



**Central Area Forum - New Mills School Thursday
15th October 2009**

Reference: 01 CNL 15/10/09

Question: There have been incidents of harassment in the national papers with tragic results. Do we get incidents of harassment of families in the area?

Answer: (Police) – Across the Division we take anti-social behaviour very seriously. Each day the Police review every single incident in the area to ensure that it is dealt with effectively. Incidents are also considered over a regular period, ie. weekly, fortnightly to identify trends that may exist in respect of low level noise nuisance, graffiti, etc. which will be responded to accordingly. Any known issues can be reported tonight to the officers present. The level in this area is very low.

Reference: 02 CNL 15/10/09

High Peak Borough Council Executive Director, Dai Lerner provided an update on recent events relating to the explosion and fire incident at Birch Vale - since the incident a number of meetings with key agencies have been held.

The clean up of resultant debris caused by the incident is being dealt with by Veolia, a environmental clean up company.

Environmental monitoring of the area will be carried out by the Environment Agency and there will be an assessment to determine any possible health risks.

Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service carried out an incident investigation which resulted in a 'best guess' identified as a leakage of flammable material and subsequent explosion.

The Health & Safety Executive regulated what was being stored on site, whilst the borough council authorise the factory process which is subject to regulatory control.

Nearby watercourses are currently being monitored for any possible pollution, but there is no evidence of any to date.

Resident comment: Stirling Lloyd say they are unable to consider paying for repairs to neighbouring homes damaged in the incident until the cause has been determined. This will delay any payout, and puts householders to the initial cost.

Response: (HPBC) – The Executive Director undertook to contact Stirling Lloyd to clarify with the company what that means in relation to length of time compensation will be available to householders.

Resident comment: There are still dangerous chemicals stored at neighbouring factories, within feet of houses in the area.

Response: (HPBC) The neighbouring company is monitored by the Environment Agency and the Health & Safety Executive, who are aware of the issues involved and exercise a high level of regulatory control.

Comment: - This would be more re-assuring if there were some protection measures taken to avoid any other problems.

Response: (HPBC) The Executive Director undertook to raise this issue with the relevant agencies.

Reference: 03 CNL 15/10/09

High Peak Borough Council Executive Director, Dai Lerner provided an update on the Local Development Framework - Dai Lerner explained the process and reported that approximately 1000 consultation responses were being processed, looking at the various options from which a preferred option will be developed and subjected to further consultation.

Kay points arising from the local organisers meeting

Emergency Planning

The County Council's Emergency Planning Division is putting together guidance for event organisers. This will be sent to the event organisers present when complete, and also put on the High Peak Borough Council website (www.highpeak.gov.uk).

Policing

Sgt Bowman gave a detailed explanation of the service the police will be providing at Events. Organisers were reassured that the police will still be supporting events in line with their core policing responsibilities rather than simply as marshals.

Licensing

Environmental Health Manager, Ian Nicholls explained what types of community event may be subject to the Licensing Act 2003. He said that a number of local parks were already covered by premises licences. He outlined the Temporary Event Notice procedure, which can be used to authorise small-scale events where there is no premises licence in place.

The following guidance notes relating to general event organising issues, and an application form for Road Closures, was distributed at the meeting.