

# Howgate & Distington Neighbourhood Forum

## Newsletter from meeting held on:

**Thursday 6 October 2011 at Lowca Welfare**

### Home Fire Safety and Local Issues

Mike Worsley, Cumbria Fire & Rescue, along with two members of Blue Watch from Whitehaven Station, gave a presentation on Fire Prevention which included Free Home Fire Safety Checks, Road Safety Awareness, Partnership working with the British Heart Foundation, Princes Trust and School visits including the Development programme.

Cumbria is the second largest county in England and has 38 fire stations, with all but 5 being retained and employing 850 people. There are four Watches at Whitehaven with each one carrying out 35 home safety checks per month. In Cumbria the aim is to visit every property and then re-visit them again in 5-10 years time.

Every home in Cumbria is eligible to apply for a **free Home Safety Visit**, help is given on dealing with any potential fire hazards in the home, designing a fire plan so occupants know how to react in the event of a fire and fitting, where applicable, a battery powered smoke alarm free of charge. This service is completely free, normally takes about 30 minutes and is undertaken by Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service personnel.

**To arrange a visit please ring: Freephone: 0800 358 4777**

**or contact your local fire station**

Whitehaven	Tel: 01946 505665
Workington	Tel: 01900 706115

**Website:** [www.cumbriafire.gov.uk](http://www.cumbriafire.gov.uk)

**All Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service personnel carry an identification card. Never let anyone into your home unless you know them or they can prove their identity. If you are in doubt please call 01900 822503 for help.**

### Neighbourhood Policing

PCSO Adam Lace reported that Copeland has the lowest anti-social behaviour figures in Cumbria with crime figures down by 20% since last year, however there can be a slight increase during October with the onset of darker nights.

**Issue was raised** about the illegal mini mopeds in the Distington Area. Adam reassured the Forum that this was being dealt with and it would only be a matter of time before the perpetrator was caught.

It is important to report incidents and make sure you obtain a log number/reference for future updates.

**Please contact:**

**Crimestoppers on 0800555111** - if you wish to remain anonymous or;  
**Cumbria Police Tel: 0845 33 00 247**



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### Parish Lengthsman Project

Sheila Moffat, Manager of Works4You Limited explained how successful the Parish Lengthsman scheme has been in the North East Copeland Area and this has now been rolled out to the Howgate & Distington Parishes. One person is employed two days a week to cover this area; a comprehensive list of duties which have been completed since April included; litter picking, grass cutting & strimming, vegetation cutting, beach clean and varnishing of notice board. An issue was raised about work that had not been carried out in Lowca; Sheila offered to follow this up, it was noted that all requests for work to be carried out must be made to Sheila **Tel: 01946 814576 Email: [enquiries@works4youltd.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@works4youltd.co.uk)**

There was praise for the scheme from the parishes of Distington, Moresby and Parton who felt it was working well and was good value for money.

### Whitehaven, Egremont & District Credit Union

For details of open hours, collections or for more information please contact:

Tel: 01946 66755 Email: [wedcu@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:wedcu@tiscali.co.uk)

Distington residents will need to contact Allerdale Credit Union:

Tel: 01900 63642 Email: [allerdalecredit@btinternet.com](mailto:allerdalecredit@btinternet.com)

### Grants Awarded:

Name of Organisation	Amount Awarded
Distington Old Folks Reunion Club	£500.00
Distington - In - Bloom	£1500.00
Haig Colliery Mining Museum	£700.00
Distington Club for Young People	£300.00
Lowca Welfare Management Committee	£560.00
North Copeland Youth Partnership	£350.00

**Suggested topics for future meetings: Improvements to Broadband**

**Date of next meeting – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2012 in Moresby**

### **Get in touch**

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