

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: BELLSHILL AND DISTRICT AREA COMMITTEE	Subject: BELLSHILL AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY FORUM
From: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES	
Date: 19.OCTOBER 2000	Ref: BP/MF

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to submit the draft minute of the Bellshill and District Community Forum meeting to the Area Committee. The minute of 12th October 2000 is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Bellshill and District Area Committee is requested to note the Bellshill and District Community Forum minute.

Paul Jukes

BELLSHILL AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY FORUM

Note of meeting held on Thursday 12th October 2000 in Bellshill Cultural Centre.

PRESENT: Tom Leggate, Colin Wotherspoon, Rosemary McCarey, Mary Hendry, John Gilmour and Gary Williams.
Councillor J Gorman, Councillor C Hebenton, Joe Keen (Housing & Property Services), Harry Woods (Community Services) and Sgt. D Callander

APOLOGIES: Sandra Toyer, Willie Foy and Robert McHarg

1.0 Note of meeting of 24th August 2000

Approved as true record of meeting.

1.1 Matters arising

Item 1.0 – Adoption of Constitution – continued to next meeting

Item 6.0 – Planning Applications – continued to next meeting when Robert McHarg will provide report.

2.0 Policing in Bellshill and District

Sgt. Callander reported that crime statistics for the period from 1st April 2000 indicates an overall reduction of 3.3% compared to this time last year, and gave a breakdown of the various groups of offences that had taken place. He highlighted, for example, that crimes of vandalism had gone down 15% as against an increase of 4.3% across the full Police Division Area. This was encouraging as historically it has been difficult to reduce crimes of vandalism.

The introduction of Community Police Officers patrolling on mountain bikes has resulted in many public complaints eg. Youths loitering, public drinking etc. being dealt with more effectively. Sgt. Callander advised the forum that within the area there are 30 'hot spots' which are visited at least once per day and officers being on bikes has helped resolve some trouble spots.

He further advised that Community Police Officers are currently visiting Primary Schools throughout the area giving talks to pupils on personal safety.

Sgt. Callander then answered questions from forum members about Police response times to complaints of vandalism to property and street disturbances.

3.0 Feedback from Area Committee of 7th September 2000

This item was continued to next meeting.

4.0 Street Cleaning Arrangements in Bellshill and District

Tom introduced Harry Woods, Area Cleansing Manager (South) to the forum, and he outlined the Cleansing Service provided throughout the area, and of the difficulties currently being experienced by the uplift service. Requests for assistance are now computerised and are generally dealt with in 3 days, however, there is only one vehicle available and some delays were unavoidable.

Forum members asked questions about, and were advised of, the sweeping and general cleaning of lanes, footpaths, open spaces and special uplift service.

5.0 Mossend Shopping Centre

Councillor Gorman circulated a plan entitled 'Mossend Development Assessment' and gave a brief presentation on its contents. He then answered questions from Forum members about the proposals and the consultative process to be followed.

The Forum asked Cllr Gorman to consult with Planning Officers and consider holding a public meeting for the local community to discuss the Mossend Proposals in greater detail.

6.0 Date of Next Meeting

As there was no other business the meeting was closed and the next meeting of the Forum was arranged for Thursday 23rd November 2000, at 7.00pm in the Bellshill Cultural Centre.