

# **AREA 2 FORUM**

Tuesday,  
20 February 2007  
6.30 p.m.

West Cornforth  
Community Centre

## **AGENDA and REPORTS**

If you would like this document in another language or format, such as audio tape, Braille or large print, or if you require the services of an interpreter, please contact us

إذا أردت هذه الوثيقة بلغة أخرى أو بطريقة أخرى، أو إذا كنت بحاجة إلى خدمات مترجم، فنرجو أن تقوم بالاتصال بنا.

যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান অথবা যদি আপনার একজন ইন্টারপ্রেটারের প্রয়োজন হয়, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদের সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন।

本文件可以翻譯為另一語文版本，或製作成另一格式，如有此需要，或需要傳譯員的協助，請與我們聯絡。

यह दस्तावेज़ यदि आपको किसी अन्य भाषा या अन्य रूप में चाहिये, या आपको आनुवाद-सेवाओं की आवश्यकता हो तो हमसे संपर्क करें

ਜੇ ਇਹ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੈ, ਜਾਂ ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਗੱਲਬਾਤ ਸਮਝਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਕਿਸੇ ਇੰਟਰਪ੍ਰੈਟਰ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

یہ دستاویز اگر آپ کو کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہو، یا اگر آپ کو ترجمان کی خدمات چاہئیں تو براہ مہربانی ہم سے رابطہ کیجئے۔

Póngase en contacto con nosotros si desea obtener este documento en otro idioma o formato, o si necesita los servicios de un intérprete.

**Democratic Services**



**01388 816166**

## AGENDA

**1. APOLOGIES**

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To notify the Chairman of any items that appear later in the agenda in which you may have an interest.

**3. MINUTES**

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2007. (Pages 1 - 4)

**4. POLICE REPORT**

A representative of Ferryhill Police will attend the meeting to give a report of crime statistics and initiatives in the area.

**5. SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME**

To consider the attached reports outlining the proposed projects: -

- Ferryhill LADDER Centre – Future Expansion
- Ferryhill Sport Facility Technical Study

(Pages 5 - 12)

**6. QUESTIONS**

The Chairman will take questions from the floor

**7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

26<sup>th</sup> March 2007 at Chilton and Windlestone Community College at 6.30 p.m.

**8. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT**

Members are respectfully requested to give the Chief Executive notice of items they would wish to raise under the heading not later than 12 noon on the day preceding the meeting, in order that consultation may take place with the Chairman who will determine whether the item will be accepted.

B. Allen  
Chief Executive

Council Offices  
SPENNYMOOR  
12<sup>th</sup> February 2007

---

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection in relation to this Agenda and associated papers should contact Miss S. Billingham, Tel 01388 816166 Ext 4240, [sbillingham@sedgefield.gov.uk](mailto:sbillingham@sedgefield.gov.uk)

This page is intentionally left blank

## **Distribution List**

### **Sedgefield Borough Council**

Councillor Mrs. C. Potts (Chairman)

Councillor Mrs. K. Conroy (Vice-Chairman) and

Councillors B.F. Avery J.P., T.F. Forrest, J.E. Higgin,  
A. Hodgson, B. Meek, G. Morgan, D.A. Newell, R. A. Patchett and  
Ms. M. Predki

### **Durham County Council**

Councillor G. Porter

Councillor C. Magee

### **Bishop Middleham Parish Council**

Councillor Mr. L. Muncaster

Councillor Mr. V. Cook

### **Chilton Parish Council**

Councillor J. Lee

Councillor V. Collinson

### **Ferryhill Town Council**

Councillor A. Denton

Mrs. P. Crathorne

### **Cornforth Parish Council**

Councillor S. Drew

Councillor W. Wilson

### **Castles Residents Association**

Mrs. C. Hall

### **Lakes Residents Association**

Mrs. V. Birchall

### **Chilton- West Residents Association**

Mrs. M. Taylor

### **Ferryhill Station and Chilton Lane Residents Association**

Mrs. G. Hall

### **Dean Bank Residents Association**

Mrs. J. Weston

### **Cornforth Partnership**

Mrs. K. Lynn

### **Police**

Inspector Green

**County Durham Primary Care Trust**  
Alyson Learmouth

**Ferryhill Business and Enterprise College**  
Mr. S. Gater

**CAVOS**  
Chief Executive

# Item 3

## SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL AREA 2 FORUM

Dean Bank and Ferryhill  
Literary Institute

Tuesday,  
9 January 2007

Time: 6.30 p.m.

**Present:** Councillor Mrs. C. Potts (Chairman) – Sedgefield Borough Council and

Councillor Mrs. K. Conroy	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor T.F. Forrest	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor J.E. Higgin	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor A. Hodgson	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor B. Meek	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor G. Morgan	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor R.A. Patchett	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor V.E. Cooke	–	Bishop Middleham Parish Council
Councillor T. Sheehan	–	Bishop Middleham Parish Council
L. Hardy	–	Bishop Middleham Play Area Group
C. Gilbert	–	Bishop Middleham Play Area Group
L. Smith	–	Bishop Middleham Play Area Group
A. Willis	–	Bishop Middleham Play Area Group
D. Younger	–	Bishop Middleham Play Area Group
C. Heal	–	Chilton Partnership
M. Mitchell	–	Chilton West Residents Association
M. Taylor	–	Chilton West Residents Association
B. Shephard	–	Dean Bank Literary Institute
J. Weston	–	Dean Bank Residents Association
Acting Sergeant J. Burdess	–	Durham Constabulary
T. Garrett	–	Ferryhill Community Partnership
A. Hall	–	Ferryhill Station Residents Association
G. Hall	–	Ferryhill Station Residents Association
A. Dunning	–	NECA
J. Birchall	–	The Ladder Centre
Councillor S. Drew	–	West Cornforth Parish Council
P. Craythorne	–	Local Resident
P. Forrest	–	Local Resident
R. Hopper	–	Local Resident
T. Okey	–	Local Resident
J. Williamson	–	Local Resident

**In**

**Attendance:** A. Megginson – Sedgefield Borough

**Apologies:**

Councillor B.F. Avery	-	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor D.A. Newell	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor Ms. M. Predki	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
A. Rutherford	–	Chilton Partnership
Councillor W. Wilson	–	Cornforth Parish Council
K. Lyn	–	Cornforth Partnership
Councillor G. Porter	–	Durham County Council
A. Learmonth	–	County Durham Primary Care Trust
D. Lonsdale	–	Local Resident

**AF(2)19/06 COUNCILLOR J. CHAPLIN**

A minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect for Councillor J. Chaplin who recently passed away.

**AF(2)20/06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Members declared an interest in Item 7 – Sedgefield Borough Local Improvement Programme :-

Councillor A. Hodgson	-	Prejudicial – Member of Cabinet
Councillor R.A. Patchett	-	Prejudicial – Member of Cabinet
Councillor V.E. Cooke	-	Prejudicial – Member of Bishop Middleham Parish Council
Councillor T. Sheehan	-	Prejudicial – Member of Bishop Middleham Parish Council

**AF(2)21/06 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2006 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Specific reference was made to AF(2)15/06 – Police Report – it was pointed out that rather than two PCSOs being based in West Cornforth there would be one PCSO and one Constable in that area.

**AF(2)22/06 SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME**

Consideration was given to a report detailing an application submitted to be appraised by the Strategy and Regeneration Section for funding from the Local Improvement Programme. (For copy see file of Minutes).

The report details information for Area 2 Forum for their consideration and comment, which would be used to formulate a report and recommendations which would be submitted to Sedgefield Borough Council Cabinet.

**Bishop Middleham Play Area Renewal Scheme**

Councillor T. Sheehan, Bishop Middleham Parish Council and A. Willis, Bishop Middleham Play Area Group attended the meeting to give a presentation on the proposed project, which would provide new play equipment and safety surfacing to a supervised toddlers play area at the rear of the village hall and a series of enhancements to the main childrens play area at the leisure park within the village.

It was pointed out that a village appraisal had been carried out were it was found that improvements to the play area was a high priority. Pictures of the proposed equipment for the sites were also produced.

It was pointed out that the total cost of the project was £116,903 with a request of £69,320 from the Local Improvement Programme.

**AGREED:** *That Cabinet be recommended to support the Bishop Middleham Play Area Renewal Scheme.*



**AF(2)23/06 POLICE REPORT**

Acting Sergeant J. Burdess attended the meeting to give details of the crime figures and local initiatives for the area.

It was reported that the crime figures for the area were as follows: -

	<u>October:</u>	<u>November:</u>
Burglary	6	17
Burglary Other	10	13
Vehicle Crime	14	8
Criminal Damage	65	50
Violent Crime	28	21
Theft	32	33

Members were informed that the Community Beat Team now included four PCSO officers, four Police Constables with another PCSO due to complete their training in 3 to 4 weeks.

Members of the Forum were updated on Operation Maximino, which targeted crime in Ferryhill Town and Operation Dark, which was aimed at highlighting safety measures to properties during the dark winter months.

With regard to anti-social behaviour, it was explained that the Broom area and Ferryhill Market Place had been identified as hotspot areas. Patrols had therefore been targeting the area and a reduction in reports had been noted. An amount of alcohol had also been seized from those under aged.

Detailed discussion was held regarding the nature of crimes highlighted in the statistics table and whether the statistics could be broken down further into Ward areas and into a league table to identify where the crimes were taking place. It was agreed that the suggestion be looked into.

With regard to anti-social behaviour discussion was held as to ways of combating the problems. The development of Multi Use Games Areas (MUGA), youth clubs and supervised activities were all considered. It was suggested that contact be made with Durham County Council or Sedgefield Borough Council's Strategy and Regeneration Section.

Concerns were raised regarding the Police Station at Ferryhill and limited services provided from the reception. It was explained that the station was unmanned as all officers would usually be on patrol. Spennymoor and Newton Aycliffe were the only stations with manned receptions. Any reports could be made via the Police Communications Centre. Questions were also raised regarding the post box at the station and how often it was emptied. It was explained that post was usually collected from Spennymoor Police Station, however, Acting Sergeant Burgess agreed to check with other staff as to whether the post box was still used.

Members of Cornforth Parish Council had been approached to make a financial contribution to a computer system purchased by the Police to identify hot spot areas and areas where those convicted had taken up residence to monitor behaviour. Since that time no further information had been provided, Acting Sergeant Burdess agreed to look into the matter.

Concern was finally raised with regard to Police attendance at public meetings. It was explained that the public raised concerns at recent Town and Parish Council meetings where the Police had decided to stop attending. It was pointed out that the Police had felt that Area Forums were the most effective way of receiving public views and would continue to attend those.

**AF(2)24/06      SEDGFIELD necA HIGH STREET PROJECT**

Ann Dunning had attended the meeting to give a presentation regarding Sedgefield necA High Street project.

It was explained that necA (North East Council of Addictions) was the largest regional charity working in the area for substance use/misuse. Its remit included all forms of substance dependency including illicit drugs, alcohol, prescribed medication, over the counter preparations, nicotine, solvents, gases and gambling. Its Counsellors worked as part of a multi-disciplinary team with other agencies such as DISC, Probation Service, Health and Social Care, GPs, Prisons, Independent Service Providers, Schools, Colleges and Voluntary organisations.

Services provided by necA included complementary services such as acupuncture, aromatherapy, reflexology which were proven to be effective in enhancing treatment programmes for drug users and supported housing to clients experiencing misuse problems.

It was noted that the biggest addiction problem related to alcohol.

The High Street project offered free confidential one-to-one appointments with professional qualified counsellors and referral to other agencies if required.

**AF(2)25/06      QUESTIONS  
Local Improvement Programme**

It was questioned whether the Forum could be updated once Local Improvement Programme applications had been considered by Cabinet and were successful. It was agreed to take back to the relevant officer to produce a feedback report for a future meeting.

**AF(2)26/06      DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

20<sup>th</sup> February, 2007 at West Cornforth Community Centre at 6.30 p.m.

---

**ACCESS TO INFORMATION**

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection, etc., in relation to these Minutes and associated papers should contact Miss S. Billingham, Tel 01388 816166 Ext 4240, sbillingham@sedgefield.gov.uk

# Item 5

AREA 2 FORUM

20<sup>th</sup> February 2007

**Report of the Head of Strategy and Regeneration**

**Sedgefield Borough Local Improvement Programme**

## **Application - Ferryhill LADDER Centre – Future Expansion**

This report highlights a Local Improvement Programme (LIP) application submitted to and initially appraised by the Strategy and Regeneration Section. The report provides information to the Area 2 Forum for their consideration and comments, which will be used to further develop the project proposal prior to it being taken through Sedgefield Borough Council's decision making process.

The Area 2 Forum has been allocated £836,000 of LIP capital resources between 2006 and 2009. A total of £278,700 has been allocated to the year 2006/07 to the end of March 2007. £157,854 has been allocated to date.

### **Project Background**

- **Name of Project:** LADDER Centre Expansion – Technical Study
- **Name of Applicant:** Ferryhill LADDER Centre
- **Brief Description of Project:** The LADDER Centre want to expand the range of activities that are available at the current centre to cater for both a wider variety, and an increased number of uses.
- **Requested from LIP:** £5,000
- **Total Estimated Project Cost:** £5,000
- **What will the LIP be used for:** The aim of this stage of the project is to undertake a Technical Study to consider the options available for expansion of the LADDER Centre. This would include establishing an accurate project cost for the options available.
- **Impact of the Project:** The applicant has stated the intention is to offer a wider range of opportunities to local people and local agencies. This would include activities to promote healthier lifestyles and further combat antisocial behaviour. The centre current provides a range of activities but the space available has led to a limit of the range of activities that can be offered and the number of people who can access activities and services.
- **Evidence of need and community support:** The applicant has stated that the LADDER Centre have undertaken a range of

consultation exercises with a range of partners going back to 1998 when the idea of the centre was first considered. A recent consultation exercise in August 2006 provided evidence indicating that users and local residents would benefit from a local facility that could provide more than just training, advice and guidance. 640 questionnaires were issued and face-to-face consultation undertaken where possible.

- **Value for money and Revenue implications:**

By carrying out this stage of the project, this will help to establish a full project cost for all elements of the scheme and consider the most cost effective way of extending provision at the LADDER Centre. The costs of the Technical Study will be subject to a quotation / tender process to ensure that value for money can be identified.

A key issue in considering any future project proposal is to ensure that any enhanced facility can cover the increased revenue costs associated with running and staffing a larger facility.

- **Statutory Approvals:** Planning Permission to be investigated by the Study.

Subject to discussion and agreement by the Area Forum to progress the project proposal, the applicant will work with the Strategy and Regeneration Division to inform a full appraisal of the LIP application prior to it being taken through Sedgefield Borough Council's decisions making process.

#### **Recommendation from the Strategy and Regeneration Section:**

That the Area Forum considers:

- The project proposal, and how it would meet the priority needs of the Area 2 locality.

If the Area Forum wish to support the undertaking of the Technical Study then a further report will be brought to the Area Forum once this Study has been completed to enable the Forum to consider the overall cost implications of the final project.

#### **Material considerations:**

#### **Other applications received from Area 2:**

In taking the above decision the Area Forum is requested to consider the implication of the funding level requested against the following projects that have been received for future determination by the Council

- Ferryhill Sports Facility – Technical Study £10,000 requested.
- Bishop Middleham Play Area - £69,320. Agreed to progress this scheme at the Area Forum Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January.

- Duncombe Heritage Centre Development – Ferryhill. Estimated project costs £200,000. LIP grant requested approximately £100,000. Costs are currently being revised for this project.



**20<sup>th</sup> February 2007**

**Report of the Head of Strategy and Regeneration**

**Sedgefield Borough Local Improvement Programme**

**Application - Ferryhill Sports Facility Technical Study**

This report highlights a Local Improvement Programme (LIP) application submitted to and initially appraised by the Strategy and Regeneration Section. The report provides information to the Area 2 Forum for their consideration and comments, which will be used to further develop the project proposal prior to it being taken through Sedgefield Borough Council's decision making process.

The Area 2 Forum has been allocated £836,000 of LIP capital resources between 2006 and 2009. A total of £278,700 has been allocated to the year 2006/07 to the end of March 2007. £157,854 has been allocated to date.

**Project Background**

- **Name of Project:** Ferryhill Sports Facility – Technical Study
- **Name of Applicant:** Ferryhill Town Council
- **Brief Description of Project:** The overall project seeks to implement a series of improvements for enhanced sporting opportunities within the Dean Bank Park area – Ferryhill. This would include additional changing accommodation, a Synthetic Sports Area, and improved drainage to a greater number of pitches for club and community use. The application is being developed in partnership with Ferryhill Youth FC and also Durham FA.
- **Requested from LIP:** £10,000 – Technical Study
- **Total Estimated Project Cost:** £10,000
- **What will the LIP be used for:** The aim of this stage of the project is to fully investigate the options for the construction of a sports facility at Dean Bank Park by undertaking a Technical Study. This would include establishing an accurate project cost as well as looking at the site constraints and planning issues associated with the Park.
- **Impact of the Project:** It is expected that the project will encourage a greater number of people to become involved in local sporting activities. Ferryhill Youth FC will also be able to develop more teams and cater for increased use by young people.

- **Evidence of need and community support:**  
The applicant has stated that the need for a Football / Sporting Academy was first highlighted by the 2001 Ferryhill Community Appraisal. Discussions have also taken place with the Ferryhill Community Partnership and with the Dean Bank Residents Association regarding the project. Given the FA Charter Standard status of Ferryhill Youth FC, the project has also been recognised by Durham FA as a priority project for grass routes football development and has been included in their recent Facilities Strategy.

By undertaking the study it is recognised that further consultation with various partners and residents will need to be undertaken in considering the most appropriate option.

- **Value for money and Revenue implications:**  
By carrying out this stage of the project this will help to establish a full project cost for all elements of the scheme and inform the options available. The costs of the Technical Study will be subject to a quotation / tender process to ensure that value for money can be demonstrated.

Discussions have been held with Durham FA about future funding towards a facility of this nature should the Technical Study identify the site being suitable to meet local priorities and need.

A key issue in considering any future project proposal is to ensure that the increased revenue costs associated with maintaining a facility of this nature can be met.

- **Statutory Approvals:** Requirement of Planning Permission will be a major consideration addressed by undertaking the Technical Study.

Subject to discussion and agreement by the Area Forum to progress the project proposal, the applicant will work with the Strategy and Regeneration Division to inform a full appraisal of the LIP application prior to it being taken through Sedgefield Borough Council's decisions making process.

### **Recommendation from the Strategy and Regeneration Section:**

That the Area Forum considers:

- The project proposal, and how it would meet the priority needs of the Area 2 locality.

If the Area Forum wish to support the undertaking of the Technical Study then a further report will be brought to the Area Forum once this Study has been completed to enable the Forum to consider the overall cost implications of the final project.



**Material considerations:**

**Other applications received from Area 2:**

In taking the above decision, the Area Forum is requested to consider the implication of the funding level requested against the following projects that have been received for future determination by the Council.

- Ferryhill LADDER Centre – Extension £5,000. Funding of a study to investigate the cost of provided additional space at the Ladder Centre to accommodate new community activities.
- Bishop Middleham Play Area - £69,320. Agreed to progress this scheme at the Area Forum Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January.
- Duncombe Heritage Centre Development – Ferryhill. Estimated project costs £200,000. LIP grant requested approximately £100,000. Costs are currently being revised for this project.

This page is intentionally left blank