

Item 3

SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL CABINET

Conference Room 1,
Council Offices,
Spennymoor

Thursday,
23 October 2008

Time: 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillor Mrs. A.M. Armstrong (Chairman) and
Councillors Mrs. K. Conroy, A. Hodgson, Mrs. L. Hovvels, J.M. Khan,
D.A. Newell and W. Waters

In Attendance: Councillors V. Chapman, Mrs. P. Crathorne, Mrs. L. M.G. Cuthbertson,
G.C. Gray, B. Haigh, Mrs. S. Haigh, D.M. Hancock, J.E. Higgin, B. Lamb,
Mrs. E.M. Paylor and T. Ward

Apologies: Councillors V. Crosby and Mrs. B. Graham

CAB.53/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Mrs. L. Hovvels indicated that she would be declaring a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 4 – Local Improvement Programme – Update On Current Position And Consideration Of Proposed Projects and Item 6 – Area 3 Forum as she was Chairman of Trimdon Colliery Community Association.

Councillor W. Waters indicated that she would be declaring a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 4 – Local Improvement Programme – Update On Current Position And Consideration Of Proposed Projects as he was a Member of Spennymoor Town Council.

CAB.54/08 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 9th October 2008 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

CAB.55/08 LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME - UPDATE ON PROJECT ACTIVITY AND CONSIDERATION OF PROJECT PROPOSALS (KEY DECISION)

N.B. In accordance with Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Members' Code of Conduct, Councillors Mrs. L. Hovvels and W. Waters declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the above item and left the meeting.

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

Members were reminded that the Local Improvement Programme (LIP) had been oversubscribed across all the Area Forum areas which had resulted in the need to prioritise project activity within the localities to ensure that funding was targeted at projects that would have clear community outcomes.

Consequently over recent weeks discussions had been held with all eligible project applicants to discuss their funding requirements and the Capital Project Team in conjunction with the Council's Management Team had assessed the projects into three main categories – priority schemes, reserve schemes and projects not deemed appropriate for financial support by the Council.

Members' attention was drawn to the table detailed in Appendix 1, which summarised all project recommendations within each Area Forum locality.

It was pointed out that some of the projects contained in Appendix 1 still needed confirmation of some technical issues such as match funding or planning permission considerations.

Members noted that not all LIP monies had been allocated to exact project activity as it was proposed that within Areas 1 and 4 further discussions take place with identified reserve project applicants to assess the accurate picture and a further report focusing purely on those projects be considered at a later date.

Specific reference was made to the proposed approach to contingency planning and risk analysis to ensure deliverability of the programme.

It was also pointed out that given the number of projects involving play and open space improvements, the opportunities to lever in Section 106 monies to assist with the funding of priority LIP projects, should be investigated.

It was reported that where projects were eligible for LIP grant assistance but had received a lower ranking than priority for financial assistance, the Capital Programme Team had expressed a wish to assist the applicants to further develop their project ideas should capacity exist under other external grant programmes such as Lottery Funding and Coalfield Regeneration Trust.

- RESOLVED :*
- 1. That the approach taken to prioritising projects and the decisions set out in Appendix 1 attached to the report, be approved.*
 - 2. That the fluid nature of some projects be acknowledged and the process for reviewing the priority project list to mitigate risks and for implementing the identified contingency process should schemes not proceed due to technical*

issues or identified match funding not being secured, be supported.

3. *That the approach taken in utilising Section 106 monies towards priority LIP projects where appropriate be agreed.*

CAB.56/08 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the following meetings:

Prosperous and Attractive Borough Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 23rd September 2008

Strategic Leadership Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 7th October 2008

(For copies see file of Minutes).

RESOLVED : That the Minutes be received.

CAB.57/08 AREA 3 FORUM

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting held on 17th September 2008 (For copy see file of Minutes).

RESOLVED : That the Minutes be received.

Published on 24th October 2008

The key decision contained in these Minutes will be implemented on Monday 3rd November 2008 unless they are 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

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