

Parish Council Liaison Forum

A meeting of Parish Council Liaison Forum was held on Monday, 15th June, 2009.

Present: Cllr Mrs Jennie Beaumont, Cllr David Coleman, Cllr Miss Barbara Inman, Cllr Terry Laing, Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley and Cllr Barry Woodhouse.

Officers: M Clifford, J Hall, J Higgins, C Straughan, D Stamper (DNS); S Lee (CE); P K Bell (LD).

Also in attendance: G Corr, T Bowman (Ingleby Barwick Parish Council); C Algie (Malty Parish Council); Cllr H Atkinson (Billingham Town Council); G Rees (Grindon Parish Council); S Oliver (Broadacres Housing Association); N Rosser, J Rosser (Long Newton Parish Council).

Apologies: Cllr Kevin Faulks.

PCL 1/09 Appointment of Chairman-Municipal Year 2009/2010

RESOLVED that Councillor Coleman be appointed Chairman for the Municipal Year 2009/10.

PCL 2/09 Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

PCL 3/09 Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th March 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2009 were agreed as a correct record.

PCL 4/09 Stockton-on-Tees Rural Housing Needs Study-Presentation

Dr Michael Bullock (Director of Arc4) and Kirstine Riding (Rural Housing Expert) were in attendance at the meeting and gave Members a presentation on the Rural Housing Needs Study. The presentation covered the following key areas:-

1. Reasons for the research
2. Available evidence
3. Key aims of the research
4. Proposed approach
5. Engagement with Parish Council
6. Household survey
7. Example of output
8. Intermediate tenure
9. Delivery of rural affordable housing
10. Actual deliver
11. Next steps

Members were given the opportunity to ask questions on the presentation and received clarification on a number of matters.

RESOLVED that the presentation be received.

PCL 5/09 Sustainable Communities Act-Presentation

Simon Lee (Policy and Development Manager) was in attendance at the meeting and gave Members a presentation on the Sustainable Communities Act. The presentation covered the following key areas:-

1. Background
2. How the Act works
3. Example proposals
4. Community proposals
5. What next

Members were given the opportunity to ask questions on the presentation and received clarification on a number of matters.

RESOLVED that the presentation be received.

**PCL
6/09**

Home Improvement Agency-Presentation

Stuart Oliver (Broadacres Housing Association) was in attendance at the meeting and gave Members a presentation on the Home Improvement Agency. The presentation covered the following key areas:-

1. Background
2. A shared vision
3. Outcome
4. Service provision
5. Repairs and improvements
6. Minor adaptations
7. Handyperson services
8. Home safety assessments
9. Social enterprise
10. Referrals
11. Contact details

Members were given the opportunity to ask questions on the presentation and received clarification on a number of matters.

RESOLVED that the presentation be received.

**PCL
7/09**

Integrated Health and Care Facility, Stockton

Ruth Hill (Assistant Director Commissioning/Head of Adult Strategy) was in attendance at the meeting and gave Members a presentation on the Integrated Health and Care Facility, Stockton. The presentation covered the following key areas:-

1. Background
2. Current provision at Alma Street
3. Service impact
4. Day services
5. Proposals for communications

Members were given the opportunity to ask questions on the presentation and received clarification on a number of matters.

RESOLVED that the presentation be received.

**PCL
8/09**

Safer Stockton Partnership-Crime Rates in Stockton

Marilyn Davies (Community Safety Manager) was in attendance at the meeting and gave Members a presentation on the Safer Stockton Partnership - Crime Rates in Stockton. The presentation covered the following key areas:-

1. Recorded crime Boroughwide
2. Comparison with neighbours
3. Crime types
4. Crime rates
5. Mori results
6. Challenges

Members were given the opportunity to ask questions on the presentation and received clarification on a number of matters.

RESOLVED that the presentation be received.

**PCL
9/09**

Issues Raised by Parish/Town Councils

The responses to the questions raised by Parish/Town Councils were discussed.

With regard the issue raised by Long Newton Parish Council that the Parish Council support the mobile library service, and request Stockton Borough Council confirm how safe the future delivery of this service is in rural areas?

The response was as follows:-

All services of Stockton Borough Council were facing increasing financial pressures but the value of the Library Service to the rural communities was recognised and acknowledged. As such there were no plans or intentions to reduce the Mobile Library Service in the areas, including Long Newton. In fact SBC were looking to further develop the Service to meet the needs of the Communities.

Currently the Mobile Library Service had four very well used stops, every second Wednesday, in Long Newton:

1. East End (4 people)
2. West End (7- 9 people)
3. St Mary's School (22 People – pupils)
4. West Moor Farm (3 people)

SBC reviewed the timetable annually. In the future SBC would envisage

evening and weekend working to offer a Service in line with SBC static community libraries. However, these changes would be done in consultation with the customers, residents, staff and the Parish Council to identify what service the Community needs / wants.

The Mobile Library Service had all of the facilities that a community library offered and new services that SBC would be introducing for the benefit of customers in the near future included:-

- Satellite link on the Mobile Library to facilitate access to Health and other Council information through the internet
- Loan of energy monitors
- Bicycle locks and security kits.

Long Newton Parish Council were happy with the response.

RESOLVED that the responses be noted.