

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

SOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA



Friday, 1st December, 2006

at 10.00 a.m .

at Ow ton Manor Community Centre, Wynyard Road

MEMBERS: SOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM:

Councillors S Cook, Gibbon, Hill, James, Johnson, Lilley, A Marshall, Preece, Rayner, Turner, M Waller, Wistow and Young

Resident Representatives:

Ann Butterfield, Mary Green, Rosemarie Kennedy, Alison Lilley, Michael McKie, Iris Ryder and Michael Ward.

- 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**
- 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 3. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**
- 4. MINUTES**
 - 4.1 (a) To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 13th October, 2006 (attached)
 - (b) Matters arising from above.
 - (c) To receive for information the minutes of the South Police and Community Safety Forum held on 9th September 2006 (attached)
- 5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

6. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION

- 6.1 Fair Access to Care – Alan Dobby, Assistant Director (Support Services) (Adult and Community Services Department)
- 6.2 Building Schools for the Future (BSF) Update – Paul Briggs, Assistant Director (Resources and Support Services) (Children's Services Department) (Nominations from Members for Member representative on BSF Stakeholder Board)

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION INFORMATION

- 7.1 Presentation – 2007/08 Initial Budget and Council Tax Proposals – Chief Financial Officer
- 7.2 Presentation - Hartlepool Connect – Changes to the Civic Centre – Christine Armstrong (Office Services Manager) and Dale Owens (Contact Centre Manager)

8. WARD ISSUES

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN

10. DATES, TIMES AND VENUES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

- (a) Friday 12th January 2007 – South Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum commencing at 10am – venue to be notified
- (b) Friday 2nd February 2007 - South Neighbourhood Consultative Forum commencing at 10am at Owton Manor Community Centre, Wynyard Road.

WARDS

Fens
Greatham
Ow ton
Rossmere
Seaton

SOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM

13th October 2006

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



PRESENT:

Chair:	Councillor Mick Johnson	- Rossmere Ward
Vice Chair:	Mary Green	- Resident Representative
	Councillor Steve Gibbon	- Fens Ward
	Councillor C Hill	- Seaton Ward
	Councillor Marjorie James	- Ow ton Ward
	Councillor Ann Marshall	- Rossmere Ward
	Councillor Arthur Preece	- Fens Ward
	Councillor Maureen Waller	- Ow ton Ward

Resident Representatives: Ann Butterfield, Rosemarie Kennedy, Michael McKie, Iris Ryder and Michael Ward

Public: Mr Armstrong, Mr Arnold, Mrs D Clark, Ms D Emsell, Mrs E Grint, Mrs S Kell, Mr J Massey, Miss J Smith, Mrs J Unwin, Mrs A Weatherall

Officers: Chris Barlow, Principal Community Strategy Officer
Paul Briggs, Assistant Director of Children's Services
John Day, Neighbourhood Services Officer
David Frame, Neighbourhood Manager
Peter Frost, Traffic Team Leader
Alan Kell, Project Manager

Community Support Worker (HVDA) - Lesley Hall

Police Representatives: None

Housing Hartlepool Rep – Linda Krebbin

Primary Care Trust – Kevin Aston

25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors S Cook, Lilley, Rayner, Turner, Wistow, Young and from Resident Rep, Alison Lilley

26. ELECTED RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES

The Chairman welcomed the following recently elected resident representatives:- Ann Butterfield, Alison Lilley, Rosemarie Kennedy, Michael McKie and Michael Ward and re-appointed res reps Mary Green and Iris Ryder.

4.1(a)

27. MINUTES

- (a) The minutes of the last meeting held on 11 August 2006 were confirmed.
- (b) The minutes of the South Police and Community Safety Forum held on 8 September 2006 were deferred to the next meeting.

28. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Ownership of Quarry – A resident, Mr Massey, queried ownership of the quarry which had recently changed hands as he understood it was being used for disposal of asbestos. The Neighbourhood Manager to investigate this issue as a matter of urgency with all Members of the Forum to be notified of the outcome.

Cruelty to Chickens at Allotment Sites – A resident, Mrs Weatherall, expressed concern regarding allotment cabins being burnt resulting in the deaths of chickens. Her husband had attempted to report this to their local police office and was informed that they were too busy and was referred to Church Street police. She felt this situation was not acceptable and that the public should be able to report incidents of this type at any police office.

Pollution at Allotment Sites – Lesley Hall, Community Support Worker, advised that she was aware of pollution problems and was currently looking into this. She highlighted the difficulties faced by the police handling complaints which lay on the border. The Chair advised that he was meeting with allotment holders shortly when he would raise the security issues as well as take this up with the police. In investigating the issue the Chair would liaise with the Community Support Worker and the Neighbourhood Manager, the outcome of which would be reported to the next meeting of the Forum.

Garden Problems - Iris Ryder, Resident Representative, advised that a care worker who had previously reported a public garden problem had not received a response. The Chair reported that he had written to this lady, however, he would follow this up with a telephone call that evening. It was pointed out that this was a central forum issue and did not fall within the south forum.

Grass Cuttings on Public Footpath- Joan Smith, a resident, reported a complaint on behalf of an elderly lady from the Fens Ward in relation to grass cuttings being left on the footpath outside of her property. The Neighbourhood Manager suggested that any future problems be referred direct to him.

29. PRESENTATION – BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE – PUBLIC CONSULTATION – DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

The Children's Services Interim Assistant Director, Paul Briggs, gave a short version of his presentation on Building Schools for the Future. A copy of the Stage One Consultation Document was also made available for those present. The Assistant Director of Children's Services advised that the aim of the consultation was to share information with as wide an audience as possible and collect their views on possible ways forward.

In an overview, it was explained that funding was being made available for the following:

- Primary Capital Programme (for Primary Schools)
- Building Schools for the Future (for Secondary Schools)
- College Development

4.1(a)

Possibly with as much as £150m to be spent on Hartlepool's schools and colleges.

This first stage of consultation would run from the end of September to 3rd November. In addition to the Stage One Consultation Document, information could be viewed on the website bsf@hartlepool.gov.uk. Nine public meetings would be held in addition to three Neighbourhood Forums and meetings with key partners. It was reported that there were some hard decisions to be made but this was a fantastic chance to help the Council shape the future of secondary education in Hartlepool for generations to come. As the presentation at this meeting was quite short he encouraged people to come to one of the other consultation events in the area.

Included in the presentation were slides relating to the following and the Assistant Director of Children's Services expanded on each of these:

- What are we consulting about?
- BSF – The Main Facts
- Key Facts about Hartlepool Schools
- BSF – Some Key Issues

The Forum were advised that no decisions had yet been made. Further consultation would be undertaken, depending on the outcome of the first round.

Following the presentation the following questions/issues arose:

Iris Ryder reported confusion amongst members of the public in relation to the flyers recently circulated which referred to secondary schools. The public were not immediately aware that this issue referred to future school provision and affected children who were currently in

primary school education. The public did not realise that the same presentation was being delivered throughout the town. The Assistant Director of Children's Services agreed to prepare a press release. Councillor James suggested that the correct information be publicised on BBC Radio Cleveland.

The Assistant Director of Children's Services advised that a Project Board made up of Elected Members, representatives from schools, churches etc and a Stakeholder Board made up of teachers, chairs of governors, Elected Members from each Forum would be required. It was anticipated that the Stakeholder Board would meet by 1 December 2006.

Discussion ensued with regard to the timescale of meetings, consultation with end users and the need to determine which representatives from the Forum would serve on the Stakeholder Board.

The Chair thanked the officer for an informative presentation.

<p>30. COMMUNITY STRATEGY REVIEW 2006 – CHRIS BARLOW, PRINCIPAL COMMUNITY STRATEGY OFFICER</p>

The Principal Community Strategy Officer from the Hartlepool Partnership referred to the report and the Hartlepool Ambition Consultation 1st Draft that had been circulated to those present. The Forum were reminded of the presentation in June when the Community Strategy Review had been launched. Consultation over the summer had looked at the original strategy that had been produced back in 2002. There had been over 1100 responses to the questionnaire and those, as well as findings from a series of theme partnership workshops, had been taken into account in the 1st draft of the revised Community Strategy. This

4.1(a)

document was now out for consultation until Friday 17th November.

The Principal Community Strategy Officer advised that copies were also available from the website

www.hartlepoolpartnership.co.uk

or by contacting the team on 284147. The Principal Community Strategy Officer asked people to consider the questions set out in paragraph 7.3 of the report. He advised that people could send their comments directly to the team or complete the online questionnaire. Alternatively, if residents would like to talk to the team then there would be a number of drop-in sessions across the town. In the South area these would be at:

- Seaton Carew Branch Library, Station Lane on Monday 23 October 2006 – 6.00 pm – 7.00 pm
- Owton Manor Community Centre, Wynyard Road on Wednesday 25 October 2006 – 2.00 pm – 3.00 pm

Councillor James stated that there were pockets of deprivation in the Throston area, which, on the surface looked affluent and suggested that this taken into consideration. In response, the Principal Community Strategy Officer advised that the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy focused on nine of the Hartlepool Wards, some areas of which were included in the Neighbourhood Action Plan. Whilst they were wary of extending the boundary too much they did focus on the area that needed it. Throston had been added following consultation.

The Chair thanked the officer for his presentation.

31. VERBAL UPDATE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC ISSUES – NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES OFFICER
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John Day, Neighbourhood Services Officer, provided an update in relation to the following:-

- Additional dog bins for Rossmere Park had been organised and would be installed shortly.
- No Parking signs had been ordered and awaiting contractor to install.
- Kesteven/Ivanhoe – shrubs had been removed and cut back
- Parking Bays at Fens Shops - awaiting Storey Sons and Parker to carry out the works. They had indicated that the work could not commence until the Area Maintenance Officer was in post.
- Flytipping to rear of Macrae Road had been dealt with.
- Fens school field – discussions had taken place with the school and the rubbish had been removed. The situation would be monitored.

Councillor Waller was advised that the entrance to Owton Manor Primary school to tarmac the verges would be raised as part of the forum today.

Councillor Cook had previously reported inappropriate parking outside the fish shop at Seaton

The Chair advised that the dog bins issue had originally been raised by Annie Weatherall and Mary Green for the purpose of the minutes.

The Vice-Chair referred to parking problems at Owton Manor Lane to which the Traffic Team Leader advised that Scrutiny were currently investigating school safety issues. Resident

4.1(a)

Representative, Rose Kennedy queried if a 20mph speed limit would be feasible for Rossmere Way. The Traffic Team Leader agreed to look at this in accordance with government guidelines.

Resident Representative, Rose Kennedy highlighted similar problems at Calendar Road creating difficulties for the elderly. The Chair expressed a need for technical discussions with the Traffic Team Leader and the Forum to be updated on progress. The Community Support Worker requested that this information be provided to Rossmere Community Forum as well as other Councillors.

Iris Ryder, Resident Representative referred to traffic calming issues at Brierton Lane which had been reported two months ago. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that this would be considered as part of the overall traffic management of arterial routes to Catcote Road.

32. MINOR WORKS PROPOSALS – NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGER

The Forum were requested to recommend the following minor works schemes to the Portfolio Holder for approval:-

- Seaton Ward – Bulb Planting Scheme, Queen Street - Appendix B – Cost £626.00
- Greatham Ward – Street Lighting Scheme, Hill View - Appendix C Cost £5,000
- Seaton Ward – Street Lighting Scheme, Gillpark Grove - Appendix D – Cost £5,000
- Owton Ward – Verge Works, Wynyard Road – Appendix E – Cost £5,125

Decision - Following lengthy discussion the Forum agreed that the above schemes be recommended to the Regeneration and Liveability and Housing Portfolio Holder for approval.

33. WARD ISSUES

Proposed Road Works at Catcote Road - Mike Ward, Resident Representative queried what the impact would be as a result of the proposed road works at Catcote Road. The Traffic Team Leader advised that the overall scheme would take approximately 11 to 12 weeks, however, this would only affect traffic function for 3 to 4 weeks.

Improvements to the Clock Tower - Iris Ryder, Resident Representative advised that funds were required to improve the clock tower at Seaton. The Chair reported that this was discussed at the last Council meeting and the consensus was that friends of the Scrag Group were progressing this issue. The Chair suggested that the resident representatives and Local Ward Councillors liaise with Steve Burston and a progress report be provided to the next meeting of the Forum.

Councillor Hill expressed her disappointment that Seaton had to raise their own funds for improvements.

Additional litter bins – Mike McKie, Resident Representative, highlighted a need for additional litter bins outside the school opposite the Hope and Anchor and that existing litter bins be emptied more regularly. The Neighbourhood Services Manager to investigate.

The Vice Chair queried if the **cycle path on the corner of Catcote Road** could be shortened to reduce congestion. The Traffic Team Leader to investigate.

4.1(a)

Councillor James requested an update in relation to the **paths at Rossmere Park** to which the Chair advised that £10,000 had been granted and works were due to commence within one month.

Councillor James expressed concern regarding **illegal parking in front of the Wynyard Road shops** opposite the Community Centre. Cars regularly parked nose-in and regularly mount the pavement resulting in existing cars being jammed in which the police had chosen to ignore. Although illegal parking was a matter for the Council's enforcement team, the Neighbourhood Manager agreed to bring this to the attention of the police and the Council's enforcement team.

Councillor James reported that residents living adjacent to **Owton Manor Primary School** were experiencing problems as a result of the **new fencing** recently erected. Members of the public were using residents' gardens to gain access to the common land. It was pointed out that additional fencing was not the answer and that the school should accept responsibility to address this problem. The Chair suggested that this be investigated by the Neighbourhood Manager.

Councillor Waller reported that some of the new stonework on the new traffic islands at Catcote Road was difficult to see during adverse weather conditions. It was suggested that reflective road studs be considered. The Traffic Team Leader to investigate.

Councillor James referred to a recent ward walkabout which involved the local police teams and representatives of the Council and queried why she had not been invited to attend. The Neighbourhood Manager clarified the issue with regard to visual audits.

34. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

To be held on Friday 1 December 2006 at 10.00 am at Owton Manor Community Centre, Wynyard Road.

M JOHNSON

CHAIRMAN

WARDS

Fens
Greatham
Ow ton
Rossmere
Seaton

***SOUTH POLICE &
COMMUNITY SAFETY
CONSULTATIVE FORUM***

8 September 2006

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Michael Johnson - Rossmere Ward

Councillor Steve Gibbon	- Fens Ward
Councillor Geoff Lilley	- Greatham Ward
Councillor Arthur Preece	- Fens Ward
Councillor Maureen Waller	- Ow ton Ward

Resident Representatives:
Joan Smith and Iris Ryder.

Residents: Pat Brotherton, Dorothy Clark, Rose Kennedy, Mr Massey, Mr Oxley and Michael Ward.

Officers: Sally Forth, Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator
Ken Natt, Landlord Registration Officer
David Cosgrove, Principal Democratic Services Officer

Cleveland Police Representatives:
Inspector Alastair Simpson, Sergeant Dave Galloway.

Cleveland Fire Brigade Representative;
George Pendlington.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Dave Frame, the South Area Manager.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2006 were confirmed. There were no matters arising.

**3. SELECTIVE LICENSING OF
PRIVATE LANDLORDS –
PRESENTATION BY THE
LANDLORD REGISTRATION
OFFICER**

The Landlord Registration Officer gave a presentation on the proposed Selective Licensing of Private Landlords initiative. It was explained that this allowed local authorities to require private landlords in designated areas to be licensed, with the

aim of improving the standard of management of housing in the private sector.

Details were given of when and where selective licensing would be applicable, licence requirements and enforcement powers officers would have. Members were advised that consultation would continue to the end of September, the results of which would be reported to Cabinet before the end of the year. The south area had not been included in the distribution of the consultation document as there simply wasn't any real numbers of private landlords in the area. The consultation documents were available on the Council's website. The following issues were then raised:

A Councillor commented that many of the tenants causing antisocial behaviour problems were in receipt of Housing Benefit. It had been raised in the past, but would this legislation allow their benefit to be stopped if they caused persistent problems. The Landlord Registration Officer indicated that this may be possible in 2008 but all it would lead to was the tenant being evicted rather than ending the antisocial behaviour. It was felt that the tenant referencing system would have more effect.

Was this legislation being applied across all the Councils in the Tees Valley area? The Landlord Registration Officer stated that it was, but there were obviously different local conditions. If an agency or landlord was deregistered in another area they wouldn't get a licence here.

Councillors noted that the voluntary scheme the Council had been operating was much more stringent than this new legislation. The Landlord Registration Officer indicated that while the scheme was more stringent it was only voluntary.

A Councillor asked how the conditions of properties could be improved if they would not be inspected. The Landlord Registration Officer stated that there would be new conditions and a Hazard Rating System. Condition would be assessed against a scoring system, if it was in the highest category, then the landlord had to act.

A resident commented that it would be better to make the landlords responsible for the people they let their properties to. Could they vet tenants before letting property? The Landlord Registration Officer stated that in licence areas landlords would have to take references. The government did attempt to introduce the regulation where landlords would be responsible, but this was proven to be inappropriate by the High Court.

4. POLICE UPDATE ON NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

Inspector Alistair Simpson reported that as part of the national initiative on community policing a Police Constable (PC) and a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) was now in place in the fifteen neighbourhoods across the town. These staff were ring-fenced so as not to be drawn into other operations. This did happen occasionally, though this 'abstraction' rate was very low. The single point of contact was working very well (235811) and people could be put directly through to the PC if they were available. The surgeries were being reviewed but would be kept where people still wanted them. Leaflets would be distributed showing who each area's neighbourhood officers were.

There had already been successes. The new patrols at The Fens shops had significantly reduced reported incidents. Crime figures in general were down 11%

with detection rates in Hartlepool at 45%, the highest in Cleveland.

Councillor and Members of the public welcomed the new officers. There was concern expressed that antisocial behaviour wasn't measured as part of the statistics and there had been a recorded increase in crime figures in Greatham and the Fens over the summer. Inspector Simpson indicated that there did tend to be a peak in Greatham every now and then. The village tended to have 5-6 offences recorded each month, in June it was 18. The recording and classification system changed due to new national standards so there was no comparator information available. A Councillor commented that he considered it was expecting too much of two officers to patrol that area. The Inspector acknowledged the point and commented that the implementation of the neighbourhood police officers would be reviewed after 12 months.

Councillors asked for a breakdown of the crime statistics for the three Neighbourhood Forum areas and Inspector Simpson indicated that this would be available for the next meeting.

A resident reported problems with parents parking around Fens School. Inspector Simpson stated that there had been a successful parking enforcement exercise around the school, though it was perhaps time for it to be repeated.

Residents asked about the Police office at the Fens Shops which was closed. Inspector Simpson was aware the office at Fens Shops offered peace of mind for residents. The Police were working with the shop owners but this mainly a financial issue.

A resident representative raised issues of antisocial behaviour and violence in Seaton Carew which was forcing

residents in Queen Street out of their homes. Inspector Simpson indicated he would take this matter up.

Residents did feel that problems had been at their peak during the school summer holidays. Greatham had suffered particular problems and residents highlighted the need for more patrols on evenings as this was the real problem period. Inspector Simpson indicated that he would take these comments on board.

There was concern at the lack of powers that the PCSO's had and most people stated that they would rather have a PC visit as they felt they could do more about any incidents and make arrests if necessary. Inspector Simpson commented that this was being reviewed by the government. People needed to be aware that there was a significant amount of administrative work linked to an arrest that keeps any PC off the beat for quite some time after making an arrest. PCSO's were not encumbered by the same restriction and could spend more time on patrol where they did have a positive affect. People had to also bear in mind that the additional central government finance was for PCSO's.

The meeting unanimously welcomed the introduction of the new PCSO's in the town but there was still some residents who indicated that they would have preferred PC's to have been introduced.

Inspector Simpson was thanked for his presentation to the forum.

5. UPDATE FROM CLEVELAND FIRE BRIGADE

Station Officer George Pendlington gave a brief presentation and circulated information on fire calls and comparisons between 2005 and 2006. There had

been a drop in the number of vehicle fires, accidental house fires and where damage to property had occurred with no change in the number of deliberate house fires. However, the number of small fires (e.g. rubbish etc) and malicious false alarm calls had increased.

S.O. Pendlington indicated that there had been press reports recently on one tender being taken out of service. This was not the case. The crew were being utilised to highlight the preventative measures all households and businesses could adopt. The tender was still in service, and it and the crew could be called into action if needed.

The Brigade was focusing its resources towards attending life risk situations rather than property risks. The brigade was working with the Police and the Council to raise awareness of fire risks and were targeting children and young people. The Brigade would also be focussing resources in the Owton Manor area as it had a very high level of accidental fires. This was welcomed by Councillors and residents.

Councillors raised the issue of communications between the Fire Brigade, the local authority and Housing Hartlepool which appeared to have broken down recently following a fire in Fraser Grove. S.O. Pendlington stated that he was aware of this issue and it had been addressed. The proper processes did exist and usually worked very well, on this occasion there appeared to have been a mistake in the control room.

A resident representative raised concerns in relation to what she thought was change in Fire Brigade policy relating to the retirement age of drivers. S.O. Pendlington indicated that there had been a change and the statutory age regulations of the past had been removed and all officers underwent an assessment

of their physical capabilities and all had to pass a set standard.

Station Officer Pendlington was thanked for his presentation to the forum.

<p>6. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR STRATEGY – PRESENTATION BY ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR CO-ORDINATOR</p>
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The Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator, Sally Forth, gave a presentation on the proposed Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy for Hartlepool. Details were given of the following

- Mission Statement
- Strategic objective 2005/8
- Local Area agreement commitment
- Task Group action plan
- RESPECT agenda
- Supporting families
- Strengthening communities
- Effective enforcement and community justice
- Legal powers
- Resources

It was anticipated that the draft strategy would be in place by the end of October and finalised by December.

A Councillor questioned how realistic it was that areas would get funds for diverting young people. In the Fens area there simply wasn't any facilities to set up groups in. Sally Forth acknowledged this and indicated that the opening up of the school to community groups would make a significant difference.

A resident commented that many older people simply did not know or recognise the difference between antisocial behaviour and crime.

A Councillor commented that many people simply saw these kinds of schemes as something for the 'bad lot' and nothing was done for the vast majority of children and young people who didn't get into trouble.

Councillors noted that Sally Forth had reported that there had been 9000 incidents of antisocial behaviour reported and asked how many acceptable behaviour contracts, ASBO's and CRASBO's had been used. Sally Forth reported that around 25 acceptable behaviour contracts had been introduced, 9 ASBO's and 16 CRASBO's. Many present commented that most residents wanted to see a hard line taken with these low level offenders.

Sally Forth was thanked for her presentation to the forum.

7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following questions were submitted from members of the public: -

Mr Hudson asked – "Youths playing football in Newholme/Lealholme Road, up against the Sure Start roller shutters, striking golf balls into the forecourt at Newholme Court and using the gates at Newholme Court as a shortcut. This has been reported to the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit but its no deterrent. What's to be done?" As Mr Hudson had already left the meeting, the Chair requested that the Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator send a written response.

Resident Representative Iris Ryder submitted the following three written questions.

"A Taxi driver has queried what happens when kids have to use booster seats. This would mean that they are unable to pick up passengers with children as they

wouldn't have the boosters seats. People often have more than one child with them so carrying a seat in the boot is not an option. What is the legislation covering taxis and the use of these seats?" The Chair asked that a written response from the Police and the appropriate Council officer be sent.

"Bus drivers have complained that after 7.30 people are allowed to park across the disabled bus access on Hartlepool Roads. They ask if handicapped and disabled people aren't supposed to go out later than that?" The Chair asked that a written response from the appropriate Council officer be sent.

"Can something be done about the speed of traffic on lower Brierton Lane? Cyclists are using the pavement to avoid it and this means that pedestrians often step out onto the road to avoid the cyclists. Inevitably they will get run over stepping off the pavement into the road as there is a BUPA Home half way down the road. Many of the pedestrians visiting the home are already mobility impaired and the complaint about speeding cars has come from them." The Chair asked that a written response from the Police and the appropriate Council officer be sent.

8. ISSUES RAISED BY COUNCILLORS AND RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Councillors and Resident Representatives raised the following issues:

Antisocial behaviour and underage drinking were becoming very problematic in the Fens and Greatham Village area. It was highlighted that Antisocial Behaviour Team Officers were aware of the problems and were being proactive in these areas.

The elderly residents in Wynyard Mews were suffering incidents of criminal

damage and were becoming frightened in their own homes. Inspector Simpson stated that he had become aware of the issues over the weekend and PCSO's were now regularly patrolling the area and would speak to residents to reassure them.

Residents on Campbell Road adjacent to the alleyway to the rear of the shops were complaining of youths gaining entry to their gardens and asked for more regular PCSO patrols in the area. Inspector Simpson noted the problem.

Michael Johnson

Chair

Report of: Director of Adult and Community Services

Subject: FAIR ACCESS TO CARE CONSULTATION

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 We are asking a wide range of people and groups for their views on a possible change to social care services. This report is to introduce a presentation and discussion on this issue.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 People needing help to stay at home are assessed, and either given access to statutory care services (home care, domiciliary care etc), or for those with lower levels of need given advice and information on services in the community (Drop In Centres, Luncheon Clubs etc).
- 2.2 The change the Cabinet would like to consider is raising the threshold, so that fewer people are eligible for statutory care, and more receive advice and information. Some of the savings would be used to support better preventative services in the community open to all. The remainder would help improve statutory services to those in most need.
- 2.3 Views are being collected for consideration by Cabinet in January 2007. A more detailed explanation will be provided at the Forum meeting.