



# Community Conversation



## Ward Update – Preston Ward 18 February 2015

### **Camp Terrace Traffic Measure – Update provided by Gary Walker, Traffic and Road Safety**

We have investigated this matter via site visits during December 2014 and January 2015. Whilst observing the site it was noted that a small minority of vehicles wait on the keep clear markings while the lights were on red; however the majority of vehicles stopped before the keep clear marking leaving sufficient space for traffic entering / exiting Camp Terrace. Taking this into consideration we would not consider installing a yellow box junction at this point in time while the keep clear marking appears to be serving its purpose.

When the resident was informed that we would not consider installing a yellow box junction at this point in time they then asked if they could alter the access of Camp Terrace via closing the existing access meaning they would then enter and exit their street via Campville. The resident also asked if the Authority could fund the provision of new electric gates at the junction with Campville and also provide power to the gates through the street lighting.

Whilst we would have no real objection to the residents altering the access to their street there is a possibility that the increased traffic on Campville, Cleveland Terrace and Cleveland Crescent may result in complaints from residents. It must also be noted that there has been no recorded accidents at the existing entrance to Camp Terrace within the last 5 years meaning the junction has a good road safety record. With regards to the power to the gates North Tyneside Council do not have the funds to contribute to access to private land. The authority would also be unable to give permission to provide the power to a gate from the street lighting as lamp columns are not our asset. The residents were provided contact details for the street lighting company SSE.

### **Preston Towers – Update provided by Niall Cathie Strategic, Property Manager**

Preston Towers is a property which is within private ownership.

The Council was recently contacted by a developer who expressed an interest in converting the property into residential apartments. Such a proposal would require the Council's consideration as the Local Planning Authority. However, there has been no further formal contact from the developer to date.



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## **Community Growing Vegetables and Plants – Update provided by Alison Bailey, Allotment Officer**

There is a Grow and Eat Project within the Council which is public health funded to encourage communities across the borough become more self-sustaining and involved in food planting. There is a recruitment process ongoing to select a new project worker for this work.

The following website has a lot of useful information <http://www.ari.farmgarden.org.uk/publications>

## **Crematorium opens after multi-million pound improvements**

Following an investment of £2.7m by the council, Tynemouth Crematorium re-opened today (February 16). The chapel has been extended and refurbished with extra seating, an enclosed entrance lobby and a new waiting area. New and old stonework has been matched and an arched window, partially removed during a refurbishment many years ago, has been reinstated, so the extension is in keeping with the rest of the chapel. And the Book of Remembrance has been moved to a new area behind the cemetery office, meaning that people can now view it without having to go into the chapel and worrying whether a service is taking place. Toilet facilities have been improved, too, and an accessible toilet installed.

As well as the extension, new multi-media equipment has been installed so families can now show photographs and videos of their loved ones during the service, should they wish to do so. The work has also included replacing the cremators and fitting new mercury abatement equipment, which will help the council meet national targets to reduce the amount of mercury emitted into the atmosphere. Kier North Tyneside carried out the improvements on behalf of the Council.

## **Tynemouth Pool**

There will be some unavoidable disruption to the gym and health suite at Tynemouth Pool. With effect from Monday 16 February up until Friday 10 April inclusive, the health suite and health suite changing rooms will be closed to allow for essential maintenance and improvement works. With effect from today (16 February) up until Friday 20 March, the gym will remain open, however, the size will be slightly reduced to allow for essential repair works to be carried out.

From Saturday 21 March until Friday 10 April, the gym will be closed for refurbishment, and the installation of a new full set of resistance machines, 5 new treadmills, 2 adaptive motion trainers, and an upgrade to the Fitlinxx system. In addition to the above, there will be a number of other improvement works being carried out internally and externally, none of which will cause a disruption to service.



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## **Cleveland Road Allotments – update provided by Diane Legg, Environmental Services**

We have received information back from Northumberland Estates, who have informed us the Estate owns the freehold for the mines and minerals; the remainder of the ownership is with the Coal Authority for that plot. However, they do not have any interest in the surface ownership which was passed to W. Bowen on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 1923. Northumberland Estates have informed us there is not a copy of the Deed at The National Archives, nor did the Estate retain a copy, therefore determining the current owner is difficult. Suzanne Smith our Planning Enforcement Officer is trying to pursue the current owner to enable contact to be made.

We did write out to a resident who we were told was the owner of one of the allotments where the Japanese Knotweed was growing, explaining that it was their responsibility to control the weed, but have had no response to date.

## **Northumbrian Water – update provided by Linzie Pentleton, Sewerage Network Controller.**

We have monitors in the network and are waiting for a storm to pass through the catchment so we can validate the hydraulic model. I hope this is assurance of Northumbrian Waters commitment to fully investigate the flooding in Preston village.

Below is the latest report, the only real change is that we have moved the monitors and we are still awaiting a rainfall event.

### **MONTHLY PROGRESS STATEMENT:**

- No further rainfall events occurred
- No outstanding information required

### **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS REQUIRED:**

- Nothing still waiting on rainfall event to calibrate model.

### **PROGRAMME FOR THE FORTHCOMING MONTH:**

- Flow monitor data to be collected and assessed when received – Still awaiting decent rainfall events that meet WAPUG best practice
- Assessment will continue to look at predicted and actual sewer performance as data is received from monitors
- Report to be issued when calibration data received
- Proposal to move monitors – It is proposed to move some of the monitors which will still give data where we need it when the rainfall events arrive. The new monitor position will give a better picture and flows in the system while we await the rainfall.



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## **Northumbria Police – Update provided by Dianne Hogg (PC 1976) Neighbourhood Beat Manager, North Shields Neighbourhood Policing Team**

Theft from Motor Vehicles. - An operation ongoing whereby plain clothes officers are working during the night, checking vehicle doors. If the vehicles are insecure the owners are informed and the vehicle is made secure.

Burglary to Shed /OTD - Extra patrols in the area - shed alarms given out for some residents.

Theft of Pedal Cycles - We have an operation that we set up in particular areas due to pedal cycles being stolen. We are able set a device up. Then If the pedal cycle is stolen it can be located very quickly. North Shields officers arrested two males who were sent to prison for the crimes they had committed by stealing pedal cycles.

House search / Warrants - These are carried out frequently looking for stolen items etc

Shoplifting - Extra patrols and shift changes

Anti-Social Behaviour is at its lowest - We have been working closely with the Safer Estates Team if there are problems with Council tenants and their children they can be evicted.

There is a slight increase of Crime figures from last year due to a new crime recording brought in by the Government.

Can Residents please be vigilant about any suspicious vehicles/ persons/ scrap vehicles in the area.

## **Drop-in Session at Tynemouth Swimming Pool**

**Start Time:** 18:00 PM

**Date:** Wednesday, 25 Feb 15

**Location:** Tynemouth Swimming Pool , Beach Road, North Shields

North Shields Neighbourhood Policing Team is inviting local residents to come along to a drop-in session.

**PCSO Kirsty Heslop** will be at **Tynemouth Swimming Pool, Beach Road, North Shields** on **Wednesday 25th February 2015** from **6:00pm till 6:45pm**. This community event gives local people the opportunity to meet informally with members of their local neighbourhood policing team.



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PCSO Kirsty Heslop said "It's one of our Policing commitments to make sure that local people know who their local officer is and how to contact them. These drop-in sessions are an opportunity for local people to get to know who polices their community and have an informal chat with them."

"I will be available to talk about a range of policing issues and will provide crime prevention advice. I hope residents will take a few minutes to pop in and stop for a chat. They may have concerns they want to talk about or are just curious to find out who their local officer is. Either way we hope that the sessions are beneficial to the community."

PCSO Kirsty Heslop



My role is to offer high visibility patrols in North Shields town centre, Fish Quay, Tynemouth and Preston Village areas. I want to be accessible to you. Please come and tell me about anything which is happening in your street. I am here to build links with the community and police partners. If you see me in your area please introduce yourself.

**Contact me:**

[northshields.npt@northumbria.pnn.police.uk](mailto:northshields.npt@northumbria.pnn.police.uk)

By phoning **101** and asking for extension **69191**