Hunter, James, Lauderdale, Lindridge, Loynes, Marshall, Morris, C Richardson, T Richardson, Trueman and Vacancy

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**
- 3. MINUTES**
  - 3.1 To confirm the minutes of the Community Forum meeting held on 28 February 2018.
  - 3.2 Matters arising.
- 4. QUESTIONS FOR THE POLICE**
- 5. FIRE SERVICE UPDATE**
- 6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME and WARD ISSUES (maximum of 30 minutes)**
- 7. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION**

No items
- 8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR INFORMATION**



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

**Next meeting** – Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 10.30am in Committee Room B



## **SOUTH AND CENTRAL COMMUNITY FORUM MINUTES**

28 February 2018

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

### **Present:**

- |             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                     |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Chair:      | Councillor Carl Richardson                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | - Victoria          |
| Vice Chair: | Councillor Jim Lindridge                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | - Fens and Rossmere |
|             | Councillor Bob Buchan                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | - Fens and Rossmere |
|             | Councillor Kevin Cranney                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | - Foggy Furze       |
|             | Councillor Ged Hall                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | - Burn Valley       |
| Public:     | Gordon and Stella Johnson, Peter Joyce, Sue Little, Julie Rudge and Tony Richardson                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                     |
| Officers:   | Clare Clark, Community Safety and Engagement Manager<br>Peter Frost, Highways, Traffic and Transport Team Leader<br>Rachel Parker, Community Safety Team Leader<br>Irene Cross, Community Cohesion Officer<br>Matthew Pearce, Projects Officer<br>Jo Stubbs, Democratic Services Officer |                     |

### **22. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were submitted by Councillors Allan Barclay, Ray Martin-Wells and George Morris.

### **23. Declarations of Interest**

None

### **24. Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

The minutes of the meeting were approved

### **25. Matters Arising**

None

## **26. Questions from the Police**

Cancelled as Police representatives were unable to attend due to the inclement weather.

## **27. Fire Service Update**

Cancelled as Fire Service representatives were unable to attend due to the inclement weather.

## **28. Public Question Time and Ward Issues**

**Rural West** – no questions

**Burn Valley** – no questions

**Victoria** – no questions

**Fens and Rossmere**

A resident highlighted problems with dog fouling in Rossmere Park particularly given the number of children that use the facilities. The Community Safety and Engagement Manager would ask the enforcement officers to attend the area, both inside and outside the park.

A resident referred to a walkabout he had attended in October with Ward Councillors and officers which had resulted in a number of actions to be taken. So far only 3 of those actions had been completed. Of particular concern was damage to metal seats in the park which had still not been repaired and was a potential risk to children. The Community Safety and Engagement Manager had been advised that these repairs had been completed as had all the other outstanding actions but she would ask officers to double check this. The Vice-Chair indicated that he had inspected the benches under discussion recently and felt that the work had been completed adequately however he would be happy to discuss the issue with the resident and visit the area so he could demonstrate the issues. The Vice-Chair would then report back to a future meeting of the Forum.

A resident highlighted problems with speeding traffic on Rossmere Way. This was an issue he had repeatedly reported to the Council in order to keep it a high priority however he had received a letter from the Council accusing him of being vexatious and instructing that his only contact point into the Council would now be via customer services. He felt this was a form of victimisation by the Council and would be seeking legal advice on the matter. As a former Resident Representative people tended to report any problems to him so any concerns he raised were based on what he was being told by residents who tended to be at work when Council meetings were held. He took attacks of this nature very personally and felt that the Council were being vexatious to him as a resident and taxpayer.

The Vice-Chair advised that the Fens and Rossmere Councillors held regular ward surgeries which residents were welcome to attend. In terms of concerns around speeding assessments had shown the area was not dangerous. The resident felt this was incorrect particularly in the case of children who might lose concentration when crossing. He requested that speed humps be installed however the Highways, Traffic and Transport Team Leader advised that as a main road speed humps could not be installed. He referred to a number of safety measures which had been put in place including chicanes and electronic signs but the resident felt these were insufficient.

A resident advised that he had also received a letter accusing him of being vexatious, this time relating to his requests for details of the monies spent in Rossmere Park and Ward Jackson Park, a request he had made under Freedom of Information. He referred to additional monies and staff being allocated to Ward Jackson Park and asked that some of the staff be diverted to Rossmere Park. He commented that there were more council taxpayers in Rossmere than in the Ward Jackson Park area. The Chair suggested he speak to the Chair or Vice-Chair of Neighbourhood Services Committee at Policy Chairs Question Time later that day.

**Foggy Furze – no questions**

A resident asked if another recycling leaflet could be sent out to residents detailing what could and could not be recycled.

The meeting concluded at 10:50am

CHAIR