

AREA 2 FORUM

Tuesday,
4 November 2008
6.30 p.m.

Dean Bank and Ferryhill Literary Institute

AGENDA and REPORTS



**This document is also available in other languages,
large print and audio format upon request**

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 9th September 2008 (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. LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME - UPDATE ON PROJECT ACTIVITY

To consider the attached report of the Assistant Chief Executive. (Pages 5 - 8)

6. QUESTIONS

The Chairman will take questions from the floor

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 16th December 2008 at 6.30 p.m. at Chilton and Windlestone Community College.

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

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection in relation to this Agenda and associated papers should contact Miss. J. Stubbs, Tel 01388 816166 Ext 4508, juliestubbs@sedgefield.gov.uk

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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

Chilton and Windlestone
Community College

Tuesday,
9 September 2008

Time: 6.30 p.m.

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

Councillor B. Avery J.P.	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor T. D. Brimm	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor Mrs. K. Conroy	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor D. Farry	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor T. F. Forrest	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor V. Collinson	–	Chilton Town Council
P. Gray	–	Chilton Town Council
L. J. Potts	–	Chilton Town Council
E. Bruce	–	Chilton Town Council
A. Bruce	–	Chilton Town Council
G. Attwood	–	Chilton Town Council
M. Walton	–	Chilton Town Council
M. Errington	–	Chilton Town Council
Councillor G. Muncaster	–	Bishop Middleham Parish Council
Councillor N. Wiffen	–	Bishop Middleham Parish Council
Councillor Mrs. E. A Martin	–	Ferryhill Town Council
Councillor P. McCourt	–	Ferryhill Town Council
Councillor S. C Drew	–	West Cornforth Parish Council
D. Bradley	–	Dean Bank Residents Association
J. Weston	–	Dean Bank Residents Association
M. Taylor	–	Chilton West Residents Association
M. Mitchell	–	Chilton West Residents Association
A. Rutherford	–	Chilton Partnership
B. Sheppard	–	Dean Bank and Ferryhill Literary Institute
P. Davies	–	Chilton Catholic Club
D. Watson	–	FAA
E. Gibson	–	Ferryhill Resident
J. Lee	–	Chilton Resident
R. Greenwell	–	Local Resident

In

Attendance: A. Maddison, N. Woodgate, L. Goundry (Sedgefield Borough Council)

Apologies:

Councillor Mrs P. Crathorne	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor J. E. Higgin	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor A. Hodgson	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor B. Lamb	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor D. A. Newell	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor Mrs. D. Barber	–	Ferryhill Town Council
Councillor Z. Roddam	–	Ferryhill Town Council
P. Mountford	–	Ferryhill Town Council
M. Chapel	–	Cornforth Partnership
K. Lynn	–	Cornforth Partnership
K. Storey	–	

AF(2)8/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Members declared an interest in Item No : 5 – Local Improvement Programme.

Councillor Mrs. K. Conroy	-	Prejudicial – Cabinet Member
Councillor D. Farry	-	Personal/ Prejudicial – Relative involved in application

AF(2)9/08 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24th June 2008 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. (For copy see file of Minutes)

AF(2)10/08 POLICE REPORT

There was no representative from the Police present at the meeting. Discussion was held regarding the priority areas within Area 2 and it was decided that the Police would be contacted to request updates on the following issues :-

- Indecent behaviour in the lay-by between Bishop Middleham and Sedgefield
- Fly-tipping at Bishop Middleham
- Parking of work vans at Opal Avenue in Chilton causing obstruction to the traffic movement
- Vandalism of allotments in Ferryhill.
- Off-road motor cycles in Dean Bank

Any information received would be circulated to Members of the Forum.

AF(2)11/08 LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME - UPDATE ON PROJECT ACTIVITY

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

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

Consideration was given to a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (for copy see file of Minutes) updating Members on project activity as part of the Sedgefield Borough Council's Local Improvement Programme.

Members were informed that the cut-off date for new LIP applications was 31st July 2008. Area 2 Forum had been allocated £836,000 of LIP Capital Resources between 2006 and 2009. Applications totalling £355,078 had been approved to date with £482,922 remaining. With the following six applications received, Area 2 was over-subscribed by £210,182:

- Chilton Welfare Master Plan : £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 : £101,422.

The Chilton Catholic Club and Pentlands Play Area applications had not previously been considered at Area 2 Forum meetings. The other four projects had been considered and supported by Members of the Forum.

It was reported that the Chilton Catholic Club application was for £27,800 (100% of the total project cost). The project aimed to develop the toilets and kitchen facilities within the Club in order to extend the range of activities provided. A query was raised regarding the reason for requesting 100% of the funding cost from LIP. The applicant informed Members that if the whole amount was not approved, there was a possibility of obtaining match funding.

The Pentlands Play Area application submitted by Chilton Town Council was for £101,442. (77% of the total project cost). The project aimed to replace the play area at the Pentlands with a dedicated toddler area, a junior area and teen area. It was reported that the requested 77% funding could decrease as it was possible that funds could be obtained from other sources. A query was raised regarding the possibility of receiving finance from the Aggregates Levy Fund which was paid to the County Council by Lafarge and Thompsons as compensation for disruption caused by the quarry. It was explained that this fund was managed by the County Council and that applications must be made direct to the County Council by Town or Parish Councils.

Members of the Forum were then given the opportunity to ask questions about any of the applications.

With regard to the Ferryhill Football Project, the Leader of Ferryhill Town Council stated that a site visit had been conducted by Cabinet and a working party meeting had been scheduled for 11th September. The application would be submitted for Cabinet approval as soon as possible after that date.

The Chilton Welfare Master Plan project was facing legal problems with the Charity Commission over the sale of land to provide funding to start the project. It was suggested that whilst approval of both applications submitted by Chilton Town Council would be preferred, it may be necessary to focus attention on the Pentlands Play Area as a result of the deadlines involved.

A query was raised regarding the timescale and process involved in Cabinet's approval of applications. It was reported that a meeting was to be held with the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council on 12th September to discuss these issues.

AGREED : That all applications be supported.

AF(2)12/08

QUESTIONS

Dean Bank Park Play Equipment

Questions were raised regarding the £70,000 in lottery funding allocated to improving the play equipment. In the light of Local Government Re-organisation, the need to ensure that the money was allocated for Ferryhill was stressed. Members were assured that as long as an application was made before the end of the year, the money would be protected for the area.

Area Action Partnerships

A query was raised concerning the Area Action Partnerships. It was reported that seventeen consultations had been held throughout the County. All of those who attended from Area 2 were of the opinion that the area should not be grouped with Spennymoor or Newton Aycliffe. Instead the desire to keep the area's own identity was expressed, though it may be necessary to include Sedgefield and Trimdon. The findings of the seventeen consultations would be published in November.

Chilton Health Centre

Members of the Forum questioned what progress had been made with the Chilton Health Centre. They were informed that no progress had been made as yet. However, a meeting was to be held on 19th September, facilitated by Sedgefield Borough Council at which it was hoped that there would be progress made. The Forum agreed that a representative of the PCT be invited to the next Forum meeting in order to give an update on the situation.

AF(2)13/08

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection, etc., in relation to these Minutes and associated papers should contact Miss. J. Stubbs, Tel 01388 816166 Ext 4508, juliestubbs@sedgefield.gov.uk

Item 5

AREA 2 FORUM

4th November 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 Area 2 Forum has been allocated £836,000 of LIP capital resources between 2006 and 2009. The Area Forum may recall that Area 2 was oversubscribed by £211,496 following the cut off date of 31st July 2008. Cabinet has now considered the project applications received from the Area 2 Forum locality and details of their decisions is outlined in this report.

PRIORITISATION PROCESS

In 2005 Cabinet agreed a Housing Land Capital Receipts strategy that outlined a range of project proposals and established the Local Improvement Programme. To be eligible for consideration under this strategy all projects need to meet the Government 'regeneration' definition as outlined below.

Regeneration –

*“any project for the carrying out of works or activities on any land where –
(a) the land, or a building on the land, is vacant, unused, under-used, ineffectively used, contaminated or derelict; and
(b) the works or activities are carried out in order to secure that the land or the building will be brought into effective use.”*

This definition is the starting point for consideration of all LIP projects. Projects that don't meet this definition have been discouraged from applying.

Criteria

When assessing LIP project requests the following criteria has formed the basis to the project appraisal.

Project Criteria

- Social Impact and additional outcomes against priorities in the community strategy
- Clear identified need
- Clear consultation

- Links to other regeneration activity
- Deliverability of the scheme within LIP timeframe
- Value for Money
- Leverage of match funding where possible
- Achievable match funding strategy has been identified
- Principal of fair-share across communities within Area Forums
- Opportunity to phase the project to reduce the funding needed to implement the scheme without affecting the outcomes
- Strategic fit with Council plans, strategies and aspirations

Given the budget pressure and the need to ensure that LIP money is targeted at projects that will have clear community outcomes, there has been the need to sort projects into 3 main categories;

- Priority Projects
- Reserve Projects
- Non-Priority Projects for Rejection

It is recognised that some of the projects identified for approval still need confirmation of some technical issues such as match funding confirmation or planning permission considerations.

One Area Forum suggested a standardised reduction of grant based on the percentage of the oversubscription of all bids. This has been considered by the Capital Programme Team, however, it is recognised that some projects have already scaled back their ambitions to meet a reduced financial allocation. With other projects a reduction in grant allocation would lead to an increased risk of failing to deliver within the timeframe available. All projects have therefore been assessed on an individual basis.

Reserve Projects

Where an excess of eligible project requests have been received within an Area Forum locality it is proposed that a reserve list of projects be considered.

The identification of reserve projects is strongly linked to the risk analysis and contingency planning that has been carried out through project appraisal.

Non-Priority Projects

A number of projects have been submitted that whilst meeting the core LIP 'regeneration' definition as detailed above; and whilst hitting some of the key LIP criteria, haven't demonstrated or evidenced significant outcomes or impact when assessed against other project opportunities.

This list also includes projects where the timescale for project delivery is unclear or where timescales clearly exceeds the ability for Sedgefield Borough Council to progress the individual project request within its lifespan. Other considerations have included the respective 'buy in' to the project from the local community, support for the project from the respective management committee and also the match funding strategy identified linked to successful

project delivery. The Capital Programme Team have committed to work with these projects to develop bids for other funding where appropriate.

RESOURCES

The LIP budget was allocated on an Area Forum basis based on the number of households within each Forum area. The budget for LIP is fixed and can not be increased to meet the oversubscription of schemes.

Match Funding – The ability of projects to lever in additional match funding is a central consideration for all LIP projects. However, match funding decisions are outside Sedgfield Borough Council control and can therefore skew project timescales. Given the need to make progress within a tight timescale prior to Local Government Reorganisation, a deadline of the turn of the year has been set to receive clarification from projects that are dependent on external match funding decisions. The programme will be reviewed at this stage to assess progress and any risks to project delivery.

The Capital Programme Team considers that we should make every effort to give projects the time to secure match funding but we also recognise that if the funding isn't secured in time, or decisions result in no match funding being allocated to these projects then we will have to re-look at the priority project list and consider additional reserve schemes where appropriate.

The Current Position Within Area 2 Forum:

LIP Approvals

Number 66	£64,400
Chilton Environmental Improvements	£88,654
Mainsforth Community Centre	£75,830
West Cornforth Community Centre	£119,393
Bishop Middleham Village Hall	£39,128
Dean Bank Institute	<u>£41,378</u>
	£428,783

Approvals 23rd October 2008

Ferryhill Football Development	£320,000
The Pentlands Play Area	<u>£85,000</u>
	<u>£405,000</u>

Reserve Projects

Chilton Welfare Masterplan	£169,471
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Non-Priority Projects for Rejection

Chilton Catholic Club	£27,800
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Recommendation from the Strategy and Regeneration Section:

That the Area Forum notes the information provided on the current position of the Local Improvement programme within Area 2.

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