

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA



Thursday 29th March 2007

at 10.00 am

in Committee Room 'B', Civic Centre

MEMBERS: CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM:

Councillors Akers-Belcher, Brash, Coward, Cranney, Hall, Hargreaves, Henery, Iseley, Kaiser, Laffey, Lauderdale, London, Morris, Payne, Richardson, Sutherland, Tumilty, R Waller and Worthy

Resident Representatives:

James Atkinson, Ian Campbell, Bob Farrow, Patrick Finnan, Alan Greenwell, Ted Jackson, Jean Kennedy, Evelyn Leck, Alan Lloyd and Brian McBean

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

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 1st February 2007 (attached)
- 4.2 Matters arising (maximum of 10 minutes) – Feedback sheet from last meeting attached.

5. CHIEF CONSTABLE

The Chief Constable will speak on current issues, neighbourhood policing etc and answer any questions.

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND WARD ISSUES (maximum of 30 minutes)

Elwick
Foggy Furze
Grange
Park
Rift House
Stranton
Burn Valley

7. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION

- 7.1 North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust Consultation – Foundation Trust Status – Claire Young (Communications Manager).
- 7.2 Rift House / Burn Valley NAP – Neighbourhood Manager to present in Gemma Clough's absence)

8. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

- 8.1 Procuring additional GP services for Hartlepool – Brief Presentation, Hartlepool Primary Care Trust (PCT)
- 8.2 Restoration and Cleaning Repairs to War Memorials at Victory Square and Redheugh Gardens – Colin Bolton, Building Consultancy Manager

10. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Central Police and Community Safety Consultative Meeting – Thursday 12th April 2007 at 2pm.in Committee Room B, Civic Centre.

Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum – Thursday 14th June 2007 at 10am – venue to be decided.

WARDS

Burn Valley
Elwick
Foggy Furze
Grange
Park
Rift House
Stranton

CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM

1st February, 2007

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Central Library Community Room,
York Road, Hartlepool

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Lillian Sutheran - Rift House Ward

Vice-Chair: James Atkinson (Resident Representative)

Councillor Stephen Akers-Belcher	- Rift House Ward
Councillor Jonathan Brash	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor Gerald Hall	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor Pam Hargreaves	- Stranton Ward
Councillor Pauline Laffey	- Park Ward
Councillor John Lauderdale	- Burn Valley Ward
Councillor Frances London	- Foggy Furze Ward
Councillor Dr George Morris	- Park Ward
Councillor Carl Richardson	- Grange Ward
Councillor Victor Tumilty	- Grange Ward
Councillor Ray Waller	- Stranton Ward
Councillor Gladys Worthy	- Rift House Ward

Resident Representatives: Ian Campbell, Bob Farrow, Patrick Finnan, Alan Greenwell, Ted Jackson, Evelyn Leck, Alan Lloyd and Brian McBean

Residents: Mr Bob Elliott, Mr R McAndrew, Julie Rudge, Mr W White, Mr B Fishburn, Mr E Welch, Clive Hall, Mr D McKinnon, Pauline Booth (Chair of Dalton Percy Parish Council), Mr & Mrs S and J Johnson, Mr & Mrs W and N Morrish, Miss M Lumley, Mr G Harrison, Mr D and Mrs B Loynes.

Council Officers: Paul Briggs, Chris Hart, Denise Ogden, Gemma Clough, Tracy Rowe, Jon Wright, Pat Watson.

PCT Representative: Kevin Aston,

Community Network Officer (HVDA): Lesley Hall

NDC Representative: Tara Davison

Police Representatives: Mike Hetherington

Housing Hartlepool Representative: Lynn McPartlin

Mail Reporter: Gary Martin

49. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors H

50. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

During Public Question Time / Ward Issues, Councillor R Walker declared an interest, as a Member of Planning Committee, in the possible Three Rivers development of sheltered accommodation. A brief discussion took place but Cllr R Waller did not take part in the discussion.

51. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 30th November 2006 were confirmed.

Matters arising.

Councillor Laffey said she wished to place emphasis that Street lighting needs improving in a number of areas of Park Ward (list indicated) not just near to the café.

Resident Rep Brian McBean referred to parking on the corners of Hart Lane and Welldeck Road which is causing damage to the pavement and obstructions. Jon Wright to pass to Peter Frost

Councillor Hall indicated that improved lighting at Lansdowne Road had been held up but was still on the agenda to be completed.

Councillor Dr Morris asked for update on reinstating the fountain in Ward Jackson Park. Jon Wright indicated that talks were progressing.

Councillor Worthy asked if there had been any progress on the Catcote Road shop fronts. Jon Wright indicated that

there would be a meeting of the Rift House/Burn Valley NAP next week and he would contact Councillor Worthy direct.

52. PUBLIC QUESTIONS TIME and WARD ISSUES

Burn Valley

Councillor Hall raised the following:

1. Thanks to residents for their involvement in:
 - The campaign for Eldon Grove Sports Centre
 - The objections raised to the effluent discharge into the Burn Valley beck
 - Making their views known about hot-food takeaway (Oxford Road) (refused by Planning C'ttee)
2. Viability of traffic lights for Arncliffe Gardens/Baden Street junction
3. Blakelock Gardens/Marske Street resident parking consultation - for reconsideration at Portfolio meeting.
4. Marske Street alley gates – overwelming public support for this scheme to go ahead
5. The removal of the flower bed bases in Alston Street.
6. Potholes in Grassmere Street
7. Colenso St/Kimberley St are suffering from anti-social behaviour. Also the back streets need cleansing including dog dirt.
8. Parking from
 - Delivery vehicles on Elwick Road street corners at the co-op, pizza shop and takeaways especially at Alston Street
 - Eldon Grove school (ongoing issues)
9. Major issue of rubbish collection (wheelie bins) from 14-19 Marske Street (bins are behind a wall and should be moved to the front of properties for collection.

All the issues raised by Councillor Hall were noted by Jon Wright for action where necessary.

Mr McAndrew raised the following:

1. Potholes in Eltringham Road and Elwick Road up from Eldon Road School
2. The traffic lights on Hart Lane/Raby Road change very quickly when coming from Hart Lane
3. A safety issue relating to monkey plinths that had been erected (6 ft tall) on the Headland – wooden wedges had been used and still remained. Denise Ogden indicated that this was a North area issue and a message relating to the trip hazard issue would be passed on.

Jon Wright noted issues 1 and 2 and said he would have the timings checked on the lights.

Resident Rep Evelyn Leck raised the following issues:

1. The new bridge in Burn Valley Gardens is slippery – Councillor Brash advised that he had also received a complaint about this and asked for the dimensions to be checked. Jon Wright explained this had been checked but he would look at it again
2. Smell coming from the beck in the Burn Valley – she asked for pressure to be put on NWA to take action. – Jon Wright explained this is cleaned on a regular basis but he would arrange investigation.

Councillor Brash also advised that a couple of swings are missing from the playground. He had been told 2 weeks ago they would be replaced but had not been – Jon Wright said he would contact Richard Harland

Foggy Furze

Resident Rep Bob Farrow raised the following (some of which had been reported earlier):

1. Potholes in Kendal Road
2. Rats in the Kendal Road area
3. Dog fouling and dogs roaming in the area

Jon Wright noted the issues.

Cllr London advised that residents were concerned over a proposed pizza bar in Oxford Road, ie late hours, litter and the number of take-aways already. – Denise Ogden explained this had been turned down by Planning Committee (but was subject to appeal)

Grange Ward

Resident Rep Alan Greenwell thanked Irene Cross for putting his items forward to the last meeting – he had received prompt responses for which he also thanked officers.

Resident Rep Patrick Finnan raised the following:

1. In Murray Street the dropped kerbs are being damaged by vehicles
2. Fires being set in properties on the demolition site (Mildred Street etc).
3. Anti-social behaviour in the Collingwood Road area

Councillor Richardson reported that at Eldon Grove / Lyndon Grove a van is parked on the corner regularly. – he requested that enforcement ask for it to be parked elsewhere.

Cllr Richardson also advised that damage had been caused to cars parked in the Clifton Avenue / Hutton Avenue area – he asked if CCTV could be installed – Jon Wright explained that the Central JAG are looking to purchase a mobile camera unit.

A resident reported that the pavement outside of Pagan and McQuaid is in need of repair as there is often serious flooding. This was noted by Jon Wright.

Resident Rep Brian McBean reported that at Stephen Street / Hart lane back lane black bin bags were being left after collections - sometimes they are lifted out of bins by the refuse collectors – then because of the existing process rubbish is left for some time – Denise Ogden explained the changes to the refuse collection in the town centre

Cllr Tumilty expressed concern over bin bags being taken out of wheelie bins

Julie Rudge explained the same problems had happened in the Dent/Derwent area and the response from Cleansing section was poor.

The issues raised were noted by Jon Wright.

Councillor Hargreaves indicated that similar problems were happening across the town. She advised that, a while ago, Scrutiny had looked at the issue and made recommendations that when the recycling contract was to be renewed it would be revisited by Scrutiny. Denise Ogden advised that the recycling contract was out for renewal at the moment and Scrutiny would be advised.

Resident Rep Patrick Finnan commented that if the work-force was being cut then it would lead to such problems. He felt more discussion was needed with residents. He also referred to rats from the demolished buildings and the need for refuse to be kept to a minimum.

All the above issues were noted by Jon Wright.

It was reported that parking in Murray Street is a problem as people are parking to go to work etc. Shop owners are parking on pavements outside of their shops and to gain access are using the dropped kerb and causing damage

It was also reported that alley gates were being left open in the area

Park Ward

A resident of the area, Brenda Loynes, referred to an earlier decision to keep the Mounston Close alley gate posts in place for the time being – she now asked if they could be removed as residents felt they were devaluing their properties – Denise Ogden advised that this would be unfair as it was agreed by both parties at the meeting on 16th January that the posts should remain in case the problems occur again

Councillor Morris asked for officers carrying out repair work to contact ward Councillors first as paving in the Park area had been repaired but it is worse in other areas and Councillors could have identified this. Councillor Morris also asked if the Park Ward areas could be considered to CCTV and additional lighting. Denise Ogden asked for proposals showing areas etc to be present to Jon Wright for him to work up an application under the minor works budget.

Rift House

Resident Rep Alan Lloyd raised the following issues:

1. Potholes in Thackeray Road
2. The entrance into Lindisfarne Care Home is dangerous with uneven paving as cars are driving over it. This has been repaired in the past but was bad again. – Jon Wright explained that this area was being investigated for repair as the area is made up of different materials
3. When will the work be done on the speed humps in Masefield Road – Jon Wright explained that the work would be done in the new financial year
4. Can the residents have bigger recycling bags for recycling paper – Denise Ogden explained this will be included in the new contract for recycling

Cllr Worthy raised the following issues:

1. Parking on the grass in Macauley road and Swinburne Road. Jon Wright indicated it may be possible to apply for minor works funding – possibly on a rolling programme.
2. Parking on the cycle ways – Jon Wright advised that a safety audit could be carried out and he would write to residents pointing out the danger.
3. Sitwell Walk and the groves off Macauley Road - can they have parking bays – Jon Wright explained that this raised a number of issues as the land belongs to the school and the cost involved.

The issues were noted by Jon Wright.

Frank Sawyerby asked why the Hartlepool allotments are so expensive to rent compared with other towns – Jon Wright to ask Richard Harland to attend a future Rift House resident meeting

Cllr Akers-Belcher raised the following issues:

1. Some of the grass verges in the area had been tarmaced and this had helped with parking – he asked if the remaining verges could be tarmaced.
2. The residents in the Southbrooke Avenue had raised with him the issues of bad road conditions and flooding in their area. They had previously asked the Council to look at flooding issues and no action had been taken. They wanted the Forum to be made aware of possible future problems. Councillor Akers-Belcher was aware that there were funding issues and this needed to be looked at on a town-wide basis.
3. Potholes in Kipling Road area reported.

The issues were noted by Jon Wright.

Stranton

Cllr Waller raised the following issues:

1. The traffic does not always stop at the pelican crossing in Raby Road as

motorists often don't see it is a crossing.

He felt it was time it was upgraded.

2. When building work begins on the new health centre can the council prioritise access into the site from Park Road?

Jon Wright noted the issues.

3. Asked for reassurance that the new recycling scheme would not be introduced in the Town Centre area of the town until the current issues had been resolved and that collections would be from the back street.

4. Requested a Building Schools for the Future (BSF) meeting in the Burbank area. Councillor Hargreaves advised that a public meeting had been arranged on 15th February at 6pm at Ward Jackson School.

5. Expressed disappointment that the 1A bus had been taken off the Burbank route.

Jon Wright noted the issues.

Clive Hall advised that residents think that Three Rivers Housing are not supplying the full facts regarding a proposed sheltered housing/supported housing plan for the area. Clive had been trying to get contact. (Councillor R Waller declared an interest as a member of Planning Committee and took no part in discussion on this issue).

Julie Rudge raised the following:

1. Enforcement Section should look at parking in the area. Parking on pavements.
 2. Alleyways were being left open.
- Jon Wright noted the issues.

Resident Rep Norma Morrish raised the following:

1. Crown House in Surtees Street is an eyesore – she asked what was happening. Denise Ogden said she thought Planning were taking legal proceedings – she agreed to feed back information to Norma.
2. Rats had been seen near the Focus building.

3. Potholes at the rear of Fastnet Grove
4. Can the kitchen be upgraded and included within the improvement works in the Community House as part of the refurbishment programme?

Jon Wright noted the issues.

53. BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE STAGE 2 CONSULTATION

The Children's Services Assistant Director gave a presentation on Building Schools for the Future. This is a Government initiative which would provide money to rebuild, remodel and refurbish Hartlepool's secondary schools. The first stage of the consultation had been completed on 3rd November 2006 and Stage 2 was now underway. A copy of the Stage 2 Consultation Document was made available for those present.

This stage of consultation would run until 2nd March 2007. In addition to the Consultation Document, information could be viewed on the website bsf@hartlepool.gov.uk. A number of public meetings would be held and a BSF Project Board had been set up to help make sure that the right decisions were made. Stage 2 would look at options for the compulsory stage of secondary education for 11-16 year-olds and the provision of education for children and young people with special educational needs.

Included in the presentation were slides relating to the following

- Education 11-16
- Why was Brierton selected as the school that might close
- Keep 6 secondary schools at the size they are now – advantages and disadvantages

- Keep 6 secondary schools but make some of them smaller – advantages and disadvantages
- Reduce the number of schools to 5 by closing Brierton School – advantages and disadvantages
- What if my child is at Brierton Now?
- Options for special educational needs
- Big issues for later consultation

The Assistant Director stressed that no decisions had yet been made. Any suggestions for alternative options made during the consultation process would be fully considered.

Following the presentation the following questions/issues arose:

Councillor Akers-Belcher said the possible closure of Brierton School was of great concern to him as a Councillor – he hoped some agreement could be reached to build a new school on the site. He felt that moving children would be detrimental to learning and he would be working with residents to put forward an argument.

Discussion took place on new Government proposals to extend secondary education up to 18 years. Paul mentioned that “post 16 education is currently delivered through colleges etc – it would be a matter of “watch this space” - we are 2 years off signing contracts and any new legislation would be fed into the proposals”.

Resident Rep Brian McBean referred to there being less pupils and asked if vacant space could be used for other activities. Paul indicated it may be decided that new health facilities etc could be built in. He said was currently engaging with Neighbourhood Managers, Librarians etc and would feed comments from them into the consultation. He said if Brierton stays there would be a 50%

surplus. Councillor Hargreaves, the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services, said "the nature of schools will change - in relation to community facilities, we would be missing a massive opportunity if we did not incorporate options – it's your money, let us have ideas please".

Councillor Worthy commented that this was a post-way building and has recently had the sports centre added. Resident Rep Evelyn Leck said she was of the understanding the proposal was to demolish Brierton and re-build on same site. Paul said that it was a big site but no decisions had been made yet. Paul reminded the Forum that the funding would only be available when The Minister has ticked the boxes – and we have to deal with the surplus places issue to their satisfaction.

Paul added that the Government had set the agenda and the timetable and we have to comply. Evelyn Leck referred to the Victoria Harbour development and the need for numbers to be counted in. Paul advised that our own experts and Tees Valley had assured him the numbers had been taken into account and there was still expected to be a surplus.

Paul ended by requesting that as many people as possible attend one of the full consultation sessions when the issues can be discussed in more detail.

The Chair thanked Paul for his presentation, for answering questions and for feeding the comments made into the consultation process.

54. ANNUAL DRUG TREATMENT PLAN 2007-08 DRAFT

The Planning and Commissioning Manager, Chris Hart, presented a report from the Head of Community Safety and Prevention to seek comments from the Forum on the draft Adult Treatment Plan

2007-08 which relates to adult drug treatment and support for the coming year.

The report described the process and contents of the draft Adult Treatment Plan 2007/08 and illustrated the performance and targets for activity in relation to adult drug treatment services and support for 2006/07 and initial targets for 2007/08. The report also invited comment on the draft Plan prior to finalisation and agreement with the National Treatment Agency and Home Office at the end of March 2007. The three parts of the Plan were outlined.

Chris Hart advised that the draft Plan was being made available to the widest possible audience for comment and the final submission of the Plan had to be sent to the National Treatment Agency by mid March and therefore anyone could make comment by 14th March 2007, in the following ways:

- Contact Chris Hart, Planning and Commissioning Manager, Safer Hartlepool Partnership tel: 01429 405589.
- Write to Chris Hart at Safer Hartlepool Partnership, Community Safety Office, 8 Church Street, Hartlepool, TS24 7DJ
- Copies of the draft Plan would also be available from the reception at the Community Safety Office and could be accessed on the Partnership website:
www.saferhartlepool.gov.uk.

Chris offered to attend resident group meetings to give a presentation if required.

Mrs Morris referred to page 8 of the draft Plan document where it referred to Supported Housing and asked for more information. Chris confirmed that this statistic related to the numbers of

individuals with drug problems that had approached Supporting People for assistance. Supporting People being the agency responsible for commissioning accommodation for specific need. The statistics suggested there had been no approaches, however, other sources indicated an issue with availability of tenancies.

Clive Hall asked if Three Rivers had been in contact in regard to their proposed development. Chris said she was not aware of any contact but would investigate. Chris or Jon Wright to contact Clive direct if any information available. The Chair suggested that Three Rivers be asked to attend a meeting.

The Chair thanks Chris for her report and for answering questions.

55. MINOR WORKS BUDGET PROPOSALS

The Neighbourhood Manager (Central) requested the Forum to consider improvements schemes for potential funding from the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum Minor Works Budget. The remaining balance was £2243.00.

The following schemes were proposed:

Safety fence for pedestrians – request from Dalton Piercy Parish Council for the provision and installation of a picnic bench and table, also for a three bar wooden fence to act as protection and support when walking along a worn track through the Village – approximately 105ft in length. **Total cost £800.00.**

Martindale Close removal of raised shrub area – request received from elderly residents of Martindale Close who wish for the raised shrub bed to be removed and grassed over – this had been agreed

in the area following consultation. **Total cost £1443.00.**

Decision – The Forum agreed to recommend the above schemes to the Regeneration, Liveability and Housing Portfolio Holder for approval.

56. BURBANK NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLAN (NAP) – FINAL UPDATE

The Burbank NAP was brought for endorsement by the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum. A copy of the plan and a summary document highlighting the priority concerns and the actions to address them was available for the Forums consideration.

The report presented to the Forum gave detailed background information, set out the consultation process and current position and highlighted the residents' key concerns. Information was provided on some of the key issues which residents felt needed to be addressed in order to improve the Burbank area, under the following headings:

- Jobs and Economy;
- Lifelong Learning and Skills;
- Health and Care;
- Community Safety;
- Environment and Housing;
- Culture and Leisure;
- Strengthening Communities.

The report contained further details in relation to the following:

- The Contents of the Plan;
- Implementation;
- Financial Implications and Risk;
- Recommendations, and
- Reasons for Recommendations.

Several members of the Forum indicated that they were glad to have the summary document and hoped this would continue to happen in relation to NAP documents.

Gemma advised that it would and in addition to this, a residents' summary pamphlet was currently being designed and this would be distributed to every household within each NAP area.

A discussion took place on the decision making route for the endorsement of the final plan, ie the Regeneration, Liveability and Housing Portfolio Holder, the Hartlepool Partnership, the Neighbourhood Forum then the Burbank Forum. It was felt that the Burbank Forum should have been asked first.

Decision:

The Forum agreed to endorse the NAP document subject to it being agreed at the Burbank Forum on Tuesday 6th February 2007.

57. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

Resident Rep Brian McBean reported that at the new traffic management at Wiltshire Way there is an inconsistency with the lights – Jon Wright to feed this information to the traffic department. Cllr Laffey said she had received the same complaints from residents.

Resident Rep Evelyn Leck suggested that fixed penalty notices should not be issued in the central area until the issue around refuse collection has been resolved.

58. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

29th March 2007 at 10 am in Committee Room B, Civic Centre.

12th April 2007 at 2pm – Central Police and Community Safety Forum in Committee Room B, Civic Centre.

LILIAN SUTHERAN

CHAIR

Feedback Sheet

Street lighting needs improving in all of the Park Ward area and not just within the park itself. **Additional Street lighting for Ward Jackson Park will be considered in the new financial year. The only scheme from a lighting aspect is Parklands Way the lanterns will be upgraded. Other schemes will be priced and match funding will need to be found.**

Parking on the corners of Hart Lane and Weldeck Road this is causing damage to the pavement and obstructions. **Investigating having double yellow lines painted to protect the junctions.**

Traffic Lights for Arncliffe Gardens/Baden Street junction. **A study was carried out into this which determined it was not feasible. This was due to having to divert bus routes, the narrowness of the roads and access difficulties this would cause with queuing traffic.**

Blakelock Gardens/Marske Street resident parking – consultation for reconsideration at portfolio? **Parking management department to re-consult on this by the end of April.**

Marske Street alley gates – overwhelming public support for this scheme to go ahead. **Ongoing due to objection.**

The removal of the flower beds in Alston Street. **This will be priced and brought to a future forum.**

Potholes in Grassmere Street. **These potholes have been made safe and at this point in time is due to be re-surfaced in 07/08.**

Colenso St/Kimberley St are suffering from dog fouling and anti-social behaviour issues and the back streets need cleansing. **This information has been passed to the enforcement team.**

Parking from: -

Delivery vehicles on Elwick Road street corners at the co-op, pizza shop and takeaways especially at Alston Street. **As long as delivery vehicles are loading/unloading officers must give vehicles time to complete this, however, if delivery vehicles are parking and not seen to be loading/unloading a ticket would be issued.**

Eldon Grove school (ongoing issues). **Eldon Grove School is currently on the list for enforcement and is patrolled on a rota basis with all the other schools in Hartlepool. The school had an extensive enforcement period last year when we carried out a joint operation with police and we hope to do the same again this year.**

Major issue of rubbish collection (wheelie bins) from 14-19 Marske Street (bins are behind a wall and should be moved to the front of properties for collection). **Consulting with residents in this area to look at how this service can be improved.**

Potholes in Eltringham Road and Elwick Road up from Eldon Road School. **The potholes in Eltringham Road have been marked for repair and will be made safe. Elwick Road has been marked for repair and at this point in time is due to be re-surfaced in 07/08**

The traffic lights on Hart Lane/Raby Road change very quickly when coming from Hart lane. **These traffic lights have been checked and no faults were found with the signals.**

New bridge in Burn Valley Gardens is slippery. **A site visit has been carried out and the surface of the bridge has been inspected and no problems highlighted, however this will continue to be monitored.**

There is a smell coming from the beck in the Burn Valley. **The beck is inspected on a regular basis and all debris cleared to allow the beck to flow.**

There are swings missing from the playground in Burn Valley Gardens. **These swings have now been replaced.**

Potholes in Kendal Road. **The orders have been raised to carry out necessary repairs.**

Rats in the Kendal Road area. **Pest control visited the area on 24.1.07 and left 2 treatments, the area was revisited on 29.1.07 and the area was clear and job was closed.**

Dog fouling and dogs roaming in the Belle Vue area. **This information has been passed to the enforcement team.**

In Murray Street the dropped kerbs are being damaged by vehicles. **The area is inspected monthly and any actionable defects are noted and actioned.**

Fires in properties on the demolition site. **Community Wardens tasked to patrol the area.**

Anti-social behaviour in the Collingwood Road area. **Increased Police, PCSO and Community Warden patrols**

Eldon Grove and Lynden Grove a van is parking on the corner. **Information passed to the Neighbourhood Police Officer for Grange Ward**

Damage caused to cars parked in the Clifton Road area can CCTV be installed. The Joint Action Group (JAG) have agreed to purchase a mobile camera that can be installed in areas when incidents occur.

Pavement outside of Pagan and McQuaid is in need of repair. Work to relay this footpath will be carried out soon.

Shop owners are parking on pavements outside of their shops and to gain access are using the dropped kerb and causing damage. As the legislation now stands a single or double yellow line is enforceable from the centre of the road to the boundary wall and this includes pavements. However, where the land is not adopted or is private land then we cannot issue a PCN for parking on the yellow lines and a classic example of this is on York Road where vehicles are parking outside their businesses on what is private land as delineated by what would have been a garden wall.

Alley gates are being left open in the area (Straker Street/York Road). The Education Enforcement Strategy is currently underway in this area.

Could officers carrying out repair work contact Cllrs first as paving in the Park area has been repaired but it is worse in other areas and Cllrs could have identified this. This has been noted and passed to Mike Blair

Can Ward Jackson Park have CCTV and additional lighting? Additional lighting for the park to be looked at in the new financial year. The new security contract will be observed and monitored regarding the need for CCTV in the park.

Potholes in Thackeray Road. The order has been raised to carry out any necessary repair work.

This has been repaired but the entrance into Lindisfarne Care Home is dangerous with uneven paving as cars are driving over it. The order has been raised for a permanent repair to be carried out.

When will the work be done on the speed humps in Masfield Road? The work will be carried out in the new financial year.

Parking on the grass in Macauley Road from Catcote Road to Swinburne Road. This will be priced and brought to a future forum.

Parking on the cycle ways. The cycleway was narrowed a few years ago which seemed to solve the problem. The plan was to add bollards if the problem persisted but this was found not to be the case and a number of recent visits have failed to find the cycleway blocked.

Some of the grass verges have been tarmaced and this has helped with parking could the remaining verges been tarmaced. **This can be looked at and prioritised in the new financial year.**

Potholes in Kipling Road area. **At this point in time this area has been included in the resurfacing programme for 07/08**

Residents think that Three Rivers Housing are not supplying the full facts regarding a proposed sheltered housing/supported housing plan for the area. **The proposal was for a supported housing scheme. Planning has been declined by council for the Burbank area and further negotiations will continue with Council and Three Rivers Housing to look for alternative sites.**

The DSS building in Surtees Street is an eyesore. Some work has been carried out to remove the asbestos on the site and at present Stuart Green (Assistant Director of Planning & Economic Development) is carrying out further investigations of the building.

Rats have been seen at the old Focus building. **This information has been passed to pest control department.**

Potholes at the rear of Fastnet Grove. **This road has been check and no actionable defects were noted but due to the poor condition of the road a rating assessment will be carried out by the maintenance team in Highways to assess the condition of the road.**

Can the kitchen be upgraded and included within the improvement works in the Community House? **The kitchen is to be included in the planned refurbishment of the building.**

The new traffic management at Wiltshire Way there is an inconsistency with the lights. **These traffic lights have been checked and the problem has been rectified.**

Report of: Head of Regeneration

Subject: DRAFT ONE: RIFT HOUSE/BURN VALLEY
NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLAN (NAP) UPDATE

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek comments on draft one of the Rift House/Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update. A copy of the draft plan is attached along with a summary document highlighting the priority concerns and the actions to address these.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Neighbourhood Action Plans are important in encouraging local people and organisations to work together to narrow the gap between the most deprived wards and the rest of the country. They should be influential in the future allocation of resources. The objective of the NAP is to integrate policies at the local level to improve the way that services are provided.
- 2.2 The Rift House/Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan was the third NAP to be successfully prepared for the town in 2004. The plan has been used by the Rift House/Burn Valley Forum (established as a result of the NAP) to identify how the Residents' Priorities Budget (allocated by the Hartlepool Partnership through its Neighbourhood Renewal Fund programme) would be spent. The Rift House/Burn Valley Forum comprises residents (including representatives from the local Residents Associations), Ward Councillors, community/voluntary groups, the Borough Council and other key organisations such as Housing Hartlepool, Hartlepool Community Network and Cleveland Police. To date, the Rift House/Burn Valley Forum has considered the lack of car parking provision in some areas throughout the neighbourhood and co-funded projects in areas such as Martin Grove, Kipling Road and Burns Avenue. The Forum has also initiated community safety projects such as anti-crime schemes for vulnerable households, supported local residents associations, the ORB Centre and activities for children and young people as well as pavement resurfacing work to the Burn Valley Gardens and traffic calming measures in Browning Avenue.
- 2.3 The Rift House/Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan is the third NAP to be updated since the completion of six NAPs across the town; Dyke House/Stranton/Grange; Burbank; Owton; Rossmere and North Hartlepool. In addition to this, it should be noted that the New Deal for Communities (NDC) programme has developed a NAP for the NDC area, making seven in total across the town.
- 2.4 The Hartlepool Partnership has agreed to allocate £31,100 of Residents' Priority Budget over the next financial year (2007/08) specifically for the Rift

House/Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) area. The funding will be used to continue to address some of the residents' priorities identified in the final plan.

3.0 CONSULTATION AND CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 The Rift House and Burn Valley neighbourhood is situated to the south west of Hartlepool Town Centre. It covers the majority of the Rift House Ward (excluding Swalebrooke, Tynebrooke, Teesbrooke and Southbrooke Avenues) and a small part of the Burn Valley Ward covering roads between Stockton Road to Shakespeare Avenue, and Oxford Road to Elwick Road (the area is shown on the map, page 1). The Rift House estate is a fairly large community which is predominantly social housing owned by Housing Hartlepool. Local residents have access to a variety of shops located on Catcote Road, and several schools are located within the neighbourhood. To the west the estate is surrounded by open countryside. The Burn Valley area is predominantly owner-occupier or private landlord housing and is within close proximity to the town centre and local shops on Elwick, Oxford and York Roads. The area is bordered by the Burn Valley Gardens and Waverley Terrace allotments.
- 3.2 The draft Neighbourhood Action Plan Update has been developed through a range of consultation sessions with residents, children and young people, the elderly, community/voluntary groups, Councillors and those who deliver services to the area (e.g. Cleveland Police, Hartlepool Borough Council Officers, Housing Hartlepool and Hartlepool Community Network). An initial community consultation event was held in February 2007 which was crucial in identifying the community's priority concerns and the actions required to address the concerns. Household survey data (MORI 2006) and other baseline data and statistics have also provided an understanding of the conditions in the Rift House/Burn Valley area. The Regeneration Team have also met and worked with each of the Residents Associations established in the area (Rift House Community Association, Rift House East Residents Association and Burn Valley North Residents Association).
- 3.3 A copy of draft one of the Rift House/Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan Update has been made available, with a comments book at the National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA) Building, Brierton Community Sports Centre, Stranton Community Learning Centre, the ORB Centre, Browning Avenue Baptist Church, Lewis Grove Sheltered Accommodation and Orwell Walk Sheltered Accommodation.
- 3.4 Informal community drop-in sessions were also held on Monday 19 March 2007, 10.30am to 11.00am in Browning Avenue Baptist Church and 5.00pm to 5.30pm in Rift House Primary School, Wednesday 21 March 2007, 6.30pm to 7.00pm in Hartlepool Sixth Form College and Thursday 22 March, 2.00pm to 2.30pm in the Woodcutter Public House.
- 3.5 The draft Rift House/Burn Valley NAP Update has also been placed on Hartlepool Borough Council's online consultation system:

<http://consultation.hartlepool.gov.uk> to enable individuals to comment on the draft NAP. This online consultation is open until Friday 30 March 2007.

- 3.6 In addition to this, all key service providers have been sent a copy of the draft and a new sletter has been sent to every household within the area to inform residents of the draft Rift House/Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan Update and to highlight how residents can be involved in the consultation process. The Council's Regeneration Team will also be consulting further with local community/voluntary groups as well as local schools and youth groups. Theme meetings are also being held with service providers to discuss how the priority concerns of the area can be addressed and taken forward by organisations using their available resources. Ward Councillors are also being invited to these meetings.
- 3.7 The draft Rift House/Burn Valley NAP Update was taken to the Hartlepool Partnership on Friday 23 March 2007 and will also be taken to the Rift House/Burn Valley Forum on Thursday 05 April 2007 and the Regeneration, Liveability and Housing Portfolio Holder on Friday 20 April 2007, for comment.
- 3.8 It is essential that the draft Rift House/Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update is widely consulted upon, to ensure that the views of the local community are reflected within the plan.

4.0 RESIDENTS' KEY CONCERNS

- 4.1 All those involved at the Community Conference looked at seven key themes, as set out in the Community Strategy, for improvement within the Rift House/Burn Valley area. The information below illustrates some of the key issues which people feel need to be addressed in order to improve the Rift House/Burn Valley area:
- 4.2 Jobs and Economy
- Reduce the number of people who are not in employment, education or training.
 - Address poor transport provision to increase access to employment opportunities.
- 4.3 Lifelong Learning and Skills
- Provide alternative methods of learning to encourage local residents to take up opportunities.
 - Tackle barriers to education and training.
- 4.4 Health and Care
- Improve access to health care provision, education and skills.
 - Provide more support to the elderly population, particularly to those who live alone.
- 4.5 Community Safety
- Reduce drug related issues throughout the area.
 - Reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour.

4.6 Environment and Housing

- Tackle car parking problems in various streets/groves by tarmacing grass verges.
- Improve the appearance of Catcote Road shopping parade as well as the allotment sites.

4.7 Culture and Leisure

- Increase the number of activities/facilities throughout the area particularly for children and young people.
- Address the lack of community venues across the area.

4.8 Strengthening Communities

- Encourage further community involvement by engaging local residents and supporting individuals to be proactive in the community.
- Provide more capacity building/training events.

5.0 THE CONTENTS OF THE PLAN

- 5.1 The draft Rift House/Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan Update is attached, which includes a map of the area (page 1), along with a summary document highlighting the priority concerns, and the actions to address these.
- 5.2 The document has been structured in a way that is intended to give a clear picture of the strong themes running through the Neighbourhood Action Plan back to the Community Strategy and the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy.
- 5.3 The format of the document differs slightly from that of the original Rift House/Burn Valley NAP endorsed in 2004 as well as the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange and Burbank NAP Updates which have recently been endorsed by the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum. The template has been amended as a result of the findings of the NAP Review as well as taking on board suggestions for improvement from service providers who refer to the plan on a regular basis.
- 5.4 The introductory section continues to cover the background to NAPs, a brief description of the Rift House/Burn Valley neighbourhood, how the Rift House/Burn Valley NAP Update has been developed, and a summary of the community's main concerns.
- 5.5 The following section then comprises the seven theme areas:- Jobs and Economy; Lifelong Learning and Skills; Health and Care; Community Safety; Environment and Housing; Culture and Leisure and Strengthening Communities. Each theme identifies the key statistics, the strengths and weaknesses and the gaps in service delivery which need to be addressed. Following this is a table which identifies the community's priority concerns, some of which are highlighted above (paragraph 4.2 to 4.8 of this report), the actions that are required to address these concerns, a column to identify whether actions are short term (within one year), medium term (between one and five years) or long term (five + years), the organisations who need to be

involved in delivering the actions, possible funding and resources and how the actions will contribute to addressing strategic targets (such as the Local Area Agreement Indicators).

- 5.6 The next section outlines the key resources and programmes delivered in the area/accessible to residents of the Rift House/Burn Valley area. These follow the seven theme areas identified in the paragraph above. The last section of the plan is a Jargon Buster and a Summary Document.
- 5.7 ***The Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum is asked to note the changes to the revised template as detailed above in paragraphs 5.4, 5.5 and 5.6.***
- 5.8 Once the document is finalised and endorsed, a resident's summary pamphlet will be produced to outline the key elements of the Rift House/Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan Update, in response to the findings of the NAP Review.
- 5.9 Final endorsement will be requested at the Rift House/Burn Valley Forum on Thursday 03 May 2007, the Hartlepool Partnership on Friday 11 May 2007, the Regeneration, Liveability and Housing Portfolio Holder on Friday 18 May 2007 and the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum on Thursday 14 June 2007.
- 6.0 FEEDBACK ON THE DRAFT**
- 6.1 Comments on the draft Rift House/Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan Update will be requested at the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum on Thursday 29 March 2007.
- 6.2 Alternatively, if you wish to make comments before the meeting you may do so in the following ways:
- Telephoning Gemma Clough, Principal Regeneration Officer at Hartlepool Borough Council on Tel: 01429 523598.
 - Submitting comments in writing to Gemma Clough, Principal Regeneration Officer, Hartlepool Borough Council, Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square, Hartlepool, TS24 7BT or to gemma.clough@hartlepool.gov.uk.
 - Submitting comments via Hartlepool Borough Council's online consultation system: <http://consultation.hartlepool.gov.uk> This online consultation is open until Friday 30 March 2007.
 - Contacting Gemma Clough, Principal Regeneration Officer to arrange to meet with you individually or as a group for an informal chat.
- 6.3 The final draft of the plan, Summary Document and Jargon Buster will then be sent out to all those who have been involved in the consultation process to ensure comments have been incorporated into the plan and reflected correctly.

- 6.4 The deadline for comments on draft one of the Rift House / Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update has been set as **Friday 30 March 2007** for inclusion in the final draft of the Rift House/Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update. Any comments received after this will need to be reflected in the final for endorsement version of the NAP rather than the final draft, in order to comply with timescales. The deadline for this is **Friday 27 April 2007**.

7.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

- 7.1 *The Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum are requested to comment on the draft Rift House/Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update at the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum Meeting or forward any comments by Friday 30 March 2007 for inclusion in the final draft or Friday 27 April 2007 for inclusion in the final for endorsement.*

8.0 **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 It is essential that the draft Rift House/Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update is widely consulted upon, to ensure that the views of the local community are reflected within the plan. This is vital as the Rift House/Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update will enable local people and organisations to continue to work together to successfully integrate policies at a local level, improving the ways that services are provided, to achieve goals of lower unemployment and crime, better health, skills, housing and physical environment, and a stronger community with improved culture and leisure opportunities.
- 8.2 It will also continue to look at how services can be made more efficient and effective for the local community and help local service providers and users to continue to ensure that gaps between existing and desired services are identified and considered by service providers, to effectively add value and improve the quality of life in the Rift House/Burn Valley area.

9.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 9.1 The original Rift House/Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) was endorsed by the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum on 25 November 2004, the Hartlepool Partnership on 03 December 2004 and what used to be the Regeneration and Economy Portfolio Holder on 08 December 2004. As stated in paragraph 5.2, the NAP document relates back to the Community Strategy and the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy.

10.0 **CONTACT OFFICER**

- 10.1 Gemma Clough, Principal Regeneration Officer, Regeneration and Planning Services, Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square, Hartlepool, TS24 7BT.
Tel: 01429 523598. E-mail: gemma.clough@hartlepool.gov.uk

Rift House / Burn Valley Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update.

Summary Document

This document highlights the priority concerns and actions required, as identified in Draft One, March 2007.

Jobs and Economy

- **Increase provision and publicise existing opportunities around employment services.**
- Drop in surgeries to provide advice on employment opportunities.
- Drop in surgeries to establish residents needs regarding accessing barriers to employment.
- **Raise aspirations of young people in schools through information, advice and guidance for priority groups, especially those who are not in employment, education or training (NEET).**
- Increase the level/support of career guidance in schools/further/higher educational establishments, and look at proving this from an earlier age within schools.
- Local businesses to offer work experience / training opportunities / vocational training to motivate young people.
- Develop an Employment Club where residents can access information regarding employment, employment services and benefits.
- **Address poor transport provision to increase access to employment opportunities outside the area.**
- Explore opportunities to increase the frequency of public transport in the area, especially to other areas of the Borough.
- Liaise with Stagecoach and HBC Transport Coordinator to see if resources can be put in place more frequent / later service to be introduced through the area.

Lifelong Learning and Skills

- **Increase I.T facilities / provision.**
- Develop a local base from which residents of the area can access I.T facilities and tuition.
- Provide and develop local clubs from which I.T skills can be developed (for residents of all ages and abilities).
- **Provide alternative methods of learning to encourage local residents to take up opportunities e.g. vocational training.**
- Explore opportunities for creating more “hands on” learning opportunities in Primary and Secondary Schools.

- Promote and develop existing apprenticeship schemes available to residents of the area.
- **Tackle barriers to education and training.**
- Provide support to deal with barriers to education, for example childcare provision to young parents.
- Provide support to deal with barriers to education, for example childcare provision to young parents.
- **Increase access to learning based activities.**
- Series of workshops including book keeping, driving theory e.t.c.
- **Prepare elderly residents for retirement through information sessions.**

Health and Care

- **Lack of doctors, dentists and pharmacy in the Rift House / Burn Valley area.**
- Investigate the possibility of locating a doctors, dentist and chemist in the area.
- Promote the delivery service of pharmacies in the town.
- Investigate the possibility of providing more health services on an outreach basis.
- **High stroke rate in the Rift House / Burn Valley area.**
- Promote the services of the Community Stroke Team Mobile Unit who are based at Wynyard House.
- **Encourage healthier lifestyles.**
- Promote the benefits of walking to school.
- Liaise with local schools in order to promote and use the facilities of schools with and / or seeking 'Healthy Schools' status more effectively.
- Promote local health facilities, for example the swimming pool at Hartlepool Sixth Form College, Eldon Grove Community Sports Centre (subject to remaining open), Brierton Community Sports Centre and Summerhill.
- Continue to promote the Healthy Schools agenda.
- Encourage young people to exercise more frequently.
- Investigate the possibility of setting up a Food Co-operative.
- Need to develop the education and training / skills with regards the healthy eating, for example by providing cookery classes.
- Encourage the use of health facilities and activities available and advertise more widely any concessionary rates available.
- Children's Centre services at Kingsley Primary School to include 'Stop Smoking Classes' (as Smoking Cessation classes not available in the Rift House / Burn Valley area), Savings Clubs and Healthy Eating classes.
- Continue to deliver the 'Straight Line' Project in order to tackle the issue of underage drinking.

- Approach local shops to discuss how the alcohol is being obtained by young people.
- **Elderly people living alone.**
- More low level support required for the elderly, for example befriending, shopping, cleaning etc.
- Adaptations required to housing to allow the elderly to live on their own comfortably.
- Promote local clubs which the elderly can attend, for example the Autumn Club.
- Promote the Hartlepool Exercise for Life GP Referral Scheme.
- Explore the possibility of using the National Day Nursery Association (NDNA) Building on Masefield Road for activities for the elderly as it easily accessible.

Community Safety

- **Ensure the benefits of Neighbourhood Policing continue and explore the possibility of an increased Police presence in the area.**
- Increase Police presence in the area and continue to maintain the good relationship between the neighbourhood PCs and PCSOs and the local community. PCs and PCSOs to continue enforcement and crime prevention work.
- **Reduce drug dealing and drug related issues throughout the area particularly around the telephone box at Baden Street and the Catholic Club.**
- Increased Police drug enforcement activities.
- Liaise with Service Providers to look at opportunities to increase drug clean up operations and advertise the existing drug clean up services more widely.
- Initiatives to raise awareness / educate the local community particularly young people on the dangers surrounding the use of drugs and their effects as well as drug related litter.
- Improve street lighting in the area to deter drug related activity e.g. at the top end of Burn Valley Gardens
- Look at CCTV provision in the area to deter drug related activity and explore the possibility of increasing CCTV provision especially in 'hot spot' areas such as the front and rear of Catcote Road shops.
- **Reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour and associated behaviour e.g. underage drinking and graffiti.**
- Residents to report incidents of anti-social behaviour to the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit (ASB Unit) Tel. 01429 296588.
- Increase presence (high visibility patrols of Police / Police Community Safety Officers (PCSO's) and, ensure Officers establish good relationships with the local community particularly young people.
- Explore the possibility of a "graffiti wall" (mural).
- **Illegal use of off road motor bikes and quad bikes especially at the top of Masefield Road.**

- Town wide illegal off road motorbike Steering Group to investigate and report on how to tackle and reduce the problem (increasing enforcement and awareness).
- Residents to report incidents involving motorbikes and quad bikes being driven illegally to Cleveland Police Tel. 01642 326326 (Police Headquarters) and Cleveland Police to feedback 'good news' stories to the local community.
- Local schools to raise awareness regarding the legalities and dangers of using motorbikes illegally.
- Increased enforcement Action e.g. Cleveland Police to increase targeted operations using the Off Road Motorbike Unit.
- Increase publicity on what is illegal activity.
- **Address traffic issues throughout the area in particular Baden Street, Masefield Road and Marlowe Road.**
- Explore the possibility of installing traffic lights to control the flow of traffic in Baden Street.
- Explore the possibility of introducing speed reduction measures / further speed reduction measures on Masefield Road and Marlowe Road
- **Support and extend existing Neighbourhood Watch schemes.**
- Investigate the possibility of organising a publicity campaign to raise awareness and identify local volunteers to join the Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

Environment and Housing

- **Improve the environmental quality of the area.**
- Address problems with litter through enforcement action in 'hot spot' areas and increased provision of litter bins throughout the whole area and a better response by litter clearance services to cover most problematic areas such as Sitwell Walk, back streets in the Burn Valley area and local schools, particularly Brierton Community School fence.
- Tackle fly tipping issues (particularly in Burn Valley Gardens; the beck and in alleyway between Kimberley Street and Colenso Street) through more enforcement, publicising fines and more frequent street cleansing.
- Clean up graffiti and address incidents of vandalism particularly in Burn Valley Gardens.
- Address dog fouling issues, particularly in the back streets of the Burn Valley area and Burn Valley Gardens through enforcement, publicising fines, providing more dog fouling bins and signs, and educating the community.
- Improve street cleansing (including litter removal and chewing gum on pavements) especially in public areas, such as shopping parades, though enforcement, publicising fines, more litter bins, more regular cleansing and emptying of dog litter bins and encourage local people and businesses to contribute (e.g. helping with clean ups and removing litter from garden areas).
- Improve existing recycling amenities on Elwick Road by increasing collections and/or further provision. Also look to increase provision for further drop off points such as bottle banks etc. where possible.

- Improve the appearance of local shopping parades e.g. Catcote Road, through works such as shop front improvements e.g. painting of window sills and shutters, hanging baskets, and litter removal etc.
- Further improve the allotments sites at Waverly Terrace and Catcote Road to include CCTV and security fencing where applicable.
- Improve the collection of grass cuttings once the area has been cleansed.
- **Address residents' concerns/problems with the refuse collection and recycling scheme.**
- Look at issues such as the litter created by the white bag collection.
- Look at issues such as residents have to carry boxes/bins to the end of the road to have the refuse/recycling collected.
- **Street lighting improvements required (particularly the top end of Burn Valley Gardens, in the side streets off Elwick Road and on the drive to Hartlepool Sixth Form College (for Brinkburn Youth Club)).**
- Improve street lighting provision.
- **Traffic and road safety problems plus concerns with transport issues and uneven road surfaces and pavements.**
- Increase parking provision/on-street parking facilities particularly in the Rift House area and outside local schools, to eliminate parking on grass verges e.g. through tarmacking grass verges, continuing to remove raised flower beds where applicable, creating physical parking bays or reopening the rears of properties where appropriate.
- Look at the congestion problems particularly outside local schools especially at Brierton Community School because of the car wash opposite
- Encourage parents and children to walk to school.
- Enforcement action on illegal parking (yellow lines and in resident permit zones).
- Improve uneven road surfaces (including back lanes) and investigate the possibility of improving the condition of hazardous pavements (Sinclair Road, Gulliver Road and Doyle Walk).
- Improve road safety through traffic calming measures. NB Need to ensure the most appropriate solution is installed to resolve problems with speeding vehicles and, look to use alternative methods of traffic calming other than speed humps, where possible. Problem areas include Baden Street to Brinkburn Road (explore the possibility of installing traffic lights to control the flow of traffic) and Marlowe Road.
- Assess problems associated with heavy good vehicles delivering to local shops especially on Chesterton Road turning onto Masfield Road through installation of signage or bollards (particularly on the corner of Chesterton/Masfield Road).
- Investigate how to improve local transport services, in the Rift House area, particularly after 6.00pm. This would include a more frequent service, having an increased number of bus stops and limiting bus stop and timetable vandalism. NB Access to hospitals serving the Hartlepool area is a particular concern (i.e. the University Hospital of Hartlepool, James Cook and North Tees).

- **Need to look towards regulating the private rented sector and absentee landlords as there are an increasing number of anti-social tenants and families throughout the area who are in premises owned by private landlords. Need to also address the increase in vacant properties owned by private landlords.**
- Promote and encourage take up of the landlord registration scheme and take appropriate action against member landlords who do not comply with the scheme.
- Investigate complaints from tenants having problems with the condition of their rented accommodation, and take appropriate action against their landlords.
- Investigate complaints regarding anti-social tenants of private rented properties.
- Provide in-tenancy support for vulnerable groups such as ex-offenders.
- Explore the feasibility of providing and promoting landlord and tenant handbooks on good practice.
- Explore the possibility of a consultation exercise with a view to introducing a compulsory landlord licensing scheme.

Culture and Leisure

- **Improve community and leisure centre provision across the NAP area particularly with the possible closure of the NDNA Building and the Eldon Grove Sports Centre (both of these facilities are currently being marketed for sale and alternative uses are being sought).**
- Improve existing community and leisure centre facilities such as increasing access, for example, increasing awareness of the activities available at Brierton Community Sports Centre and offering reduced rates for some members as well as developing further activities.
- Explore the feasibility of either converting an existing building into a multi-purpose community / leisure centre facility including youth provision or a new build, should the NDNA Building and Eldon Grove Sports Centre be closed. In addition, explore the possibility of making better use of schools, churches and public houses for educational and community purposes.
- Investigate the possibility of using abandoned open areas for recreation purposes and look at the feasibility of using such space to provide a football pitch.
- Explore opportunities to improve transport links to leisure facilities based outside of the area.
- **Improve links with the library service, churches and other organisations.**
- Provide a local library facility, generate links with the Central Library within the community or improve transport links to the Central Library.
- Increase links between churches, community / voluntary organisations and Rift House / Burn Valley Forum.

- **Increase the number of affordable activities / facilities throughout the area for all generations but particularly for children and young people.**
- Develop community based play areas for young people, for example, on the field at Masefield Road near Rift House Primary School.
- Develop a diverse range of diversionary activities for young people, particularly for the under 13's.
- Raise awareness of what services and activities are available for all ages by publicising events, activities and facilities more effectively in recognition of the value of culture and leisure activities.
- Organise outings to places of interest, for example to an archaeology site and to the University of Teesside for lectures.
- Look into the possibility of providing a 'chill out café' for young people and provide workers for them to talk to, a Summer splash scheme (swimming activity) at Brinkburn Youth Centre and a Badger Bus (an initiative offering access, at reduced rates, to the countryside whereby people can enjoy the benefits of fresh air and gentle exercise during the school summer holidays).
- **Tackle the concern that people feel isolated at the lower end of the Rift House area.**
- Develop social activities such as sugarcraft sessions, knitting clubs and quiz nights, geared towards bringing together the NAP communities.
- **Address the problems associated with the lack of locally based shops and improve the variety of products / produce stocked.**
- Investigate the possibility of locating a widely stocked convenience store such as a Tesco Express in the area and encourage existing shops in the area to stock a wider choice of products and fresh produce.

Strengthening Communities.

- **Encourage further community involvement by engaging local residents and supporting individuals to be proactive in the community.**
- Continue to provide support and encouragement for residents wishing to become more involved in their community and seek ways to improve community spirit for some residents.
- Raise awareness of the Rift House / Burn Valley Forum and its activities with a view to engaging more resident involvement.
- Explore the possibility of providing and funding a community centre facility in the area, particularly with the possible closure of the NDNA Building and the Eldon Grove Sports Centre (both of these facilities are currently being marketed for sale and alternative uses are being sought).
- Identify sources of funding in order to be able to maintain progress and provide additional Community Development Workers for the area.
- **Link Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) communities through organised events.**

- Organise a series of events and activities, for example quiz nights, geared towards bringing together the NAP communities.
- Advertise such events across the NAP area.
- **Provide more capacity building / training events.**
- Enable those playing an active role in the community to become more effective in their roles by holding further capacity building sessions, building on the success of the recent capacity building training programme organised by Hartlepool Community Network.