

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

NEWHALL

17th July 2013

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Mrs. Mead (Chairman) and Councillors Bambrick, Dunn, Richards and Wilkins.

F. McArdle (Chief Executive) and D. Townsend (Democratic Services Officer).

In attendance

Councillor Mulgrew.

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

Councillors Bambrick and Dunn.

G. Spencer (Forum Liaison Officer).

Members of the Public

P. Bambrick, S. Brooks, P. Foy, C. Gillespie, G. Hall, C. Hobson, H. Hobson, A. Jones, M. Lacey, M. Lunn, C. Maddock, M. Richards, R. Trim Reverend J. Whitehead and D. Woods.

NA/1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

It was noted that Councillor Mrs. Mead had been appointed Chairman of the Newhall Area Forum at the Annual Council Meeting.

NA/2. **APOLOGY**

An apology for absence from the meeting was received from R. House.

NA/3. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

It was agreed that Councillor Richards be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Newhall Area Forum for the ensuing year.

NA/4. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Newhall Area Forum held on 29th January 2013, were noted.

NA/5. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Chairman reviewed those items raised at the last Meeting and reported the progress made in each case.

NA/6. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

It was asked why the Festival of Leisure was always held on Gresley Park. The Chief Executive responded that it was due to the size and location of the park and the availability of parking.

It was reported that a resident had recently visited Sainsbury's Local in Newhall, and noticed the contractor emptying one of the recycling bins. He added that the contractor emptied the bin, took items out, and left them adjacent to the bin.

The Chief Executive agreed to look into this matter and report back to the next Meeting.

It was noticed that land outside Swadlincote Library was overgrown with weeds, and asked if this could be maintained.

The Chief Executive and Forum Liaison Officer agreed to make enquiries to see whose responsibility this was.

It was asked if the recycling bins outside Sainsbury's Local were cleaned out. The Chief Executive responded that there was a contract in place to do this.

It was asked when the existing footpaths would be put back and new ones developed on the new Golf Course in Swadlincote. The Chief Executive responded that the driving range was nearly completed, and when this was fenced, footpaths would be reinstated. He added that a lot of work was currently being done at the site.

It was noted that the Golf Course looked excellent. However, the 3 metre greenway had not been suitable for use, due to the adverse weather, and it was asked if there were any plans for tarmac or hardcore to be installed. The Chief Executive responded that he was unaware of the plans for this area, however, further work was currently taking place.

It was reported that the site of Sainsbury's Local in Newhall was very untidy due to litter etc, and asked if the business could be asked to maintain it themselves. In addition landscaping was also very overgrown.

The Chief Executive responded that the District Council did have success in asking companies to take responsibility for their site and would attempt to contact Sainsbury's to request this.

It was reported that weeds in the gullies and on paths were very bad, particularly in Newhall and Midway. The Chief Executive responded that the weather had not helped, but there had been no reduction in service in this area.

The Chief Executive agreed to look into providing some publicity for litter picking etc in this area.

It was asked, when the new recycling contract commenced, would there still be a requirement for recycling sites. The Chief Executive responded that a gradual reduction would be considered following the successful introduction of the new contract.

It was reported that there had been sightings of rats behind the railings at William Allitt School, adjacent to the car park.

Councillor Mrs. Mead agreed to report this to the School.

A general update was requested on the Golf Course. The Chief Executive replied that UK Coal were still managing the site, and he had regular Meetings at the site, and was constantly updated with information. It was hoped that an announcement was imminent that the driving range buildings would soon be started. He added that there was planning permission for 60 bedroom hotel, but viability would depend on the golf course. 3 hotel companies had expressed interest in this site, and further information might be known by the end of the summer.

It was requested if Newhall could have a Remembrance Day Parade. It was pointed out that Newhall Church did hold a Remembrance Service.

The Chief Executive agreed to contact the Royal British Legion and would respond directly to local Ward Members and Members of Derbyshire County Council.

It was reported that the hedge adjacent to the B535 needed cutting back and weeds spraying.

The Chief Executive agreed to look into this matter.

It was reported that the filter light on the traffic lights on the A444 towards Newhall from Castle Gresley did not come on.

The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this.

It was asked if an update could be provided on the footpath at the former Horse and Jockey Public House site, and asked that this be resolved as soon as possible.

The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this.

It was asked if anyone in the District Council had any historic photographs of Newhall Park. It was suggested that the Showman's Guild might have some further information. It was also pointed out that this was not a Park, but a Recreation Ground.

NA/7. **DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES**

The Chief Executive reported that there was funding in place to improve the recreation area at Chestnut Avenue. There would be 2 football pitches and changing rooms. The multi-use games area and the car park would also be improved. Councillor Mulgrew responded that there had been a campaign to do this work for many years, and on behalf of Midway would like thank the Chief Executive for his work in this area. The Chief Executive responded that there would be some development on part of this site and would bring the plans to the next Meeting.

NA/8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next Meeting to be confirmed in due course.

MRS. J. MEAD

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8.10 p.m.