

# **AREA 4 FORUM**

Tuesday,  
18 November 2008

6.30 p.m.

Shildon Civic Hall

## **AGENDA and REPORTS**



**This document is also available in other languages,  
large print and audio format upon request**

**العربية (Arabic)**

إذا أردت المعلومات بلغة أخرى أو بطريقة أخرى، نرجو أن تطلب ذلك منا.

**বাংলা (Bengali)**

যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলুন।

**(中文 (繁體字)) (Cantonese)**

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

**हिन्दी (Hindi)**

यदि आपको सूचना किसी अन्य भाषा या अन्य रूप में चाहिये तो कृपया हमसे कहे

**polski (Polish)**

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo uzyskać informacje w innym języku lub w innym formacie, prosimy dać nam znać.

**ਪੰਜਾਬੀ (Punjabi)**

ਜੇ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ, ਤਾਂ ਇਹ ਸਾਥੋਂ ਮੰਗ ਲਓ।

**Español (Spanish)**

Póngase en contacto con nosotros si desea recibir información en otro idioma o formato.

**اردو (Urdu)**

اگر آپ کو معلومات کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے پوچھئے۔

## 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 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2008. (Pages 3 - 6)

**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 BOROUGH LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME - UPDATE ON PROJECT ACTIVITY**

Report of Assistant Chief Executive. (Pages 7 - 10)

**6. QUESTIONS**

The Chairman will take questions from the floor.

**7. 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 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.

**8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at 6.30 p.m.

B. Allen  
Chief Executive

Council Offices  
SPENNYMOOR  
10<sup>th</sup> November 2008

---

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection in relation to this Agenda and associated papers should contact Mrs. G. Garrigan, Tel 01388 816166 Ext 4240, [ggarrigan@sedgefield.gov.uk](mailto:ggarrigan@sedgefield.gov.uk)

This page is intentionally left blank

# Annex

## DISTRIBUTION LIST

To: -

**Sedgefield Borough Council**

Councillor B. Stephens (Chairman)

Councillor V. Chapman (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors D.M. Hancock, G.M.R. Howe, J. G. Huntington and Mrs. I. Jackson

**NHS County Durham**

**Sildon Town Council**

Councillors D.M. Hancock, J.G. Huntington and Mrs. I. Jackson

**Eldon Parish Council**

Councillors Mrs. I. Jackson and H. Robinson

**Durham County Council**

Councillors D. Bowman, D.M. Hancock, J.G. Huntington and B. Stephens

**Durham Constabulary**

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

Chief Executive Officer

**New Sildon Residents Association**

Mrs. C. Thompson

**Sunnydale Residents Association**

K. Mulley

This page is intentionally left blank

# Item 3

## SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL AREA 4 FORUM

Civic Hall,  
Shildon

Tuesday,  
23 September 2008

Time: 6.30 p.m.

**Present:** Councillor B. Stephens (Chairman) – Sedgefield Borough Council

Councillor V. Chapman	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor D.M. Hancock	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor J.G. Huntington	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
K. Cleasby	–	Eldon Community Partnership
J. Gibson	–	Eldon Community Partnership
E. Keller	–	Eldon Community Partnership
S. Marley	–	Eldon Community Partnership
S. Marley	–	Eldon Community Partnership
B. Peacock	–	Eldon Community Partnership
B. Peacock	–	Eldon Community Partnership
D. Pennington	–	Eldon Community Partnership
G. Pennington	–	Eldon Community Partnership
P. Sisson	–	Eldon Community Partnership
C. Thompson	–	New Shildon Residents Association
N. Cleasby	–	New Shildon Scout Field
J. Cutting	–	New Shildon Scout Field
R.M. Wigham	–	Shildon Community Museum
C. A. Fletcher	–	Shildon Community Safety
E. Carr	–	Shildon Community Safety
D. Sadler	–	Shildon Nifty 50s
L. Meighan	–	Shildon Police
W. Mughal	–	Shildon Police
T. Burrell	–	Shildon Railway Sports and Social Club
G. Davis	–	Shildon Railway Sports and Social Club
P. Trotter	–	Shildon Railway Sport and Social Club
J. Wild	–	Shildon Railway Sport and Social Club
M. Waterson	–	Shildon Town Council
C. Hind	–	Shildon Resident
M. Stott	–	Shildon Resident
A. Walker	–	Shildon Resident

**Apologies:** Councillor G.M.R. Howe - Sedgefield Borough Council  
Councillor Ms. I. Jackson - Sedgefield Borough Council  
Councillor H. Robinson - Eldon Parish Council

### **AF(4)9/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors D.M. Hancock and J.G. Huntington declared personal interests in Item 5 – Sedgefield Borough Local Improvement Report – Update on Project Activity as they were Members of Shildon Town Council.

### **AF(4)10/08 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2008 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**AF(4)11/08 POLICE REPORT**

P.C. W. Mughal and P.C. L. Meighan were present to provide details of crime initiatives.

It was reported that over the last few months a number of warrants to search properties had been executed and quantities of drugs had been found and arrests made.

It was pointed out that the number of anti-social behaviour incidents in the Area 4 locality had decreased which was the result of a number of high visibility patrols and covert operations.

With regard to the problem of youths throwing apples in the Drybourne Park area, it was reported that the area was currently being patrolled.

Specific reference was made to the problem of horses running loose in the Eldon area. Residents were requested to inform the Police if they knew any details of the horses' owner or the registration number of any vehicle associated with the horses. It was pointed out that the telephone for contacting the Police was now : 0345 6060365

AGREED: That the information be received.

**AF(4)12/08 SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH LOCAL IMPROVEMENT REPORT - UPDATE ON PROJECT ACTIVITY**

**NB: In accordance with Section 81 of the Local Government Act and the Members' Code of Conduct Councillors D.M. Hancock and J.G. Huntington declared personal interests in the above item, however, they remained in the meeting.**

Consideration was given to a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which gave an update on project activity in relation to Sedgfield Local Improvement Programme (LIP). (For copy see file of Minutes).

It was reported that Area 4 Forum had been allocated £456,000 of LIP capital resources between 2006 and 2009. Three projects had already been supported within the Area 4 locality to the value of £117,726, leaving £338,274 remaining to be allocated for project activity which met the key LIP criteria and could deliver clear community benefit, within the timeframe remaining for the LIP Programme.



The following eight projects had been submitted for consideration. Their total value was £1,138,230.

Project	LIP Request	
• Vintage Vehicles	-	£67,125
• Shildon Peoples Centre	-	£34,487
• Eldon Community Centre	-	£138,638
• Shildon Railway Sports Field	-	£209,220
• Shildon Scout Memorial Field	-	£129,000
• Hackworth Play Park Area	-	£106,647
• Hackworth Park Pavilion Project	-	£353,113
• East Thickley Farm Project	-	£100,000

It was explained that in view of the number of projects submitted and the available funding, the Council's Capital Project Team would be working closely with all applicants to establish the impact and outcomes expected from their projects. Officers would look at key issues, such as local priorities and the deliverability of the overall project within the timeframe. This process would assist in the task of prioritising projects that would be taken through the decision-making process of the Council.

The Team was very keen to obtain feedback from the Area Forum about its priorities for Area 4 and how each project would meet local needs.

It was reported that if the Council was unable to support a project, officers would continue to work with the group to try and find other sources of funding.

The suggestion was made that details of the applications which had been unsuccessful should be forwarded to the new unitary authority for consideration.

*AGREED : That the projects be supported and an update report be given at the next meeting.*

**AF(4)13/08 AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIPS**

Concern was expressed that Shildon would not have its own Area Action Partnership as it had been proposed that it be included in either the Newton Aycliffe or Bishop Auckland Partnership.

**AF(4)14/08 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2008 at 6.30 p.m.

---

**ACCESS TO INFORMATION**

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection, etc., in relation to these Minutes and associated papers should contact Mrs. G. Garrigan, Tel 01388 816166 Ext 4240, ggarrigan@sedgefield.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

# Item 5

## AREA 4 FORUM

18<sup>th</sup> November 2008

### Report of the Assistant Chief Executive

#### Sedgefield Borough Local Improvement Programme

##### Update on Project Activity

This report provides the Area Forum with an update on project activity as part of Sedgefield Borough Council's Local Improvement Programme (LIP).

The purpose of the LIP Programme is to improve community assets and support community engagement in the regeneration of local areas. As part of this, Local Communities can propose projects against set criteria agreed by Sedgefield Borough Council. Through this Programme resources will be released to improve sites and improve the usability of community facilities and buildings across the Borough.

The Area 4 Forum has been allocated £456,000 of LIP capital resources between 2006 and 2009. The Area Forum may recall that Area 4 was oversubscribed by £799,956 following the cut off date of 31<sup>st</sup> July 2008. Cabinet has now considered the project applications received from the Area 4 Forum locality and details of their decisions is outlined in this report.

##### **PRIORITISATION PROCESS**

In 2005 Cabinet agreed a Housing Land Capital Receipts strategy that outlined a range of project proposals and established the Local Improvement Programme. To be eligible for consideration under this strategy all projects need to meet the Government 'regeneration' definition as outlined below.

##### **Regeneration –**

*“any project for the carrying out of works or activities on any land where –  
(a) the land, or a building on the land, is vacant, unused, under-used, ineffectively used, contaminated or derelict; and  
(b) the works or activities are carried out in order to secure that the land or the building will be brought into effective use.”*

This definition is the starting point for consideration of all LIP projects. Projects that don't meet this definition have been discouraged from applying.

##### **Criteria**

When assessing LIP project requests the following criteria has formed the basis to the project appraisal.

##### **Project Criteria**

- Social Impact and additional outcomes against priorities in the community strategy
- Clear identified need
- Clear consultation

- Links to other regeneration activity
- Deliverability of the scheme within LIP timeframe
- Value for Money
- Leverage of match funding where possible
- Achievable match funding strategy has been identified
- Principal of fair-share across communities within Area Forums
- Opportunity to phase the project to reduce the funding needed to implement the scheme without affecting the outcomes
- Strategic fit with Council plans, strategies and aspirations

Given the budget pressure and the need to ensure that LIP money is targeted at projects that will have clear community outcomes, there has been the need to sort projects into 3 main categories;

- Priority Projects
- Reserve Projects
- Non-Priority Projects for Rejection

It is recognised that some of the projects identified for approval still need confirmation of some technical issues such as match funding confirmation or planning permission considerations.

One Area Forum suggested a standardised reduction of grant based on the percentage of the oversubscription of all bids. This has been considered by the Capital Programme Team, however, it is recognised that some projects have already scaled back their ambitions to meet a reduced financial allocation. With other projects a reduction in grant allocation would lead to an increased risk of failing to deliver within the timeframe available. All projects have therefore been assessed on an individual basis.

### **Reserve Projects**

Where an excess of eligible project requests have been received within an Area Forum locality it is proposed that a reserve list of projects be considered.

The identification of reserve projects is strongly linked to the risk analysis and contingency planning that has been carried out through project appraisal.

### **Non-Priority Projects**

A number of projects have been submitted that whilst meeting the core LIP 'regeneration' definition as detailed above; and whilst hitting some of the key LIP criteria, haven't demonstrated or evidenced significant outcomes or impact when assessed against other project opportunities.

This list also includes projects where the timescale for project delivery is unclear or where timescales clearly exceeds the ability for Sedgefield Borough Council to progress the individual project request within its lifespan. Other considerations have included the respective 'buy in' to the project from the local community, support for the project from the respective management committee and also the match funding strategy identified linked to successful

project delivery. The Capital Programme Team have committed to work with these projects to develop bids for other funding where appropriate.

## **RESOURCES**

The LIP budget was allocated on an Area Forum basis based on the number of households within each Forum area. The budget for LIP is fixed and can not be increased to meet the oversubscription of schemes.

**Match Funding** – The ability of projects to lever in additional match funding is a central consideration for all LIP projects. However, match funding decisions are outside Sedgfield Borough Council control and can therefore skew project timescales. Given the need to make progress within a tight timescale prior to Local Government Reorganisation, a deadline of the turn of the year has been set to receive clarification from projects that are dependent on external match funding decisions. The programme will be reviewed at this stage to assess progress and any risks to project delivery.

The Capital Programme Team considers that we should make every effort to give projects the time to secure match funding but we also recognise that if the funding isn't secured in time, or decisions result in no match funding being allocated to these projects then we will have to re-look at the priority project list and consider additional reserve schemes where appropriate.

### **The Current Position Within Area 4 Forum:**

#### **LIP Approvals**

Hackworth Tennis Courts	£34,999
Civic Hall Lighting and Stage	£7,727
Jubilee Fields Community Centre	£75,000
Shildon People's Centre	£30,737
Shildon Scout Field Tech Study	£4,113
Hackworth Park Pavilion Tech Study	£15,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£167,576</b>

#### **Approvals 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2008**

Eldon Community Centre	£138,638
	<b>£138,638</b>

#### **Reserve Projects**

Shildon BR Sports Club	£220,000
Hackworth Park Play Area	£106,647

#### **Non-Priority Projects for Rejection**

Shildon Scout Field	£160,000
Shildon Vintage Vehicles	£67,125
Hackworth Park Pavilion	£353,113
East Thickley Farm - Museum	£100,000

This leaves **£149,786** to be allocated to additional schemes within the Area 4 Forum area. Further discussions are planned with the applicants for the 2 identified reserve schemes – Hackworth Park Play Area and Shildon BR Club Improvements to establish opportunities to lever in Section 106 monies towards the play area

proposals and firm up revised cost options for the Sports Club proposal. A further report will be taken to Cabinet in respect of these 2 projects in due course.

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

That the Area Forum notes the information provided on the current position of the Local Improvement programme within Area 4.