

AREA 3 FORUM

Wednesday,

8 November 2006

7.00 p.m.

Community College, Trimdon Village

AGENDA and REPORTS

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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 consider the minutes of the meeting held on 13^{th} September 2006. (Pages 1 - 4)

4. REVIEW OF AREA FORUMS

To seek views regarding the proposals set out in the attached report. (Pages 5 - 30)

5. POLICE REPORT

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

6. COUNTY DURHAM PRIMARY CARE TRUST

A representative of County Durham Primary Care Trust will attend the meeting to give an update on local health matters and performance figures.

7. LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

To consider the attached reports outlining the proposed projects:-

- (a) Ceddesfeld Hall Attics and Cellar Technical Study
- (b) Memorial Childrens Playing Field, Fishburn
- (c) Sedgefield Parish Hall Regeneration Programme

8. QUESTIONS

The Chairman will take questions from the floor.

9. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

To consider any other business which, with the consent of the Chairman, may be submitted. Representatives are respectfully requested to give the Chief Executive notice of items to be raised under this heading no 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.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

10th January 2007 at 7.00 p.m.

B. Allen Chief Executive

Council Offices SPENNYMOOR 30th October 2006

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AREA 3 FORUM - DISTRIBUTION

TO: - SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Councillor T. Ward (Chairman) Councillor J. Burton, (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors D.R. Brown, Mrs. L. Hovvels, K. Noble, J. Robinson, J.P. and J. Wayman J.P.

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

Councillor J. Robinson, J.P Councillor P. Trippett

SEDGEFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Councillor S. Green Councillor L. Goddard Councillor M. Robinson

TRIMDON PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor L. Burton Councillor B. Thompson Councillor R. Passfield

TRIMDON COLLIERY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION G. Elliott

FISHBURN PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor Mrs. S. Nicholson

MORDON PARISH MEETING

Mrs. P. Bousfield

BRADBURY PARISH MEETING

Mr. P. Brewis

SEDGEFIELD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION Mr. D. Waters

FISHBURN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION Mrs. S. Evans

TRIMDON VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

TRIMDON GRANGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION P. Dudden

SEDGEFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE Mrs. L. Ackland

JOINT TRIMDONS REGENERATION PARTNERSHIP J. Davies

SEDGEFIELD DEVELOPMENT TRUST

R. Clubley

DURHAM CONSTABULARY Sergeant B. O'Connor

CAVOS

Chief Executive Officer

COMMUNITY NETWORK

Anne Frizell

TRIMDON 2000 Mrs. R. Welsh

IVIIS. R. Weish

SEDGEFIELD PRIMARY CARE TRUST

D. Halladay P. Irving

Item 3

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL AREA 3 FORUM

Wednesday

Village Hall	5	otember 2006	Time: 7.00 p.m.
Present:	Councillor T. Ward (Cha Councillor D.R. Brown Councillor J. Burton Councillor D.R. Brown Sergeant B. O'Connor J. Irvine Mrs. P.A. Bousfield P. Irving J. Errington Mrs. G. Norton Mrs. A. Oliver M. Witton	 Sedgefield E Sedgefield I Sedgefield I Sedgefield I Durham Co Fishburn Pa Mordon Par 	Borough Council Borough Council Borough Council nstabulary arish Council ish Clerk Primary Care Trust ent ent ent
In Attendance:	C Lonnon Mrs C Smit	h Mrs. I. Walker and	h Mra N Woodaata

Attendance: G. Lennon, Mrs. C. Smith, Mrs. L. Walker, and Mrs. N. Woodgate (Sedgefield Borough Council)

Ms. S. Skinner (Government Office North East)

Apologies:	Councillor Mrs. L. Hovvels	-	Sedgefield Borough Council
	Councillor K. Noble		Sedgefield Borough Council
	Councillor J. Robinson J.P	_	Sedgefield Borough Council
	Councillor J. Wayman J.P	_	Sedgefield Borough Council
	Councillor J. Parkinson	_	Mordon Parish Meeting
	R. Clubley	_	Sedgefield Development Trust
	Mrs. L. Ackland	—	Sedgefield Community College
	D. Halliday	_	Sedgefield Primary Care Trust
	Councillor	_	Sedgefield Town Council
	Mrs. M. Robinson		-

AF(3)9/06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members had no declarations of interest to declare.

AF(3)10/06 MINUTES

Mordon and Bradbury

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5^{th} July, 2006 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. (For copy see file of Minutes).

AF(3)11/06 POLICE REPORT

Sergeant B. O'Connor was present at the meeting to give details of crime statistics in the area. It was reported that crime statistics were as follows: -

Type of Crime :	Sedgefield :	Fishburn :	Trimdon Village:	Trimdon Grange/Station :
Theft	14	3	10	4
Criminal Damage	10	4	9	4
Burglary (Dwelling)	0	1	1	0
Burglary (Other)	3	2	1	3
Assault	2	7	9	
Vehicle Crime	7	1	4	7
Violence against a				4
person				
Incidents Reported	328	125	191	81

Specific reference was made to the increase of theft in Sedgefield. It was explained that the increase was mainly as a result of a rise in the value of scrap materials, which included drain covers and lead piping.

Reference was also made to Operation Kilo, a Street Safe operation involving Sedgefield Borough Council, Durham Constabulary, the Fire and Rescue Service, DVLA and Durham County's Trading Standards.

It was reported that the operation, which had taken part over a two-week period in targeted areas of Trimdon Village, had been successful. Arrests had been made and a number of uninsured and untaxed vehicles had been recovered.

An evaluation of Operation Kilo would be given at a future meeting of Area 3 Forum.

With regard to the new play area at Skerne Avenue, Trimdon Village, it was reported that the Police were dealing with a number of issues that had been raised by local residents.

Detailed discussion took place in relation to motorists driving at inappropriate and unlawful speeds through Mordon village. Local residents queried whether traffic calming measures could be implemented.

It was explained that traffic calming was the responsibility of Durham County Council's Highways Department. Local residents pointed out however that they had previously contacted Durham County Council and had received an unsatisfactory reply.

It was agreed that Sergeant O'Connor would contact Durham County Council's Highways Department on the residents' behalf and highlight their concerns.

AF(3)12/06 SEDGEFIELD PRIMARY CARE TRUST

P. Irving attended the meeting to give an update on local health matters.

It was reported that the County Durham PCT would come into existence on 1st October 2006. Lady Anne Calman had been appointed as the Chairman of new Trust, however, the Chief Executive appointment had not yet been finalised.

It was noted that Nigel Porter, Chief Executive of Sedgefield PCT would be taking early retirement/voluntary redundancy on 5th November 2006

With regard to the financial position of the PCT it was noted that the accounts would balance by 30th September 2006. All PCTs had recovery plans in place to reduce debt. This would enable the new County Durham PCT to start in a balanced position.

Specific reference was made to the achievements of Sedgefield PCT since it had been formed. The achievements of the PCT included the establishment of the Pioneering Care Partnership and Integrated Teams.

Copies of the Director of Public Health's Annual Report were available at the meeting. Alison Learmonth Director of Public Health and Health Improvement would attend the next meeting of Area 3 Forum to present the report.

The Forum was informed that the Annual General Meeting of Sedgefield PCT would be held on 28th September 2006.

AF(3)13/06 WASTE STRATEGY CONSULTATION

G. Lennon, Technical Services Manager, attended the meeting to give a presentation in relation to the above.

It was explained that the Council was in the process of developing a new Waste Management Strategy and Action Plan to take the authority forward to 2012.

Sedgefield Borough as the Designated Waste Collection authority had a duty to provide a service for the collection of municipal waste, which included household waste and litter. Durham County Council was the Designated Waste Disposal authority and was therefore responsible for the disposal of all municipal waste collected in the County.

Household waste included materials collected from domestic wheeled bins, plus items such as white goods bulky waste for example furniture and carpets and garden waste. Municipal waste comprised of household waste plus commercial trade waste.

It was noted that on average household waste within Sedgefield Borough was increasing by approximately 3% a year and the Council was determined to take positive steps to tackle the problem.

Specific reference was made to a stakeholder consultation which had been undertaken to gain an understanding of residents views. It was reported that a questionnaire had been developed and had been delivered to houses throughout Sedgefield Borough. Copies of which were circulated at the meeting.

Members were encouraged to complete a questionnaire and return it to the Waste Disposal Officer at Sedgefield Borough Council.

It was reported that the current kerbside collection scheme Kerbit was scheduled to expire in March 2008. Decisions therefore needed to be made in the near future about the provision of an alternative/ replacement service. It was reported that there were health and safety concerns over the manual lifting and handling of the containers both by the operatives and by the householders.

It was noted that the collection of green waste was very popular with residents. Durham County Council did not, however, pay recycling credits for its collection.

Reference was made to the challenges facing the Council and the existing and future recycling and composting targets. The target for 2007 was 20% and it was anticipated that it would increase to 30% - 35% in the next couple of years.

It was reported that any system chosen needed to be convenient to use and accessible to residents, financially sustainable and operationally sustainable. It must also fit in with residual waste collection service and the disposal and treatment services available.

The Forum queried why recycling options had not been explored in the past. It was explained that the contract with Premier Waste had been good value for money and had helped the Council to achieve Government recycling targets.

Reference was made to the costs associated with recycling plastic. It was explained that as plastic was lightweight and high volume it was more expensive to collect. It was therefore more effective to collect heavy materials such as glass.

AF(3)14/06 SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH LOCAL AREA IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Strategy and Regeneration providing an update on the applications for the Local Improvement Programme (LIP) funding. (For copy see file of Minutes).

It was reported that Cabinet at its meeting held on 27th July 2006 had agreed to approve the following projects:-

- Trimdon Colliery Centre Architects fees
- Trimdon Colliery Multi Use Games Area fees

The Forum was then given a progress update on the above two projects.

Reference was also made to other projects that would be brought to Area 3 Forum for consideration following completion of the appraisal process.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection, etc., in relation to these Minutes and associated papers should contact Mrs. L. Walker Tel 01388 816166 ext 4237 email lwalker@sedgefield.gov.uk

Item 4

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 1

Area Forums

Report of the Review Group

Members of the Review Group

Councillor B. Hall (Chairman) Councillor A. Gray Councillor D.M. Hancock Councillor J.M. Khan Councillor Mrs I. Jackson-Smith

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Further information on this review can be obtained from Jonathan Slee, Scrutiny Support Officer: Tel 01388 816166 ext.4362.

CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

The Council introduced revised decision making arrangements as a result of the Local Government Act 2000. Area Forums were established as part of these changes with the aim of making them an important part of the Council's democratic process. The Council recognises the importance of keeping communities informed and involved, and sees both of these responsibilities as key roles of area forums. The Scrutiny Review Group has therefore examined Area Forums' operation to determine their effectiveness, and also with a view to making changes which strengthen community involvement.

The Review has been carried out by a small group of Councillors, supported by Officers from the Council's Democratic Services who have gathered the detailed information for the review. Information has also been obtained from officers involved in Regeneration. There has also been input from Council partners and from residents and tenants groups. Following a wide ranging review, a number of recommendations have been made for consideration by Cabinet.

I would like to thank all who have contributed to the review and look forward to developments arising from its conclusions and recommendations.

Councillor B. Hall, Chairman of the Review Group

26th April 2006

SUMMARY

Membership of the Review Group

Councillor B. Hall (Chairman) and

Councillors A. Gray, D.M. Hancock, J.M. Khan, Mrs I Jackson-Smith

Objectives of the Review

- To examine the way in which Area Forums currently operate
- $\circ\,$ To determine their effectiveness and whether this can be improved

Contribution to the Council's Ambitions and Community Outcomes

The Council's Ambitions and Community Outcomes are shown in its Annual Corporate Plan. This Review contributes towards the Council's ambition of developing strong communities and the associated community outcome of engaging local communities.

Process/Methodology

The Review Group gathered information and evidence as follows:-

- a) Through seven meetings between September, 2004 and April, 2006.
- b) Through presentations by D. Anderson, Principal Democratic Services Officer, A. Crawford, Scrutiny Support Officer, R. Prisk, the Council's (former) Head of Regeneration and A Charlton the Council's Local Strategic Partnership Co-ordinator.
- c) By questioning the above Officers.
- d) By visiting Area Forum meetings.
- e) Through discussions with Council partners namely representatives of town and parish councils, Durham County Council, the Police and the Primary Care Trust (PCT).
- f) Through discussions with Sedgefield Residents Forum and Sedgefield Borough Tenants Federation.
- g) Through analysis of responses to a questionnaire which was circulated to participants in Forum meetings and to all persons on the mailing lists for agendas.

Summary of Main Review Findings

• Area Forums have a key role to the success and delivery of the Local Improvement Plan and development of Local Area Frameworks.

- There is general support for the operation of Area Forums, and for what they are trying to achieve, from individuals and organisations who attend meetings.
- The Purpose for Area Forums is not widely understood
- Attendance from members of the public to Area Forum meetings is generally linked to specific agenda items or they wish to receive information.
- Few decisions appear to be taken which are significant to local communities.
- Agendas don't appear to be based around local issues and communities.
- Change is required to the operation of Area Forums to encourage greater attendance and involvement from established Community Groups.
- Durham Constabulary and Sedgefield Primary Care Trust endorse and support the operation of Area Forums and welcome the opportunity to review and further develop their organisations role.

MAIN FINDINGS

Background

Area Forums were established in June 2000 following the Council's introduction of new decision making arrangements under the Local Government Act 2000.

Five Area Forums were established – Area Forums 1,2,3,4, and 5 – based on the same geographical areas which were covered by the former Council Area Management Sub- Committees, as follows:-

- Area 1 Spennymoor and surrounding area
- Area 2 West Cornforth, Bishop Middleham, Chilton and Ferryhill
- Area 3 Sedgefield, Fishburn, the Trimdons, Bradbury and Mordon
- Area 4 Shildon and Eldon
- Area 5 Newton Aycliffe, Aycliffe Village, Middridge and Woodham

The five meetings occur on an eight weekly cycle and are held in the evening at locations within each of the areas, with meetings rotating between venues in some areas. Chairs and Vice Chairs of the forums are Borough Councillors. Administrative support is provided by officers from Democratic Services. Members of the public and a wide range of Council partners are invited to attend forum meetings.

The stated purpose of Area Forums when they were established was to provide an opportunity for communities to interact with the Council on issues of local importance. It was also envisaged that some issues would be referred to Cabinet directly from Area Forums.

Issues

The Review Group have carried out consultation with meetings with Durham Constabulary, Sedgefield Primary Care Trust, Officers from Sedgefield Borough Council, Town and Parish Councils, the Tennant's Federation and Sedgefield Residents Group.

Feedback from the consultation reported that communities consider that Area Forums have facilitated a positive community involvement in respect of the local area. In addition, both the local Primary Care Trust (PCT) and Durham Constabulary consider that Area Forums are most useful in assisting those organisations in achieving their community consultation and involvement objectives.

Through carrying out the review a number of issues have been highlighted that require attention. These are as follows:

- The purpose of Area Forums is not widely understood.
- Few decisions appear to be taken which are significant to local communities.
- Agendas don't appear to be based around local issues and local communities.
- Attendance/Membership does not always reflect the local communities.
- Change is required to the operation of Area Forums to encourage greater attendance and involvement from established Community Groups.

Current Developments

Throughout the review process the Review Group has taken into consideration initiatives that are currently being developed by the Council and partner organisations that will have an effect on community engagement.

• Local Area Frameworks

The Local Government Act 2000 requires all local authorities to produce a Community Strategy that sets out how public services, other organisations and local people will work together to improve the quality of life in the area.

Sedgefield Borough Council published its Community Strategy in November 2004, which sets out a ten-year vision for the Borough based on the aspirations, needs and priorities of local communities. The Community Strategy was developed following an extensive community appraisal and consultation process undertaken through the Borough's Local Strategic Partnership (LSP). The Strategy will be the main policy document for partners' work within the Borough and was launched at the LSP's second Annual Conference in November 2004.

The engagement and participation of local people in the delivery of the Strategy is vital to its success. Community participation will be promoted through the development of Area Frameworks aligned with the Council's five Area Forums that will outline contributions at a local level to the overall aims of the Strategy. This will enable Area Forum meetings to be focused towards achieving aims that are relative to the local communities.

Local Improvement Plan

The Cabinet in September 2004 agreed a Housing Land Capital Receipts Strategy to govern the use of resources to support activities within the ODPM eligible expenditure definition of regeneration and affordable housing

The purpose of the Local Improvement Plan is to improve community assets and support community engagement in the regeneration of local areas. The Councils Area Forums will play a key role to determine a proposed series of works against criteria agreed by Cabinet and make recommendations to Cabinet which schemes should be supported.

Area Forums will therefore have a key role to the success and delivery of the Local Improvement Plan and enable greater focus on local issues and priorities.

• StreetSafe Review

Members of Overview and Scrutiny Committee 3 have undertaken a review into the Councils role with the StreetSafe initiative. The StreetSafe Review Group recommended *'that the Area Forum Review Group be requested to consider how Area Forums could be used as a means to raise awareness of the StreetSafe initiative and help engage with local communities in order to support its aims.'*

This recommendation could be delivered through partnership working with Durham Constabulary and coherently identifying links with the Local Improvement Plan and development of Local Area Frameworks.

Proposals

The Review group through consultation and current developments have identified the following proposals to focus Area Forums to meet their aims and objectives.

Purpose

Established in June 2000, the main purpose of Area Forums is for communities to interact with the Council and tackle issues of local importance to each area. Interaction will relate to the Councils ambitions detailed within the Community Strategy. The Local Area Framework will be developed in order to deliver these objectives to ensure that they are applicable within local communities and supplemented by Parish and Town Council Plans.

To deliver the main purpose of Area Forums the Council are to work in partnership. Durham Constabulary and Sedgefield Primary Care Trust support Area Forums and their input is to continue but with greater focus on each community area. In order for Area Forums to successfully tackle strategic issues we must consider formalising membership of the Area Forums to ensure that it is representative of the communities, which it aims to serve.

• Membership

Area Forum membership is to be reflective of the Communities which it seeks to serve. Currently Area Forums are an open forum for any members of the public to attend, with the purpose to engage with residents of the borough. However, this has led to attendance of Area Forums not being fully representative of local communities. Whilst the Review Group does not wish to exclude people from attending Area Forum meetings, emphasis should be placed on the attendance of relevant groups and associations to the community it is to serve.

The Police and PCT report to the Area Forum meetings but do not have appointed members. Members are represented from Durham County Council and all Town and Parish councils, including appropriate local councillors, they are sent copies of the agendas for meetings. The public and any interested organisations receive copies of agendas upon request and are placed on the relevant mailing list on the same basis.

The Review Group recommend to formalise membership of Area Forums to include:- Sedgefield Borough Council Members, Members of Town/Parish Councils, Members of Durham County Council, Established Community Groups, Regeneration Partnerships, Durham Constabulary and Sedgefield Primary Care Trust. Officers attending Area Forum meetings from the Borough Council, Primary Care Trust and Durham Constabulary will not have a vote when making decisions or recommendations.

Enclosed in Appendix 1 is a table identifying organisations that have attended Area Forum meetings during 2005. Findings from Appendix 1 concluded that the proposal to formalise membership would not adversely affect attendance at Area Forum Meetings, as attendance from members of public is low.

The recommendation to formalise membership does not include members of the public who do not represent a community group. Guidance and best practice from professional advice recommends that engagement with the community will be of greater effect through Residents Forums and Community Groups and strategic community engagement is best delivered within the Area Forums.

The Review group has identified that attendance from members of the public to Area Forum meetings is generally linked to specific agenda items or they wish to receive information from Councillors and Officers at the meeting.

• Public Question Time

Formalising membership of Area Forums will have a positive effect and ensure representation from the communities it serves. Members of the public are welcome to attend Area Forum meetings and it is proposed that a thirty-minute time allocation at the start of the meeting is to be used for public question time. Following question time, members of the public may, if they wish, remain for the rest of the Area Forum meeting as observers.

Members of the public may submit a question prior to the meeting, this will endeavoured to be answered at the meeting. However, a question posed at the Area Forum meeting may not receive a full response until a later date if further information is to be sought.

• Chairman & Vice-Chairman

The Review Group were of the opinion that Area Forums continue to have a Chairman and Vice-Chairman from Members of Sedgefield Borough Council. This is due to their experience and expertise to chairing meetings. In addition there should be a non-councillor appointed as Vice Chairman to reflect the importance of community involvement.

• Agenda

Evaluating the business of Area Forum meetings, the Review Group have established that agendas are not always focused on local issues and priorities. Agenda items are, in the main, presentations or reports for information with the general exception being appointment of Forum Members to the Local Strategic Partnership. Excluding minutes of the previous meeting, two standard items appear on each Area Forum agenda. These are presentations/updates from the Police and from the Primary Care Trust (PCT). Other agenda items vary from meeting to meeting. A number of consultees referred to meetings being too long, particularly when there is more than one presentation, or when detailed presentations are followed by a number of other agenda items. In terms of agenda content there is generally little input from members of the local communities, with items generally being placed on the agenda by the Council, PCT and the Police. Agenda items are seldom specific to a local community or area, but are usually more general in nature – for example, updates on the possible transfer of the Council's housing stock, or Council policy on abandoned vehicles.

If greater involvement from Community Groups is to be achieved, agenda content should place a greater emphasis on local issues, with the Community Groups being encouraged to bring items forward for inclusion on the agenda.

The Review Group recommends that agendas include:

- Public Question Time
- Development of Local Area Frameworks
- Monitor progress on tackling issues highlighted in Local Area Frameworks
- Local Improvement Programme Consider Applications and Monitor progress
- Items from Sedgefield Primary Care Trust, Durham Constabulary and Community Groups.

• Identity & Publicity

With greater focus and emphasis on community engagement and local issues and priorities, the Review Group recommend that Area Forums are re-named as 'Community Forums' and replace the existing number with a name. The identity of Community Forums will reflect the Community it seeks to serve and membership of the Forum.

At present dates for Area Forums are publicised and advertised through the Council's Community newspaper Inform. Posters are also distributed fairly widely these include local shops, post offices and social clubs. Any revised meeting procedure and launch of the new identity could also be publicised through Inform.

CONCLUSION

Since creation of Area Forums in 2000, the Review group have identified that Area Forum's have facilitated a positive community involvement in respect of the local area. During this time partnerships have been established with organisations that contribute to the operation of Area Forums.

Building on these firm foundations, partnerships could be strengthened with Area Forums having greater focus on local issues and priorities. To achieve this will require formalising membership and focusing agenda items to reflect the Local Improvement Plan and development of Local Area Frameworks.

A re-launch of Area Forums as 'Community Forums' will give an identity that forums have greater focus and continue to deliver positive community involvement on the Communities that it seeks to serve.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Area Forums be re-named and re-launched as 'Community Forums' to reflect a greater emphasis on community involvement and the number be replaced with a name that reflects the area.
- 2. Agenda items to be based on local issues identified through the development of Local Area Frameworks and Local Improvement Plan.
- 3. Membership of Area Forum be formalised to be representative of the Communities to which it aims to serve.
- 4. Implement a Public Question Time at the beginning of each Area Forum meeting.
- 5. Terms of reference for Area Forums be amended to reflect changes from the Review.

APPENDIX A

Attendance at Area Forum Meetings Area Forum 1

Name of	14/2/05	4/4/05	6/6/05	5/9/05	24/10/05	12/12/05
Organisation	Town Hall Spennymoor	Community Centre, Middlestone Moor	Community Centre, Kirk Merrington	Council Chamber Spennymoor Town Hall	CR 1 Council Offices, Spennymoor	Community Centre Middlestone Moor
Sedgefield Borough Council - Councillors	7	8	6	11	9	8
Durham Constabulary	2	1	1	1	1	1
Councillor Durham C.C.	2	2		2		
Sedgefield Primary Care Trust	1	2	2	2	2	
Spennymoor Town Council	1	2	2	3	2	2
Local Resident / Member of Public	2	2	2	6	2	2
Eden Residents Association				2		
MARG					1	
St Paul's Residents Association			3			
Greenways Residents Association					3	1
Spennymoor Learning Shop						
Spennymoor Youth & Community Association						
Middlestone Moor Community Centre		1				1
Tudhoe Community Centre			1	1		
Kirk Merrington Village Hall						
Byers Green Village Hall						
Neighbourhood Watch*	1					
Tudhoe Grange School Council*			2	2	2	

* Organisation not listed on the Sedgefield Borough Area Forums Terms of Reference

Attendance at Area Forum Meetings Area Forum 2

		r				
Name of Organisation	11/1/05 Chilton & Windlestone Community College	22/2/05 West Cornforth Community Centre	19/4/05 Chilton & Windlestone Community College	21/6/05 Dean Bank & Ferryhill Literary institute	6/9/05 Ferryhill Leisure Centre	1/11/05 Chilton & Windlestone Community College
Sedgefield Borough Council - Councillors	4	4	6	5	10	5
Durham Constabulary	1	1	1	2	2	1
Councillor Durham C.C.	1		1			1
Sedgefield Primary Care Trust	2	1	2	2	3	2
Cornforth Parish Council	1					
Chilton Town Council	8		3	2	1	5
Ferryhill Town Council Local Resident /	1			1	7	2
Member of Public	4		1		4	7
Association Chilton West						1
Residents Association	1	1				1
Dean Bank Residents				1	2	2
Association Ferryhill Station Residents Association						1
Lakes Residents Association West Cornforth						
Residents Association						
Cornforth Partnership Ferryhill Town						
Partnership Chilton Community						
Partnership Cornforth	2					
Community Centre Bishop Middleham Community Centre						
Ferryhill Ladder Centre						
Ferryhill Literacy Institute						
Chilton Henderson House						
Mainsforth Community Centre Ferryhill Allotments					0	
Association*					2	

*Organisation not listed on the Sedgefield Borough Area Forums Terms of Reference

Attendance at Area Forum Meetings Area Forum 3

Name of Organisation	12/1/05 Trimdon Colliery Community Centre	2/3/05 Mordon & Bradbury Village Hall	27/4/05 Ceddesfeld Hall, Sedgefield	6/7/05 Fishburn Youth and Community Centre	14/09/05 Community Centre, Trimdon Colliery	9/11/05 Oldham Room, Ceddesfeld Hall, Sedgefield
Sedgefield Borough Council - Councillors	5	5	3	3	5	5
Durham Constabulary	1	2	1	1	1	1
Councillor Durham C.C.						
Sedgefield Primary Care Trust	1	2	1	2		1
Mordon Parish Meeting		2	2			
Sedgefield Town Council		1				2
Trimdon Parish Council				1		1
Fishburn Parish Council				2	1	1
Local Resident / Member of Public		2	1		2	4
Trimdon Village Residents Association						
Trimdon 2000 Joint Trimdon Community				1		
Partnership Trimdon Grange Community						
Association Trimdon Colliery Community						
Association Trimdon Community College						
Trimdon Village Hall Association						
Sedgefield Development Partnership			1			
Sedgefield Community Association						1
Ceddesfeld Community Association						
Sedgefield Community College Asssociation						
Fishburn Community Centre						
Mordon Community Centre						
Trimdon Colliery Community Centre*	1					
Sedgefield Residents Association*				1		

*Organisation not listed on the Sedgefield Borough Area Forums Terms of Reference

Attendance at Area Forum Meetings Area 4 Forum

Name of Organisation	18/1/05 Shildon Sunnydale Leisure Centre	8/3/05 Shildon Sunnydale Leisure Centre	3/5/05 Shildon Sunnydale Leisure Centre	19/7/05 Shildon Sunnydale Leisure Centre	20/9/05 Shildon Sunnydale Leisure Centre	15/11/05 Shildon Sunnydale Leisure Centre
Sedgefield Borough Council - Councillors	3	3	2	4	1	5
Durham Constabulary	2	1	2		2	1
Councillor Durham C.C.					1	1
Sedgefield Primary Care Trust	2	2	3	2	2	3
Shildon Town Council						2
Eldon Parish Council			1	1		
Local Resident / Member of Public	2	2	1	1	6	1
Sunnydale Residents Association						
Jubilee Fields Community Association		1	1			
New Shildon Residents Association	1	1	1	2	1	1
Shildon Housing & Community Resource Centre						
Shildon Centre Middridge Village Hall						1
Shildon Community Safety Group*		1	2			1
Shildon Jubilee Community Centre*				of Deference		1

*Organisation not listed on the Sedgefield Borough Area Forums Terms of Reference

Attendance at Area Forum Meetings

Area Forum 5

Name of Organisation	25/1/05 Town Council Officers, Newton Aycliffe	15/3/05 Town Council Officers, Newton Aycliffe	10/5/05 Town Council Officers, Newton Aycliffe	26/7/05 Town Council Officers, Newton Aycliffe	27/9/05 Town Council Officers, Newton Aycliffe	29/11/05 Town Council Officers, Newton Aycliffe
Sedgefield Borough Council - Councillors	8	7	7	8	11	10
Durham Constabulary	3	1	1	1	1	3
Councillor Durham C.C.					1	1
Sedgefield Primary Care Trust		2	1	2	1	2
Great Aycliffe Town Council	5	4	3	5	1	5
Local Resident / Member of Public	1		2	3		2
Linden Place Residents Association						
Williamfield Residents Association						
Dales Residents Association		1	1	1	1	1
Burnhill Residents Association	4	2	1			
Agnew Community Association						
Silverdale House						
Aycliffe Learning Shop						
Woodham Community Association						
School Aycliffe Community Centre						
Aycliffe Village Community Association						

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REVIEW OF AREA FORUMS

CABINET RESPONSE AND ACTION PLAN

Review Recommendations		Cabinet Response	Implementat Manager	Implementation Agreed by Management Team
	Agreed?	Comments	Responsibility	Timescale
Area Forums be re-named and re- launched as 'Community Forums' to reflect a greater emphasis on community involvement and the number be replaced with a name that reflects the area.	Agreed	Cabinet agree that the Area Forums be renamed as part of a re launch of the Community Forums. However careful consideration also needs to be given to the name of the community forum to capture the identity of the full area that the Forum brings together.	AP/JGT	Sept – Dec Development with Community Groups Regarding style, format venues and conduct of meetings.
Agenda items to be based on local issues identified through the development of Local Area Frameworks and Local Improvement Plan.	Agreed	Cabinet agree that the agenda's be focussed on the needs of the area as highlighted through the Area Frameworks and that the community have the opportunity to influence this document. It is important that the forums can be used to help public agencies determine geographic priorities for action within an area. It is agreed that the Area Framework document will be helpful in allowing the forums to make recommendations to the Council's Cabinet with regards any applications for funding through the Local Improvement Programme.		Report to Cabinet Jan 2007

	Review Recommendations		Cabinet Response	Implementat Managen	Implementation Agreed by Management Team
		Agreed?	Comments	Responsibility	Timescale
	Membership of Area Forum be formalised to be representative of the Communities to which it aims to serve.	Agreed	Cabinet agree that membership of the forums for formalised however stresses that meetings should continue to be open and accessible to the public.		
	Implement a Public Question Time at the beginning of each Area Forum meeting.	Agreed	Cabinet agree that a public question time can be useful addition to the business of the Forum however it must be stressed that answers to questions raised cannot be given instantly in all cases and may require a period of research by officers from the relevant agency.		
	Terms of reference for Area Forums be amended to reflect changes from the Review.	Agreed	Terms of reference will need to be amended as part of the Council's constitution.		

Item 7a

AREA 3 FORUM

8th November 2006

Report of the Head of Strategy and Regeneration

Sedgefield Borough Local Improvement Programme

Application Report

Introduction

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 3 Forum for their consideration and comments, which will be used to formulate a report and recommendation to the Sedgefield Borough Council cabinet.

The Area 3 Forum has been allocated £532,000 of LIP capital resources between 2006 and 2009. £177,334 was allocated for 2006/07 of which £71,099 has been allocated to date, leaving a balance of £106,235.

Project Background

- Name of Project: Ceddesfeld Hall Attic and Cellars Technical Study
- Name of Applicant: Sedgefield Community Association (SCA)
- Legal Status: Registered Charity
- Date of Application: 25th October 2006
- Landlord: Sedgefield Town Council leased to the community association on a long term lease
- Brief Description of Project: The project is to commission a consultant to investigate the feasibility of bringing the attics and / or cellars back into use at Ceddesfeld Hall.
- Requested from LIP: £1,500 (100%)
- Total Project Cost: £1,500
- What will the LIP be used for: The LIP would pay for a consultant to examine the following:
 - The existing layout and limitations of Ceddesfeld Hall and how effective it is in providing necessary and appropriate facilities for future use.
 - If and how the attics / cellars can be brought back into effective public use.

- What current internal factors have to be considered in bringing these areas into public use.
- How disability access to at least the first floor can be accommodated.
- The options available, cost of works involved and future timescales for implementation of such works.

LIP Criteria

• Department for Communities and Local Government Definition:

The attics and cellars are not currently useable and therefore the first phase of this project will examine the possibility of bringing them back into effective use.

• Community Strategy Objectives:

The project links to 3 of the 4 community strategy objectives – Healthy. Prosperous and Attractive. Healthy – Access to Services, Prosperous-Development of the Borough's unique cultural and tourism attractions and Attractive – Develop and Maximise the leisure and cultural facilities.

• Evidence of need and community support:

The applicant has outlined that the community appraisal for Sedgefield Village highlighted a lack of meeting places for young people in the village and demonstrated that problems existed with young people congregating in the street. The SCA have been approached by several organisations requesting additional community space within the locality.

• Value for money and Revenue implications:

At this stage, the applicant is applying for 100% of the funding for this project.

It is appreciated that at this stage the request represents a relatively small sum of money from the LIP. By carrying out this stage of the project full details will be able to be obtained about the likely cost of implementing the actual solution of refurbishing the attics and / or cellars.

Recommendation from the Strategy and Regeneration Section:

That the Area Forum considers the following key issues:

- The relative priority of this project within the Sedgefield / Area 3 locality, and a willingness that this stage of the project is commenced to inform a full debate on costs at a future Area Forum.
- That no duplication of services will occur with other community venues in Sedgefield

If the Area Forum feel that it is appropriate to process with this project given local circumstances and identified need, a further report will be brought to the Area Forum to consider the cost implications of the final project once the Technical Study has been completed.

Subject to being happy with the above points that the Area Forum supports the progress and further development of this application.

Material considerations:

Other applications received from Area 3:

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.

- Memorial Children's Playing Field- Memorial Children's Playing Field Charity- LIP requested £58,900, Total project cost £150,000
- Sedgefield Parish Hall Sedgefield Town Council LIP requested £37,000, Total project cost £37,000
- Sedgefield Advice and Information Development Sedgefield Town council LIP requested £65,000, Total project cost £90,000

The following project is under development and no application has been received to date. Once an application received this project will be brought forward to the Forum for debate.

• Sedgefield Cricket Club – Refurbishment of the club house for use as a community venue - no costs as yet.

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Item 7b

AREA 3 FORUM

8th November 2006

Report of the Head of Strategy and Regeneration

Sedgefield Borough Local Improvement Programme

Application Report

Introduction

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 3 Forum for their consideration and comments, which will be used to formulate a report and recommendation to the Sedgefield Borough Council cabinet.

The Area 3 Forum has been allocated \pounds 532,000 of LIP capital resources between 2006 and 2009. \pounds 177,334 was allocated for 2006/07 of which \pounds 71,099 has been allocated to date, leaving a balance of \pounds 106, 235.

Project Background

- Name of Project: Memorial Children's Playing Field Fishburn
- Name of Applicant: Memorial Children's Play Field Charity
- Legal Status: Registered Charity- Number 520797
- **Date of Application:** 2nd October 2006
- Landlord: Trustees of the Memorial field- Charities Commission are custodian trustees.
- Brief Description of Project: To provide play equipment and associated works for use by local children. The intention is to design a scheme that meets the needs of both toddler play and opportunities for older children.
- Requested from LIP: £58,900
- Total Project Cost: £150,000 Estimated
- What will the LIP be used for: To provide a range of modern and stimulating fixed play equipment on land gifted to the trustees for use as a play area. The existing limited play equipment has fallen into disrepair and has been removed due to safety concerns.

LIP Criteria

• Department for Communities and Local Government Definition:

The land is not used at the moment to it's full potential - this project will bring the area back into effective use for enhanced community use.

• Community Strategy Objectives:

The project links to two of the four community strategy objectives. Healthy – the project will improve the health and well being of the local community and Attractive – the project will develop and maximise the leisure and cultural facilities in the borough.

• Evidence of need and community support:

The applicant has stated that, it was highlighted in the 2002 Community Appraisal that the village needed new play sites and that there was a need for new leisure facilities. The village has also grown dramatically in the last few years, and no additional play facilities have been provided. The group have consulted the community – a public meeting has been held and a grant was given from the Awards for All Fund for the local children to produce a DVD about the play area and the need for the new equipment. The youth club, primary school and nursery school have also been consulted and a fun day has been held at the site to consult local people on the project.

• Value for money and Revenue implications:

The applicant has applied for £58,900 of Local Improvement Programme funding which is 39% of the total project cost. The remaining funding (£91,100) will be funded by various sources, of which £11,100 is already confirmed. The remaining £80,000 has been applied for from the Coalfields Regeneration Trust (CRT) and the Big Lottery Fund. The applicant has outlined that Fishburn Parish Council will cover the future revenue costs associated with the project.

The remaining match funding that has been identified for the scheme has recently been applied for. The outcome of these external funding decisions will not be known until Dec / January. Therefore it is unlikely that the project could be given full approval until the outcome of the Lottery and CRT applications are known to ensure that the full funding package to implement the project is in place.

The group intend to use 'Kompan' to carry out the project, who is the preferred supplier of Sedgefield Borough Council who has been chosen following a full tender process.

Recommendation from the Strategy and Regeneration Section:

That the Area Forum considers the following key issue:

• The relative priority and need for this project within the Fishburn / Area 3 locality.

Subject to being happy with the above points that the Area Forum supports the progress and further development of this application.

Material considerations:

Other applications received from Area 3:

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 determination by the Forum.

- Sedgefield Parish Hall Sedgefield Town Council LIP requested £37,000, Total project cost £37,000
- Sedgefield Advice and Information Development Sedgefield Town council – LIP requested £65,000, Total project cost £90,000
- Ceddesfeld Hall Cellar and Attics Technical Study- Sedgefield Community Association- LIP requested £1,500, Total project cost £1,500

The following project is under development and no application has been received to date. Once an application received this project will be brought forward to the Forum for debate.

• Sedgefield Cricket Club – Refurbishment of the club house for use as a community venue- no costs as yet

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Item 7c

AREA 3 FORUM

8th November 2006

Report of the Head of Strategy and Regeneration

Sedgefield Borough Local Improvement Programme

Application Report

Introduction

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 3 Forum for their consideration and comments, which will be used to formulate a report and recommendation to the Sedgefield Borough Council cabinet.

The Area 3 Forum has been allocated £532,000 of LIP capital resources between 2006 and 2009. £177,334 was allocated for 2006/07 of which £71,099 has been allocated to date, leaving a balance of £106,235.

Project Background

- Name of Project: Sedgefield Parish Hall Regeneration Programme
- Name of Applicant: Sedgefield Town Council
- Legal Status: Town Council
- **Date of Application:** 24th October 2006
- Landlord: Sedgefield Town Council owned.
- **Brief Description of Project:** 4 Elements to the project Acoustic Survey of the building, new stage facility including fixed lighting / sound equipment, refurbishment of the kitchen to provide additional facilities and chair lift to first floor.
- Requested from LIP: £37,000 (100%).
- Total Project Cost: £37,000 (Capital)
- What will the LIP be used for: LIP will pay for an acoustic survey to be carried out to look into possibilities for solving the noise problems in the Parish Hall. New lighting / sound and stage equipment will be installed in the large hall in order to cater for increased users and a greater range of groups. The Kitchen facilities will be refurbished to provide opportunities for lifestyle courses / healthy eating classes and alterations will be done to the first floor to improve access.

LIP Criteria

• Department for Communities and Local Government Definition:

The applicant has outlined that the building is underused at the moment as a result of the outdated facilities and noise problems between the Parish Hall and neighbouring property.

• Community Strategy Objectives:

The project links to 2 of the 4 community strategy objectives – Healthy and Attractive. Healthy – Access to Services, and Attractive – Develop and Maximise the leisure and cultural facilities in the borough.

• Evidence of need and community support:

The applicant has stated that, the need for the Parish Hall was highlighted in both the Town Plan and the Community Appraisal for Sedgefield. This also raised the issues to be addressed and the need for a community building. This led to the referendum which was held in June / July 2006 when there was support to retain the hall on the existing site and carry out major refurbishment. The community have been involved in the project since its inception in 2000 when the Parish Hall development group consisted of members of the user groups and the community. The Town Council are still working with the user groups and residents forum to develop the project and priorities.

• Value for money and Revenue implications:

The applicant is applying for 100% of the funding for this phase of the project. The applicant has received quotations for the various aspects of work. Future revenue implications and opportunities for further matched funding are to be resolved with the applicant in due course as part of the full project appraisal process.

It is expected that the acoustic survey will highlight the need for further phases of the regeneration of the Parish Hall. The Parish Council will therefore pursue further funding from other sources for this future phase of the project in due course. This LIP application relates to immediate priorities to increase use of the Parish Hall.

Recommendation from the Strategy and Regeneration Section:

That the Area Forum considers and debates the following key issues;

- The relative priority of this project within the Sedgefield / Area 3 locality.
- That the Area Forum is satisfied that no duplication of services will occur with other community venues in Sedgefield.

Subject to being happy with the above points that the Area Forum supports the progress and further development of this application. Following Area Forum comments on the principle of further developing the project, the application that has been made will be subject to a full project appraisal involving further discussions with the applicant organisation.

Material considerations:

Other applications received from Area 3:

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.

- Memorial Children's Playing Field- Memorial Children's Playing Field Charity- LIP amount £58,900, Total project cost £150,000
- Sedgefield Advice and Information Development Sedgefield Town council – LIP requested £65,000, Total project cost £90,000
- Ceddesfeld Hall Cellar and Attics Technical Study- Sedgefield Community association- LIP requested £1,500, Total project cost £1,500

The following project is under development and no application has been received to date. Once an application received this project will be brought forward to the Forum for debate.

• Sedgefield Cricket Club – Refurbishment of the club house for use as a community venue- no costs as yet

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