

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

AREA 3 – MELBOURNE AREA

Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at Melbourne Sports Park

PRESENT:-

South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC) representatives

Councillor John Harrison (Chair), Councillor Neil Atkin, Councillor Mrs Hilary Coyle, Councillor Jim Hewlett, Councillor Peter Watson.

Allison Thomas (Strategic Director – Service Delivery).
Chris Smith (Communities Manager).
Tom Sloan (Clerk).

Derbyshire County Council (DCC) representatives

Councillor Neil Atkin, Councillor Mrs Linda Chilton.

Derbyshire Police representatives

PC Joe Pilgrim, PCSO Emma Guest.

Parish Council / Meeting representatives

Catherine Blackmore (Barrow Parish Council), Linda Freeman (Weston Parish Council), Alison Hicklin (Barrow Parish Council), Edward Hicklin (Aston Parish Council), Sheila Hicklin (Melbourne Parish Council), Jean Longley (Aston Parish Council), Avril Record (Weston Parish Council), Margaret Sharp (Melbourne Parish Council), David Smith (Melbourne Parish Council), Terry Summerlin (Melbourne Parish Council), Robert Wheat (Stanton by Bridge Parish Meeting).

Members of the public

Ros Baker (SDDC Housing), Eddie Bisknell (Derby Telegraph), Barrie Evans, Elaine Garratt, S Harrison, Andy Heafield, Frank Hughes (Village Voice), Mark Hunt (CVS), Christine Lee, Alison Thornhill.

MA/8

Open meeting

a. Introductions and apologies

Rachel Cheshire, Mike Selby, Michelle Skinner (CVS).

b. Declarations of interest

None.

c. Chair's announcements

Councillor John Harrison updated the meeting on: the provision of recycling and waste collection calendars, the Environmental Education Project giving away free trees and a consultation being undertaken on the Council's Local Green Spaces Development Plan Document.

d. To receive the minutes of the last meeting

On the proposition of David Smith, the minutes were AGREED as a true and correct record with the following amendments: Councillor Neil Atkin reported that income from the craft village would be £500,000 and not £5,000 and Jean Longley clarified that the car parked without tax or an MOT was in Aston, not Melbourne.

MA/9 **Safer Neighbourhood report**

PCSO Emma Guest reported that:

- She had no crime figures to quote from, but all information was distributed via Twitter.
- Parking on the clear way at Elvaston Castle had been monitored and 20 cars issued with a Notice of Intended Prosecution. Some had already received their Fixed Penalty Notice and others were still in the system. The no parking sign was being ignored and the car park not being used.
- Speed checks had been conducted at three locations in Aston on October 3. A total of 11 drivers had been caught speeding and sent advisory letters. The highest recorded speed was 39mph in a 30mph limit. PC Joe Pilgrim added that in the whole of Derbyshire there were only two PCs trained to use a speed gun to issue fines.
- Parking checks at schools had taken place in Aston, Melbourne and Weston.
- Melbourne Wakes had run smoothly. Two juveniles had been referred to the Youth Offending Team for the possession and smoking of cannabis. There was a small amount of trouble, including a car parked on the side of Potter Street which created problems.
- A couple of cannabis warnings had been issued to youths in Melbourne.
- An issue around a footpath at Woodlands Close would end up being a civil matter.

Councillor Mrs Linda Chilton reported her concerns regarding a fence with had been erected on Woodlands blocking access to a public footpath. She was also disappointed that Sgt Graham Summers had not emailed her back on the subject. PCSO Guest replied that Sgt Summers had tasked her with dealing with the incident. No one had come forward to register themselves as a victim and the fence was put back up the same night. However, the fence itself was believed to be illegal and the issue was now a civil matter. Councillor Mrs Chilton read out the following prepared statement from DCC: “Following a local public inquiry convened by the Planning Inspectorate, the legal order recording a public footpath along Woodlands Close and what was previously the westerly boundary of the former agricultural land (now the Kings Croft development) was confirmed. That route is currently obstructed in part but the Council is seeking to engage with Persimmon Homes in the first instance, and will then engage with affected residents of the Kings Croft development, to open up the full length of what is now known as Footpath 40. Also within the Kings Croft development, Persimmon has designated and built a path link which meets Woodlands Close. Although the company had applied to SDDC, as local planning authority, to divert public rights over what is now Footpath 40 onto the path link, SDDC is unable to make a diversion order now that the Kings Croft development has been completed. The Council has spoken with Persimmon and is hoping to meet the company shortly to establish their intentions with regard to the path link.”

A resident reported a break-in at Aston where the keys to two cars – a people carrier and a Porsche – were taken and the cars stolen. The people carrier was found with all the owner’s possessions in it but no one in the village had heard any more. There was plenty of CCTV but the Police had not been to collect it. PC Pilgrim replied that he would look to see who the officer in the case was. A resident added that he knew from experience that the village CCTV was not clear enough to show a number plate.

MA/10 **Communities update**

Chris Smith reported that:

- Safer South Derbyshire was involved with Hate Crime Awareness Week.
- An issue which affected everyone in the District was fraud, particularly online fraud. He explained the service offered by Action Fraud, an organisation set up to help victims and urged people to be wary of anything which appeared to be a scam.
- The Say Something If You See Something child sexual exploitation campaign was being backed by Safer South Derbyshire.
- There was still £4,000 of Safer Neighbourhoods grant funding available. He urged any eligible projects to come forward as funding

would potentially go to another area in South Derbyshire if it went unspent.

Mark Hunt explained the Safer Homes Scheme which was still operating for elderly and vulnerable residents, where the CVS would visit and install home security devices such as spy holes, door chains and window locks.

MA/11 **Local authority issues & public questions**

Allison Thomas reported that:

- She had been brought in to SDDC with a wide remit which brought together all the public facing Council Services.
- Council standards, covering all key services, were available on SDDC's website.
- Arrangements for the public to get in touch had been smartened up. Waste complaints could be logged by calling 01283 595795 or by emailing waste.cleansing@south-derbys.gov.uk.
- The Council had been working hard to make sure accurate information regarding Christmas waste collections was communicated to residents. The Melbourne area would be affected over Christmas with how bank holidays fell. Plans were being drawn up for additional capacity at bring sites at Melbourne, Midway, Ticknall and Willington. Mrs Thomas was in negotiations with staff at the Council's Depot to lay on extra shifts over Christmas to empty litter and dog bins.
- SDDC wanted to launch a collaborative campaign across the District entitled Litter Heroes to make South Derbyshire a clean and environmentally friendly place to live, work and visit.

A resident asked if funding was available to repair play equipment. Mrs Thomas confirmed that there was.

Councillor Harrison reported that recycling was becoming a more difficult proposition as China was no longer taking certain types of plastic and Malaysia and Vietnam were threatening to follow suit. Mrs Thomas replied that she had set up SDDC's first environmental sustainability group. Single use plastics were a key issue and black plastics were an issue at a national level.

A resident complained about parking on the road at No 8, Railway Bridge Cottages in Swarkestone Road. Could anything be done about it as she felt it was dangerous? Councillor Neil Atkin suggested Weston Parish Council liaise with DCC Highways over the issue.

A member of the public asked when the Community Partnership Scheme funding awards would be announced. Mr Smith replied that the panel would meet on October 31. There had been 11 or 12 applications and they

would go to the Housing and Community Services Committee on November 22.

ACTION: Chris Smith to contact Frank Hughes with the date of the Community Partnership Scheme second phase

MA/12 **Presentation on local community initiative**

Christine Lee and Alison Thornhill from Melbourne Community Care explained the service offered by the charity. There had been an increase in demand for care services and especially transport at a local level. To tackle loneliness, a monthly event entitled Coffee and Company had been set up. Mr Smith suggested the charity speak to Ian Hey at SDDC to access additional funding and Shaun Woodcock in the Council's Active Communities and Health Team. He also suggested getting involved in Liberation Day in an attempt to spread its messages beyond residents in the urban part of South Derbyshire.

MA/13 **Summary of any agreed priorities / actions**

ACTION: Chris Smith to contact Frank Hughes with the date of the Community Partnership Scheme second phase

MA/14 **Close and date of next meeting**

Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at Melbourne Sports Park.

Councillor John Harrison
CHAIRMAN

The meeting terminated at 7.42pm.