

AREA 2 FORUM

Tuesday,
9 September 2008
6.30 p.m.

Chilton and Windlestone
Community College

AGENDA and REPORTS





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العربية (Arabic)

إذا أردت المعلومات بلغة أخرى أو بطريقة أخرى، نرجو أن تطلب ذلك منا.

বাংলা (Bengali)

যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলুন।

(中文 (繁體字)) (Cantonese)

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

हिन्दी (Hindi)

यदि आपको सूचना किसी अन्य भाषा या अन्य रूप में चाहिये तो कृपया हमसे कहे

polski (Polish)

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo uzyskać informacje w innym języku lub w innym formacie, prosimy dać nam znać.

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ (Punjabi)

ਜੇ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ, ਤਾਂ ਇਹ ਸਾਥੋਂ ਮੰਗ ਲਓ।

Español (Spanish)

Póngase en contacto con nosotros si desea recibir información en otro idioma o formato.

اردو (Urdu)

اگر آپ کو معلومات کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے پوچھئے۔

AGENDA

DISTRIBUTION LIST

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 24th June 2008. (Pages 1 - 8)

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. LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME - UPDATE ON PROJECT ACTIVITY

To consider the attached report of the Assistant Chief Executive. (Pages 9 - 12)

6. QUESTIONS

The Chairman will take questions from the floor

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 4th November 2008 at 6.30 p.m. at Dean Bank and Ferryhill Literary Institute.

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

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

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Distribution List

Sedgefield Borough Council

Councillor Mrs. C. Potts (Chairman)

Councillor Mrs. P. Crathorne (Vice-Chairman) and

Councillors B.F. Avery, J.P., T.D. Brimm, Mrs. K. Conroy, D. Farry,
T.F. Forrest, J.E.Higgin, .A. Hodgson, B. Lamb and D.A. Newell

Durham County Council

Councillor B. Avery

Councillor Mrs. C. Potts

Councillor D Farry

Councillor C. Magee

Bishop Middleham Parish Council

Councillor Mr. V. Cook

Councillor G.L. Muncaster

Chilton Town Council

Councillor J. Lee

Councillor V. Collinson

Ferryhill Town Council

Councillor J. Chaplin

Councillor A. Denton

Cornforth Parish Council

Councillor Dr. S. C. Drew

Councillor W. R Wilson

Castles Residents Association

Mrs. C. Hall, Secretary

Lakes Residents Association

Mrs. V. Birchall

Chilton- West Residents Association

Mr. P. Crawforth

Ferryhill Station and Chilton Lane Residents Association

Mrs. G. Hall

Dean Bank Residents Association

B. Rutherford

Cornforth Partnership

Mrs. K. Lynn

Police

Sergeant Sampson

Sedgefield Primary Care Trust

Alyson Learmouth, and Sylvia Slaughter

Ferryhill Business and Enterprise College

Mr. S. Gater

CAVOS

G. Fortune

Community Network

Anne Frizell

Item 3

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL AREA 2 FORUM

Dean Bank and Ferryhill
Literary Institute

Tuesday,
24 June 2008

Time: 6.30 p.m.

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

Councillor B.F. Avery J.P	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor Mrs. K. Conroy	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor D. Farry	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor T.F. Forrest	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor A. Hodgson	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor B. Lamb	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Inspector B. Bentham	–	Durham Constabulary
Sergeant A. Sampson	–	Durham Constabulary
Councillor Mrs. E.A.Martin	–	Ferryhill Town Council
Councillor Mrs.Z. Roddam	–	Ferryhill Town Council
Councillor Mrs. D. Barber	–	Ferryhill Town Council
J. Corrigan	–	Ferryhill Town Council
P. Mountford	–	Ferryhill Town Council
S. Avery	–	Ferryhill Town Council
Councillor N. Wiffen	–	Bishop Middleham Parish Council
M. Errington	–	Chilton Town Council
J. Pallister	–	Dean Bank and Ferryhill Literary Institute
B. Sheppard	–	Dean Bank and Ferryhill Literary Institute
A. Rutherford	–	Chilton Partnership
D. Bradley	–	Dean Bank Residents Association
J. Weston	–	Dean Bank Residents Association
R. Greenwell	–	Local Resident
G. Barker	–	Local Resident
M.D. Watson	–	Local Resident
R. Foster	–	Ferryhill Town Youth
G. Todd	–	Ferryhill Town Youth
D. Foster	–	Ferryhill Town Youth
R. Beal	–	

In

Attendance: N. Woodgate

Apologies: Councillor Mrs.P.Crathorne - Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor J. Robinson, J.P. - Durham County Council
C. Heal - Chilton Community Partnership
M.Taylor - Chilton West Residents Association
K. Storey -
K. Lynn - Cornforth Partnership
A. Maddison -

AF(2)39/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Member declared an interest in Item 6 – Local Improvement Programme :-

Councillor D. Farry - Personal/Prejudicial – relative involved in Application

The following Members declared an interest in Items 5 and 6 – Local Improvement Programme :-

Councillor Mrs. K. Conroy - Prejudicial – Cabinet Member
 Councillor A. Hodgson - Prejudicial - Cabinet Member

AF(2)40/07 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th April, 2008 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

AF(2)41/07 POLICE REPORT

Community Inspector Bill Bentham and Sergeant A. Sampson were present at the meeting to give a report on crime statistics, initiatives and road safety in the area.

The reported crime figures for April, 2008 and May, 2008 were as follows :-

<u>April, 2008:</u>	<u>Dean Bank:</u>	<u>Ferryhill :</u>	<u>West Cornforth:</u>	<u>Chilton :</u>	<u>Total :</u>
Reported incidents	239	108	103	192	642
Burglary (Dwelling)	0	1	0	2	3
Burglary (Other)	1	1	0	2	4
Theft from Motor Vehicle	0	2	0	1	3
Theft of Motor Vehicle	1	1	0	1	3
Rowdy Nuisance	69	21	14	47	151

<u>May, 2008:</u>	<u>Dean Bank:</u>	<u>Ferryhill :</u>	<u>West Cornforth:</u>	<u>Chilton :</u>	<u>Total :</u>
Reported incidents	219	114	109	184	626
Burglary (Dwelling)	6	0	2	0	8
Burglary (Other)	3	0	1	0	4
Theft from Motor Vehicle	1	0	1	0	2
Theft of Motor Vehicle	1	0	0	0	1
Rowdy Nuisance	43	16	11	41	111

Traffic related incidents throughout the whole of the area during the two month period :-

Damage Only Incidents	28
Minor Injury Accidents	4
Serious Injury Accidents	0

It was reported that burglaries in April continued the trend of previous months and were low. Two people had been arrested for offences in Chilton. There had been a sharp increase in dwelling burglaries in Dean Bank in May, however, six people had been arrested for these offences. Rowdy and nuisance behaviour in Dean Bank had increased in April, however, had reduced to its previous low levels in May.

Inspector Bentham and Sergeant Sampson then gave a presentation concerning performance. It was revealed that total crime had reduced by 20.9% over the course of the year. This was the largest decrease in County Durham, well above the national average of 8%, and below the levels in 2005. The detection rate had increased by almost 5%.

With regard to the South area priorities in 2007/08, vehicle crime had reduced by 27.4%, violent crime by 18.3%. Despite increased resources that had been made available, domestic abuse rates had increased slightly. Rowdy and nuisance behaviour had decreased by 17.5% and burglary (other) had reduced by 42.9%. The high numbers of burglary dwellings in May and June of 2007 were reported to be the result of one person. However, this person had been apprehended and there had been a significant drop during July. Overall the figures for this priority had reduced by 11.9% over the course of the year.

The Police response to crime was outlined, and consisted of the following :-

- Dedicated CID
- Operation Maximino
- Operation Dark
- Citizens Focus
- Bottlewatch
- Operation Reynoldsville
- Operation Nero
- Anti-social Behaviour Orders
- Targetting of Offenders

The Police's tasks in addressing the South Area priorities for 2008/09 were given as :- Responding to Domestic Violence, Allotment Crime, the Forum's Neighbourhood Priorities and Hate Crime Perception.

It was explained that in relation to Hate Crime Perception, there had been few reported incidents despite the reputation of the area. Therefore, it would be necessary to either encourage the reporting of incidents, if they were taking place, or work to change peoples perceptions if they were not.

Inspector Bentham asked that Members of the Forum encourage public attendance at Forum meetings, inform him of problems and continue to offer support.

It was reported that Sedgefield area was currently No. 2 on the league table nationally and it was hoped that the No. 1 position could be reached.

Following the presentation, an update on neighbourhood priorities was given. With regard to parking on Darlington Road, Ferryhill, it was reported that problems were the result of double parking when delivery vehicles were loading and unloading to the shops. A loading bay had been requested on the east side of the street. However, this was refused. Tickets would continue to be issued to drivers. It was suggested that the issue could be taken to the Highways Section at Durham County Council.

With regard to off-road bikes in Chilton, Members of the Forum were informed that there had been few reported incidents so far this year. One bike had been seized in relation to anti-social use. The Beat Team would continue to be aware of the issue.

It was reported that in respect of lewd/indecent behaviour at Bishop Middleham Nature Reserve, there had been no specific incidents witnessed or reported to the Police. Site visits had been carried out and the situation would continue to be monitored.

Sergeant Sampson informed the Group that the above issues would continue to be monitored, but that they were all long term issues. She then asked the Group to supply three new, shorter term priorities, which could be focussed upon over the next six months. The following suggestions were put forward :-

- Fly tipping
- Parking of work vans on footpaths at Opal Avenue in Chilton
- Scrap collection
- Off-road motor cycles in Ferryhill
- Anti-social behaviour in West Chilton Terrace

Consideration was given to all suggested areas and Members of the Forum agreed the following as Neighbourhood priorities for Area 2 for the next six months.

- Off-road motor cycles in Ferryhill
- Parking in Opal Avenue, Chilton
- Anti-social behaviour in West Chilton Terrace

Concern was expressed over thefts of petrol and diesel as the number of incidents was expected to rise.

NB : In accordance with Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Members Code of Conduct Councillors Mrs. K. Conroy and A. Hodgson declared a prejudicial interest in the above item and left the meeting for the duration of the discussion and the voting thereon.

Consideration was given to a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (for copy see file of Minutes) outlining a Local Improvement Programme (LIP) application.

Members of the Forum were informed that no further applications for LIP funding could be received after 31st July, 2008. The Area 2 Forum had been allocated £836,000 of LIP Capital resources between 2006 and 2009, subject to budget approval. A number of projects to the value of £370,498 had been supported so far and there would be some additional underspend resulting from last year which would be available for additional project activity.

The project would include the provision of a new clubhouse, incorporating changing and social facilities, improvements to the drainage of existing pitches, creation of two new pitches, new car parking and associated landscaping to meet planning requirements. £320,000 (31%) of the total estimated project cost had been requested from LIP funding.

Members were informed that the project was vital to the Club's continued and future role in the community. The Club would be able to encourage the development of physical activity as well as assist in the reduction of anti-social behaviour by giving young people a useful activity to occupy their time. The need for a new football pitch in Ferryhill was identified in Sedgefield Borough Council's Playing Pitch Strategy.

As a result of the size of the project, the applicant's aim was to secure funding of £689,994 from the Football Association's Football Foundation Grant Scheme. However, the funding could only be applied for after LIP funding was granted. Ferryhill Town Council had contributed £25,000 to the project for the purchase of derelict Ferryhill Athletic Ground, which would be redeveloped.

Members of the Forum were then given the opportunity to ask any questions and make comments.

AGREED: That the project be supported.

AF(2)43/07

LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME - DEAN BANK AND FERRYHILL LITERARY INSTITUTE - GALA ROOM - EXTENSION OF FACILITY

NB : In accordance with Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Members Code of Conduct Councillor D. Farry declared a personal interest in the above item. He remained in the meeting but took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

In accordance with Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Members Code of Conduct Councillors Mrs. K. Conroy and A. Hodgson declared a prejudicial interest in the above item and left the meeting for the duration of the discussion and the voting thereon.

Consideration was given to a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (for copy see file of Minutes) outlining a Local Improvement Programme (LIP) application.

Jim Pallister from the Literary Institute was present at the meeting to present the application.

It was reported that the project would replace the previous learning room LIP application and would involve the removal of the wall between the Gala and Cabin rooms and replace it with soundproof sliding doors. This would give flexibility for the room to be used as one large space or two smaller rooms. An acoustic floor system would also be installed to the room directly above. £35,825 (78%) of the total project cost of £45,825 had been requested from LIP funding.

Mr. Pallister informed Members of the Forum that a number of requests to hold functions had been refused as the rooms were not large enough, resulting in a loss of income. It was hoped that the project would enable the Centre to offer better equipped and larger rooms to attract more users/ activities.

The applicant had committed £5,000 of their own funds to the project and there was a further £5,000 available from the Neighbourhood Enhancement Programme.

AGREED: That the project be supported.

AF(2)44/07

NAMING OF DEVELOPMENT

Land at Chapel Row, Ferryhill Station – Three Rivers Housing Association Limited

Consideration was given to a report of the Building Control Manager regarding a request received from the appointed builders, Rok Plc, to officially name and number the above development. (For copy see file of Minutes).

As part of a consultation exercise, Rok Plc., had run a competition in Ferryhill Primary School, whereby children could make suggestions for street names. Rok chose six names from the suggestions, which were :-

- Daisy Street
- Foxenham Street
- Holly Rise
- Hope Rise
- Newlands Rise
- Primrose Lane

Ferryhill Town Council had also been consulted and had suggested the following names :-

- Joe Chaplin – long serving Town Councillor who recently deceased
- Jim Young – long serving Town Councillor who recently deceased
- Station View

Members of the Forum discussed each of the options.

AGREED : That the names Newlands Rise and Hope Rise be recommended.

AF(2)45/07 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 9th September, 2008 at 6.30 p.m. at Chilton and Windlestone Community College.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

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Item 5

AREA 2 FORUM

9th September 2008

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive

Sedgefield Borough Local Improvement Programme

Update on Project Activity

This report provides the Area Forum with an update on project activity as part of Sedgefield Borough Council's Local Improvement Programme (LIP).

The purpose of the LIP Programme is to improve community assets and support community engagement in the regeneration of local areas. As part of this, Local Communities can propose projects against set criteria agreed by Sedgefield Borough Council. Through this Programme resources will be released to improve sites and improve the usability of community facilities and buildings across the Borough.

The Borough Council established a 'cut-off' date for new LIP applications of 31st July 2008. This date was established to ensure that as we are in the final year of the scheme, that we had sufficient time to appraise and prioritise projects before the end of the programme in March 2009. A number of projects have been received for consideration by the Borough Council. These are summarised below.

The Area 2 Forum has been allocated £836,000 of LIP capital resources between 2006 and 2009. This level of resource is available for community organisations and partner Town and Parish Council's to bid for to fund a range of eligible project activity.

LIP Approvals to date

Number 66	£64,400
Chilton Environmental Improvements	£93,455
Mainsforth Community Centre	£75,830
West Cornforth Community Centre	£119,393
Total Approved to date	£353,078

Total Funding Remaining **£482,922**

LIP Applications Received

LIP Funding Requested

Chilton Welfare Masterplan*	£169,471
Bishop Middleham Village Hall*	£39,391
Ferryhill Football Project*	£320,000
Dean Bank Institute Gala Room*	£35,000
Chilton Catholic Club	£27,800
Pentlands Play Area	£101,442
Total Requested from LIP	£693,104

* *Projects discussed at a previous area forum meeting*

Difference **+ £210,182**

The above table illustrates that we are over subscribed against the money remaining in the LIP Budget. This picture has been repeated across all other Area Forum Areas.

Project Proposals to be considered

Chilton Catholic Club Improvements – Chilton Catholic Club

The applicant has stated that the project aims to redevelop the toilets and kitchen facilities within the Catholic Club in order to enable them to extend the range of activities they can provide. Club members have approached the committee to enhance the services provided by the club. New facilities are required to enable pensioners gathering to play games such as bingo, dominoes etc. The applicant has applied for **£27,800** which is **100%** of the total project cost.

Pentlands Play Area - Chilton Town Council

This project aims to replace the play area at The Pentlands, Chilton. This play area has become underused and of little play value. The new park would consist of a dedicated toddler area including swings, gravity rider and roundabout, a junior area including city swings, 3.3m cone climber, aero whirl, and a teen area would be a 6 metre single mast activity net, and 1 play unit. The applicant Chilton Town Council feels that the new play area will create an area where young and old can meet; in particular parents and grand parents can sit comfortably and watch children play on the new innovative play equipment. The project aims to encourage healthy exercise for children to assist in counter acting the current climate of a rise in obesity in young children. The applicant has applied for **£101,442** which is **77%** of the total project cost.

Projects already discussed at Area Forum

The following projects were discussed at previous Area Forums. Information on these projects has also been included in this report so that Area Forum can see projects aspirations against other projects already considered and supported by the Area Forum but not yet approved by Sedgfield Borough Council.

Chilton Welfare Master Plan – Chilton Town Council

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. 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. 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. The applicant has applied for **£169,471** which is **53%** of the total project cost. Critical to considering a clear way forward with this project is to ascertain the commitment of the match funding towards the project.

Bishop Middleham Village Hall - Bishop Middleham Community Assoc.

The project will address the issues currently facing the village hall. A new roof will be installed as the current roofing needs replacing. The stage and hall floors will be replaced and new lighting and stage curtains installed. This will enable new activities such as drama groups to begin. The group hope to make the hall more child friendly. New zoned heating will also be installed. The applicant has stated that the project will improve the hall as a whole, improving the safety of all users and will provide additional activities for young people. The applicant has applied for **£39,391** which is **92%** of the total project cost.

Ferryhill Football Project - Ferryhill Town Council and Ferryhill Town Youth FC

The project will include the provision of a new clubhouse located in Dean Bank Park incorporating changing and social facilities to serve the needs of the club's teams, improvement to the drainage of the existing pitches, creation of two new pitches on the site of the derelict Ferryhill Athletic ground, new car parking and associated landscaping scheme to meet planning requirements. The applicant has stated that the development represents a major step forward in the clubs progress. It is vital to the clubs continued and future role in the community. Through the number of teams and participants the club is able to encourage the development of physical activity and active lifestyles, assist in the reduction of antisocial behaviour, encourage the development of confidence and self esteem, develop pride in the community and encourage adults to become involved in coaching and qualify as coaches. The applicant has applied for **£320,000** which is **31%** of the total project cost.

Dean Bank Institute Gala Room - Dean Bank and Ferryhill Literary Institute

This project replaces the previous learning room LIP application. The project will involve the removal of the wall between the Gala and Cabin rooms and replace it with sound proof sliding doors. This will give the flexibility to allow the room to be used as one large room or 2 medium sized rooms. The project will also include installing an acoustic floor system to the room directly above. The applicant has stated that the new project will enable the centre to offer better equipped and larger rooms to groups and users which would enable the Dean and Chapter room to attract more users / activities and indeed more use from the current groups and users. The project would also enable the centre to offer larger numbers on courses without affecting other bookings. The applicant has applied for **£35,825** which is **78%** of the total project cost.

Current Position

Given that the Local Improvement Programme is entering it's final year of operation (3-year programme from April 2006 – March 2009), the Capital Programme Team are keen to make progress on applications quickly given the timescales for decision making in the run up to the close of the scheme.

Next Steps

Given the amount of projects that have been submitted within the Area 2 locality and the available monies within the Local Improvement Programme for Area 2, the Capital Programme Team will now work in more detail with all applicants to discuss the impact and outcomes expected from the project and look at key issues such as local priorities and the deliverability of the overall project within the timeframe remaining for the LIP Programme. This will assist in the task of prioritising projects that will be taken through the decision making process of Sedgefield Borough Council.

Recommendation from the Strategy and Regeneration Section:

That the Area Forum considers the above list of projects and offers any comments about the projects in relation to priorities for the Area 2 locality and how each project will meet local needs. Representatives from the projects will be available to answer questions if necessary.