

# AREA 5 FORUM

Tuesday, 23 January 2007

7.00 p.m.

Town Council Offices,  
School Aycliffe Lane,  
Newton Aycliffe

# AGENDA and REPORTS

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إذا أردت هذه الوثيقة بلغة أخرى أو بطريقة أخرى، أو إذا كنت بحاجة إلى خدمات مترجم، فنرجو أن تقوم بالاتصال بنا.

যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান অথবা যদি আপনার একজন ইন্টারপ্রেটারের প্রয়োজন হয়, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদের সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন।

本文件可以翻譯為另一語文版本，或製作成另一格式，如有此需要，或需要傳譯員的協助，請與我們聯絡。

यह दस्तावेज़ यदि आपको किसी अन्य भाषा या अन्य रूप में चाहिये, या आपको आनुवाद-सेवाओं की आवश्यकता हो तो हमसे संपर्क करें

ने छिह समउादेनन उगठु विमे वेर ब्रामा विच नां विमे वेर वुप विच चगीदा वै, नां ने उगठु गॅलषाउ ममझाउठ लछी विमे छिंटरपैटर ची लेंड वै, उां उमीं माठुं सॅमे।

یہ دستاویز اگر آپ کو کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہو، یا اگر آپ کو ترجمان کی خدمات چاہئیں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے رابطہ کیجئے۔

Póngase en contacto con nosotros si desea obtener este documento en otro idioma o formato, o si necesita los servicios de un intérprete.

**Democratic Services**



**01388 816166**

## 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 28<sup>th</sup> November 2006 (Pages 1 - 6)

**4. POLICE REPORT**

A representative from the Police Force will be present at the meeting to give an update in relation to crime figures etc.

**5. COUNTY DURHAM PCT - PROGRESS UPDATE**

A representative from the Primary Care Trust will be present at the meeting to report on progress

**6. LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME**

To consider the attached reports outlining the proposed projects:-

- Middridge Village Hall Improvement Programme
- Woodham Village Community Centre rejuvenation project (Pages 7 - 14)

**7. QUESTIONS**

The Chairman will take questions from the floor.

**8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting is scheduled to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2007

**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 Officer notice of items to be raised under this heading no later than 12 noon on the Friday preceding the meeting in order that consultation may take place with the Chairman who will determine whether the item will be accepted.

B. Allen  
Chief Executive

Council Offices  
SPENNYMOOR

15<sup>th</sup> January 2007

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection in relation to this Agenda and associated papers should contact  
Liz North 01388 816166 ext 4237 email: [enorth@sedgefield.gov.uk](mailto:enorth@sedgefield.gov.uk)



## AREA 5 FORUM

### Distribution

#### Sedgefield Borough Council Representatives

Councillor Mrs A.M. Fleming (Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs J Gray (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors W M Blenkinsopp, Mrs B A Clare, Mrs J Croft, V Crosby,  
M A Dalton, R.S. Fleming, G. C.Gray, B. Hall, M. Iveson, K Henderson  
J.P. Moran, Mrs E. M. Paylor and J. K .Piggott

#### Durham County Council Representatives

Councillor Mrs S J Iveson

#### Town/Parish Councils Representatives

Great Aycliffe - Councillor Mrs M Dalton  
Councillor Mrs M Gray  
- Councillor S. Mlatilik,  
- Councillor Mrs V Raw,  
-  
Middridge - Councillor Mrs A Clarke

#### Police

Durham Constabulary Sgt E Turner, Divisional Police Office,

#### Resident Associations Representatives

Linden Place Miss B. Craggs,

Dales Mrs D. Bowman

Kings -I Robertson ,

Williamfield -K Cox

#### Community Associations Representatives

Agnew -Agnew Community Centre,

School Aycliffe - School Aycliffe Community Hall,

Woodham - Woodham Community Centre,

#### School Representatives

Greenfield - Mr M. Thornton, Head Teacher,



# Item 3

## SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL AREA 5 FORUM

Town Council Offices,  
School Aycliffe Lane,  
Newton Aycliffe

Tuesday, 28 November  
2006

Time: 7.00 p.m.

**Present:** Councillor Mrs. A.M. Fleming (Chairman) – Sedgefield Borough Council and

|                             |   |  |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Councillor Mrs. B.A. Clare  | – | Sedgefield Borough Council               |
| Councillor Mrs. J. Croft    | – | Sedgefield Borough Council               |
| Councillor V. Crosby        | – | Sedgefield Borough Council               |
| Councillor M.A. Dalton      | – | Sedgefield Borough Council               |
| Councillor B. Hall          | – | Sedgefield Borough Council               |
| Councillor M. Iveson        | – | Sedgefield Borough Council               |
| Councillor J.P. Moran       | – | Sedgefield Borough Council               |
| Councillor Mrs. E.M. Paylor | – | Sedgefield Borough Council               |
| Councillor Mrs. S.J. Iveson | – | Durham County Council                    |
| J. Tinnough                 | – | Durham County Council                    |
| Inspector A. Neill          | – | Durham Constabulary                      |
| Councillor Mrs. S. Mlatilik | – | Great Aycliffe Town Council              |
| Councillor Mrs. V. Raw      | – | Great Aycliffe Town Council              |
| Councillor Mrs. S. Sinclair | – | Great Aycliffe Town Council              |
| Councillor A. Tomlin        | – | Great Aycliffe Town Council              |
| Councillor Mrs. M. Dalton   | – | Great Aycliffe Town Council              |
| Councillor Mrs. A. Clarke   | – | Midridge Parish Council                  |
| I. Dobinson                 | – | County Durham Primary Care Trust         |
| Miss C. Todd                | – | Sedgefield Borough Learning Co-ordinator |
| J. Rodwell                  | – | Agnew Community Centre                   |
| A. Healer                   | – | Burnhill Residents Association           |
| M. Robson                   | – | Burnhill Residents Association           |
| P. Cox                      | – | Williamfield Residents Association       |
| P. Hutchinson               | – | Williamfield Residents Association       |
| Councillor C. Wheeler       | – | Newton Aycliffe MIND                     |
| D. Bowman                   | – | Junior Neighbourhood Watch Dales         |
| J. Mlatilik                 | – | Member of the public                     |
| M. Tomlin                   | – | Member of the public                     |
| R. Dalton                   | – | Member of the public                     |

**Apologies:** Councillor W.M. Blenkinsopp - Sedgefield Borough Council  
Councillor R.S. Fleming – Sedgefield Borough Council  
Councillor G.C. Gray – Sedgefield Borough Council  
Councillor Mrs. J. Gray – Sedgefield Borough Council  
Councillor K. Henderson – Sedgefield Borough Council  
Councillor J.K. Piggott – Sedgefield Borough Council  
Councillor Mrs. M. Gray – Great Aycliffe Town Council

**AF(5)12/05      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
No declarations of interest were received.

**AF(5)13/05      MINUTES**  
The Minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2006 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**AF(5)14/05      REVIEW OF AREA FORUMS**  
The Forum was informed that a Scrutiny Review Group had been established to examine the operation of Area Forums to determine their effectiveness to identify changes that could be made to strengthen community involvement. A copy of the Group's report had been included with the agenda. (For copy see file of Minutes).

The Forum's attention was drawn to the following recommendations of the Review Group :-

1. Area Forums be renamed and relaunched 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 Forums to be formalised to representative of communities to which it aims to serve.
4. Implement a public question time at the beginning of each Area Forum.

A questionnaire seeking views on the above recommendations was circulated at the meeting for completion.

It was reported that the views expressed at the Area Forum meeting, the community consultation event on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2006 and in the questionnaires would be analysed by the Council's Regeneration Section and reported to Cabinet for consideration.

**AF(5)15/05      POLICE REPORT**  
Inspector Andy Neale was present at the meeting to give details of crime figures for the area.

The percentage change for the financial year were as follows :-



| <u>Type of Crime :</u> | <u>% Change :</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Total crime            | ↓ 19%             |
| Violent crime          | ↓ 34%             |
| Domestic Violence      | ↓ 21%             |
| Theft of vehicles      | ↓ 19%             |
| Theft from cars        | ↓ 21%             |
| Vehicle interference   | ↓ 71%             |
| Damage to vehicles     | ↓ 21%             |
| Damage overall         | ↓ 12%             |
| Shoplifting            | ↓ 49%             |
| House burglaries       | ↓ 11%             |
| Burglaries (other)     | ↑ 150%            |

Discussion was held regarding feedback from reported incidents and the policy in relation to this. It was explained that the policy was to investigate incidents thoroughly and inform people of the outcome of investigations.

Concern was expressed at the difficulty in contacting the Police using the non emergency number and the slow response to some calls. It was noted that a lot of time and effort had been expended on improving the system and a graded response system had been introduced.

Reference was made to Beat Officers in the area and the need to ensure that the area was fully manned as Community Police were the core essential element of policing.

Members of the Forum requested the Police to provide, as well as crime statistics, traffic accident statistics in the area. It was considered that it was important to expand the information given to members of the public and it was agreed that this be provided.

Discussion was held regarding obstruction to highways/damage to grass verges etc., particularly in the vicinity of schools. There were particular areas where the situation was a problem and the issues needed to be addressed.

Reference was also made to anti-social behaviour from youths in the vicinity of the shop in Silverdale Place.

Discussion was also held regarding the use of paths as cycleways particularly in the Williamfield area causing danger to pedestrians.

**AF(5)16/05**

**COUNTY DURHAM PRIMARY CARE TRUST - PROGRESS UPDATE**

Iain Dobinson, County Durham Primary Care Trust, was at the meeting to report on progress.

He explained that since the last meeting of the Forum the five Primary Care Trusts in County Durham had been replaced by one County-wide

Primary Care Trust. County Durham Primary Care Trust was in its early stages. Yasmin Choudhry had been appointed as Chief Executive to the Trust. The process of appointing senior posts was underway and the structure for the rest of the Trust would be finalised following that.

In relation to localities it was explained that there was a commitment to keep the relationship with localities. It was unclear what the localities would be. This was in the process of being considered.

Members of the Forum expressed their appreciation at the contribution which Sedgefield Primary Care Trust had made to the Forum and valued that input. It was hoped that the new Trust would continue to provide the information and support.

Reference was made to the appointments system and the need to have pre-bookable appointments.

Discussion was also held regarding the availability of flu vaccine and the difficulty which had been experienced for some practices in obtaining flu vaccine.

A query was also raised regarding the future of Bishop Auckland Hospital. It was explained that there was no indication that there would be any significant change in the services provided at Bishop Auckland Hospital.

**AF(5)17/05**

## **QUESTIONS**

### **On-Street Parking**

Discussion was held regarding the problems of on-street parking in Newton Aycliffe and it was suggested that the Regeneration Section be approached to examine whether a scheme in relation to on-street parking would meet the criteria for the Local Improvement Programme.

### **Pioneering Care Partnership Premises, Burn Lane**

**NB :** In accordance with Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Members Code of Conduct Councillor M.A. Dalton declared an interest in this item as a Member of the Board of the PCP and Councillor Mrs. M.A. Dalton declared an interest in this item as a member of the PCP. Both Councillors left the meeting for the duration of the discussion on this item.

Discussion was held on the County Council's proposals to cut funding for the Pioneering Care Partnership. No decision had been reached as yet. The Pioneering Care Partnership were seeking the support of people who had used services by 30<sup>th</sup> November by sending an e-mail to [Treasurers@Durham.gov.uk](mailto:Treasurers@Durham.gov.uk).

**AF(5)18/05**

## **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2007

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### **ACCESS TO INFORMATION**

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# Item 6

AREA 5 FORUM

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2007

**Report of the Head of Strategy and Regeneration**

**Sedgefield Borough Local Improvement Programme**

**Application - Refurbishment of Middridge Village Hall**

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 5 Forum for their consideration and comments, which will be used to further develop the project proposal prior to it being taken through Sedgefield Borough Council's decision making process.

The Area 5 Forum has been allocated £1,140,000 of LIP capital resources between 2006 and 2009. A total of £380,000 has been allocated to the year 2006/07 of which £183,505 has been allocated to date.

## **Project Background**

- **Name of Project:** Refurbishment of Middridge Village Hall.
- **Name of Applicant:** Middridge Village Association.
- **Landlord:** Middridge Village Association under Trust Deed
- **Brief Description of Project:** The aim of the project is to completely refurbish and modernise the village hall, which is currently underused because of its poor state of repair, to a standard, which will provide an inviting, safe and friendly venue for the use of not only the village but also the surrounding area.
- **Requested from LIP:** £68,965 (92%)
- **Total Estimated Project Cost:** £74,965 (Capital)
- **ODPM Definition:**  
The applicant has stated that the building is currently underused because of its poor state of repair. The proposal aims to expand the available use of the village hall to more community organisations.
- **What will the LIP be used for:**  
The refurbishment will include, re-roofing of the whole building, repair of rising damp, new central heating and hot water system, complete electrical re-wiring and lighting system, lowering and replacing of the

ceiling in the main hall, new floor in main hall, appropriate disabled access including toilet improvements.

- **Impact of the Project:**

The applicant has stated that the Village Hall is currently in a poor state of repair; there are significant areas of damp that has resulted in a decrease in community use. The hall has undergone only essential repairs during the last 20 years, which has resulted in severe deterioration to walls and flooring. The central heating system is aged and therefore does not supply adequate heat to the range of rooms within the building. The internal lighting is not adequate for certain user groups to carry out their activities. Several groups who have used the hall regularly in the past years have now ceased to use the hall because it's condition.

The refurbishment will help to secure the regeneration of the Village Hall and bring it back fully into effective use. Discussions have taken place with a range of outside agencies such as Pioneering Care Centre Outreach, the Primary Care Trust and CAVOS and they have all expressed an interest in using the facility after refurbishment for a range of community focused activities.

The applicant has stated that the project links to three of the four key community strategy objectives. These are Healthy Borough– Improving the health and well being of the local community, by creating a suitable venue for Local Health Promotions, such as smoking cessation and any other health issues, keep fit and Yoga classes. Attractive Borough– develop and maximise leisure and cultural facilities in the borough. The project will provide Middridge Village and the surrounding area with an up to date, attractive and sustainable facility for a variety of activities. Strong Communities – Creating a safe neighbourhood by helping to combat any anti-social behaviour by providing a facility for the young people in the village to use for various activities.

- **Evidence of need and community support:**

A survey of all 150 houses in the village was conducted in 2005. 51 responses were returned all with positive comments. The majority of the regular activities have ceased due to the poor state of the hall, although the local community is requesting a number of these to become available again. Middridge Parish Council is in full support of the project.

Subject to endorsement by the Area Forum at this stage, the Strategy & Regeneration Division will work with the applicant during the full appraisal process to explore a more detail predicted programme of use for the facility in order to maximise the overall impact of the project.

- **Value for money and Revenue implications:**  
The applicant has applied for £74,965 which is 92% of the total project costs. The remaining capital costs will be funded by funds of Middridge Village Association. The future revenue costs will be funded by income from Village Association activities, a suitable charge for the use of the premises to users and also annual subscriptions. In addition to the above, the National Lottery - Awards for All Fund have awarded £3,500 to fund a new computer suite within the Village Hall.
- **Statutory Approvals:** Requirement of Planning Permission and Building Regulation consent is to be confirmed.

**Recommendation from the Strategy and Regeneration Section:**

That the Area Forum considers:

- The project proposal, and how it would meet the priority needs of the Area 5 locality.

Subject to discussion and agreement by the Area Forum to progress the project proposal, the applicant will work with the Strategy and Regeneration Division to further develop the LIP application prior to it being taken through Sedgefield Borough Council's decisions making process.

**Material considerations:**

**Other applications received from Area 5:**

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.

- Woodham Community Centre – refurbishment of the Community Centre to enable additional activities to be provided - LIP requested £25,200, Total project cost £25,200.

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**Report of the Head of Strategy and Regeneration**

**Sedgefield Borough Local Improvement Programme**

**Application - Woodham Village Community Centre Rejuvenation**

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 5 Forum for their consideration and comments, which will be used to further develop the project proposal prior to it being taken through Sedgefield Borough Council's decision making process.

The Area 5 Forum has been allocated £1,140,000 of LIP capital resources between 2006 and 2009. A total of £380,000 has been allocated to the year 2006/07 of which £183,505 has been allocated to date.

**Project Background**

- **Name of Project:** Woodham Village Community Centre Rejuvenation
- **Name of Applicant:** Woodham Village Community Centre.
- **Landlord:** The Trustees
- **Brief Description of Project:** The aim of the project is to completely refurbish and modernise the village community centre, which would provide up to date flooring, lighting, more useable meeting room and kitchen. It would then enable the Community Centre to provide more varied physical activities along with adult education and skill training courses.
- **Requested from LIP:** £25,200 (100%)
- **Total Estimated Project Cost:** £25,200 (Capital)
- **ODPM Definition:**  
The applicant has advised us that the building is not used to it's full potential and is in need of rejuvenation thereby bringing the building back into effective use.
- **What will the LIP be used for:**  
The refurbishment will include, electrical work to install new lighting, replacement flooring in both the main hall and meeting room, kitchen unit replacement and additional storage facilities to cater for greater community use.

- **Impact of the Project:**

The applicant has stated that the refurbishment will help to secure the regeneration of the centre to bring it into more effective use and cater for a greater variety of use.

Many of the anticipated new activities will target young unemployed people, providing them with a range of new education and skills training courses. In addition to this it is the aim of the applicant to provide more varied casual physical activities within the centre including the provision of healthy eating courses. The applicant has stated that changes to the meeting rooms and kitchen will allow the building to be used more flexibly and provide a greater range of space that is appropriate to the size of the respective user groups thereby enabling a greater variety of activities.

The applicant has stated that the project links to three of the four community strategy objectives. These are Healthy Borough– Improving the health and well being of the local community, by creating a suitable venue for keep-fit, Dance, Taekwondo classes and healthy eating classes. Attractive Borough – develop and maximise leisure and cultural facilities in the Borough. Strong Communities – Creating a safe neighbourhood by helping to combat any anti-social behaviour, providing a facility for the young people in the village to use.

- **Evidence of need and community support:**

The applicant has stated that the Management Committee together with the Centre Manager have had discussions with the community and all groups using the centre to identify the current and future demands of the centre activities.

Subject to endorsement by the Area Forum at this stage, the Strategy & Regeneration Division will work with the applicant during the full appraisal process to explore a more detail predicted programme of use for the facility in order to maximise the overall impact of the project.

- **Value for money and Revenue implications:**

The applicant has applied for £25,200, which is 100% of the total project costs. Discussions have taken place with the applicant to consider other match funding opportunities. The associated on-going revenue costs will be funded by the applicant's own funds through grant funding and appropriate charging to users of the premises.

Three estimates for each of the main parts of the work on the building have been obtained, from local contractors.

- **Statutory Approvals:** Requirement of Planning Permission and Building Regulation consent is to be confirmed.

### **Recommendation from the Strategy and Regeneration Section:**

That the Area Forum considers:

- The project proposal, and how it would meet the priority needs of the Area 5 locality.

Subject to discussion and agreement by the Area Forum to progress the project proposal, the applicant will work with the Strategy and Regeneration Division to further develop the LIP application prior to it being taken through Sedgefield Borough Council's decisions making process.

### **Material considerations:**

#### **Other applications received from Area 5:**

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.

- Middridge Village Association – refurbishment of the Village Hall to enable additional activities to be provided – LIP requested £68,965. Total project cost £74,965.

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