

Management of Whitehaven Town Centre

In response to a survey that was carried out in 2010, by the three Harbour Ward Councillors, to find out how residents and businesses felt about the services provided in the Ward:

- Better arrangements for refuse collections, kerbside recycling, improved trade waste collections, street cleansing and changing pick-up times for wheelie bins are being looked at;
- Streets are cleaner although weeds are still a major problem;
- In resident parking areas and the town centre, where cars are parked along the streets, manual or mechanized sweeping can only be done **around** parked vehicles therefore these areas rarely get a thorough clean and litter builds up; there is a plan to sweep on certain days and ask people to move their cars.
- A review of Residents' Parking is underway and a report is due out shortly;
- Consultants are due to report back on Whitehaven Streetscapes, including proposed changes to the one-way system and town centre parking;
- Whitehaven Town Centre Development Group has been set up to address responses to the survey and the problem of vacant shops. This Group is being led by Councillor Henry Wormstrup and will produce further reports;
- There is little prospect of any new public toilets in the town centre, there is the possibility of re-opening the toilets in the multi-storey car park and a Community Toilet Scheme whereby facilities in businesses such as cafés can be made available for public use;

- Wheelie bins on Strand Street to be hidden by screens, an idea from the Streetscapes Scheme.

Seagulls are a major problem for residents in Whitehaven and the situation is getting worse. They are seen as an environmental hazard, cause significant damage to properties, they appear to be breeding more and residents fear for their own safety.

To have your say on this matter please complete the form on the attached letter and return it by 14 February 2011 to:

**Harbour Ward Councillors
c/o Democratic Services
Copeland Borough Council.**

Other points raised at the Forum:

Parking is pandemic;

- Where there is restricted parking this often results in pavement parking;
- Appropriate parking isn't enforced;
- Bus and taxi drivers double park which is dangerous for pedestrians;
- Illegal parking on North Shore entrance;
- Can parking be a condition for new developments in the Town?

Dog fouling

- Current enforcement is not working.

Traffic

- Diversions lead vehicles right into the Market; and the
- **Market** has set times, but the traders are setting up early and take the liberty of blocking off the streets;

Environment and Health is a team of six people who cover the whole of the Borough for the issues raised.



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The more specific information that is given the better; as in the case of dog fouling if you know the name of the dog owner this will help as CBC don't have the resources for something that might happen.

Business waste is put out at the end of the day and left until the next day, on a Saturday it sits there until Monday!

- Copeland BC is one of many contractors; they do provide lockable bins to ensure waste is contained until collection;
- A demand was made for additional enforcement for trade waste, there is a duty of care and the Council has a responsibility to make sure everyone toes the line.

Litter

- Copeland BC has moved to an Area Based System of working where teams are responsible for specific areas and as they work in the same area they will know where the grot spots are and in time improvements will be seen.

Gritting

- Is there a Service Level Agreement between the two Councils?
- With the bad weather before Christmas an example was given where the parks were gritted but people couldn't get into the parks!
- This will be looked at in the Consultation, gritting is a controversial subject, the Council only grits what it is responsible for, however this information will be shared with County Council on priority places, such as town centres with the need to keep businesses open.
- A suggestion was made to have temporary grit boxes outside St Nicholas', on Lowther Street or outside a couple of businesses during the winter months. This will be passed onto the County Council.

Get in touch

Suzanne Cooper Community Involvement Worker
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Copeland Borough Council – Customer Relations

If you have any comments, compliments or complaints about Copeland Borough Council services, please contact Marissa Joyce on 01946 598 525 or email

customer.relations@copeland.gov.uk

Cumbria Highways Improving your roads
Hotline 0845 609 6609 www.cumbria.gov.uk
contact@cumbriahighways.co.uk

Young Cumbria – West Lakes Peer Education Project to the Gambia

In 2010 Young Cumbria was awarded £350.00 from this forum towards their project; they brought along a display and a DVD of their adventures and were very keen to answer questions. Two lads hope to return to Gambia later in the year.

Grants Awarded:

Whitehaven in Bloom was awarded £1,000;

Cumbria Rungwe Community Link was awarded £600;

Bransty Rangers Football Club was awarded £900;

Hensingham ARLFC Players Fund was awarded £500;

Parkinson's UK West Cumbria Branch was awarded £1,200;

Whitehaven Egremont & District Credit Union was awarded £400 and

Whitehaven Harbour Youth Project was awarded £375.

A full set of notes is available upon request. Please contact the office on the number below; alternatively visit the Bransty & Harbour Neighbourhood Forum online at

www.cumbria.gov.uk/sayit

Date of next meeting to be advised



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