

**SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
AREA 4 FORUM**

Old Sunday School Building,
Soho Street,
Shildon

Tuesday, 4 May 2004

Time: 6.30 p.m.

Present: Councillor D.M. Hancock (Chairman) – Sedgefield Borough Council and

G.M.R. Howe	– Sedgefield Borough Council
J.G. Huntington	– Sedgefield Borough Council
J.M. Smith	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Mrs. I. Jackson Smith	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor J. Robinson J.P.	– Sedgefield Borough Council
PC A. Payne	– Durham Constabulary
Councillor J. Quigley	– Durham County Council
Councillor H. Robinson	– Eldon Parish Council
C. Hind	– New Shildon Residents Association
J. Johnson	– New Shildon Residents Association
C. Thompson	– New Shildon Residents Association
Councillor M. Stott	– Shildon Town Council
Mrs. M. Quigley	– SPICE
Mrs. K. Vasey	– Sedgefield PCT
J. Quigley	– SWDCU
K. Hillary	– Weardale Railway Trust
P. Aldworth	– Local Resident
R. Aldworth	– Local Resident
J. Arnott	– Local Resident
M. Longstaff	– Local Resident
N. Porter	– Local Resident

In

Attendance: G. Muirhead and Mrs. G. Garrigan

Apologies:

Councillor Mrs. L. Smith	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor K. Henderson	– Durham County Council
Councillor Mrs. L. Goldie	– Shildon Town Council
Councillor J. Thompson	– Shildon Town Council

AF(4)38/03 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2004 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. (For copy see file of Minutes).

AF(4)39/03

POLICE REPORT

PC A. Payne was present at the meeting to give details of crime statistics for the month of April 2004.

<u>Type of Crime</u>	<u>April, 2004</u>
Domestic violence incidents	11
Youths causing annoyance	52
Shed burglaries	10
Thefts	14
Thefts from Motor Vehicles	7
Criminal damage	13
Theft of Motor Vehicles	1
Dwellinghouse burglaries	3
Assaults	9
Attempted theft	1
Attempted burglary	1

Specific reference was made to the increase in the number of shed burglaries. The Forum was informed that shed locks, security alarms and pedal cycle locks were available at Shildon Police Station. It was also noted that the police could arrange to have security markings put on pedal cycles.

Concern was expressed regarding the problem of youths drinking alcohol in public places and causing annoyance. It was noted that police officers were aware that alcohol was being sold to persons under the age of eighteen and were seeking approval to set up a 'test purchasing scheme' in the Shildon area to obtain the necessary evidence.

Reference was made to the damage caused by vandalism to the lamp post at the corner of Auckland Wynd and the shelter at the bus station. It was noted that arrangements were being made for the Rural Beat Team to be deployed in the Shildon area.

Reference was also made to the problems the public were experiencing in trying to communicate with officers at Shildon Police Station, following the introduction of the new call centre at Bishop Auckland. The Forum was advised to ask to be transferred to someone covering the Shildon area. It was also noted that P.C. Payne was trying to set up beat surgeries for the Shildon area.

Concern was also expressed regarding the number of children who were not attending school and it was requested that the Police speak to head teachers regarding the problem.

With regard to the problems of vandalism in the skateboard park, it was noted that P.C. Payne had spoken to Sarah Norman of Neighbourhood Watch, who was trying to set up a Park Watch Scheme.

It was reported that P.C .A. Payne was still trying to get an Accredited Private Landlords Scheme up and running.

AF(4)40/03 SEDGEFIELD PRIMARY CARE TRUST

Kath Vasey, Head of Nursing and Community Services, was present at the meeting to provide an update on local health matters.

Copies of the newsletter, "Your Health Matters" – Issue 5 Spring 2004 were circulated at the meeting. The newsletter gave details of a number of ongoing health initiatives.

Copies of a questionnaire in "Choosing Health – Consultation on Action to Improve Peoples Health in Sedgefield PCT" were also circulated at the meeting for completion. Members of the Forum were asked to return them by the end of May 2004.

AF(4)41/03 LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP - APPOINTMENT OF AREA FORUM REPRESENTATIVE

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive Officer regarding the appointment of a representative from Area 4 Forum to the Local Strategic Partnership Board for the Borough. (For copy see file of Minutes).

Agreed that Councillor M. Stott be appointed as the representative for Area 4 Forum on the Board.

**AF(4)42/03 QUESTIONS
Hackworth Park**

It was requested that consideration be given to the provision of more litter bins and lighting in Hackworth Park. The suggestion was also made that the employment of a park attendant could reduce the amount of damage, caused by vandalism, to the play equipment.

It was agreed that Shildon Town Council would consider the request.

AF(4)43/03 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was reported that Sedgefield Borough Council at its annual meeting on 21st May 2004 would agree the dates of future meetings of the Forum. The proposed dates were as follows:

20th July 2004, 21st September 2004, 16th November 2004,
18th January 2005, 8th March 2005 and 3rd May 2005

AF(4)44/03 THE LOCOMOTION

The Forum was given a tour of the new Museum site. G. Muirhead, Museum Manager and Councillor J. Robinson J.P., Lead Member for

Culture and Recreation were present to give an update on progress and answer questions.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection, etc., in relation to these Minutes and associated papers should contact Gillian Garrigan Spennymoor 816166 Extension 4240