

The Burradon & Camperdown Forum

2012 Annual Report

3 Redford Place, Burradon, Cramlington, Northumberland, NE23 7LG

Charity Registration Number: 1074537

Annual General Meeting Held on 4 September 2012

The entire community would consider that the past 12 months have been the most difficult and challenging with the tragic events at the Halfway House at Christmas and the two robberies and the victims were two respected members of the community and the Grey Horse pub. The incidents had a devastating effect on village morale and caused considerable outrage within the community due to the unprecedented levels of violence which the victims suffered. Northumbria Police's response to all three incidents was swift and decisive with the deployment of extra officers and an increase in patrols in the area to reassure residents in the village.

The tragedy galvanised the community and the Forum has responded to resident's demands and organised a 900 name petition and an application has been submitted to North Tyneside Council Licensing Committee to review and hopefully rescind the pubs licence. In the event our application is successful, it will still be possible for a new owner or tenant to apply to North Tyneside Council to renew the licence and it may be necessary for the Forum to submit further representations to persuade the licensing committee to reject any application. The Forum and the community will be informed of any developments regarding the application in due course. It transpires that the Administrators of the company which owns the pub has instructed an agent to market the property for sale and as a consequence we will have to discuss the position with North Tyneside Council and Northumbria Police whether it will be possible or sensible to proceed with the application considering recent developments.

The Forum has been working with Rikki Todd's family and friends on a design for a memorial to preserve his memory. The quote for the memorial which is to be situated on the Millennium Green has been submitted to North Tyneside Council's Community Engagement Team and the Area Forum will be invited to consider funding the project at a future meeting.

At the recent Summer Carnival, Rikki's friends and Burradon Juniors arranged tournaments in his memory and were both well supported by his friends and the local community. A sum in the region of £500 was raised at the tournament organised by his friends and will be donated to the Royal Victoria Infirmary's Intensive Care Unit which cared for Rikki after he was admitted to hospital.

Although the past 12 months have been traumatic, it is essential that we remind the community of the many positive developments in the village during the period and include the following:

- Alan Carr unveiled a memorial to the victims of the 1860 mining disaster on the Millennium Green on 30 October 2011
- The Burradon Youth Hub opened on 7 October 2011
- Children’s Christmas Pantomime on 10 December 2011
- Pensioners trips to Beamish Museum, York Christmas Market and the Royal Yacht Britannia, Edinburgh
- The Summer Carnival was held on 1 September 2012

It would not be possible for the Forum to arrange the events without the generosity of Dulverton Trust, The Community Foundation, 1989 Willan Trust, R W Mann Trust, The Hospital of God at Greatham, Dickinson Dees Trust and North Tyneside Council.

An application was recently submitted to the Community Foundation for a grant to purchase new equipment for the luncheon club and secure the funding for a trip for the retired members of the village to the Lake District at Christmas. It is our intention to also prepare applications for funding for the Children’s Pantomime which is to be held on 8 December 2012 at Camperdown Club.

The opening of One Stop and the refurbishment of the former Co-Op building has transformed the appearance of the area and provided a new service for the residents in the village.

A series of meetings have been held during the past year with representatives of North Tyneside Council’s Community Services and housing department regarding its allocation and enforcement policies. Residents are unhappy with the number of property allocations to people with no connections to the village and the feeling that community spirit is being adversely affected. It is disappointing to report that there has been no success with the discussions and North Tyneside Council will continue with its present policy in accordance with official guidelines. In the circumstances, it is essential that we work in partnership with our ward councillors and the housing department to persuade North Tyneside Council to implement a local lettings policy to mitigate the effects of the policy and reverse the decline in community spirit.

A developing issue for the village recently has been the appearance of the roundabouts and the Miners Memorial on Station Road. Wendy Hewison is attending a meeting in November and hopefully the residents’ concerns will be addressed.

Finally, it is with deep sadness that I report to the recent passing of Ian Arkle who was a founder member of the Forum and will be fondly remembered for his strong opinions, dry sense of humour and ability to start an argument in an empty room.

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Agenda: Annual General Meeting

4 September 2012

- 1. Secretary's Report**
- 2. Chairman's Report**
- 3. Treasurer's Report**
- 4. Appointment of Trustees**
- 5. Appointment of Chairman**
- 6. Appointment of Secretary**
- 7. Appointment of Treasurer**