

Community Conversation Preston Ward

8 April 2014 6-7:30pm
Peary House, Preston Park

Present: Cllr Carole Burdis (Chair), Cllr Cath Davis, Cllr David Sarin, 9 residents, John Rogan (Leisure and Environmental Services), PC Diane Hogg.

Cllr Carole Burdis welcomed participants and gave an update on issues raised at the last Preston Ward Community Conversation (see separate update document). Cllr Davis mentioned that residents from Blanchland Tce had submitted a petition to the council about double yellow lines being painted on both sides at the top of their road.

Cllr Burdis introduced John Rogan from Environmental and Leisure Services who spoke about the Big Spring Clean and took the following questions:

- How many prosecutions have there been for dog fouling? **Action:** This query has been logged and a response will be sent to the resident.
- Concerns were raised about dog waste bags not being put in bins. **Response:** There are enough bins but people are not always willing to walk to them, however if they are seen dropping the bags they will be fined.
- Who maintains the Waggonways? **Response:** The Waggonways Team, any issues can be reported through Envirolink on 0345 2000 103.
- Are anti-littering campaigns run in high schools? **Response:** Yes, warnings are issued and there is liaison with schools and the police on litter hotspots and anti-social behaviour.
- There is an issue with litter between Queen Alexandra College and the shops. **Response:** Environmental Services will look into it, but again anyone can ring 0345 2000 103 to report issues.
- There is a litter issue at the top of Lansdowne Tce as it's a wind tunnel. **Response:** Environmental Services will look into it - estates are checked every two weeks and shopping areas daily.
- A resident concluded by thanking John and his team for doing a great job.

Northumbria Police provided an update on policing in the area and took the following questions:

- Please could a local family be given an update on a buggy that was taken by a scrap dealer without permission? **Response:** The police are aware of the case and will contact the family with an update (something that is done as a matter of course as part of the Victims Charter). The police do speak to scrap merchants regularly and carry out spot checks – their vehicle can be seized if they do not have the appropriate certificates. If there is an emergency call 999, for other concerns call 101 and remember you can ask for discrete contact so we won't send a uniformed officer in an identifiable police car.

During open questions the following were raised:

- An issue about potholes in Collingwood ward. **Action:** This has been logged for further investigation and a response will be sent to the resident.
- There is a sloping path between Woodlands and the shops that makes it very difficult for a disabled resident to get to the shops. **Action:** This has been logged for further investigation and a response will be sent to the resident.
- Parking on Walton Avenue near the cemetery means that passing traffic has to go over the white lines marking the middle of the road, could parking places be identified and the white line moved to accommodate this? **Action:** This has been logged for further investigation and a response will be sent to the resident.
- Is North Tyneside benefiting from extra government funding to create flood defences? **Action:** This has been logged for further investigation and a response will be sent to the resident
- A resident advised others to shop around for insurance after the problems he faced when one company said he lived in a flood zone and wanted his premiums to reflect this.
- Cllr Burdis highlighted the council's plan to identify volunteer flood wardens and provide advice on how to protect your property.
- A resident said she had not received any advice from the council. **Action:** This has been logged and further information will be sent to the resident.

Cllr Burdis asked if there were any community events anyone wanted to promote:

- Helen Farrow Centre Manager for Tynemouth Blind Welfare Society said they will be holding their Garden Fete at Peary House on 28 June from 2-4pm.
- Members of Preston Resident's Association will be holding their book fair on 17 May from 10am – 12 noon.

Cllr Davis informed the meeting that the council is consulting on the creation of a raised junction on the road to Monkswood.

Cllr Burdis thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.