

Item 2

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL AREA 4 FORUM

Hackworth Suite, Shildon
Sunnydale Leisure Centre,
Middridge Lane, Shildon

Tuesday, 20 July 2004

Time: 6.30 p.m.

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

G.M.R. Howe	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Mrs. I. Jackson Smith	– Sedgefield Borough Council
J.M. Smith	– Sedgefield Borough Council
PC A. Lawton	– Durham Constabulary
Councillor H. Robinson	– Eldon Parish Council
C. Thompson	– New Shildon Residents Association
Councillor L. Goldie	– Shildon Town Council
Councillor M. Stott	– Shildon Town Council
Mrs. M. Quigley	– SPICE
Mrs. K. Vasey	– Sedgefield PCT
K. Bowles	– Local Resident
C. Hind	– Local Resident
J. Johnson	– Local Resident
I. Robson	– Local Resident

In

attendance: G. Watson and Miss L. Moore

Apologies: Councillors J.G. Huntington and Mrs. L. Smith (Sedgefield Borough Council)
Councillor J. Thompson – Shildon Town Council

AF(4)1/04 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4th May, 2004 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. (For copy see file of Minutes).

AF(4)2/04 STREET CLEANSING

G. Watson, Street Scene Co-ordinator was present at the meeting to give a presentation regarding the above.

It was explained that under the Environmental Protection Act, the Borough Council had a duty to keep relevant land free of litter. It was pointed out that the Street Cleansing service provided by Sedgefield Borough Council included litter picking, fly tipping, weed control, dog fouling and the collection of sharps. Durham County Council was responsible for the maintenance of highways.

Members were informed that the code of practice set out cleansing response times to land that had been given a designated zone under the code. Zones 1 to 3 were typical throughout the Borough. It was pointed out that inspection grades A, B, C and D formed part of the

code of practice. It was explained that grade A was free of litter and grade D was heavily littered. It was noted that various response times related to designated zones e.g, if a Zone 1 was inspected and was found to be grade D it must be cleansed to Grade A within one hour.

Reference was made to Operation Axenic, which was a joint initiative between the Police and Sedgefield Borough Council to tidy up and reduce the amount of litter in the New Shildon area. It was explained that leaflets had been distributed throughout the area providing details of the operation and encouraging the involvement of the public. It was pointed out that any person not co-operating with the initiative could receive an Anti Social Behaviour Disorder.

Members queried which department they should contact to request extra litter bins for the Eldon area. It was pointed out that all litterbin requests were dealt with by the Customer Service Department.

Discussion took place in relation to 'poop scoop' bags not been available at Shildon Local Housing Office. It was pointed out that all Housing Offices should have a supply of 'Poop Scoop' bags available for the public.

AF(4)3/04 POLICE REPORT

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

<u>Type of Crime :</u>	<u>June, 2004 :</u>
Total Reported Incidents	347
Shed/garage burglaries	5
Domestic Violence Incidents	15
Thefts from Motor Vehicles	2
Theft of Motor Vehicles	1
Assaults	4
Anti Social Behaviour	33

It was pointed out that arrests had been made in relation to shed and garage burglaries, domestic violence incidents and assaults.

Members were reminded that shed locks, security alarms and pedal cycle locks were available at Shildon Police Station. It was pointed out that Shildon Community Safety had provided this equipment.

In relation to the sale of alcohol to under age persons, it was explained that the Police and Trading Standards were to visit off-licences on 23rd July 2004 to give appropriate warnings. It was noted that off-licences would firstly be given a warning and if required a letter would be sent. If complaints were still received test purchases would be carried out.

The Forum was informed that there were now three beat Officers for the Shildon area. It was explained that the Police were to separate

Shildon into three smaller areas, which would be New Shildon, Byerley Ward and Eldon. Each Beat Officer was to take responsibility for a specific area. It was pointed out that by taking responsibility for a smaller area the Police could work more efficiently.

Discussion took place in relation to motorcycles, electric scooters and quad bikes being driven off road. It was noted that these were motor vehicles and driving licences and insurances were a legal requirement.

AF(4)4/04 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.

The Forum was reminded that one of the responsibilities of the PCT was to invest in new health services. Members were informed that significant investments had been made in the following services:

- emergency care
- maternity and children services
- James Cook Hospital
- coronary heart disease
- improving the health of local communities and providing additional local services.

It was pointed out that no patient should wait longer than six months for surgical treatment or thirteen weeks to visit a consultant.

Discussion took place in relation to the maternity unit at Bishop Auckland Hospital. It was explained that Bishop Auckland Hospital was no longer able to accommodate high-risk pregnancies. Members expressed concern in relation to adequate provisions not being available for emergencies for those people expecting normal deliveries.

AF(4)5/04 NAMING OF DEVELOPMENT

Consideration was given to a report of the Building Control Manager regarding requests to name the following developments :-

Land at Redworth Road, Shildon

A request had been received from Brossley Homes to officially name and number the above development comprising of 18 dwellings.

It was noted that Members of the Forum agreed to forward “Woodland View” as a name for the new development.

Land Adjacent to Dent Street, Shildon

A request had been received from the developers, Malcolm R. Cundick Ltd. to officially name and number of above development comprising of 5 dwellings.

It was noted that Members of the Forum agreed to forward “Brancepeth

Place” as a name for the new development.
AF(4)6/04 LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP - APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATE
It was agreed that Councillor H. Robinson be appointed as the Alternate representative for Area 4 Forum on the LSP Board.

AF(4)7/04 QUESTIONS

Hackworth Park

It was requested that consideration be given to the provision of more seating in Hackworth Park.

It was pointed out that Shildon Town Council were considering the request made by Area 4 Forum held on 4th May 2004 in relation to the provision of more litterbins and lighting in the park.

AF(4)8/04 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 21st September 2004

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

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