

# Foggy Furze Ward

## COUNCILLOR UPDATE

### Working together to improve our community



**Kaylee  
Sirs**

#### How we spent our Ward Budgets

It is only through listening to the feedback of our residents at our **monthly ward surgeries** as well as **targeted Street Surgeries**, attending all **local resident and community group meetings** can we as your Councillors be effective and work with you to improve our community. We continue to pool our ward budgets supporting local groups as well as priorities identified by residents.

**This year** we again supported a **FREE Bulky Waste Initiative** in December of which 145 residents took advantage of with a total 23.69 tons of waste collected.

We also continued to target areas of our ward where **irresponsible dog owners** are either **not cleaning up** after their dog or are bagging it and **leaving the bags in residents gardens** or where they picked up the mess. **Please Please!** clean-up after your dog and place the bags in either appropriate **dog-bins** or any **Council litter bin**, we all need to take more Pride in our Town.

#### Local community and resident groups supported

- St Cuthbert's Residents Association
- St Cuthbert's Friendship Group
- Rift House Residents Association
- Browning Avenue Baptist Church

We also funded a further **16 groups** that supported or provided activities that benefited over 300 local Foggy Furze families.

A percentage of our ward budget was used as leverage towards other Council budgets to enable issues identified by residents to be undertaken:

- Installation of two light columns, South Parade
- Tackle overgrown gardens, Heathfield Drive
- Stump removal and seeding, Frensham Drive
- Paving stone re-laying, Oakland Avenue
- Trip fencing, Frensham Drive



**Christopher  
Akers-Belcher**

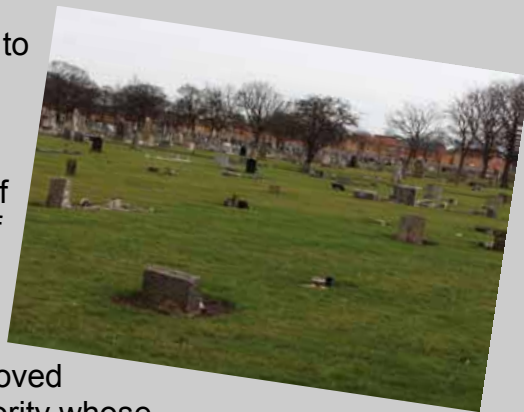
# RESPECT STRANTON CEMETARY

Your Councillors have launched a campaign in response to local residents' complaints about a range of issues, including **the theft of memorial items from graves, irresponsible dog ownership, unauthorised vehicle access and inconsiderate parking.** It signals the start of a wider piece of work by the Council to look at a range of possible improvements to the cemetery.

**Christopher Akers-Belcher**, said: "The Council works hard to maintain the cemetery as a special place where families and individuals can go in peace to grieve for their loved ones. The majority of people support us, but there is a minority whose inappropriate behaviour causes significant problems."

**Councillor Marjorie James**, Chair of the Neighbourhood Services Committee, said: "Some people are so unprepared to walk just a few yards when visiting graves that they have even been known to park their cars on adjacent graves. That is really appalling. I would strongly urge people to consider whether they actually need to drive into the cemetery. If they don't they should park in either of the car parks at Inspirations Coffee House and Garden Centre or adjacent to the cemetery's Brierton Lane entrance and walk in. I accept that may not be possible for some people with mobility problems but they should always drive through the cemetery with the utmost care and always park considerately. I would also stress that the cemetery should never be used as a shortcut from one part of the town to another. In addition, visiting a loved one's grave and finding the area – including the actual grave - covered in dog mess must be heartbreaking." Stranton Cemetery is covered by a Dog Control Order that stipulates that dogs must always be kept on a lead.

**Councillor Akers-Belcher** added: "It is the responsibility of **ALL owners** to ensure that they clean up after their dogs. They can use the dog dirt bins within the cemetery or take their waste home for disposal." Dog owners who fail to co-operate run the risk of receiving an £80 fixed penalty notice from Council Civil Enforcement Officers who regularly patrol the cemetery site.



## Whistlewood Close

It may have taken longer than expected but local residents with the support of your Councillors finally got Gleasons to remove Tarmac, landscape and

install a knee high fence around the area at top of the close



## The Rifty

Based in the Rift House Community Building, Masefield Road, **'The Rifty'** are now operating a:

**Community Shop: 10am-1pm every Wednesday** – come along for a bargain

**Community Cafe: 11.30am-1pm every Wednesday** – serving delicious, reasonably priced, hot food

**Jobs-Club : 10am-1pm every Thursday** – supporting residents with CVs, access to internet and much much more.

Please come along, **EVERYONE WELCOME**

# Local Groups

## Get involved

### **Local Groups:**

*Foggy Furze have a number of community organisations that local residents can get involved with that your local councillors attend:*

#### **St Cuthbert's Residents Association**

The group meets every month on a Tuesday evening 6.30pm at the Orb Centre, (Oxford Road Baptist Church, corner of Oxford Road/Caledonian Road). All Residents who live in the ward from Stockton Road up to Ventnor Avenue across from Oxford Road to Stockton Road/Westborne Road including Haswell Avenue and Ashgrove Avenue are welcome; next three meetings are: **21st March, Tuesday 18th April and 23rd May.**

#### **Rift House Residents Association**

Rift House East Residents Association have now amalgamated with another local group and have re-launched as Rift House Residents Association. Their meetings are held the last Monday of the month in the Rift House Community Building formally known as the Masefield Centre, on Masefield Road at 6pm. All residents who live in the ward from Shreswbury Street to Catcote Road and all of the Brookes Estate are welcome to attend. The next four meetings are: **27th March, 24th April, 22nd May and 26th June.**

#### **Belle Vue Residents Association**

The Association meets 8 times a year in the Belle Vue Community, Sports and Youth Centre, Kendal Road normally on an afternoon at 1pm. The next meeting will take place on 6th April and is open to any residents who live in the area. Other meetings are scheduled for the year however at the last meeting a discussion took place to meet slightly earlier, this will be confirmed at the next meeting.

### **Local Events:**

Due to resident concerns about problems of crime and anti-social behaviour occurring in the Borrowdale Street and Kathleen Street area Hartlepool Borough Council's Community Safety and Engagement Team has received a request from the Belle Vue Residents Association and the Foggy Furze Ward Borough Councillors for:

- The installation of a permanent Council monitored Public Space CCTV Camera at the junction of Borrowdale Street and Kathleen Street, and
- The installation of a fence/wall at the junction of Windermere Road and Borrowdale Street next to the Transformer Station building, and the welding shut of the existing alley gate behind the Transformer Station to seal off access to Borrowdale Street from Brenda Road.

A meeting of local residents affected will take place at the  
Belle Vue Community, Sports and Youth centre on  
**Friday, 10th March 4pm - 6pm**

# Contacting your councillors

**Councillor Kaylee Sirs**

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**Councillor Kevin Cranney**

117 Stockton Road

Mobile: 07764499180

Email: [kevin.cranney@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:kevin.cranney@hartlepool.gov.uk)

**Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher**

101 Westbrooke Avenue

Mobile: 07947226878

Email: [leader@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:leader@hartlepool.gov.uk)



## Next Ward Surgery coming up

**Saturday 1st April 2017**

Browning Avenue Baptist Church

between 10.00am to 12noon

### What's important to you?

**Tell your ward Councillors what issues affect your area and what matters to you!**

**WRITE, TELEPHONE or EMAIL  
any concerns or problems**

## Other ways to meet your Councillors

Kaylee, Kevin & Christopher can be contacted through a variety of means:

- you can email or telephone us on the numbers and email addresses above.
- attend our monthly ward surgeries which are held in four different locations throughout the ward.
- or we can arrange home visits if you are unable to attend ward surgeries.

We also undertake street surgeries on Wednesday evenings 5pm - 6pm throughout the year where we come to you. If we are in your area we will put a notice through your door and if you wish to speak to us we ask you to put it in your window during the day of the surgery. Watch out for us in your street. If you need to speak to us before we arrive give us a call.

**Working all year round to improve the ward**