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Billingham North Ward

FOCUS

Number 106

Editors: Councillor Lynne Apedaile 01740 645216
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BILLINGHAM TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION

The second consultation on the redevelopment of Billingham Town Centre has now been completed and we are awaiting the results of the exercise. During the open day for the regeneration of Billingham Town Centre in the Billingham Arms Hotel on Wednesday 20th July 241 participants from residents, businesses, interest groups and school children attended to discuss the concept designs.

There was a consultation document delivered to the householders of Billingham for them to fill in with their views on the redevelopment. This was marred by the Herald & Post delivering the document with the junk mail, so many of them were put straight into the waste paper recycling container. The leaflets were supposed to be a separate delivery which is what Stockton Council paid for.

Several residents of the Billingham North ward have said to us that they are suspicious that they will not have enough choice in the proposals. After the fiasco with the Gateway Project who can blame them. This was not helped by the Labour Cabinet member councillor Bob Cook stating in the Herald and Post that "A fully enclosed, entire town centre is not a viable option". Residents are at least looking for part of the regenerated town centre to have a roof.

Lynne, Keith and Colin attended a Billingham Councillors update meeting before the consultation started and showed their commitment to the regeneration process. Two of the three Billingham Conservative councillors were at the meeting but only one Billingham Labour councillor attended with one apology from the six Billingham Labour councillors who could have attended.

The results of the consultation will be used in the negotiations between Stockton Borough Council and Hallidales the preferred developer for the town centre. From some pictures we have seen of town centre regenerations completed by Hallidales they seem to know what residents require to improve town centres such as Billingham. We now look forward to seeing the plans put forward by the developer after taking in to account comments made during the consultation to bring our town centre up to date and put the pride back into Billingham.

SMOKING AND CHEWING GUM

Many residents are not aware that it is now an offence to discard cigarette ends and chewing gum on pavements, roads or any council owned land. This carries a fixed penalty of £50 and council officers are keeping an eye open to catch offenders. Therefore please take care and put the extinguished cigarette ends, chewing gum and any other litter in the bins provided around the area. This is much cheaper than paying the fixed penalty, saves the council money in cleaning which is reflected in Council Tax. It also makes a better environment for us all to live in.

40 YEARS ON

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH

Part of the celebrations for St. Luke's 40th anniversary was a 60's evening on Saturday 2nd July. Everyone was encouraged to come in the appropriate dress and sing and dance to the 60's music. It was a great night and enjoyed by everyone and a fitting celebration for 40 years.

BEWLEY INFANTS SCHOOL

Colin was invited to attend the 40th birthday of the school and the staff and pupils had pulled out all the stops to make it a special birthday. All the children were dressed as Ladybirds, Grass hoppers, Bees and other bugs. It was just like an ugly bugs ball, but the children looked wonderful. The helpers had organised a percussion band who played in the school yard while the children paraded in their costumes and showed them off to their families. The weather was kind and the sun shone for the afternoon. It was a fitting birthday which was finalised with a barbecue

PROPOSED BILLINGHAM PARISH (TOWN) COUNCIL

A notice is to be placed in the local press to allow anyone to make representations to the council on the following matters:-

- 1) The total number of parish councillors to be elected to the Parish Council.
- 2) The number, if any, of parish wards to be created.
- 3) The name(s), if any, of parish wards to be created.
- 4) the number of parish councillors to be elected to each parish ward.

All comments are welcome as it will be your town council to try to improve Billingham.

MARSH HOUSE AVENUE PETROL STATION DEVELOPMENT

The developers for the petrol station site have withdrawn the planning application for the time being. They are now looking at reducing the housing density on the site. We will keep you informed about the development and thank you for your support in this matter.

COMMUNITY SKIPS

The next community skip will be available on Wednesday 5th October on the right near the entrance to the Low Grange shops car park.

STOCKTON-ON-LINE

Stockton-on-Line is being re-organised at present and several instructors have been made redundant. Some community centres will no longer be used for Stockton-on-Line. Low Grange Community Centre is still to be retained with changed opening hours which are:-

Monday 1pm to 5pm
Tuesday closed
Wednesday 10am to 12.15pm
Thursday 1pm to 5pm
Friday 9am to 12.15pm

WARD SURGERIES

We are at present organising our ward surgeries at the North Billingham Methodist Church and the High Grange Community Centre. The first 2 dates are:-

High Grange Community Centre
Monday 5th September, 6:30 to 7:30pm
and
North Billingham Methodist Church
Monday 3rd October, 6:30 to 7:30pm

You can contact Lynne, Keith and Colin at other times with their details shown below.

You can contact Lynne, Keith and Colin by:-

Telephone **Lynne** on **01740 645216** or **Keith** on **01642 533289** or **Colin** on **01642 872896**

e-mail **lynne.apedaile@stockton.gov.uk** or **keith.dewison@stockton.gov.uk**
colin.leckonby@stockton.gov.uk

You can also write to **Lynne Apedaile** at **2 Sunderland road, Wolviston TS22 5LZ**,
Keith Dewison at **26 Kennedy Gardens, Billingham TS23 3RF**,
Colin Leckonby at **73 Tunstall Avenue, Billingham TS23 3QD**.

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