

## MINUTES

**MEETING:** Anti Social Behaviour Study Group

**DATE:** Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2005

**TIME:** 10.30 a.m.

**VENUE:** Council Chamber, Sedgefield Council

**CHAIR:** Greg Johnson, South Tyneside MBC

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### Apologies:

Jane Hill	- Middlesbrough Council	Chris Slaven	- Bradford Community Housing Trust
Ian Johnson	- Blyth Valley Housing	Alan Russell	- South Tyneside
Tim Winter	- SLCNG	Sharon Busby	- Enterprise 5
Pete Donegan	- Riverside	Alison Newbould	- North Yorkshire Police
Alex Rhind	- Home Office	Ken Sharples	- Harvest Housing
Barry Moore	- Two Castles	Jane Hill	- Middlesbrough Council
Kelly Taylor	- Nomad	Rob Jones	- Darlington BC
Libby Griffiths	- Housing Hartlepool	Ian Palmer	- CPS
David Armstrong	- Two Castles	John Bell	- East Durham Homes
Monica Marron	- Middlesbrough Council	Kath Hierons	- West Middlesbrough NT
Richard Mitchell	- Cheviot HA	PC Paul Dent	- Northumbria Police
Martin Scurr	- Home Housing	Kevin Dunn	- Home Housing

### Present:

Tracey Hall	- Cheviot HA	Sue Wharam	- Guinness Trust
David Owen	- South Tyneside MBC	Stuart Sexton	- Blyth Valley Housing
Clare Hart	- Blyth Valley Housing	Phil Tweddle	- Richmondshire DC
Clare Tierney	- Gateshead Council	Stuart Brown	- Castle Morpeth BC
Gary Scurfield	- Castle Morpeth BC	Shan Mauriteon	- North Tyneside Council
Jocelyn Sirs	- Housing Hartlepool	Kevin Reid	- Home Housing
Paddy Law	- Housing Hartlepool	Dianne Hedley	- Sedgefield BC
Mark Nockels	- Home Group	Rod Baker	- Sedgefield BC
Rod Barker	- Sedgefield BC	Michael Cochrane	- NHC
Neil McFarlane	- York City Council	Greg Johnson	- South Tyneside
Paul Noddings	- Tristar Homes	Simon Page	- NHC
Michael Cowie	- Sunderland Housing Group	John Botham	- Erimus
Cliver Ledner	- Accent Homes	Jenny Stephenson	- Yorkshire Coast Homes
Lee Colclough	- Yorkshire Coast Homes	Sally Forth	- Hartlepool BC
John Meldrum	- North Tyneside Council	Ray Gage	- Erimus
Sharon Dalton	- Coast and Country Housing	Malcolm Woodhall	- Tynedale

## **1.0 Minutes of last meeting**

- 1.1 The minutes of the meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> January 2005 were agreed as an accurate record.

## **2.0 Matters Arising**

- 2.1 There were no matters arising.

## **3.0 ASB Conference 2005**

- 3.1 Michael Cochrane told the group the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual ASB Conference would take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November 2005 at the Majestic Hotel in Harrogate, and was in the early stages of development.

- 3.2 Michael outlined some of the early ideas that the NHC has for this years conference which included inviting either Hazel Blears or David Miliband to be the keynote speaker, and an update from the Liverpool Community Justice Centre.

- 3.3 It was also suggested that Adrian Webster might return after his success at last year's event, as well as sessions covering DIY litigation, witness support and use of the media.

- 3.4 The group then discussed early ideas that they had for the conference, which included sessions covering the implication of the recent Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, parental education (Manchester project), the use of Parenting Orders, youth engagement and HARP (Housing and Returning Prisoners).

- 3.5 The group also suggested that they would like to see Jan Luba do his regular legal update.

- 3.6 Volunteers from the group were requested to be part of a sub group which would assist the NHC in the development of the Conference Programme. Paddy Law, Mark Nockels, Claire Tierney, Michael Cowie and Greg Johnson agreed to get involved.

## **4.0 Future Direction of the Group:**

### **4.1 *New format***

- 4.1.1 Greg told the group how a sub group of volunteers had met with the Chair, vice chair and the NHC since the last meeting to discuss the future development and work of the group.

- 4.1.2 Greg outlined the plans for the group's development which have been previously circulated to the whole group by email, and the group was unanimous in their agreement of the new format.

### **4.2 Terms of reference**

- 4.2.1 The group read the proposed new terms of reference which were circulated with the meeting papers, and were asked if they had any amendments.
- 4.2.2 The group suggested that the review of the chair and the groups activity should take place during the last meeting of the year so to make it easier to plan for the year ahead, this amendment was made.
- 4.2.3 Greg Johnson emphasised the need to undertake aim 3.1.2 and lobby government for change, and also urged the group to use the facility the NHC offers when key consultations are published and respond to their request for views to inform a joint response.
- 4.2.4 The terms of reference were then agreed.

### **4.3 Key topics for future discussion**

- 4.3.1 The group discussed the ideas that had been put forward by many of the group in advance of the meeting for future topics of discussion.
- 4.3.2 A number of topics from the circulated list were discussed as well as further topics that the group felt it would be of benefit to discuss in the future.
- 4.3.3 The group discussed the idea of **formal training** for ASB practitioners and how this could be development in future in conjunction with local collages, through modules they already run. It was also suggested that the Together campaign should run a more specific course to train new practitioners, and that it may be useful for the group to contact Peter Reay who is an ex police officer who has done some work on undertaking training modules.
- 4.3.4 It was suggested by Claire Tierney that the group should develop its own **Nuisance Neighbour Panel**, which would have links to other stakeholders and provide practical solutions for member organisations.
- 4.3.5 The forthcoming **inspection regime** for ASB was also highlighted as an issue that the group should be covering, with a need to assess how prepared the groups members are to meet the demands. Performance Management will be added as a key area of focus.
- 4.3.6 Greg Johnson suggested that there is a need to review and rewrite the **Safer Estates Agreement**, which would be a long term project for a sub group of volunteers. Greg volunteered himself to be involved, Kevin Reid, Sally Forth and Michael Cowie also volunteered to be involved.
- 4.3.7 Training for Magistrates and the need to educate the clerks, not just the CPS was highlighted, with a session with the Clerks rep suggested.

## 5.0 Recent local action

- 5.1 It was suggested that rather than the usual round the table round up of recent developments, which has become stale, this meeting would conclude with members of the group sharing recent local action stories of interest with the rest of the group.
- 5.2 Paddy Law shared a story about their scheme to deal with issues surrounding balls being played in the streets. Housing Hartlepool have used local democracy to decide what restrictions should be put in place, sending a questionnaire to local residents and then setting in place an agreement on restrictions based on their opinions.
- 5.3 Castle Morpeth highlighted a scheme they have set up for young offenders which has involved designated go-between houses for newly released offenders, where they are given a years introductory tenancy and are provided with intensive help and support before they are moved to a standard property if they have successfully completed the first year.
- 5.4 The group then discussed initiatives that have been put in place to tackle anti social use of motorbikes. It was highlighted that the police can use Section 59 which covers both the bike and owner, and involves the owner being warned and if further offences take place then the removal of the bike.
- 5.5 Examples of schemes that have been developed to give owners a chance to ride their bikes off road legally were provided, but problems in setting up these schemes were highlighted. These including that fact many of the bikes are too powerful for privately owned schemes, many can not afford to pay to use the areas, and the high public liability costs restrict many schemes getting off the ground.

## 6.0 Any Other Business

- 6.1 No other business.

## 11.0 2005 meeting dates

- 11.1 The remaining meeting dates for 2005 are listed below. **These meeting will be extended meetings**, beginning at 10.30am, with a lunch break at around 12.30pm and an afternoon session running until around 3.30pm.

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Time:</b>	<b>Venue:</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> Sep	10.30am – 3.30pm	TBC
13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.30am – 3.30pm	TBC