

NORTH AND COASTAL COMMUNITY FORUM AGENDA



Tuesday 25th June

at 10.30am

in Committee Room B, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: NORTH AND COASTAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM:

Councillors Black, Brewer, Brown, Cassidy, King, Fleming, Harrison, Little, Moore, Prince, Robinson, Smith, Tennant, Thomas and Ward.

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**
- 3. MINUTES**
 - 3.1 To confirm the minutes of the Neighbourhood Forum meetings held on 12th March 2019
 - 3.2 Matters arising.
- 4. QUESTIONS FOR THE POLICE**
- 5. QUESTIONS FOR THE FIRE BRIGADE**
- 6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME and WARD ISSUES (maximum of 30 minutes)**
- 7. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION**
- 8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR INFORMATION**



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

Next meeting –

Tuesday 24th September at 1.00pm in Committee Room B



NORTH AND COASTAL COMMUNITY FORUM MINUTES

12 March 2019

The meeting commenced at 1.00pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

| | | |
|------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Chair: | Councillor Shane Moore | - Headland and Harbour |
| Vice-Chair | Councillor Brenda Harrison | - De Bruce |
| | Councillor James Brewer | - Hart |
| | Councillor Rob Cook | - De Bruce |
| | Councillor Sue Little | - Seaton |
| | Councillor John Tennant | - Jesmond |

Also present Councillor Kevin Cranney

Officers: Kieran Bostock, Transport and Infrastructure Manager
Phil Hepburn, Community Safety Operations Manager
Peter Frost, Highways, Traffic and Transport Team Leader
Matthew King, Planning Policy Team Leader
Rob Smith, Regeneration Team Leader
Brendon Colarossi, Principal Engineer (Construction)
Jo Stubbs, Democratic Services Officer

Police Representatives: Chief Inspector Nigel Burnell and Inspector Darren Bainbridge

Fire Brigade Representative: Darren Lane

Stagecoach Representatives: Shaun Anderson and Nathan Stanislawski

28. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were submitted by Councillors Tom Cassidy, Jean Robinson and Steve Thomas

29. Declarations of Interest

None

30. Minutes of the meeting held on 4th December 2018.

The minutes were approved

31. Matters Arising

A resident requested details of the results of the consultation into dogs being on leads on the North Sands. The Community Safety Operations Manager advised that a report on this matter had been considered by Neighbourhood Services Committee. He did not have the detail of what had been proposed or approved but believed any restrictions originally considered at North Sands had been removed from the final PSPO.

32. Seaton Regeneration Project

The Regeneration Team Leader gave a brief update on the current progress of the Seaton Regeneration Project. This was a £1.3million scheme on the seafront funded by the Coastal Communities Fund and Able UK. So far additions to the seafront included a children's play park and water play area, 2 pieces of artwork and multiple benches along the promenade. The bus station and clock tower had been refurbished and CCTV installed with plans to plant bulbs outside the tower at the appropriate time. A miniature golf course was due to open later in the month and beach huts were expected to be ready in time for Easter. The Leader of the Council also highlighted plans to extend the car park at Seaton to enable greater visitor numbers in the summer.

With respect to the Longscar Hall the Regeneration Team Leader advised that following the failed CPO legal notice had been served on the owners to repair or demolish the site. They had previously given an undertaking that they would take action within 16 months of the failure of the CPO process and had not done so. All options were being reviewed.

A Councillor noted that completion of the beach huts had been scheduled for September 2018. The Regeneration Team Leader acknowledged this but had been assured by Marshalls Beach Huts that the huts would be ready for the Easter break. He highlighted that booking of the huts would be run by an external company via a website and there would be staff on-site regularly for cleaning and other duties.

A Councillor advised that the jets in the water park had previously been broken. The Regeneration Team Leader indicated that repairs had been undertaken immediately and they would be retested prior to them being reopened.

The Chair thanked the Regeneration Team Leader for attending the meeting and answering questions.

33. Questions for the Police

Chief Inspector Nigel Burnell gave a brief update on the work being carried out by the police. This included the issuing of warrants, closure orders and community protection notices. Operation Endurance had seen the successful impounding of illegally held off-road vehicles, quad bikes and unlicensed vehicles. There had been an increase in usage of the domestic violence disclosure scheme. Efforts were being made to continue protecting residents and their neighbourhoods and updates were regularly posted on social media.

A Councillor referred to anti-social behaviour along Elizabeth Way in Seaton including windows being broken. Inspector Bainbridge urged residents to report any such issues as there was currently a trend of under-reporting which was leading to police resources being incorrectly deployed.

A resident queried why some residents association had a regular police presence at their meetings while others did not. Chief Inspector Burnell disputed that this was due to the affluence of certain areas and presumed the organisers had simply requested their presence on each occasion. He took details of the next meeting of the residents association in question. The Vice-Chair noted that PCSOs were now attending ward surgeries.

A resident referred to police systems which tracked the number of incidents in a particular area, noting that these had not been updated since December 2018.

A resident referred to off-road bikes being ridden in the De Bruce area, specifically Old Cemetery Road and the tunnel near Oaskway Trading Estate. Chief Inspector Burnell was aware of this and advised that Community Protection Warnings had been handed out.

A resident highlighted issues with illegal parking around school pick-up and drop-off times at Jesmond Gardens Primary School, caused by the gates being closed during construction of the new pre-school building. He noted that this had dropped significantly when PCSOs were present. Chief Inspector Burnell indicated that parking enforcement was the responsibility of the Community Safety Team and he would advise them of these concerns.

A Councillor referred to a request he had made at the previous meeting that information relating to the numbers of police personnel available across Hartlepool be disseminated via social media. This had been in response to a television report which had alleged that only 10 officers had been available during 1 particular shift. Chief Inspector Burnell recalled the request but had not disseminated the information as the Police and Crime Commissioner and other senior officers had responded at the time and he not felt it appropriate to add to their comments. The Councillor noted his support for the police but felt it was important that residents be made aware

that they were protected and resources were available when needed. The Vice-Chair reiterated these comments noting that the police were working under extremely difficult circumstances due to a lack of resources. Chief Inspector Burnell thanked them both for their support.

A Councillor referred to an increased police presence in Hart Village and thanked the police for their efforts. Chief Inspector Burnell noted that Operation Checkpoint, a rural crime initiative, was due to take place in the village soon, meaning the number of officers would continue to rise.

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

34. Questions for the Fire Brigade

Darren Lane, Community Liaison Officer for Cleveland Fire Brigade, gave a brief update on the work being undertaken by the Brigade. There had been a rise in deliberate fires, refuse fires and an increase in incidents of wheelie bins being set alight by kids getting high on the fumes. Efforts were being made to educate children as to the dangers of this through secondary school assemblies. Ways to secure bins to properties so they could not be removed were also being explored. A week of arson awareness would be taking place in Manor House ward involving leaflet drops and offers of Fire Home Safety Visits to the residents. They would also be reminded that household waste could still be taken to the recycling centre free of charge. Councillors also referred to arson problems around the sand dunes and embankments.

The Chair thanked Mr Lane for attending the meeting.

35. Public Question Time and Ward Issues

A resident referred to missing rotators on a number of crossings in Hartlepool which made it problematic for those with sight problems to use them, specifically crossings near Iceland and the Marina. The Highways, Traffic and Transport Team Leader to investigate

A resident highlighted problems with the structure of Admiral Court on West View Road / Cleveland Road including the removal of the steel housing from the walls and open windows. A Councillor advised that workmen had recently attended to secure the site however as it was privately owned there were limited to what the Council could do. This was a major problem in the town given the number of privately owned buildings and the cost of enforcement. The Community Safety Operations Manager reported that a priority list of vulnerable buildings was currently being formulated and Admiral Court would be in the top 10.

A Councillor requested an update on potential health and safety issues around the Seaton Domes. The Highways, Traffic and Transport Team

Leader was unaware of any such issues.

36. Stagecoach

Nathan Stanislawski, Operations Manager for Stagecoach on Teesside, was present with his colleague Shaun Anderson. He advised that the company were trying to become more integrated with the communities they served and as such invited those present to highlight any issues they might have with the services provided in order that solutions be found.

A Councillor queried what changes were proposed to the No 1 service to Middlesbrough. The Operations Manager advised that there were no changes.

A Councillor referred to roadworks potentially delaying services and asked what was due to combat this. The Operations Manager advised that there were made aware of ongoing roadworks by the local authority and took the appropriate action to plan for them including the introduction of additional vehicles where appropriate. In response to another query he advised that there were no plans to reintroduce a direct service to James Cook Hospital.

The Chair referred to the former No. 12 route linking the Headland to the Brus Ward and queried whether a similar route could be reintroduced, possibly incorporating the bottom half of the Marina. The Operations Manager felt it was unlikely that the No 12 route would be reintroduced but would be happy to look at other possibilities after the meeting.

A Councillor asked whether it would be possible to introduce a service from the Headland to West View, saying this would be a 'feather in their cap'. The Operations Manager could see no reason not to. The Councillor acknowledged that Stagecoach was first and foremost a business looking to make a profit and queried why the decision had been made to introduce a single fare system of £1.70 per journey regardless of how far. The Operations Manager advised that this was a pilot scheme aimed at making ticketing simple and encouraging greater use of buses. If it was successful it would be rolled out across the region. The Councillor noted that for families travelling a short distance this was a lot of money. The Operations Manager asked that residents wait for the results of the pilot and accompanying survey.

A resident asked whether the existing Throston Grange Lane service could be extended so that Wiltshire Way residents did not have to walk through the estate. The Operations Manager suggested he attend the next residents meeting to discuss possible routes.

The Chair thanked Mr Stanislawski and Mr Anderson for attending the meeting and answering questions. Business cards were left at the meeting and Councillors/residents invited to contact them should they wish to.

37. Headland Sea Defences

The Transport and Infrastructure Manager gave a brief update on the Headland Sea Defences Project. The bulk of the main work had been completed in October 2018 however it would not be possible for the final sealing to be completed until the weather improved. The fencing had been removed and promenade opened ahead of this final completion in order that residents be able to access the area. There had been issues with the ramp coping stone(s) over the winter months but these had been rectified. He acknowledged comments that the sealant was not completed saying this was indeed the case but it was dependent on weather conditions and the site had been opened prior to this final completion.

The Chair referred to a perception of increased noise and vibration by residents in nearby properties. The Transport and Infrastructure Manager could find no physical reason this might be happening and pledged the team would look into it following scheme completion.

A resident asked how long the work was guaranteed for. The Transport and Infrastructure Manager indicated the contractor had guaranteed the work for 1 year from final completion while the design life was for protection up to 1 in 100 years storms. The resident commented that the ramp did not feel secure and queried why the decision had been to install a ramp rather than steps. The Transport and Infrastructure Manager reported that a ramp had been requested by residents at a greater cost than steps. The Chair noted that the area had been opened at the request of fishermen however he acknowledged that it should have been made clear that the work was not completed. The Transport and Infrastructure Manager highlighted that the project had been shortlisted for a Civil Engineering award.

The Chair thanked the Transport and Infrastructure Manager for attending the meeting and answering questions.

The meeting concluded at 2.20pm

CHAIR