

# AREA 4 FORUM

Tuesday,  
15 November 2005  
6.30 p.m.

Hackworth Suite,  
Shildon Sunnydale  
Leisure Centre

# AGENDA and REPORTS

## AGENDA

**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 20<sup>th</sup> September 2005. (Pages 1 - 4)

**4. POLICE REPORT**

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

**5. SEDGEFIELD PRIMARY CARE TRUST**

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

**6. DRAFT RESIDENTIAL EXTENSIONS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT**

A representative from the Neighbourhood Services Department will attend the meeting to give a presentation on the above.

**7. QUESTIONS**

The Chairman will take questions from the floor.

**8. 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 Officer 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.

**9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

17<sup>th</sup> January 2006 at 6.30 p.m. in the Hackworth Suite, Shildon Sunnydale Leisure Centre.

N. Vaulks  
Chief Executive Officer

Council Offices  
SPENNYMOOR  
7<sup>th</sup> November 2005

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ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection in relation to this Agenda and associated papers should contact Miss. S. Billingham, Spennymoor 816166, Ext 4240, [sbillingham@sedgefield.gov.uk](mailto:sbillingham@sedgefield.gov.uk)

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**Sedgefield Borough Council**

Councillor D. M. Hancock (Chairman)  
Councillor G.M.R. Howe (Vice-Chairman)

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**Shildon Town Council**

Councillors M. Stott, G. Swinbank and J. Thompson

**Eldon Parish Council**

Councillors H. Robinson and G.J. Wilde

**Durham County Council**

Councillors D. Bowman and V. Chapman

**New Shildon Residents Association**

Mrs. C. Thompson

**Durham Constabulary**

P.C. M. Lawton

**Shildon Chamber of Trade**

Mr. J. Bowman

**Jubilee Fields Community Association**

Mrs. E. Carr

**CAVOS (Community and Voluntary Organisations Sedgefield)**

Chief Executive Officer

**Community Network**

Anne Frizell

**Sunnydale Residents Association**

A.G. Bowman, J. Kirkbride and K. Mulley

**Sedgefield Primary Care Trust**

A. Armstrong and K. Vasey

**Sedgefield Borough Council**

Councillor J. Robinson J.P., Lead Member Culture and Recreation

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# Item 3

## SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL AREA 4 FORUM

Hackworth Suite,  
Shildon Sunnydale  
Leisure Centre

Tuesday,  
20 September 2005

Time: 6.30 p.m.

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

Mrs L. Robson	–	County Durham and Darlington Acute Trust
Councillor V. Chapman	–	Durham County Council
Acting Inspector Ball	–	Durham Constabulary
Superintendent Summerbell	–	Durham Constabulary
Mrs M. Quigley	–	New Residents Association
Mrs A. Armstrong	–	Sedgefield Primary Care Trust
Mrs K. Vasey	–	Sedgefield Primary Care Trust
J. Burrows	–	Local Resident
M. Donovan	–	Local Resident
C. Hind	–	Local Resident
T. Robson	–	Local Resident
M. Thompson	–	Local Resident
P. Quinn	–	Local Resident

**Apologies:**

Councillor G.M.R. Howe	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor J.G. Huntington	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor J.M. Smith	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Mrs. I. Jackson Smith		
Councillor Mrs. L. Smith	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor H. Robinson	–	Eldon Parish Council
Mrs. C. Thompson	–	New Shildon Residents Association
Mrs. J. Johnson	–	Local Resident

**AF(4)9/05      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
Members had no interests to declare.

**AF(4)10/05      MINUTES**  
The minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2005 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**AF(4)11/05      POLICE REPORT**  
Inspector Ball and Superintendent Summerbell were present at the meeting to give details of crime statistics for the area.

It was reported that the crime statistics for the month of August were as outlined below: -

<b>Recorded Incidents</b>	<b>415</b>
<b>Total Crime</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>Total Arrests</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Total Violent Crime</b>	<b>34</b>
Violence against Person	29
Burglary Dwelling	6
Burglary Other	1
Criminal Damage	32
Theft of vehicle	3
Thefts from Motor Vehicles	4
Shoplifting	0

Concern was raised regarding the persistent problems of anti social behaviour in the area of Jubilee Road and Coronation Avenue. Insp Ball explained that through police monitoring, he believed the problems were improving. He reassured Members of the Forum that work would continue until the Police were 'on top' of the problem.

The Chairman of the meeting made reference to the implementation of AXENIC, a joint initiative involving Sedgefield Borough Council and the Police. It was explained the operation had been successfully implemented in other areas of Shildon and it was suggested that it would be beneficial in targeting problematic areas.

Members of the Forum were of the opinion that a large proportion of the anti social behaviour in the area was stimulated through the intake of alcohol. It was acknowledged by the Police that there were problems associated with excessive and under age drinking.

The Forum noted that a number of steps had been taken by the Police in an attempt to manage the problem. 'On the spot' fixed penalty notices could be issued to the offender and the licensee, who had sold the alcohol. Discussions had also been held regarding the introduction of 'Night Safe' where owners of Off Licenses would be invited to join the existing 'Pub Watch' scheme in the attempt to reduce the number of alcohol related problems.

Superintendent Summerbell suggested that the use of victim statements could be introduced in reporting acts of anti social behaviour. It was pointed out that the more evidence that was collected, the better chance the Police had of convicting those responsible for causing disruptions and committing acts of anti social behaviour. It was agreed Superintendent Summerbell would look into the matter.

With regard to the Police Communications System, concerns were still being raised. Superintendent Summerbell explained that the activity of the system was monitored on a daily basis, however all comments/complaints mentioned at the meeting would be discussed with the relevant officers.

Specific reference was also made to the problems at West Road, Redworth Road and Weardale Street. Members of the Forum were

encouraged to continue to report incidents, which would result in problem areas being highlighted.

**AF(4)12/05      SEDGEFIELD PRIMARY CARE TRUST**

L. Robson, Director of Nursing (County Durham and Darlington Acute Hospital) together with C. Vasey and A. Armstrong were present at the meeting to answer member's questions particularly in relation to Bishop Auckland Hospital.

L. Robson explained that through the DARZI Review, it had been suggested that health care services needed to be more rationalized, with major operations being moved to the larger hospitals. It was however pointed out that a number of minor operations would continue to take place at Bishop Auckland Hospital and a number of consultants were holding sessions there. Patients needing major surgery would be referred to one of the larger, specialised hospitals.

With regard to the publicity surrounding the closure of the ward 9, it was explained that the situation had been 'blown out of proportion.' It had been recognised that there were staffing problems, with a large number of nurses taking maternity leave, which would have left the ward understaffed. The decision, was therefore made to reduce the number of beds on the ward. Members of the Forum were reassured that there had been no intention of closing the ward.

Discussions were also held regarding the marketing and promotion of Bishop Auckland Hospital. It was felt that the hospital was portrayed within the community as lacking in services and standards were declining. It was therefore suggested the hospital needed to promote itself and change people's perceptions. L. Robson agreed to discuss the matter further.

**AF(4)13/05      QUESTIONS  
NEW RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

Reference was made to letters that had been sent to New Residents Association regarding the removal of support from the Council. It was agreed the matter would be discussed with the relevant Council officer and information would be provided at a later date.

**AF(4)14/05      DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

15<sup>th</sup> November 2005 at 6.30pm in the Hackworth Suite, Shildon Sunnydale Leisure Centre.

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