

# Item 6

## AREA 2 FORUM

18<sup>th</sup> December 2007

### Report of the Assistant Chief Executive

#### Sedgefield Borough Local Improvement Programme

##### **Application - Miners Welfare Master Plan, Chilton Town Council.**

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 2007/08. A number of projects have been supported to date to the value of £251,105, and there is some additional under-spend resulting from last year, which will be available to the Area Forum for additional project activity.

#### **Project Background**

- **Name of Project: Miners Welfare Master Plan**
- **Name of Applicant: Chilton Town Council**
- **Brief Description of Project:** The Miners Welfare Master Plan was the result of one element of the LIP part-funded Chilton Environmental Improvements project which highlighted work still to be carried out in the Welfare Park. The report identified six phases of work, this project will address three of those phases.
- **Requested from LIP: £169,471 (53%)**
- **Total Estimated Project Cost: £319,471**
- **What will the LIP be used for:** The project includes works to extend and refurbish the pavilion building, the creation of a mini -golf area, replacing trees and shrubs, the creation of a car park, new lighting columns, seats and bins, signage and the restoration of the gate piers and new gates.
- **Impact of the Project:**  
The applicant has stated that the project, would provide a community hub which would include toilets, a café, play equipment and changing rooms and would also help resolve some anti-social behaviour issues. This will complement the works carried out earlier in the year to the tennis courts and the provision of floodlighting to the courts.

- **Evidence of need and community support:**  
The applicant has stated that Groundwork North East was engaged to carry out an appraisal for the Town Council's recreational facilities. As a result of this appraisal and various consultation exercises with members of the public, West Chilton Residents Association and Chilton Partnership, a master plan was developed. As part of the master plan, consultation also took place with Chilton Primary School, Chilton Sure Start and Windlestone Residential School. The Masterplan will address the issues raised and although this project only addresses phases 1,2 and 3, all phases will be addressed when funding for the remaining phases becomes available.
- **Value for money and Revenue implications:**  
The applicant has applied for £169,471, which is 53% of the total project costs. £150,000 of Town Council funding will be put into the project. Revenue costs will be covered by the Town Council precept and hire fees. The Strategy & Regeneration Division will work with the applicant to identify other opportunities for additional 'match funding' to be brought into the project. All elements of the project will go out to tender if the project is approved by all funders.

Subject to discussion and agreement by the Area Forum to progress the project, the Strategy & Regeneration Division will work with the applicant to resolve the above issues, and clarify any additional points raised through the Area Forum process.

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

That the Area Forum considers:

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

#### **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 Forum.

#### **Applications approved by Sedgefield Borough Council to date;**

- |  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| • West Cornforth Number 66 Project Works Completed and Grant claimed.                      | £64,400 approved |
| • Chilton Environmental Improvements Works almost complete. Small amount of grant to claim | £93,455 approved |
| • Ferryhill LADDER Centre Technical Study Under development, still to claim grant.         | £6,170 approved  |
| • Ferryhill Sports Facility Technical Study Study received and being considered.           | £11,250 approved |

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mainsforth Community Centre<br/>Approved 25<sup>th</sup> October 2007</li> </ul> | £75,830 Approved |
| Total   | £251,105         |

**Applications under development**

- Duncombe Heritage Centre Development – Ferryhill.  
Estimated project costs £200,000. LIP grant requested approximately £100,000. A more detailed project proposal is still being developed with the History Society and the Town Council.
- West Cornforth Community Centre LIP grant requested approximately £90,000. Approval by Area Forum awaiting decisions on matched funding.
- Dean Bank Institute LIP grant requested £50,000. Approved by Area Forum. Working with applicant to resolve queries and await decisions on match funding.

**Applications to be discussed at the next Area Forum – 19<sup>th</sup> February 2007**

- Ferryhill Sports Facility Technical Study – Update on the work of the consultants. Study due for completion end Nov 07. To be discussed at Ferryhill Town Council in December.

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