

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

SOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA



Friday 30th March 2007

at 10.00 am

at Owton 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, Rose 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 To receive the minutes of the South Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum held on 12th January 2007 (attached)
 - 4.2 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd February 2007 (attached)
 - 4.3 Matters arising
- 5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

6. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION

- 6.1 North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust – Consultation on Foundation Trust Status – Claire Young (Communications Manager)
- 6.2 Restoration and Cleaning Repairs to War Memorials at Victory Square and Redheugh Gardens – Colin Bolton, Building Consultancy Manager

7. ITEMS FOR DECISION

- 7.1 No items

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / INFORMATION

- 8.1 School Governors – Access to Information Update – Sue Beevers, Admissions, School Place Planning and Support Services Manager

9. WARD ISSUES

10. DATES, TIMES AND VENUES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

South Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum to be held on Friday 13th April 2007 commencing at 2pm at Ow ton Manor Community Centre.

South Neighbourhood Consultative Forum to be held on Friday 15th June 2007 commencing at 10am – venue to be decided.

WARDS

Fens
Greatham
Owton
Rossmere
Seaton

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

12th January, 2007

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



Held at 10am at Greatham Community Centre

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Michael Johnson - Rossmere Ward

Vice Chair: Resident Representative Mary Green

Councillor Steve Gibbon	- Fens Ward
Councillor Cath Hill	- Seaton Ward
Councillor Geoff Lilley	Greatham Ward
Councillor Arthur Preece	- Fens Ward
Councillor Michael Turner	- Seaton Ward
Councillor Maureen Waller	- Owton Ward

Residents: Pat Brotherton, Mrs I Gray, Mrs S Kell, Mr H Oxley and J Smith

Resident Representatives: Ann Butterfield, Rose Kennedy, Alison Lilley, Michael McKie, Iris Ryder and Michael Ward

Officers: David Frame, Neighbourhood Manager
Sally Forth, Anti-Social Behaviour Co-Ordinator
Peter Gouldsbro, Community Safety Officer

Police Representatives: PC Galloway and Inspector Simpson

Fire Brigade Representative Barry Waller

Housing Hartlepool Representative
Andy Elvidge

9. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chair Councillor Michael Johnson welcomed residents, Councillors and Officers

10. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Ann Marshall.

11. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th September 2006 were confirmed.

Matters arising

Resident Representative Michael Ward asked if a breakdown of crime statistics for the South area had been provided as requested at a previous meeting. Inspector Simpson advised that the presentation referred to the town as a whole but area specific figures had also been circulated.

12. UPDATE FROM THE POLICE - UPDATE ON NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING AND THE JOINT ACTION GROUP (JAGs) - POLICE

Inspector Alastair Simpson gave an update on Neighbourhood Policing. Aspects of Neighbourhood Policing were highlighted including the single point of contact phone number, the recruitment and training of 21 extra PCSOs and officer attendance at all public meetings. Analysis of Crime Statistics showed that since April 2006 total crime in Hartlepool had fallen by 10% and the crime detection rate had increased by 40%. This meant there were 867 less victims of crime than there had been in the previous year. A survey had shown that as a result of Neighbourhood Policing 89% of people felt safe walking alone during the day while 54% felt safe walking alone after dark.

Inspector Simpson and the Neighbourhood Manager then went on to update those present on the work of the Joint Action Group. Among the issues dealt with recently were

- Anti-Social Behaviour at Fens shops and St Patrick's shops

- Nuisance neighbours in the Owton area
- Anti-social behaviour and criminal damage at Fraser Grove
- A neighbour dispute in the Fens area
- Off road motorcycling

Ongoing issues included:

- Preventative measures at Fens shops
- Improvements to lighting in Rossmere Park
- The formulation of a strategy to deal with young people and alcohol related disorder
- Intensive support go a family associated with anti-social behaviour

Detailed information was given on these items by Inspector Simpson and the Neighbourhood Manager. The following issues were then raised:

- **Visual audits** – Councillor Geoff Lilley asked if information on when these would be taking place could be better communicated. Inspector Simpson said this was an ongoing concern which had hopefully be rectified.
- **Greatham crime figures** – Councillor Lilley requested information on how anti-social behaviour fitted into current crime statistics as this was an area of great importance to people. Inspector Simpson advised that anti-social behaviour could fit into a number of categories including crime, public order and criminal damage. Figures were available for reported incidents of disorder and these could be included. However as this had not been done before there would be no

comparison available. He would bring a monthly update to future residents' meetings.

- **Lack of communication** – Councillor Steve Gibbon reported that a resident had reported problems with youths to her Neighbourhood Police officers but had received no response until Councillor Gibbon contacted them. PC Galloway advised that he would need to know the details in order to comment but generally if there was a problem with the report system it would go to the central control room.
- **Fens / Greatham Police Station** – Councillor Steve Gibbon asked when this would be put in place. Inspector Simpson said there was no budgetary provision for this and it was up to the good will of people with available premises. Health and safety was also an issue. Councillor Gibbon suggested a mobile unit could be the answer while Councillor Geoff Lilley suggested Fens School as a possible venue given its status as an extended school. Inspector Simpson advised that following previous discussions there had been problems with the suggested weekly police surgeries but these would probably not apply to monthly held surgeries. Sergeant Galloway would investigate.
- **Incident number** – Resident Representative Alison Lilley asked if an incident number could automatically be provided to anyone phoning to report a crime. This would mean that all reported crime would automatically show in the statistics. Inspector Simpson advised that any reported crime was automatically recorded in the

figures whether or not an incident number was given. If a caller asked for an incident number or there was likely to be a need for them to know it they would be given it. However in practical terms it was usually be of no value to the caller and could delay the call by a few seconds which in the case of an emergency call could be valuable time.

- **Fens shops** – Resident Representative Alison Lilley praised the work undertaken by the PCSOs in that area. This location had been an issue for years and a more integrated approach with the formation of a multi-agency working group was proving effective in tackling the problems here.
- **Vegas Arcade, Seaton** – Resident Representative Iris Ryder advised that a light had been promised for the back of the Vegas Arcade but this had not yet been provided. The Neighbourhood Manager would action this.
- **Durham Police job cuts** – Councillor Steve Gibbon reported that Durham Police had replaced 100 police officers with 70 PCSOs. Inspector Simpson advised that there were no plans to take similar measures in Hartlepool. These had been budgetary issues several years ago but these had been addressed with sound financial planning
- **Budgetary issues** – Councillor Maureen Waller asked how the million pounds awarded to Hartlepool would benefit the South area. Inspector Simpson advised he would request District Commander Ashman to respond to

that query. The Chair asked that he and Councillor Maureen Waller be contacted prior to the next South Neighbourhood Consultative Forum and that a full response be brought to that meeting.

- **Detection rates** – Councillor Mike Turner requested a definition of detection. Inspector Simpson advised that this referred to an instance whereby officers were satisfied that they had found the culprit responsible for a crime – be they charged, cautioned or issued with a penalty notice. So long as there was sufficient evidence the crime had been detected, even without prosecution.

The Chair thanked Inspector Simpson for attending and answering questions.

13. UPDATE FROM THE CLEVELAND FIRE BRIGADE

Barry Waller, District Manager for Hartlepool, gave a brief update on recent activity within the Fire Brigade. In the last 3 months there had been a 20% drop in the number of dwelling fires. This meant that there had been no deaths in a fire in Hartlepool in the last 12 months. The number of car fires had also dropped largely as a result of the use of an automatic number plate recognition system. This meant that any cars which were not taxed, tested or insured were crushed before they could be burnt out. 600 had been destroyed so far.

Details were given of a number of initiatives currently being undertaken by the Fire Brigade, including:

- The formulation of a risk register for at risk properties
- A clean sweep operation involving home fire safety visits, school visits and arson audits

- A week-long life course involving 10 youths
- The Young Fire Fighters Association
- Partnership with the PCT involving tips on healthy eating, how to quit smoking and how to perform CPR
- A mobile classroom to advise young drivers of the dangers of speed. This included a hard-hitting video which the Chair requested be brought to the next Police and Community Safety Forum.

One of the primary initiatives being undertaken by the Fire Brigade was an attempt to change the bonfire night culture. It was felt that banning the sale of fireworks unless they were to be used at an organised display would be a positive step forward. This was fully supported by those present. The following issues were then raised:

BASF Incident – Councillor Geoff Lilley requested information on how updates on the situation had been given to the wider community. Most sites utilised a siren check and the public needed to know how emergency situations were advertised. The District Manager advised that BASF operated a process whereby if the only danger was on site communication was minimal but if the danger was to the public at large then the media and Councillors were informed. Concerns were raised by the Chair that despite attempts by the Emergency Planning Joint Committee there was still no alert system in place other than word of mouth. The District Manager acknowledged that this was a problem but short of knocking on doors there were few solutions. A discussion followed during which those present expressed their concerns on this matter. Following this Councillor Maureen Waller requested that an Emergency Planning Officer attend the next meeting. This was supported by the Chair.

Longhill Fires – Councillor Geoff Lilley requested an update. The District Manager described this as an ongoing problem but said measures had been taken including the successful prosecution of flytippers and the installation of CCTV. The Fire Brigade were working with the owners and it was hoped that eventually they would get sick of being prosecuted.

The Chair thanked District Manager Waller for attending and answering questions.

14. PRESENTATION ON THE NEW SECURITY GUARD CONTRACT – COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM

The Community Safety Officer gave a presentation on the Revised Community Security Contract. The main provisions of the contract included static guarding, locking and unlocking services, deterrent guarding and alarm activation response. The main priority was to reduce anti-social behaviour and minimise vandalism and damage. Details were given of the function of the security officers and their links with the police and the community. The following issues were then raised:

Bogus security guards – The Chair asked who the public should contact if they suspected someone was posing as a security guard illegally. The Community Safety Officer advised them to contact the police or the Neighbourhood Manager. Inspector Simpson said the police took this very seriously as it focused on the vulnerable in society.

Mosquito device – Councillor Geoff Lilley asked if Hartlepool Borough Council owned one of these. The Community Safety Officer advised those present that this was a device which generated noise, used to deter young people from areas. This was only used in private premises

and future usage would be discussed at anti-social behaviour task force in the future.

Signage – Resident Representative Iris Ryder requested that contact numbers for the public be included on the signage. The Community Safety Officer reported that this would be included on the advanced signage.

The Chair thanked The Community Safety Officer for attending and answering questions.

15. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR STRATEGY – COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM

The Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator gave an update on the Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy for Hartlepool. Details were given of progress to date and the three main objectives which had emerged from the consultation as follows:

- Improve Co-ordination
- Streamline use of enforcement tools
- Develop further prevention services

Members were advised that a further draft was yet to be completed and the aim was to have the final strategy in place by February or March. Consultation documents on the second draft were distributed to those present for completion.

The Chair said the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit was under funded by the Council and more resources should be identified from existing funds.

16. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

None.

**17. ANY ISSUES TO BE RAISED BY
COUNCILLORS AND RESIDENT
REPRESENTATIVES**

Greensides – Councillor Geoff Lilley asked when a meeting would take place to discuss this issue. The Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator advised that a date would be organised, hopefully within the next 2 weeks.

Alcohol byelaws – Councillor Mike Turner drew attention to the expiration of these at the end of August 2006 and asked if all police officers were aware of this change. Inspector Simpson confirmed this was the case and said the Council's Crime and Disorder Co-ordinator was hoping to reapply the existing byelaws before considering new areas. Police officers were aware of the enforcement procedures in this case.

Warrior Drive, Seaton – Councillor Mike Turner advised that there had been an accident at the Station Lane end where a lamp post had been knocked over. Was it possible for officers to look at ways of slowing the speed down on this particular stretch of road in order to prevent a recurrence? The Neighbourhood Manager would pass this request on to the Traffic Team Leader.

MICK JOHNSON

CHAIR

WARDS

Fens
Greatham
Owton
Rossmere
Seaton

SOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM

2nd February, 2007

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. at Owton Manor Community Centre,
Wynyard Road, Hartlepool

PRESENT:

Chair: Councillor Mick Johnson - Rossmere Ward

Vice Chair: Mary Green (Resident Representative)

Councillor Shaun Cook	- Rossmere Ward
Councillor Steve Gibbon	- Fens Ward
Councillor Cath Hill	- Seaton Ward
Councillor Marjorie James	- Owton Ward
Councillor Geoff Lilley	- Greatham Ward
Councillor Ann Marshall	- Rossmere Ward
Councillor Arthur Preece	- Fens Ward
Councillor Michael Turner	- Seaton Ward
Councillor Gerald Wistow	- Owton Ward
Councillor David Young	- Seaton Ward

Resident Representatives: Ann Butterfield, Rose Kennedy, Michael McVie, Iris Ryder and Michael Ward

Public: M Arnold, Steve Benven, Dorothy Clark, Elsie Grint, J Massey, John Price, J Smith, Bill Spowart, Chris Williams

Officers:

- David Frame, Town Care Manager (Horticulture)
- Paul Briggs, Assistant Director Children's Services
- Paul Mitchinson, Highway Services Manager
- Iain Campbell, Highways Technician
- Susan McBride, Neighbourhood Development Officer
- Alan Kell, Project Manager
- Peter Frost, Traffic Team Leader
- Chris Hart, Planning and Commissioning Manager Community Safety
- Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

Police Representatives: S Longstaff and C Richardson

Hartlepool PCT Representatives: Kevin Aston and Ali Wilson

Housing Hartlepool Representative: L McPartlin

35. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Pat Rayner and Resident Representative Allison Lilley.

36. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

None

37. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st December 2006 were agreed subject to an amendment to item 32 Ward Issues referring to a problem with fly tipping on MacRae Road. The Vice Chair advised that she had requested illumination on the site rather than the tackling of fly tipping.

Councillor Marjorie James asked if any response had been received to the letter (attached to the minutes) sent by the Chair of the Forum to the Development Control Manager requesting clarification on the use and ownership of the Brierton Quarry site. The Chair advised the issue was complicated in that the Environment Agency also had a legal interest and they would be contacted by officers, at the request of the Chair, before anything was submitted to the Forum in writing. It was the Chair's wish that all the information be provided at the same time, rather than piece by piece, to enable the full picture to be seen. Councillor James requested that the original letter also be included at that time for clarity.

The Chair further advised that Able UK did not have permission to take waste off TERRC sites and new permissions would be needed if they chose to do this. So far there had been no formal or informal approach from anybody.

The minutes of the South Parish Council Liason meeting on 7th November 2006 were received.

38. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Availability of School Governors contact details

– Resident Chris Williams had been unable to ascertain the names of members of the Board of Governors for a local school. He had pursued several avenues to get this information, including telephoning the school and the Children's Services Department, but had been told that this information was not available under the data protection act. Mr Williams felt this was wrong and such information should be in the public domain.

Councillors Marjorie James and Gerald Wistow supported Mr Williams in this, commenting that the names of School Governors were already in the public domain as the minutes of their meetings were a public record. Therefore their contact details should also be readily available. The Children's Services Assistant Director advised that as a governing body has a corporate identity then individual governors do not have individual responsibility. The names of governors should be in the public domain but their private addresses should not be divulged. Any post for them should be forwarded through the school. However if the governor in question was also a councillor then their private address was already publicly available. Mr Williams said he had been refused the names of governors and not given the option of contacting them via the school. However this avenue would have been of no use to him owing to the tight timescales involved.

Public access to sports hall – Resident Chris Williams advised that he had recently been unable to hire a school

sports hall which his daughter's martial arts group had used previously. This had affected the group in a detrimental manner. The sports hall in question had been built using a Sports Council Lottery Grant and Mr Williams questioned whether this closure to the public meant the school were reneging on the terms of the funding. It was his understanding that extended schools meant school buildings were available to the public. Councillor Mike Turner said this was a serious issue and requested that the Head and Chair of Governors of the school in question be invited to the next meeting of the Forum to discuss this situation and put forward their case. The Chair asked the Children's Services Assistant Director to liaise with the Ward Councillors on this matter.

Rossmere Park Footpath – Resident Steve Benven felt that the current improvement works to the footpath were substandard and had left it in a worse state than before. The Highway Services Manager advised that the entire footpath would need to be replaced but this would be done on a rolling basis. The current work was only intended to make the path safe. Mr Benven said that the path had been made worse by the work and questioned if funding from the Friends of Rossmere Park had been used on this project. The Highway Services Manager reported that the Neighbourhood Action Plan had funded the improvements and would continue to do so until the end of March. The Chair commented that there was not enough money available to retarmac the entire footpath and Councillor Marjorie James advised the Highway Services Manager to work with the Friends of Rossmere Park to secure any additional funding needed.

Resident Steve Benven also requested information on when the work would be completed as the workmen were using a local house as a base and the land was

becoming disturbed as a result. The Chair advised that Housing Hartlepool were responsible for the work and suggested Mr Benven speak to their representative.

39. BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE STAGE 2 CONSULTATION

The Children's Services Assistant Director gave a presentation on Building Schools for the Future. This was 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 Stakeholder 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:

The options – Councillor Maureen Waller felt that of the three options there was only one choice and that was to close Brierton Community School. The other two options would jeopardise the £90 million funding and nobody was going to do that. She appreciated that no decision had been made in actuality but in practical terms it already had been. The Assistant Director advised that the status quo was always included in any consultations of this kind. The option to keep all six schools but make them smaller could be viable. However he acknowledged that this would cast doubt on whether Government funding could be procured.

Falling numbers of children – Resident Mr Massie queried this statistical information citing the increase in new housing and anticipated influx of asylum seekers. However the Assistant Director advised that these issues had been taken into account.

Brierton - The Assistant Director advised that only 120 of the 215 places available for the 2007/08 academic year had been applied for so far. However Councillor Gerald Wistow felt this was a result of the publicity regarding possible closure in

recent weeks. Parents would naturally choose to go elsewhere if they thought the school may close in the future. Councillor Geoff Lilley drew attention to the fact that the closure of Brierton would leave only one secondary school in the South area. This would necessarily lead to transport implications. The Assistant Director advised that a list of primary schools which would partner the secondary schools had been drawn up in order to keep schools at a manageable size and also cut down on any transport problems. Councillor Marjorie James reported that the recommendation to reduce the number of secondary schools, and close Brierton, had been made by the school heads themselves and was not foisted upon them.

Learning Village – One of the options for special educational needs was the formation of a learning village on a new site, incorporating the existing Catcote School and Springwell School. Councillor Marjorie James praised this idea as a chance to give better life experience to the pupils.

The Chair thanked the Assistant Director for attending the meeting and answering questions.

40. ANNUAL DRUG TREATMENT PLAN 2007 DRAFT

The Planning and Commissioning Manager 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.

The Planning and Commissioning Manager 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, Planning and Commissioning Manager 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.

The Planning and Commissioning Manager offered to attend resident group meetings to give a presentation if required.

Following the presentation a number of questions/issues arose:

Meal Vouchers – Councillor Shaun Cook expressed concern at the recent practice in other authorities of giving meal vouchers to drug users to keep them off drugs. The Planning and Commissioning Manager said the Safer Hartlepool Partnership did not have the resources to

implement such a scheme. Drug users themselves had indicated they did not want to receive vouchers or monetary rewards of any kind as it would leave them vulnerable to the temptation of selling them for cash to buy drugs.

Drug collection dates – Resident Steve Benvin asked if details of dates for drug collection could be magnetised for attachment to the fridge in a similar way that recycling information had been. The Planning and Commissioning Manager said this could be included with other items.

Treatment of recovering drug users – Councillor Marjorie James referred to the stigma attached to recovering addicts, saying public humiliation by pharmacists would only lead to them not going for their medication. The Planning and Commissioning Manager acknowledged that a lot of frontline staff did not give recovering users the courtesy they deserved and this was something the PCT were looking into. Councillor Cath Hill made reference to the pharmacy in Seaton Carew where users were treated with the utmost respect and vice versa.

The Chair thanked the Planning and Commissioning Manager for attending the meeting and answering questions.

41. PROCURING ADDITIONAL GP SERVICES FOR HARTLEPOOL

Ali Wilson, Hartlepool PCT Representative, gave a presentation on the Fairness and Equity in Primary Care public consultation currently underway. The PCT had been asked to provide details on how it would like to make best use of 4-6 additional GPs. Based on the response from local residents 3 service models had been identified as follows

- A new GP practice to provide additional substance misuse services
- A new GP practice to provide essential, additional and enhanced services, with extended opening hours and improved links to Children's services, Learning Disability Services and Mental Health Services. This would be located in an area of the town with a low supply of GPs.
- A new GP practice to provide essential, additional and enhanced services with extended opening hours and act as an urgent care centre for the town. Probably based with the A&E area at University Hospital of Hartlepool.

Included in the presentation were slides giving more detailed information on these options and advising as to the expected timeline for these changes to take place. Ms Wilson urged all those present to become involved in the consultation process.

Councillor Marjorie James expressed concern at the references to Independent Sector Procurement within the presentation, asking if this was privatisation by another name. Criticism was also levelled at the decision to remove emergency care services from the Wynyard Road Primary Care Centre which Councillor James requested be referred to scrutiny through the Forum.

In addition Councillor James questioned if the presentation given at the meeting would be referred to as consultation by the PCT when in fact it had merely been information. Ms Wilson assured those present that the presentation was only the start of the consultation process and they were actively seeking the public's view

Councillor Geoff Lilley asked if the proposed Primary Care Centre on the

former Barlows site had been scrapped. Ms Wilson denied this, saying the building was continuing apace. In response to further queries Ms Wilson advised that this site may provide out of hours cover currently provided at the University of Hospital site but no firm decisions had yet been made.

Councillor Gerald Wistow said that the removal of emergency care services from Primary Care Centres in the South area meant people were forced to attend Accident and Emergency when they would prefer somewhere closer. Ms Wilson acknowledged that there was a lack of GPs in the South area. The cost of one person attending A&E was the same as the annual cost for one person's care with a GP. For that reason it was in the PCT's best interests to improve urgent access to GPs at local surgeries. There was no reason for this not to be provided at the Barlows site. With reference to Wynyard she explained that there had been some initial problems with the emergency care provision at that Centre which had posed potential risks to the public and practitioners. For that reason these services had been suspended and the emergency care services moved to the rapid response teams for the time being. This situation would be looked at under the urgent care review.

Resident Chris Williams queried the provision of out of hours care in Hartlepool, criticising the current practice of sending patients to Stockton after 8pm. Ms Wilson said the rapid response team hours had recently been extended to midnight and home visits continued to be available. However the reality was that after 8pm the out-of hours service was distinctly under-used.

Following the discussion it was agreed that a referral be made from the South Neighbourhood Consultative Forum as follows:

“Referral to Adult and Community Services and Health Scrutiny Forum of the service mix being proposed at Primary Care Centres in Hartlepool and whether this reflects local needs and aspirations. Starting with Wynyard Road”

The Chair thanked Ms Wilson for attending and answering questions.

42. MINOR WORKS BUDGET PROPOSALS

The Forum were asked to agree to recommend the following minor works schemes to the Portfolio Holder for approval:

1. Greatham Ward – Hill View – two new columns and lanterns – cost £2,500.
2. Greatham Ward – Front Street – combining the flower beds at the entrance to Greatham Village on Front Street into one substantial bed and re-turfing the existing areas – cost £325.
3. Greatham Ward – Kings Meadow/A689 – The lay-by adjacement to Kings Meadow on the A689 eastbound carriageway to have shrubs removed to the front allowing unimpeded views of the site and thus preventing fly tipping – cost £610.
4. Greatham Ward – Road repairs – The Green (access road to properties), The Oval (access road to properties) and West Row entrance – cost £4,700.
5. Fens and Greatham Wards – 50 lantern changes – cost £7,950.

6. Fens Ward – Fens shopping parade – two new columns and lanterns at the rear – cost £2,100.
7. Seaton Ward – South End – one new column and lantern – cost £2,000
8. Seaton Ward – Grosmont Road – verge reinstatement with Bitmac – cost £3,000.
9. Owton Ward – Jameson Road / Joppa Grove – verge reinstatement with Bitmac – cost £3,400.
10. Rossmere Ward – Caithness Road – verge reinstatement with Bitmac – cost £2,700.

Decision – The Forum agreed that subject to clarification of the specific details all schemes be recommended to the Portfolio Holder for approval.

43. WARD ISSUES

Councillor Shaun Cook requested information on the Seaton Meadows landfill site on Brenda Road. The road was in a poor state of repair and was causing damage to cars. Drivers were now choosing to use Station Lane. The Town Care Manager advised that he would be writing to the Environment Agency on this issue and would keep the Forum updated.

The Vice-Chair asked if the potholes in Primure Road and Hunter Road could be repaired. The Highway Services Manager advised that these were on the work programme for 2007/08.

Councillors Geoff Lilley and Ann Marshall raised the issue of fires in Rossmere Park.

Councillor Geoff Lilley expressed concern at a resurgence of anti-social behaviour in the Fens ward, particularly the south area.

Councillor Mike Turner asked if it was the responsibility of Able UK or the Council to clean the Newcomb site. The Town Care Manager (Horticulture) advised that it was the Council's responsibility and it would be taken care of.

Councillor Mike Turner requested that the problem of cars speeding on Warrior Drive be looked at. This was passed to the Traffic Team Leader.

Councillor Ann Marshall advised there were pot holes on the Stockton Road slip road. The Highway Services Manager noted this.

Councillor Ann Marshall referred to problems with cars parking outside Ardrossan Court. This was causing problems for other drivers particularly buses. The Traffic Team Leader advised that yellow lines were being considered for this area.

Resident John Price requested that maintenance of the footpath from Newton Bewley to Wolviston be made an ongoing programme. The Town Care Manager (Horticulture) noted this.

Resident Dorothy Clark asked if rules regarding litter and dog fouling could be enforced in Greatham. Councillor Geoff Lilley suggested it was the responsibility of the Hospital of God to report such incidents to the police.

44. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

To be held on Friday 12th February 2007 commencing at 10am at Owton Manor Community Centre.

The next South Police and Community Safety Forum will take place on Friday 2nd February 2007 commencing at 120am at Owton Manor Community Centre.

M JOHNSON

Chair