

CABINET

Thursday,
25 October 2007
10.00 a.m.

Conference Room 1,
Council Offices, Spennymoor

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 پوچھیے۔

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To notify the Chairman of any items that appear 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 11th October 2007. (Pages 1 - 2)

SOCIAL REGENERATION AND PARTNERSHIP PORTFOLIO

4. LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME - MAINSFORTH AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS

Report of Assistant Chief Executive. (Pages 3 - 6)

5. LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME - SEDGEFIELD PARISH HALL PHASE 2 REGENERATION PROGRAMME

Report of Assistant Chief Executive. (Pages 7 - 12)

MINUTES

6. STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 9th October 2007. (Pages 13 - 16)

7. AREA 5 FORUM

Minutes of meeting held on 2nd October 2007. (Pages 17 - 20)

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Lead Members are requested to inform the Chief Executive or the Cabinet Secretary of any items they might wish to raise under this heading by no later than 12 noon on the day preceding the meeting. This will enable the Officers in consultation with the Chairman to determine whether consideration of the matter by the Cabinet is appropriate.

B. Allen
Chief Executive

Council Offices
SPENNYMOOR
17th October 2007

Councillor Mrs. A.M. Armstrong (Chairman)
Councillors Mrs. K. Conroy, V. Crosby, Mrs. B. Graham, A. Hodgson, Mrs. L. Hovvels,
J.M. Khan, D.A. Newell and W. Waters

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection in relation to this Agenda and associated papers should contact Gillian Garrigan, on Spennymoor 816166 Ext 4240 ggarrigan@sedgefield.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

Item 3

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL CABINET

Conference Room 1,
Council Offices,
Spennymoor

Thursday,
11 October 2007

Time: 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillor Mrs. A.M. Armstrong (Chairman) and
Councillors Mrs. K. Conroy, V. Crosby, Mrs. B. Graham, A. Hodgson,
J.M. Khan and W. Waters

In Attendance: Councillors W.M. Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, Mrs. P. Crathorne,
P. Gittins J.P., A. Gray, B. Haigh, Mrs. S. Haigh, D.M. Hancock,
T. Hogan, Ms. I. Jackson, B. Lamb, Mrs. E. Maddison, Mrs. E.M. Paylor,
A. Smith, A. Warburton and T. Ward

Apologies: Councillors Mrs. L. Hovvells and D.A. Newell

CAB.79/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Members had no interests to declare.

CAB.80/07 MINUTES
The Minutes of the meeting held on 27th September 2007 were confirmed
as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**CAB.81/07 UPDATING THE STOCK OPTIONS APPRAISAL STUDY (KEY
DECISION)**

The Lead Member for Housing presented a report regarding the above.
(For copy see file of Minutes).

Members were reminded that Cabinet at its meeting on 21st June 2007
had agreed to revisit the strategic options to consider how the future
investment needs of its housing stock could be met whilst ensuring its
ongoing effective management.

The report recommended that Large Scale Voluntary Transfer (LSVT) be
endorsed and pursued as the preferred option for the future ownership and
management of the Council's housing stock subject to further consultation
with relevant stakeholders.

The preferred option was based on the outcome of a financial modelling on
the future investment needs of the housing stock set against the available
resources over the following five years, the findings of the Council's Stock
Options Appraisal Group and a survey of all Council tenants.

RESOLVED : That Council be recommended to pursue Large Scale Voluntary Transfer as the preferred option for the future ownership and management of the Council's housing stock subject to further consultation with relevant stakeholders.

CAB.82/07 PROSPEROUS AND ATTRACTIVE BOROUGH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting held on 25th September 2007. (For copy see file of Minutes).

RESOLVED : That the Minutes be received.

CAB.83/07 AREA FORUMS

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the following meetings :

Area 2 Forum - 11th September 2007
Area 3 Forum - 19th September 2007

(For copies see file of Minutes).

RESOLVED : That the Minutes be received.

CAB.84/07 ELECTROLUX FACTORY, SPENNYMOOR

Members were informed that a press release had been issued that morning by Electrolux regarding an investigation into the future viability of production at its factory in Spennymoor, which manufactured cookers and employed 500 people.

The factory had been making a loss over the past few years and an assessment was needed on whether it would be feasible to take the business into profit in the foreseeable future.

A distribution warehouse on the site which employed 40 people, would be unaffected by the investigation.

Published on 12th October 2007

The key decision contained in these Minutes will be implemented on Monday 22nd October 2007 five working days after the date of publication unless it is called in by three Members of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the call in procedure rules.

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, on Spennymoor 816166 Ext 4240 ggarrigan@sedgefield.gov.uk

Item 4

REPORT TO CABINET

25th October 2007

REPORT OF ASSTISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Portfolio: Social Regeneration & Partnership

LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME – Mainsforth & District Community Centre Improvements.

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report highlights a Local Improvement Programme (LIP) application submitted to and appraised by the Strategy and Regeneration Division. Following endorsement of the project by the Area 2 Forum, this report provides information to Cabinet for their consideration.
- 1.2 The project aims to renew the boiler and heating system in the community centre and boxing club. This will enable the centre to install a more energy efficient boiler and zoned heating system with the aim of expanding the available use of the community centre to more community organisations.
- 1.3 The project meets the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) eligible 'Regeneration' Definition. ✓
- 1.4 The project has also demonstrated links to the key LIP criteria of meeting elements of the Community Strategy and community consultation. ✓
- 1.5 The applicant has requested **£75,830** of LIP funding, which is 94% of the total capital project costs of £80,830.

2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Cabinet...

- 2.1 Approve the application for LIP Funds based upon the information provided in the report.

3. LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

- 3.1 The purpose of this 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 Cabinet. Through this programme resources will be released to improve sites and improve the usability of community facilities and buildings across the Borough.

Background – Application and Applicant

- 3.2 This project has been developed by Mainsforth & District Community Association, and is located in Ferryhill Station. The Community Centre was built in 1927 as the Miners Welfare Hall, and still has many original features, including one of the largest theatre halls in the North East region. The hall has a professional sloping stage, lighting and balcony seating for 150 people. The centre is the hub of local community activity and is for all groups and individuals to access.
- 3.3 The project consists of the renewal of the boiler and heating system in the community centre and boxing club. This will enable the centre to install a more energy efficient boiler and zoned heating system with the aim of expanding the available use of the community centre to more community organisations.
- 3.4 The LIP application has outlined the need to renew the boiler and central heating system in order to cater for more user groups. One of the barriers to this is the cost of heating additional rooms within the building. Currently one system controls the whole building and if one group wants to use space within the building then the whole building has to be heated. With monthly energy costs increasing it has been very difficult for the Community Centre to offer additional users space due to cost implications. By replacing the old system with a new 'zoned heating system' heat will be able to be directed to the rooms in use rather than the whole building. This will also ensure that rooms not currently in use can be fully utilised. Interest has been shown for the use of the smaller rooms by Bishop Auckland College to offer adult learning courses, and also by local young people who are requesting some youth provision.
- 3.5 The centre is the only community facility of its type in the village. Over the past five years the Associations have undertaken a range of additional refurbishments including, installation of a lift, renewed ladies and gents toilets, installed disabled toilets to floors, refurbished main hall and lounge, new lighting and a refurbished kitchen.

4. CORPORATE POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 It is felt that the project proposal has links to the Coalfield Housing Market Renewal/Masterplan as the facility is based within Ferryhill Station. The group aim to secure the centre for future use and expand the available activity to local people.
- 4.2 In addition to the above, the proposal has also been discussed corporately with the Council's Energy Officer. It is felt that the project has links to the Council's Sustainable energy and Water Policy, meeting policy area to;

Promote the importance of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases to our partners and stakeholders, improve energy efficiency of our buildings, and also to reduce energy costs.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Area Forum 2 has been allocated £836,000 of LIP Capital resources between 2006 and 2009. £278,700 has been allocated for 2006/07. A number of projects have been supported in the previous year to the value of £174,024, and there is some additional under-spend resulting from last years LIP allocation.
- 5.2 The applicant has requested **£75,830** of LIP funding, which is 94% of the total capital project costs of £80,830 for the refurbishment work. The Community Association will fund the remaining capital costs.
- 5.3 The Community Association will manage and maintain the facility; the revenue costs will be funded by income from room hire charges and local fundraising.

6. CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 In 1999 a report was commissioned as part of the Area Appraisal for Ferryhill Station – The ‘Options for the Future’ Report. In relation to the Community Centre the report concluded that, “the building has very high running costs... the costs of running and maintaining the building currently dictates the activities rather than the needs of the community.” By carrying out these works the group hope to reverse that trend.
- 6.2 A series of letters of support have been attached with the application. Replies to a recent questionnaire indicate the need to have the facility available to the community. Some verbal consultation has taken place with positive results.

7. AREA FORUM RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 A positive response was received to the proposed project by the Area 2 Forum at it’s meeting held on 11th September 2007. The Area Forum agreed to support the progress of this project to the full amount requested.

8 OTHER MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 The application has undergone an appraisal against the Local Improvement Programme criteria. The application has met the key elements of the LIP criteria, and demonstrated links to the Community Strategy priorities.
- 8.2 Procurement – The funding requested represents a grant to an external organisation. The grant is conditional upon the applicant identifying a full quotation / and or tender process for the works.

- 8.3 Crime and Disorder - In line with the Council's Community Strategy, this project has identified a link with providing activities and support services that hope to result in a fall in crime and anti-social behaviour rates within this community.
- 8.4 Sustainability – the project has links to the Council's Sustainable Energy and Water Policy, meeting policy area to; Promote the importance of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases to our partners and stakeholders and also to reduce energy costs.

9. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There has been no previous consultation or engagement with the Overview and Scrutiny Committees regarding this particular project.

Contact Officer: Linda Goundry
Telephone number: (01388) 824002
Email Address: lgoundry@sedgefield.gov.uk

Ward: Chilton/Broom

Key Decision Validation: Not applicable

Background Papers:

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------|
| Internal | | |
| 1 | Promotion Of The Regeneration Of The Borough Housing Land Capital Receipts To Support Regeneration And Affordable Housing Provision | June 2005 |

Examination by Statutory Officers

	Yes	Not Applicable
1. The report has been examined by the Councils Head of the Paid Service or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The content has been examined by the Councils S.151 Officer or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. The content has been examined by the Council's Monitoring Officer or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The report has been approved by Management Team	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Item 5

REPORT TO CABINET

25th October 2007

REPORT OF ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Portfolio: Social Regeneration & Partnership

LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME – Sedgefield Parish Hall Phase 2 Regeneration Programme.

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report highlights a Local Improvement Programme (LIP) application submitted to and appraised by the Strategy and Regeneration Division. Following endorsement of the project by the Area 3 Forum, this report provides information to Cabinet for their consideration.
- 1.2 The project aims to address the problems identified by the acoustic survey that was LIP funded through the Sedgefield Parish Hall Phase 1 project. These include the provision of a freestanding wall lining fixed at base and roof level, ceiling and wall absorbers, works in the adjoining property to reduce the noise transference and a noise limiter device. In addition to this there has also been roof and wall problems identified, which need to be resolved to expand the use of and safeguard the future use of the Parish Hall.
- 1.3 The project meets the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) eligible 'Regeneration' Definition. ✓
- 1.4 The project has also demonstrated links to the key LIP criteria of meeting elements of the Community Strategy and community consultation. ✓
- 1.5 The applicant has requested **£80,000** of LIP funding, which is 66% of the total capital project costs of £119,500

2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Cabinet...

- 2.1 Approve the application for LIP Funds based upon the information provided in the report.

3. LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

- 3.1 The purpose of this 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 Cabinet. Through this programme resources will be released to improve sites and improve the usability of community facilities and buildings across the Borough.

Background – Application and Applicant

- 3.2 This project has been developed by Sedgefield Town Council, and is located in Sedgefield Village. The Parish Hall was constructed in 1895 with an extension in the mid 1980's, and has been one of the primary centres of village activities.
- 3.3 The project consists of the remedial action required as a result of the acoustic survey carried out as part of the Sedgefield Parish Hall Phase 1 LIP project in July 2007. At present, usage of the Hall is limited to 9 live music or dance functions each year (condition as agreed with neighbouring property and Sedgefield Borough Council Environmental Health Department) due to noise transference and attenuation problems. The survey has identified a series of works that will address these issues. These include:
- Construction of a freestanding wall lining fixed at base and at roof – the length of the main hall (as attached to the adjoining property), which would be resistant to the transmission of low frequency sound.
 - Ceiling and wall absorbers.
 - Works upstairs in the adjoining property to reduce further the noise transference.
 - Noise Limiter device.

The applicant has identified that the impact of having the above work done will be that it should enable the lifting of the noise limitations and all controls on the licence which will then ensure additional use of the Parish Hall, particularly by young people. The applicant has identified a need for DJ/Rapping sessions, regular discos, folk and live music concerts

- 3.4 In addition to the above, a structural survey has also identified major roof and wall problems. These works will be carried out simultaneous to the other building works and will thereby utilise the scaffolding and minimize the associated costs. These works include removing the existing slating and replacing with similar together with associated youth works and addressing the damp proofing/rendering of the outside walls.
- 3.5 The Town Council has also included the installation of solar panels into the project. These will provide hot water to the building in order to ensure supply for the increased usage anticipated in the hall.

- 3.6 It is felt by the applicant that if the above additional works are not carried out prior to the works identified in the acoustic survey then the Town Council may find itself in a position whereby the investment is not safeguarded for future use.

4. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Area Forum 3 has been allocated £532,000 of LIP Capital resources between 2006 and 2009. £177,334 has been allocated for 2006/07 of which £109,861 has been allocated to date to a range of projects. In addition to this a further £177,333 is available within the year 2007/08, of which £77,820 has been allocated.
- 4.2 The applicant has requested **£80,000** of LIP funding, which is 66% of the total capital project costs of £119,500 for the refurbishment work. The remaining capital costs will be funded by the Town Council's own capital funds.
- 4.3 The Town Council will manage and maintain the facility as part of their annual capital budget.

5. CONSULTATIONS

- 5.1 Following initial support from LIP, an acoustic survey was carried out and positive measures were identified that could be taken to address noise limitations, which have been fully supported by the Environmental Health Department of Sedgefield Borough Council. It would seem to be the ideal solution to restrictions that have been placed upon the Parish Hall, which has been prevented from using the building to its full potential and bring it back into use.
- 5.2 The Electoral Reform Services carried out a public referendum in June 2006 to consider the future direction of community provision within Sedgefield Village. A range of options were considered with the favoured one being the refurbishment of the Parish Hall. Discussions have taken place with groups such as W.I. Primary Care Trust, Local Allotment Society Weight Watchers, Youth Council and existing users; all are showing an increased interest in using the facility.
- 5.3 A series of letters of support have been attached with the application. In all cases both agencies and individual groups have highlighted a lack of opportunities due to the noise limitation placed on the building to carry out certain activities.

6. AREA FORUM RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 A positive response was received to the proposed project by the Area 3 Forum at its meeting held on 19th September 2007. The Area Forum agreed to support the progress of this project to the full amount requested.

7. OTHER MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 The application has undergone an appraisal against the Local Improvement Programme criteria. The application has met the key elements of the LIP criteria, and demonstrated links to the Community Strategy priorities.
- 7.2 Planning Permission and Building Regulation consent has been discussed with Planning Services. No written confirmation has been received to date. No funding will be released until appropriate confirmation is received.
- 7.3 Procurement – The funding requested represents a grant to an external organisation. The grant is conditional upon the applicant identifying a full quotation / and or tender process for the works.
- 7.4 Crime and Disorder - In line with the Council's Community Strategy, this project has identified a link with providing activities and support services that hope to result in a fall in crime and anti-social behaviour rates within this community.

8. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There has been no previous consultation or engagement with the Overview and Scrutiny Committees regarding this particular project.

Contact Officer: Linda Goundry
Telephone number: (01388) 824002
Email Address: lgoundry@sedgefield.gov.uk

Ward: Sedgefield

Key Decision Validation: Not applicable

Background Papers:

Internal

- 1 Promotion Of The Regeneration Of The Borough Housing Land Capital Receipts To Support Regeneration And Affordable Housing Provision

June 2005

Examination by Statutory Officers

	Yes	Not Applicable
1. The report has been examined by the Councils Head of the Paid Service or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The content has been examined by the Councils S.151 Officer or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. The content has been examined by the Council's Monitoring Officer or his representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The report has been approved by Management Team	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

This page is intentionally left blank

Item 6

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Council Chamber,
Council Offices,
Spennymoor

Tuesday,
9 October 2007

Time: 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillor A. Gray (Chairman) and

Councillors B.F. Avery J.P, D.R. Brown, V. Chapman, D. Farry,
Mrs. J. Gray, B. Haigh, T. Hogan, Ms. I. Jackson and B.M. Ord

In

Attendance: Councillors G.C. Gray, D.M. Hancock, J.E. Higgin, J.G. Huntington,
Mrs. S. J. Iveson, B. Lamb, A. Smith and T. Ward

Apologies: Councillors T.F. Forrest

SL.12/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Members had no declarations to submit.

SL.13/07 MINUTES
The Minutes of the meeting held on 28th August, 2007 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. (For copy see file of Minutes).

SL.14/07 CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (CRM) UPDATE
Consideration was given to a report of Chief Executive Officer regarding the above. (For copy see file of Minutes).

Jerry Miller, Customer Relations Manager was present at the meeting to update Members on the progress on the roll out of the CRM system since it had gone live in October 2006.

It was explained that a report had been presented to Committee on 26th August, 2006 regarding the roll out of the CRM System across the authority.

Since that time the system had gone live on 5th October, 2006 with 3 service requests. Members were informed that this number had increased, there were now 66 service requests on the CRM system and it had been fully rolled out across Street Scene and Freedom of Information.

It was explained that the ultimate aim of the system was that all contact with the customer would be logged in the CRM system and that the Council would have a single view of the customer and that, regardless of where you live or work, you could transact with your Council at the nearest Council offices.

The Customer Service Manager explained that Sedgefield Borough was ahead of its partners in using the system. The system was realising

benefits including efficiency savings stream lining of services and more accurate information. In addition information could be provided on types of customer contact leading to a better service to the public. Members were informed that customers could access Sedgefield Information Service on the website which provided details on properties including bin collection day, Council Tax, and local Ward representatives .

The Committee was informed that the rollout Plan was on target with the next service to be introduced being Anti-Social Behaviour. Links to the GIS system were being investigated to plot service requests. Once Anti Social Behaviour was on the system future services to be included would then be reviewed. It was noted that Local Government Review could have an impact on the direction the system was to take.

It was explained that the database used in relation to the system was County-wide with information being provided from the electoral registration system.

Developments on the system were tailored to individual Council's requirements but were able to use Best Practice across the partnership.

A query was raised regarding elderly residents and moving of heavy items to the collection point. Reference was also made to house clearances for the elderly and whether this service could be provided. In response it was explained that the Customer Services Team could be contacted to assist in special cases.

During discussion of this item reference was made to charging for special collection services. The Committee was informed that each property was allowed one special collection free per month. Other collections would be chargeable. Alternatively, residents could take household items to the local waste transfer station.

It was suggested that in relation to Waste Permits publicity be given in Inform to raise customer awareness.

It was noted that currently Sedgefield Borough Council was involved in a pilot with Durham County Council to allow for the issue of waste permits from the Green Lane Offices. Members suggested that this could be extended to all Sedgefield Borough Council offices. In response it was explained that this was a pilot scheme and the comment would be taken into account in the evaluation.

Specific reference was made to whether items collected were recycled. In response Members were informed that furniture schemes existed of which customers were informed if information was requested.

AGREED : That the Committee are satisfied with the progress on rolling out the CRM system and a further report be presented to the Committee in six months.

SL.15/07

WORK PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Chairman of the Committee setting out the Committee's current work programme for consideration and review. (For copy see file of Minutes).

It was noted that an item relating to Performance Indicators was to be discussed at the November meeting of the Committee. A training session on Performance Management would be held for all Members of Scrutiny Committees on 31st October, 2007.

RECOMMENDED : That the Committee's Work Programme as outlined the report be agreed.

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 4237 email lwalker@sedgefield.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

Item 7

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL AREA 5 FORUM

Town Council Offices,
School Aycliffe Lane,
Newton Aycliffe

Tuesday,
2 October 2007

Time: 7.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor Mrs. D. Bowman (Chairman) – Sedgefield Borough Council and

Councillor W.M. Blenkinsopp	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor V. Crosby	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor Mrs. L. M.G. Cuthbertson	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor P. Gittins J.P.	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor G.C. Gray	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor Mrs. J. Gray	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor B. Haigh	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor Mrs. S. Haigh	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor Mrs. I. Hewitson	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor T. Hogan	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor Mrs. H.J. Hutchinson	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor Mrs. E.M. Paylor	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor A. Warburton	– Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor S. Bambridge	– Great Aycliffe Town Council
Councillor R. Bowman	– Great Aycliffe Town Council
J.G. Clare	– Greenfield School and Community Arts College
Councillor Mrs. A. Clarke	– Middridge Parish Council
Acting Sergeant J. Turnbull	– Durham Constabulary

Apologies: Councillor Mrs. S.J. Iveson - Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor Mrs. B. A. Clare - Great Aycliffe Town Council

AF(5)7/06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor V. Crosby indicated that he would be declaring a prejudicial interest in Item 6 – Sedgefield Borough Local Improvement Programme – Application – Newton Aycliffe Sports and Social Club as he was a Member of Sedgefield Borough Council Cabinet.

AF(5)8/06 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17th July 2007 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

AF(5)9/06 POLICE REPORT

Acting Sergeant J. Turnbull was present at the meeting to give details of crime figures for the area.

The figures for July and August 2007 were as follows:

<u>Type of Crime:</u>	<u>July:</u>	<u>August:</u>
Total recorded crime	184	175
Total violent crime	46	39
Violence against the Person	44	34
Robbery	2	1
Burglary (Dwelling)	9	3
Burglary (Other)	10	6
Criminal Damage	55	50
Vehicle Crime	7	17
Theft of Vehicle	2	4
Theft from Vehicle	5	13
Shoplifting	14	11
Total Theft	49	64
Rowdy Nuisance Behaviour	143	159

Members requested that for the next meeting of the Forum, details be provided on the number of incidents within the Town Centre and Washington Crescent area.

Discussion was held regarding number of cars parked on the concrete verge along Stephenson Way, Newton Aycliffe. Members questioned whether the drivers of the vehicles were committing an offence by obstructing the public footpath. It was, however, pointed out that the footpath was still wide enough to allow people in wheelchairs and people with pushchairs to pass. Acting Sergeant Turnbull agreed to look into the matter and report back to the next meeting.

AF(5)10/06

COUNTY DURHAM PCT

Concern was expressed that no representative from County Durham PCT was present at the meeting to give an update on health matters. Members of the Forum agreed that a letter should be sent to the PCT requesting representation at future meetings.

AF(5)11/06

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME APPLICATION - NEWTON AYCLIFFE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

NB: In accordance with Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Members' Code of Conduct, Councillor V. Crosby declared a prejudicial interest in the item and left the meeting for the duration of discussion and voting.

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Strategy and Regeneration regarding the above. (For copy see file of Minutes).

Members were reminded that Area 5 Forum had been allocated £1,140,000 of Local Improvement Programme Capital Resources between 2006 and 2009. A total of £380,000 had been allocated to the year 2007/08.

Gary Farley, Malcolm Dawes, Bob Wood and other representatives from the sports club were in attendance to present the application and answer questions.

The project involved the regeneration of the senior football pitch to a standard specified by the Wearside League, creation of a new junior football pitch, provision of a practice net area for the cricket club, relocation of the existing changing rooms and the provision and location of new self-contained changing rooms for two teams plus officials adjacent to the football pitch. It also involved the improvement of the access for disabled spectators and sports people.

The total amount requested was £256,580. It was noted that discussions were taking place regarding the opportunities to attract match funding.

AGREED : That the Forum supports the project.

AF(5)12/06

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 27th November 2007 at 7.00 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 Gillian Garrigan 01388 816166 ext 4240 email ggarrigan@sedgefield.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank