

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL
Wednesday 5th December 2018

Culture & Events

1. Jazz Weekender

The Jazz Weekender was a resounding success, welcoming a range of bands and audiences throughout the weekend, with highlights from the 88 year old Chris Barber performing with Big and to the up and coming Dinosaurs and Beats & Pieces. We were delighted to welcome young people from Musinc to attend their first Jazz concert, and meet with Jazz North to plan their project (due to take place in February 2019)



2. Discover Middlesbrough

The Town Hall has been delighted to welcome a variety of visitors and tours to the Town Hall as part of Discover Middlesbrough. Talks range from Policing Victorian Middlesbrough to Town of Rampant Sin.

3. Settlement Gathering

Middlesbrough Town Hall was delighted to welcome mima's settlement gathering event on the 27th October, and hosted a string quartet as part of their celebrations.

4. BBC Any Questions

A live recording of BBC radio 4's Any Questions took place at the Town Hall on Friday 26 October.

5. Captain Cook Birthplace Museum

The Captain Cook Birthplace Museum celebrated its 40th Birthday on Saturday 27 October with family friendly performances by Innerstate Theatre Company.

6. Creative Factory

October was a busy month for Creative Factory, funded by Heritage Lottery Fund and Arts Council. The Middlesbrough Art Weekend proved a big success and hopes to be a regular cultural fixture, growing audiences and educational events. The town hall looked great with 6 artist's flags flying high alongside the Erimus flag.

We also awarded 7 travel and writing bursaries direct to artists to research and report on their activity alongside two important studio bursaries in partnership with Navigator North. These are essential to artists.



7. The Grief Thing

At the beginning of October Fevered Sleep brought 'This Grief Thing' to Captain Cooks Square. Working alongside Ageing Better, Middlesbrough Council delivered a 10 day residency with the company who are well known for developing brave, thought-provoking projects that challenge people to rethink their relationships with each other and with the world.

This Grief Thing gives a disused shop space new life as a focal point for people to come and chat about loved ones, places, times and things that they may have lost and feel grief for. To challenge the sometimes awkward conversations people fear and the loneliness and isolation that grief can bring for some people.

The shop offered pay what you can items that could be purchased and gifted in order to support starting conversations and showing support to those who need it.

The shop was hugely popular with hundreds of visits repeat custom and discussions supported around some very moving and hard hitting incidents and losses in people's lives.



8. Twisterella

Holly Glover and Chloe Myers the Cultural Services Events Apprentices, volunteered to be part of the Twisterella festival team at the start of this month. Centered around Teesside University, the 1000 capacity multi-venue metropolitan music festival utilises established venues on Linthorpe Road & Southfield Road such as: Teesside University Students' Union, The Townhouse, TSOne and The Westgarth Social Club, along with pop-up sessions in some of the town's coolest bars in nearby Baker Street and Bedford Street. It is important part of the cultural strategy that we encourage local community and professional organisers to continue to grow and develop their events.

We do this in many different ways – In Twisterella's case we provide in kind marketing support and when possible officer time to assist in making this wonderful event happen. This year Twisterella provided a professional development opportunity for our two Events apprentices who got a taste of what it's like to work on a real music festival. Nominated in the best 'New Festival On The Block' category in both the 2015 and 2016 AIF Festival Congress Awards, Twisterella is designed to showcase the brightest emerging national and international talent, as well as give a platform to a select number of local and regional acts who are ready to make the step up to the big stage.

9. The Glass Ceiling

The Glass Ceiling is an ambitious new visual theatre work marking 100 years since the first British women were given the right to vote. Inspired by the Suffragettes and Suffragists, the show celebrates activists from the Tees Valley region whose courage propelled this historic movement to achieve political recognition.

Periplum brings to life the self-styled 'feminine incendiaries', and the men who marched alongside these pioneers of direct action. Sensory, spectacular and ultimately uplifting, this surround performance uses innovative staging and pyrotechnic design, new music, writing and aerial performance in a gritty depiction of the struggle to gain the vote and break through a glass ceiling.





The event was delivered on Saturday 27th October on Centre Square, drawing an audience of over a thousand people who chose to brave the very wet and windy Saturday evening. Working with combined authority sister authorities and the TVCA itself to fund the production has meant that we have all been able to benefit from such a significant production at a fraction of the cost we would need to pay should we commission this work on our own.

In line with the Cultural Strategy, community is integral to the delivery of all events and the Glass Ceiling was no different. Participation is integral to all of our events and usually this is aimed at families and younger members of the community – in the case of the Glass Ceiling, 15 Adults were recruited to perform alongside professional performers due mainly to the content of the production. This is the second time we have worked in partnership with the other boroughs to commission a bespoke production the first being homecoming which was delivered in Albert Park and based on letter written from soldier to their families during the First World War. We hope to develop this partnership in future years and continue to bring internationally significant producers to the area.

10. Middlesbrough Art Weekender

In its second year, Middlesbrough Art Weekender (MAW18), took place in 17 locations across the Tees Valley, including a picnic lunch in Darlington and a river cruise in Stockton.

Middlesbrough Town was transformed with 4 pop up galleries, 4 brand new co-commissions and a Northeast artist open call. Locations as diverse as shop units and warehouses, as well as established galleries such as MIMA and Platform A, with the flagship space being touted as the biggest pop-up gallery ever seen in the Tees Valley.

18 international artists and collectives were welcomed to the Tees Valley, performing and exhibiting alongside 24 local and regional emerging and established artists and art collectives. Thousands of people engaged directly with the art, workshops, events and performances. 10% of these were out of town visitors, including from Newcastle,

Sunderland, London and Ireland. 10 local people were employed throughout the festival, and 15 volunteers gave their time to help on the event.

Marketing and Communications

11. Filming Middlesbrough Venues

Middlesbrough Council has been successful in bidding for the loan of a Google Camera for a month. Google have successfully used this camera for many years to bring our roads to life from a car, but the introduction of this mobile camera allows places that are otherwise inaccessible come to life.

Very few cities have been mapped using one of these cameras, and the cost of doing this commercially would always remain prohibitive to most. Yet the benefits are great as each film conveys a multitude of messages in an easy to access way. The Registry Office films below, which were our first, were viewed over 250 times within an hour of being uploaded to Google.

Below are a few of the venues we have already filmed:

- The Registry Office – Registry Office Entrance and Registry Office Inside
- The Town Hall – The Town Hall - Main Hall and The Town Hall – Walk Around Tour
- The Dorman Museum – The Dorman Museum - Entrance and The Dorman Museum - Inside
- The Hill Street Centre – The Hill Street Centre

Over the coming month, we will film many more Middlesbrough venues after which we will be able to use all of these films across all of the Council websites and social media to bring Middlesbrough to life.

Stronger Communities

12. Street Wardens

Wardens played an integral role in helping to close a convenience store within the North Ormesby ward, following reports of illegal sales. Officers worked with a number of partner agencies including HMRC to collate evidence obtained over a number of months.

Town Centre Wardens came across a lady in the Bus Station who was clearly confused and divulged that she lived alone however a number of people were accessing her home and taking her belongings without consent. The Wardens immediately became concerned about her vulnerability and took the lady to a quiet room within the Bus Station. The Police were informed and escorted the lady back home whilst wardens made a referral to Social Care.

Whilst on duty a Street Warden assisted an 80 year old female who had tripped in the Town Centre. Unfortunately she suffered several injuries including a lump to the right side of her head, a cut lip and possible broken nose. An ambulance was called and wardens remained with the lady until the ambulance arrived. The Wardens later delivered her shopping (which was left at the scene) and carried out a follow up welfare visit.

13. CCTV

Operators were alerted to a serious assault taking place outside Flares Night Club on Albert Road. The operator quickly located the two males who were fighting each other in the street. The aggressor left the victim in an unconscious state and left the area in a taxi. The vehicle registration was captured on CCTV and passed to Police Control Room. CID are now dealing with the case and managed to trace the individual due to CCTV evidence.

During a recent burglary a male was arrested by Police at the scene. At the time the Police could not confirm if the male was responsible. Police liaised with CCTV and supplied information regarding the incident. The operator was able to carry out a review using data from the nearby camera which captured the male kicking the door and entering the property and confirmed that it was the same individual who Police had arrested on suspicion.

Anti-social behaviour in Ayresome Gardens and the surrounding area, has become a prevalent issue over this reporting period, with youths lighting and throwing fireworks and general anti-social behaviour. A rapid reaction camera has been installed in this location and operators have been closely monitoring the location leading to a number of individuals being identified. CCTV data was then passed to Police and Neighbourhood Safety Officers for action.

14. Selective Landlord Licensing – North Ormesby

On 2nd October 2018 I granted approval to commence formal consultation of Selective Landlord Licensing in the Newport Ward (Phase 1). The consultation will last for approximately 11 weeks, commencing on 12th November 2018 and ending on 28th January 2019. A strategic and operational consultation team have been created and will be meeting on a regular basis to ensure that the consultation process is delivered within specific time scales. The consultation will include a significant number of local businesses, landlords, residents and key partner agencies.

A distressed tenant came into Citizen's Advice at North Ormesby Hub with a letter stating that her locks would be changed if she didn't respond. The SLL Team rang the landlord who advised they had served a Section 21 Notice to all existing tenants and this was the only tenant remaining. Concerned SLL Officers requested a copy of the Notice as the tenant had never signed for it (it later transpired that it had been returned to the post office). The Section 21 Notice had in fact expired and the landlord had never issued a new tenancy agreement, meaning housing benefit claims could not be paid and a Section 21 Notice could not be served legally.

The tenant had disengaged with all services including medical professionals, as she was scared to leave the property for fear of eviction. Despite the property being exempt from the Selective Licensing scheme, the team offered to support the tenant as she clearly had disabilities and was vulnerable. Occupational Health, Adult Social Care and were contacted requesting an urgent assessment.

Within a week the tenant was assessed and categorised as priority banding. The SLL Tenancy Relations Officer assisted with the bidding process and she was successfully matched 10 days later. The landlord agreed to pay the weeks rent in advance for the new property and for removal costs. The tenant is now settling into her new property and engaging with the appropriate services.

Officers received a lot of intelligence about a property in North Ormesby whereby lots of males were frequenting the property day and night. A male was living in the property with a number of females, some of which looked to be younger than 18. The SLL Team started gathering evidence through diary sheets and taking down car registration numbers of visiting vehicles. Information gathered was fed into the police and this resulted in the property being identified as a “pop up brothel”. Due to the information sharing a male was arrested by the VEMT team in relation to exploitation and trafficking offences. The females have since been supported.

The SLL Team, Wardens and Breaking the Boundaries staff received training from SSE Energy on how to recognise if electricity meters are being bypassed. After the training an SLL Officer raised concerns regarding a North Ormesby property. SSE then visited the property and confirmed that copper had been used to bypass the meter. SLL contacted the landlord and asked him to attend the property immediately. The property was then made safe potentially preventing the terraced property from setting on fire.

15. Neighbourhood Safety

Hate Crime Week took place 13th – 20th October 2018. The Community Co-ordinator and the Prevent Co-ordinator, worked together to ensure key messages were widely disseminated throughout the week. A presentation explaining what constitutes a hate crime, and how to report it was developed and circulated to;

- Community hubs
- Middlesbrough College
- Cleveland College of Art and Design
- Middlesbrough Community Learns
- All primary & secondary schools (with a request for them to deliver to all pupils)

Officers also worked with schools and young people including the delivery of interactive classroom sessions at Newport Primary School - the input focused on what constitutes hateful behaviours and identifying how we should behave towards one another.

Staff liaised with the challenging young people team at MCL to do some specific work around Right Wing Views and racism and a reporting message and hate crime leaflet was circulated to all operational MCRP members.

The Council's social media platforms were used to display short, effective messages promoting diversity and countering hate.

16. Roseberry Park

The Community Safety Officer has worked closely with Roseberry Park and JCUH pharmacy staff to introduce a contact card scheme and amnesty promotion of supportive and enforcement messages in all prescriptions now dispensed for discharged patients from the hospital. The contact cards advise people where to gain support if they have prescription drug dependency but also advice on how to report intelligence on those illegally selling on prescription drugs which contribute to further disorder within our communities.

In addition to this the Community Safety Officer has worked with the CPS to agree a deal between the CPS, NHS audit and the Police to produce an annual community impact statement for all CPS prosecutions for Roseberry park detailing the overall effect of

violence on the service including staff, patients, visitors, sickness rates, working hours lost. The purpose of this is to reinforce the strength of prosecution cases going to court to support the NHS. A similar impact statement is being sought annually for the growing number of victims and offenders to be listed with the courts in relation to neurodegenerative disorders of the dementia types to aid prosecutions and victim support and witness recognition.

In recognition of the community Safety Officer's work, they has been nominated for a Police Commendation.

17. East Middlesbrough

After reports of anti-social behaviour, Neighbourhood Safety and Cleveland Police carried out a site visit to Shops on Cargo Fleet Lane. Cleveland Fire Brigade had received 14 calls in 6 days to the area and were attacked 3 times during deployment. Diary sheets were left with Store Managers and advice was given on reporting mechanisms. One store who had CCTV agreed to share footage if further incidents occurred. Officers also worked with Thirteen Housing in regards to making improvements on the land behind the shops to improve security.

Six young people have been named as part of the group responsible. All have been given Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and interviewed jointly with Police and Thirteen.

A multi-agency meeting was held with Fire Brigade, Thirteen and Police and each agency agreed to hold an 'action afternoon' on Kimberly Drive. This will include a full clean-up of the area, Thirteen Housing will hold a 'flash your trash' event where they will take residents rubbish free of charge. Door knocks and letter drops have been carried out. A climbing wall will also be put on the green and a fire appliance will attend to engage and build relationships with local youths.

One property has been named as selling fireworks to young children. Information has passed to Trading Standards, Police and Thirteen for further investigation.

18. Newport

The Neighbourhood Safety Office supported landlords at 2 properties that were identified as being the focal point for gang nuisance, rowdy behaviour and parties. Criminal acts had taken place at both addresses and Police/Street Wardens had been called to both addresses several times. Neighbourhood Safety Officer collated evidence, liaised with residents and visited perpetrators to take relevant action. Eviction proceedings went to Court and both properties are now empty.

The Officer has also carried out numerous home visits with Police and issued 5 Acceptable behaviour contracts to young people identified as being involved in gang nuisance and firework nuisance in the Ayresome Gardens area of Newport. Late night patrols with Police and Youth Outreach are also taking place in key hotspot locations.

19. South Middlesbrough

In response to a spike in anti-social behaviour in Hemlington, the Neighbourhood Safety Officer has taken action against an individual who has breached a Civil Injunction, previously obtained against two young people who were prolific at Viewley Centre shops.

Any further incidents from either of them will see them returned to court for formal breach proceedings.

In preparation for mischief night Neighbourhood Safety Officer has accompanied Safe In Tees Valley on a series of home visits to known perpetrators of ASB in Hemlington in order to encourage them to sign up to the Switch Event taking place on 30th October. Staff also worked in conjunction with YOS, requesting that certain people open to them be mandated to attend the event as part of their YOS orders. 6 young people agreed. Joint school assembly presentations are also taking place.

20. Breaking the Boundaries

Breaking the Boundaries Officers who work with adults with complex needs have a current active caseload of 31. Some of their recent work includes;

Case A was sleeping rough and was a prolific beggar. Now been placed into private rented accommodation. A Community Award application has also been successful allowing him to obtain furniture and white goods for his new tenancy.

Case B had been street homeless and was not engaging with services. After a period in temporary accommodation he has been successful in gaining a private tenancy. This individual is now engaging with drug services and starting to work with Humankind for ongoing support.

Case C was at risk of homelessness due to non-engagement with Hestia who were her supported housing provider. There were concerns around her behaviours. However she has now been supported to help develop relationships with her family through breaking the boundaries and Stronger Families team. Relationships are now much improved which impacted on her own positive mental health. She is now engaging with voluntary work which has improved her self-esteem and meeting all tenancy requirements. Her accommodation is now secure.

Selective Landlord Licencing Tenancy Relations Officer received a call from a landlord with concerns for one of his tenants. He had not referenced his tenant, however had asked for support and advice to assist him. There were several problems from his tenant; mental health, high levels of debt, at risk of eviction, anti-social behaviour, and non-engagement with services. The team offered the landlord support and advice and called out to see the tenant to complete a Post Tenancy visit. Initially the tenant wasn't very forthcoming, however after a few visits the team managed to get her to accept a breaking the boundaries referral. The landlord agreed that he would hold off on eviction due to rent arrears. The Tenancy Relations Officer completed an income and expenditure list and also addressed the issues with people frequenting her property. A DHP form to have her shortfall and some backdated rent paid to her landlord was also completed. This was accepted by Housing Benefits team, ensuring the landlord didn't evict the tenant.

Breaking the boundaries team then completed a support plan and the tenant has now set up payment plans with support from MBC to her Landlord and Council Tax debt. The breaking the boundaries team accompanied the tenant to GP appointments to address her mental health and organise repeat prescriptions. Officers also supported her in claiming PIP to maximise income and referred the tenant to Step Forward where she is now starting Maths & English courses along with a confidence building course. A very successful outcome in this case.

Community Hubs and Libraries

21. Creative Civic Change



Middlesbrough's Libraries and Community Hub network are part of a successful bidding partnership with Tees Valley Arts and North Ormesby Big Local to progress to Stage 2 of the Creative Civic Change programme. Funding of up to £300K is available for successful partnerships and development work will take place between now and

March 2019 to finalise proposals.

A comprehensive Autumn Programme is running currently at Central Library, highlights of which include an interactive performance of Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, utilising the many nooks and crannies of Central Library as the backdrop.



22. Newport Community Hub

Newport Community Hub is working in partnership with Trending (ACTES) and EMAT team in hosting a clothing giveaway for families in need, Asylum Seekers and refugees. The event took place on the 8th November 2018 at Newport Hub.

Families from around the Newport area participated in the annual Christmas parade. Workshops took place on the 17th, 24th November 2018.

The annual Friends of Newport Pantomime will take place on Monday 10th December 2018 at Newport Hub. Tickets will be £2.00 each with under 2's free.

23. North Ormesby Community Hub

The new Money Matters Project with Big Local will be recruiting in the next couple of months with the help of the Citizens Advice Bureau. The new employee will be based in the hub and will help families with budgeting and direct them towards the relevant benefits that are available to them. Volunteers will also be recruited to work alongside residents on a 1:1 basis.

Women Today have settled into North Ormesby Hub and have been undertaking training in healthy eating with Middlesbrough Environment City. They are all very happy with the facilities.

The Queen's Award Ceremony for the boxing club at North Ormesby hub was featured in the Gazette this week.

The Big Local Esk Street Play Park is open to the public. The park has improved the environment on Esk St and is a valuable resource for local families.

The Hub is working closely with Andy Robertson, the Asylum Support Liaison Officer, to support refugee families moving into North Ormesby. Andy sees the hub as a valuable resource for new families who have been given leave to stay.