

KEVIN PITT – BILLINGHAM CARNIVAL

Kevin gave members an overview of the carnival which is attended by approximately 6–8000 people. The two day event held at the Billingham Green and Bulgarth areas provides a free kiddies corner, Senior Citizens Corner and many other attractions. The show has something for all ages to enjoy with the emphasis on family and brings a community spirit to the area. Roger is looking for a partnership approach with Billingham Town Council and the possibility of the Town Council funding the Carnival. Kevin advised members that Roger Black looks for funding January/February every year. Kevin explained about some of the strategic elements of the carnival that need to be kept in place.

A questions and answers session took place.

Q. Cllr Scott – Not particularly keen on show rides, however I really like the horticulture show. Location “Old Billingham” associated in Old Billingham. Is the Christmas Party opened to all of Billingham?

A. No pensioners turned away – if it attracts pensioners from other areas then that is fine. If you took away the fair rides than the show would decline

Cllr Scott advised that BTC precept needs to benefit all residents of Billingham.

Cllr McCoy the Folklore used to be part of Old Billingham as the parade started there. Should not be “them & “us” the event needs more publicity. Cllr McCoy feels that do need fair to attract all ages and that Billingham Town Council should support it.

Chairman people don’t think it’s for all of Billingham due to the location.

Cllr Mike Smith a number of issues need to be addressed. Perfect example of being able to show people what is involved in Carnival and what/who benefits from the monies left over from the Carnival.

As a Town Council do we want to talk about this in serious discussion as do we really need to see it diminish? Its one of the best garden shows in region and attracts people from afar.

Kevin stated that we could have a localised pensioner’s party in each area. The event is now called “Billingham Carnival & Garden Show”. Legacy project 100 years now and 100 years on to be launched at Carnival next year involves all of schools.

Kevin was asked if the carnival Committee are just asking for funding.

Cllr Mike Smith stated that Billingham Town Council need to look at this objectively as it would be better to try and move away from the idea that not going to work where it is located.

Cllr Mockler asked if the Committee would consider moving to John Whitehead Park.

Kevin stated that the Committee would not agree to this.

Cllr McCoy stated if it moved would be a retrograde step. If we feel it is a worthwhile project then we should support regardless of location. Engage with Kevin & Roger if we are to have another meeting to discuss further. Dave Adams extended schools involved with project (legacy). Started from little acorns got a lot bigger.

It was resolved

Kevin was thanked for attending the meeting.

A special Town Council meeting to be held to debate this further on 15 December 2009 at 6.15 pm. More information needed – new initiatives need more information. Allotments for children? All information from last years carnival – need all success stories – people they have helped. All areas of Billingham/Schools.

405/09

**NICOLA GARNHAM, REGENERATION OFFICER -
Stockton Borough Council**

Nicola gave an update on regeneration matters in Billingham, further to the report which was circulated in November.

Areas discussed were, Town Centre redevelopment, Billingham House, Forum, Integrated Health & Social Care Facility and John Whitehead Park.

Nicola informed members that Stockland were pleased with the response from the public over the unveiled town centre regeneration plans and over 1600 attended.

A questions & answers session took place.

Q. Cllr Pollard – Where do members of the public post their responses?

A. At 108 Queensway or libraries.

Members asked about the plans for Kwik Save? The Executive Officer advised members that she would advise Councillors when the plans come into the office to gather their comments/responses.

It was resolved

The update from Nicolas is accepted.

Nicola was thanked for attending the meeting.

406/09 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No public in attendance.

407/09 MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 20th October 2009

Consideration was given to the minutes of the Town Council meeting on 20th October 2009.

It was resolved

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

408/09 MATTERS ARISING – from minutes of meeting (discussion only)

Item **395/09** Cllr Mike Smith asked where the funding is coming from for centre of excellence. The Executive Officer advised that the project is only at idea stages and appropriate funding will be looked into.

Page 8 Youth Provider Cllr Mike Smith asked why Billingham Town Council hosting facebook?

The Executive Officer explained that we offered to collate all information on Youth Services, so that there will be a comprehensive guide for youngsters to access easily and a site most familiar with i.e. facebook.

397/09 – Stoney Oak Cllr Mike Smith advised members that the planning application has been withdrawn as the refrigeration units in the original plans are no longer needed.

Cllr Pollard enquired why the planning application for 31-33 Station Road was refused. An explanation was given by Cllr Mike Smith.

It was resolved

Questions and answers accepted.

409/09 MINUTES OF THE SERVICES & AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 11th NOVEMBER 2009

Consideration was given to the recommendations from the minutes of the Services & Amenities Committee on 11th November 2009.

It was resolved

The minutes were accepted as a true record of proceedings and the recommendations made by the Committee are to be accepted.

410/09 MATTERS ARISING – from the minutes of the Services & Amenities Committee on the 11th November 2009

SA43/09 Mugga at High Grange – was there a consultation? Can we check with Keith Mathews, Parks & Countryside's, Stockton Borough Council.

SA46/09 Dog/Litter Bins – Cllr Mike Smith why do we need to increase budget to 5K? The Executive Officer advised that we have overspent in this year's budget, but was approved previously at Services & Amenities Committee/Town Council to take money from the reserves. Therefore, if the Council intend to continue the project each year then it would be prudent to increase the budget as we have been advised that Stockton Borough Council no longer fund dog/litter bins. This is now paid out of SEIB (Small Environment Improvement Budget) which Ward Councillors allocate to projects.

Cllr McCoy felt that more and more is coming out of the SEIB (Small Environmental Improvement Budget).

Cllr Stoker stated that he felt that officers at Stockton Borough Council back heel projects and say speak to Ward Councillors.

The Chairman mentioned enforcement provision and spoke about the increase in anti-social behaviour and criminal damage.

It was resolved

The Executive Officer to speak to Keith Mathews regarding public consultation for Mugga at High Grange. The increase for dog/litter bins be incorporated into 2010/11 budget.

411/09 MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON 12th NOVEMBER 2009

Consideration was given to the recommendations from the minutes of the Finance & Resources Committee on 12th November 2009.

It was resolved

The minutes were accepted as a true record of proceedings and the recommendations made by the Finance & Resources Committee on 12th November 2009 are to be accepted.

412/09 MATTERS ARISING – from the minutes of the Finance & Resources Committee on the 12th November 2009

FR106/09 Cllr Mike Smith queried enforcement provision? The Executive Officer gave a break down on costs for additional enforcement provision of 12 hours per week on a Friday/Saturday patrolling all areas of Billingham (2 officers).

Members questioned what would happen to the patrol car the rest of the week? The Executive Officer to check the cost of vehicle hire.

Cllr McCoy stated that she had noticed from the crime statistics that antisocial behaviour has gone up.

The Executive Officer informed members about the recent fires within John Whitehead Park. It would appear that the CCTV cameras are not set up correctly to monitor certain areas of the park.

FR107/09 – Members discussed the Complaints procedure and agreed the procedure be adopted.

It was resolved:

The Executive Officer to enquire about the use of the car for enforcement patrolling. And breakdown costs for this.

Complaints Procedure to be adopted and added to existing policies.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT – PLUS UPDATE ON CHRISTMAS EVENT

The Executive Officer gave members her monthly update on:

Communities Fund

The Executive Officer advised members that we have engaged with 16 clients one of which has gained employment, and one awaiting the result of an interview. The Executive Officer explained that the largest percentage of target is with incapacity benefit. The Executive Officer explained that Laura is to work on targeting this in the New Year in relation to engagement onto the programme.

Cllr McCoy asked if individuals receive incapacity benefit do we help with mental health checks? The Executive Officer advised that no individual is turned away.

Youth Café

The Executive Officer advised members that she has been informed that the Youth review will be delayed until January 2010.

Cllr Mike Smith stated that he has concerns in respect of the Youth review.

Newsletter

Cllr Mike Smith enquired if the Town Council is still going ahead with newsletters? The Executive Officer advised that a newsletter would be going out to residents late November.

The Executive Officer gave further updates on:

- Allotment provision
- Winter Tubs
- Christmas Event
- Community Newspaper
- Billingham Folklore

The Executive Officer also advised that she had been asked by Cleveland Local Council Association to present an information stand at their training event on 30 November 2009 as we have been recognised as an up and coming Town Council. This will give Billingham Town Council opportunity to advise other Council's of our projects etc.

Members thanked Dianne and her team for the hard work carried out this year.

It was resolved:

The Executive Officers report is accepted.

414/09 FINANCE

The members considered the monthly Schedule of Accounts previously circulated.

It was resolved

The monthly accounts are accepted for payment.

415/09 BUDGET/PRECEPT 2010/11 – Proposals for Projects 2010/11

It was agreed to move this agenda item to the Town Council meeting in January 2010, as more costings need to be acquired.

It was resolved

Budget/Precept 2010/11 to be discussed at Town Council meeting on 19 January 2010.

416/09 PLANNING

The planning application report (previously circulated) was reviewed/discussed by members.

Cllr Stoker asked if Billingham Town Council could ask for a copy of the plans for planning application number **09/2747/FUL St John The Evangelist Roman Catholic Primary School, Cowpen Lane, Billingham** as not sure of extension how far into car park this goes.

Cllr Stoker reported that support may be needed from the Town Council for the SIDS (Speed Indicator Device) Central Avenue/Cowpen Lane which may be funded from schools budget.

It was resolved:

The planning applications are approved.

Cllr Stoker to let Executive Officer know progress of proposed SIDS on Central Avenue/Cowpen Lane.

417/09 CORRESPONDENCE

The Executive Officer advised members of the following correspondence:

1. INEOS
2. PA System
3. NPL meeting
4. Hospital beds – information received from PCT
5. A19 noise active group petition

Cllr Milner stated that the A19 should have been resurfaced a while ago. Cllr Frank Cook has been approached for help with this matter. Highways stated that in 2018 they will look at skid resistance.

Cllr McCoy stated that perhaps the PCT could help fund resurfacing as more cars will be using this road to reach the new hospital at Wynyard.

It was resolved

Items of correspondence are accepted.

Executive Officer to reply to A19 Noise Action Group and state that Billingham Town Council will support in relation to their petition.

418/09 OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Atkinson asked about the status on Billingham Train Station. The Executive Officer will speak to Richard McGuckin at Stockton Borough Council for an update

Cllr Milner informed members that she had been advised at the Police Liaison meeting that there is a new Inspector, Andy Fox who is now replacing Stuart Micklewright who retired early November 2009. Andy seems to be very proactive in his actions.

It was resolved

Inspector Fox to be invited to future Town Council meeting.

Billingham Town Council to support A19 Noise Active Group in relation to their petition.

419/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is **Tuesday 19th January 2010** commencing at 6.30 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting was closed.

Signed.....
Chairman to Billingham Town Council