

Meeting: Monday 17 June 2019

**Present:**

Kirstin Richardson  
George MacCoy  
Dave Hutchinson  
Joe Thompson  
Grahame Tobin  
Susan Lawrence  
Howard Lawrence  
Brian Navi  
Viv Davies  
Richard Moss  
Cllr Joan Atkinson  
Cllr Jane Carter  
Roy Wilburn  
Mick Jarvis  
Ann Jarvis  
Audrey Polkinghorn (Silksworth Residents Group)  
Ron Polkinghorn (Silksworth Residents Group)

**Apologies:**

Jane Howarth  
Lesley Younger  
Alan Younger  
Phil Payne  
Merv Butler  
Delia McNally  
Sue Balmer  
Miriam Hardie  
Christine Coleman-Smith

**Minutes of previous meeting:**

The minutes of the meeting were approved by members present.

**Welcome from the Chair:**

Kirstin welcomed members to the meeting, including Audrey & Ron Polkinhorne from Silksworth Residents Group, who had come to observe how a Neighbourhood Forum was operating.

**Matters arising.**

**Tillesheds Crossing:**

The concerns raised by residents were raised when Executive members met with Trevor Male on 17<sup>th</sup> June. Trevor acknowledged that communications with residents about possible work at the crossing should have been better and would be improved in future. He undertook to contact residents and the Forum on a timely basis regarding any future developments.

**Forum event on 22 June:**

Preparations were progressing on schedule with us having access to the school at 4.30pm on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June to set up the event.

### **Design Code for Built Environment:**

Joe Thompson and Howard Lawrence guided the meeting through an initial draft of the key objectives for the design code (attached to minutes). A productive discussion followed with the following comments noted:

- It should be a priority for new housing development to be located on brownfield sites.
- Any new developments should be linked to the rest of the community by green corridors.
- Appropriate numbers of affordable houses should be included in any new housing developments.
- Planning permission should not be given for the conversion of residential properties for business use. A recent example being the flat above Master Debonaire.
- New housing developments should be made up of a mix of designs to provide variety and reflect the mixture of existing housing types within East Boldon.
- The height & number of storeys of any new housing should be restricted.
- Any new housing should be incorporate environmentally friendly design – eg, solar panels, high levels of insulation, water efficiency measures etc.

#### **Actions:**

- *Joe and Howard to finalise draft Design Guide for inclusion in Design Code being developed by Aecom on behalf of the Forum.*

### **Planning Appeal – Former Suzuki Garage, Station Approach**

The applicants have appealed South Tyneside Council's two refusals of their application for a hairdresser's and beauty salon to the Secretary of State. Initial review of the appeal has shown that there are no substantial new reasons put forward. Comments submitted on the previous applications will be considered by the Secretary of State. The deadline for any further comments is 9 July. Forum members have been notified of the appeal and the deadline for responses.

#### **AOB:**

##### **Proposed traffic regulation orders, Langholm Road and St John's Terrace.**

Residents directly affected by the proposed parking restrictions expressed concern over the poor communication from South Tyneside Council – those attending the meeting had not received a letter and a notice on a lamppost had only been seen a few days before the deadline for responses. Forum Executive members raised these concerns when they met with Council officers on 17<sup>th</sup> June and received assurances that residents and the Forum would be given adequate notice of future proposed traffic regulation orders within the Forum area.

Councillors Atkinson and Carter mentioned that they had been in discussion with Trevor Mackie about ways in which the parking problems in the vicinity of the shops on Station Terrace could be alleviated, and the outcome was the proposals in question. They acknowledged the difficulty of balancing the interests of affected residents with the needs of local businesses and that the proposed solution was a compromise.

Further comments included:

- Pressure should be maintained on Nexus and South Tyneside Council to identify a solution to the problems caused by Metro parking.
- More frequent visits by traffic wardens to the affected area to catch breaches of existing parking restrictions.

- The recent opening of new businesses on Station Approach and St Bede's has exacerbated the parking problems, and South Tyneside Council should reconsider the introduction of some form of residents parking permit scheme.

#### **Forum Funds**

- The Treasurer reported that there was a delay in receiving the Locality funding for 2019/20, resulting in a current net bank balance of £25 after accounting for an un-presented cheque of £100. There are outstanding invoices of £159 for printing and others payments soon to become due for expenses relating to the consultation event.

#### *Actions:*

- *Agreed to hold a raffle to raise funds at the consultation event. Income would also be raised from sales of refreshments.*
- *Defer payment of invoices until sufficient funds are available.*

Date of next meeting: Monday 15 July 2019 at 7.30 pm in Scout Hut

Meeting closed 8.50 pm