

Item 3

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL

AREA 3 FORUM

Oldham Room,
Ceddesfeld Hall,
Sedgefield

Wednesday,
16 April 2008

Time: 7.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor J. Burton (Chairman) – Sedgefield Borough Council and

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Councillor D.R. Brown | – | Sedgefield Borough Council |
| Councillor Mrs. L. Hovvels | – | Sedgefield Borough Council |
| Councillor J. Robinson J.P | – | Sedgefield Borough Council |
| Councillor T. Ward | – | Sedgefield Borough Council |
| Mrs. P. Buckley-Atkins | – | Sedgefield Community Association |
| Sergeant B. O'Connor | – | Sedgefield Police |
| Councillor Mrs. M. Brown | – | Sedgefield Town Council |
| Councillor Mrs. M. Robinson | – | Sedgefield Town Council |
| Councillor Mrs. S. Sutherland | – | Sedgefield Town Council |
| Councillor D. Waters | – | Sedgefield Town Council |
| Mrs. J. Bowes | – | Sedgefield Village Residents Forum |
| Mrs. A. Oliver | – | Sedgefield Resident |

In

Attendance: G. Cooper and Mrs. L. Walker –Sedgefield Borough Council

Apologies: Councillor D. Chaytor - Sedgefield Borough Council
Mrs. L. Swinbank - Sedgefield Town Council

AF(3)32/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
No declarations of interest were received.

AF(3)33/07 MINUTES
The Minutes of the meeting held on 27th February, 2008 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. (For copy see file of Minutes).

AF(3)34/07 POLICE REPORT
Sergeant B. O'Connor was present at the meeting to give details of crime statistics in the area.

It was reported that the crime statistics were as follows :-

| <u>Type of Crime:</u> | <u>Sedgefield:</u> | <u>Fishburn:</u> | <u>Trimdon Village:</u> | <u>Trimdon Grange: Trimdon Station:</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Burglary (Dwelling) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burglary (Other) | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Criminal Damage | 4 | 2 | 6 | 6 |
| Assault | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| Vehicle Crime | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Total Incidents Reported | 242 | 120 | 109 | 54 |

Discussion took place in relation to anti-social behaviour. It was pointed out that although levels of crime were low, anti-social behaviour remained an issue.

It was pointed out that the Police had received 36 complaints relating to anti-social behaviour in Fishburn. A number of these complaints related to a newly created play area.

Reference was also made to anti-social behaviour at Skerne Avenue/Hart View in Trimdon Village where youths had been throwing stones at properties. Members of the public were encouraged to report incidents to the Police.

The Forum was informed that patrols involving drug dogs had been carried out in public houses in Sedgefield and the Trimdon area. Although no arrests had been made historically patrols involving drug dogs had positive outcomes.

Reference was made to the dumping of tyres between Fishburn and Bishop Middleham. It was explained that A. Denholm, Environmental Protection Officer, was investigating this issue.

AF(3)35/07

WORK OF THE SPORTS FORUM

G. Cooper, Sports Development Officer, was present at the meeting to discuss the work of the Sports Forum.

It was explained that the Sports Forum involving Sedgefield, Fishburn and the Trimdons was the latest sporting hub to be established and enabled agencies to work in partnership to provide sporting facilities for young people.

Specific reference was made to a Cycling Club in Trimdon Village. It was explained that the Sports Forum had enabled the Cycling Club to meet with a similar club in Ferryhill. The Clubs now worked together for the benefit of local people.

It was noted that the Cycling Club in Trimdon Village had limited storage for equipment and had requested that the Club be given use of a vacant garage in Laurel Crescent, Trimdon Colliery.

Reference was made to a mapping exercise that had been carried out identifying sporting facilities throughout the Borough. It was explained that this was an ongoing exercise and would be updated on a regular basis.

In response to a question raised regarding membership of the Sports Forum it was explained that all sporting groups, including brownies and scouts, could be involved.

Members of the Forum highlighted the need to publicise sporting activities in the area to encourage participation.

AF(3)36/07

QUESTIONS

Planning Appeal – Land West of Hardwick Park, Sedgefield

Reference was made to a letter received by Sedgefield Residents Forum from Sedgefield Borough Council regarding a request made by Sedgefield residents to work in partnership with the Borough Council in relation to the planning appeal for the siting of 330 static caravans and 47 lodges on land west of Hardwick Park.

A representative from Sedgefield Residents Forum was present at the meeting and expressed disappointment in the response from the Council.

CAVOS Funding

It was noted that CAVOS had received additional funding which would enable more work to be carried out across the Borough.

AF(3)37/07

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be confirmed at the Annual Meeting of Council.

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 4240 email lwalker@sedgefield.gov.uk

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