

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL Wednesday 5th September 2018

Events & Culture

1. The Nagar Kirtan

The annual Sikh festival once again flooded the streets of Middlesbrough with colour as the Sikh community took to the streets of Middlesbrough and processed from the Lorne Street Temple to Centre Square. The Events team supported the Temple committee to plan and deliver the celebration event which took place on Sunday 22nd July.

The sun beamed throughout the day and hundreds of people enjoyed the celebration which included a display of traditional martial arts and songs from local children. The Committee thanked the Council for its ongoing support of the annual event.



2. Eid in the Park

The first Eid in the park took place on the 15th June and up to 1,000 people gathered in Albert Park to celebrate the end of Ramadan.

The event brought the Middlesbrough Muslim community together to offer their Eid prayer in Albert Park for the first time.

Eid ul Fitr - the first of the two Eids celebrated by the Muslim community - consists of the coming together of Muslim men, women and children to celebrate the end of Ramadan.

Tahir Majid, part of the team organising the day was very thankful for the help and support provided by the Events team and Middlesbrough councils community safety officers throughout the planning process.

The event was so well received that they have requested permission to hold another event to celebrate the second Eid which will take place on the 21st August in Albert Park.

3. Cleveland Show

The longest running event in Middlesbrough the Cleveland show is one of the largest one-day agricultural shows in all of the North East.

Highlights in the main ring this year included the return of equine stunt team The Devil's Horsemen, the 3SIXTY Bicycle stunt team, Ben Potter Birds of Prey, and a vintage tractor parade.

All the usual farmyard and domestic animal competitions took place as well as a brand new section for home baking.

4. Middlesbrough Mela

A little (or maybe a lot) of rain didn't put off the Middlesbrough mela committee from delivering another spectacular event. The 28th year of Middlesbrough mela got off to a damp and soggy start on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th August but both days finished in glorious sunshine.

The Events team hold two seats on the mela committee and together with support of the Chair Naveed Hussian and Secretary Kash Patel the Mela was planned and delivered in a place the Event knows well – Albert Park. The fusion of fashion fabric music along with the opportunity to participate in many activities has always made the mela the very best free and unticketed event in the North east.

Opinions on where the best location for the event is seems to be split down the middle with lots of our stakeholders and audience each having a particular favourite place. Some preferring Albert Park and others wanting to return to Centre Square. Whichever side of the fence the audience sat on what they agreed was that they love the mela and look forward to it every year.



Captain Cook and Dorman Museums

5. Captain Cook Museum – Dementia Group featured in the Gazette

The group of community artists developing paintings in the Captain Cook Birthplace Museum have featured in the Gazette.

News

Artists show off masterpieces at museum



The group from Volunteering Matters with their artwork on display at the Captain Cook Birthplace Museum

A GROUP of Teesside artists has shown off their artistic endeavour in an exhibition at the Captain Cook Birthplace Museum.

The venue in Stewart Park has been playing host to the group of service users and volunteers from Volunteering Matters.

The budding artists took inspiration from contemporary images of sites associated with the famous explorer from around the world as part of the museum's Cook's Sites exhibition displays.

In response, the group, who have dementia, created their own watercolours of places

associated with Cook around Yorkshire and the North-east.

Museums access officer Jenny Phillips said: "The enthusiasm of the group was infectious, and it was fantastic to see them progress from beginners to producing their own landscape images."

The group was guided by watercolour tutor Andy Taylor. He added: "This project has been a real pleasure from the very beginning. A very worthwhile and important issue and a great group of people to participate with."

Visitors can see the exhibition between Tuesday and Sunday from 10.30am to 3.30pm.



6. Middlesbrough Town Hall Participatory Programme

The Street Orchestra, and the Oyster Opera visited North Ormesby over the Summer months and popped up at the North Ormesby market. This is part of Arts Council England's funded extended Town Hall programme. The pop up orchestra was conducted by young people who attended the market and the feedback and comments have been very positive.

Michelle Wren is the first artist in residence at Middlesbrough Town Hall. Michelle runs workshops and facilitates making art with lots of different groups and ages. All the themes of the work we create is led by the group and area that she is working in. Michelle is running workshops in Middlesbrough Town hall and across Middlesbrough during the week of 13 August, reimagining what Middlesbrough will be like in the future, making works from maps, cardboard and recycled materials. The following week, Michelle will be turning these ideas into a series of large art pieces which will be erected in Centre Square and around on Saturday 25 August.

Stronger Communities

7. Integrated Enforcement (CCTV & Street Wardens)

A huge well done to Street Wardens Sharon Coles and Andy Treloare who scooped the Team Award in "Customer Excellence" after saving a member of the public's life whilst on patrol in North Ormesby. Wardens administered CPR for 7 minutes whilst waiting for paramedics to arrive which undoubtedly saved her life.

The same two Wardens also submitted intelligence received from North Ormesby residents to Cleveland Police about alleged cannabis farms. The Police raided the properties and a quantity of cannabis plants were recovered to the value of £100,000.



Street Wardens have dealt with approximately 201 incidents of anti-social behaviour and environmental crime in the last month. They continue to be deployed across the town's priority locations dealing with a wide range of incidents.

CCTV operators were alerted to a report of a knifepoint robbery in North Ormesby where a male had his motorbike stolen. The motorbike and 2 suspects were monitored by cameras heading towards Whinney Banks. Police were directed to the location and both were arrested within 10 minutes. One of the individuals appeared in court two days later for the offence. He is now on remand awaiting sentencing.

Working in partnership with Cleveland Police, CCTV operatives provided assistance to a PCSO who had identified a female wanted for prison recall. Operatives continued to monitor the area when the PCSO had lost sight of the individual. She was quickly found hiding in a garden so the PCSO was directed to the location and was subsequently arrested.

Whilst carrying out general monitoring, CCTV operatives identified 3 individuals climbing over a wall of a local computer outlet in the town centre. Police were informed and descriptions provided whilst the operator continued to monitor the rear and front of the building. Upon arrival of the Police, one male was detained, whilst another male had made his way on to the roof where he was discovered by Police. The Fire Service had to be called and the area cordoned off, whilst officers attempted to coax the male down. He was eventually arrested.

CCTV staff have dealt with 536 incidents within the last month and the above updates are just a sample of the tremendous results our CCTV cameras have across the town.

8. Selective Landlord Licensing

Crime prevention walkabouts have been reviewed in order to ensure effective deployment of resources whilst preventing duplication. Officers from various departments regularly patrol North Ormesby in order to identify issues such as; environmental crime, fly tipping, dog fouling, criminal damage, properties open for access and anti-social behaviour. Rather than joint multi agency walkabouts, deployment will be staggered across each service resulting in wider coverage and

more frequent walkabouts. Any required actions as a result of the walkabouts, will be fed back to the Selective Licencing Team to collate incident types and monitor impact.

A working group has also been established to replace the Strategic JAG meeting. A scanning document will be produced initially every 6 weeks and will help us identify the top 3 issues occurring in North Ormesby. This will consist of detected and reported incidents to Cleveland Police but will not produce details of violent crime, sexual assault, DV etc. Instead the content will focus on issues such as car crime, burglary, ASB and other related topics. The results of the Big Local community consultation will also feed in to this process and compliment the scanning document. Once we have identified the priorities we can then address issues directly at an operational level offering a more proactive approach to tackling issues rather than simply responding as they happen.

Delivery is also about education and target hardening so we will be offering crime prevention advice when and where appropriate. Interventions such as fitting window locks to vulnerable and repeat victims, improved security for elderly residents, bike stamping for kids etc will also be considered. This can be delivered at a community level, such as organised events, targeted groups such as the elderly in warden controlled accommodation or at an individual level in a person's home.

Running parallel to the operational interventions, the group will also remain mindful of issues surrounding the fear of crime, the need to improve reporting, tensions between services and community members and other issues that may have a detrimental impact on improving crime prevention. Suitable referrals will be made should issues beyond the remit of the group be identified.

The working group currently consists of;

- Neighbourhood Safety/Selective licensing (MBC)
- Cleveland Police
- Police Crime Prevention
- Thirteen Housing group
- Environmental Enforcement (MBC)

This group will meet every other month to ensure the appropriate delivery of the action plan and arrange future interventions. Whilst waiting for the necessary documents that will ultimately identify the group's priorities, the following interventions will be implemented in the interim;

- Police Crime Prevention have agreed to start with a number of presentations to the residents of Pennyman House and discuss with them the dangers of doorstep burglaries, allowing strangers to enter their property, physical security and rogue traders etc.
- Environmental Enforcement to issue free poop scoop bags to dog walkers
- Liaison with the Big Local for the results of their recent survey about local issues and determining how residents can have a voice in relation to certain aspects of the crime prevention delivery plan

- Reports have been received that some alley gates are being left unlocked so a letter drop to those streets identified will be arranged to remind people of the importance of securing the gates
- Residents have reported that some locks are unfit for purpose and can be easily opened with a knife or other sharp implement therefore security of the alley gates will be investigated and any maintenance issues addressed

There is a culture in North Ormesby of residents leaving their front doors open which subsequently encourages walk in burglaries, therefore a leaflet has been produced for residents.

Prior to the implementation of Selective Landlord Licensing in North Ormesby the area had seen the private rented sector increased by 118% (2001-10) and owner occupation had dropped by 18%. There was a high number of poorly managed properties with poor living conditions and the area suffered from high levels of antisocial behaviour and crime.

When the scheme was introduced in North Ormesby in January 2016 there was a specific focus on supporting families and early intervention. In addition to this, a fundamental part of the scheme was raising housing standards and this was done via home improvement visits and enforcing remedial action through the Public Protection Team.

Some of the key outcomes from the first 12 months of the North Ormesby Scheme are set out below:

- 93% of residents satisfied with their home as a place to live;
- 87% of those that rent their current accommodation satisfied with their landlord;
- 18% reduction in the number of empty properties;
- 19% reduction in the number of properties that have been empty for 6 months or longer;
- 38% reduction in hosing turnover;
- House prices 16% up on the year before;
- 17% reduction in antisocial behaviour; (the Borough as a whole was just 1% which means that the gap is narrowing)

A report will be going to Executive in September to provide an update on the scheme with details on the proposed roll out to other areas.

9. Town Centre Work

Neighbourhood Safety and Cleveland Police have successfully obtained a Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) against a male who has constantly caused criminal damage to the Central Library (smashing windows) so he could be recalled to Holme House Prison. This had a detrimental effect on the library, the staff and customers as well as costing the council vast amounts of money. The CBO was granted and prohibitions were put in place to prevent further incidents occurring.

Town Centre Officers were successful in obtaining a CBO against a prolific aggressive street beggar. Officers were left with no alternative other than to take enforcement action as the individual refused all offers of engagement and support. The male had threatened both Council staff and members of the public and frequently caused distress to visitors of the town.

Officers became aware of a vulnerable male and his dog who were fleeing violence from known drug dealers in Middlesbrough. The male was from the Nottinghamshire area and had been staying in Middlesbrough with friends before obtaining a private rented property. The drug dealers moved in and started selling drugs from his property. The male reported this issue at the front desk at Middlesbrough Police Station and refused to move from that location as he feared for his life. Neighbourhood Safety and Breaking the Boundaries staff managed to get in contact with his family in Nottinghamshire. By the end of the day the male was issued with a train ticket and reunited with his family. Contact was later made by this individual who thanked the team for their swift actions, stating he now felt safe.

Street Wardens alerted the town centre team of a mature vulnerable male who had been sleeping rough and sofa surfing within Middlesbrough. Yorkshire Bank had been concerned that when the male gets paid into his bank lots of “hangers-on” accompany him to the bank and obtain money from him. Cleveland Police and Adult Social Care had been contacted regarding this male. Town Centre Team and two Street Wardens arranged to monitor the bank on the males next pay day. When attending they spoke to the vulnerable male who was accompanied by another male whilst three others were hanging around outside the bank. Officers contacted Cleveland Police and one of the males was arrested for an outstanding warrant. The vulnerable male was offered support and he was transported back to Stockton where he now has accommodation.

10. Tenancy Referencing Service

The service has been working with a tenant whereby the landlord contacted staff for assistance with an eviction. After speaking with the tenant and conducting several home visits the tenant was in need of quite a lot of support. A referral was made to Breaking the Boundaries due to the tenant’s long history of non-engagement with services. A Discretionary Housing Payment form to housing benefits was completed and accepted, ensuring the rent shortfall is now being paid directly to her landlord. A payment plan with the utility companies was also set up to address the serious level of debt. These interventions have dramatically assisted the tenant who continues to be fully supported but most importantly prevented her from being evicted.

11. Metz Bridge

Neighbourhood Safety provided the site with some bedding plants as the Community Hub were giving away free geraniums to residents. The plants have improved the look of the site.

Final Warning Removal Notices were placed on 4 caravans which were illegally parked on the site. All vans were soon removed by the illegal occupants and one has since applied officially for a residential plot.

12. Newport Ward

An application for a Closure Order of a property linked to high levels of crime and anti-social behaviour has been compiled.

Acceptable Behaviour Agreements have been issued to 4 teenage males identified as being involved in anti-social behaviour.

Instances of high levels of anti-social behaviour in the Faraday Street area have been addressed by liaising with residents, engaging and referring perpetrators of asb to support services and assisting 1 family to access appropriate housing.

13. Ayresome /Acklam Wards

Motorbike nuisance leaflets have been delivered and a number of site visits completed for Section 59 Notices to be erected as part of Operation Endurance, in the Central Avenue area of Whinney Banks and St Marys Walk (Mill Hill Field) area of Acklam

14. Hemlington Ward

Due to the continuation of anti-social behaviour by a group of youths, a further application for a Civil Injunction against a 15 year old male has been submitted to Legal Services. Legal will secure a Court date at Teesside Magistrates Court and provide a summons which should be heard in Court within the next few weeks.

‘Hemlington Together’ is an annual multi-agency week of action and activities to help tackle anti-social behaviour, crime and improving community cohesion. Police, MBC, Ward Councillors, Habinteg Housing, Thirteen Group and LINX worked throughout the week of 23rd – 27th July to clean-up the area. A celebration day at Dodford Walk Community Centre was held on 27th July where there was a host of activities for residents to engage with local agencies.

15. Berwick Hills & Pallister Ward

In response to reports of Motorbike Nuisance within Pallister Park ‘No Motorbike’ signs have been erected. These signs act as a Section 59 warning, if Police do stop an illegal motorbike, it may be seized. Motorbike nuisance recording sheets will also be delivered to all properties surrounding the park and a post box put in Pallister Park Pavilion to provide convenient drop off for residents.

A two year Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) was granted at Teesside Magistrates Court for a well-known perpetrator who has been offending throughout the East Middlesbrough area.

North East Migration Partnership (NEMP) Team

16. NEMP Business Plan. The full plan will be available upon request.

A new business plan was submitted in June to the Home Office for agreement to secure funds for the continuation of the NEMP team’s work.

Highlights of the NEMP Business Plan include:

17. Voluntary Community Sector (VCS) Mapping

NEMP currently examining good practice for VCS Mapping and how best to present information on local Non-Governmental Organisational (NGO) resources, including electronic mapping or portal options. They are also conducting mapping on language support for asylum seekers and refugees accessing healthcare in the North East.

Through VCS mapping NEMP will be able to address gaps and develop expertise and capacity for a number of support areas.

18. Specialist Mental Health Provision for Refugees

NEMP are aiming to develop a pilot around mental health models to support families with mental health needs by utilising Home Office healthcare funding. In addition to this, NEMP are considering working with University of York's *REDEFINE* project with its local authority partners. The aim is to develop an improved pathway to access mental health and prevent deterioration in each locality. By exploring partnership opportunities with external providers (E.g. Jomast/G4S) there will be an increased awareness of preventative mental health services and improve access for Vulnerable Person Resettlement Scheme (VPRS) and Vulnerable Children Resettlement Scheme (VCRS).

19. Housing Advice and Homelessness Pathways for Refugees

NEMP's objective is to help facilitate more integrated services and housing for asylum seekers, refugees and migrants with local authorities and key voluntary sector providers, Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), Her Majesties Revenue and Customs (HMRC) and partners. We will be working with Homelessness teams to look at developing more consistent housing advice and options pathways, particularly in sight of the Homelessness Reduction Act. In addition to this, NEMP will be producing a directory of housing and support providers who are interested in accommodating unaccompanied young people.

20. NEMP Website Development and Accessible Information on Asylum Seeker Dispersal

NEMP are currently developing their website to make it more accessible for those seeking information on asylum seeker dispersal. It will soon include NEMP's terms of reference and their communication plan. In addition to this, the website will provide useful contacts of those who work within the migration sector in the upcoming months.

21. English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Co-ordinators Report

The Annual ESOL Report (April 2017 – March 2018) has been completed which outlines an overview of provision for VPRS from the eight participating Local Authorities in the North East Region.

Additionally, NEMP have produced a map outlining ESOL provision. The link is available [here](#).

22. Middlesbrough's Welcome Pilot

NEMP's Beauty Tshuma alongside Cleveland police has co-delivered three sessions of the Welcome_pilot in Middlesbrough- this is in partnership with Middlesbrough Asylum Project (MAP) who provide support through face to face contact with new arrivals at their various drop- in centres.