

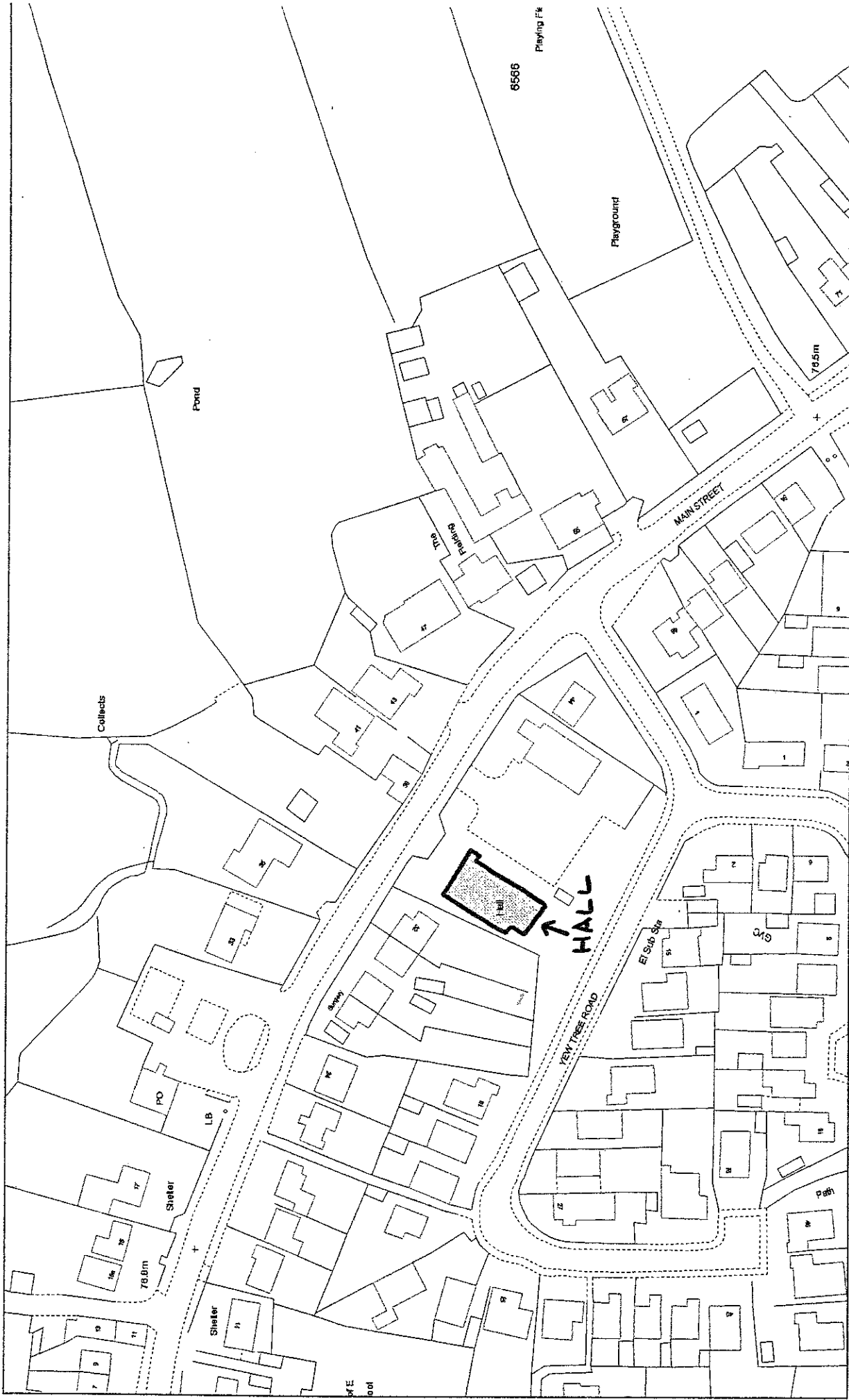
LINTON AREA MEETING

**AGENDA
AND
REPORTS**

THURSDAY, 24TH JANUARY 2002

**Rosliston Village Hall,
Main Street,
ROSLISTON**

7.00 p.m.



South Derbyshire District Council

Estates Management

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SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

LINTON AREA MEETING

**(Covering Castle Gresley, Cauldwell, Coton-in-the-Elms, Linton,
Lullington, Netherseal, Overseal, Rosliston and Walton-on-Trent)**

**Meeting to be held at
Rosliston Village Hall,
Main Street,
Rosliston
on Thursday, 24th January 2002
at 7.00 p.m.**

(Light Refreshments will be available at 6.30 p.m.)

Members:

District Councillors: Councillor Southern (Chair) and Councillors Douglas, Knight, Lauro and Shaw.

County Councillor: Councillor Mrs. Lauro (Vice-Chair).



BUSINESS

Ordinary Business

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To note the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th November 2001 (copy herewith).
3. Chair's Announcements (if any).
4. Report back on issues raised at the last Meeting.
5. Public Question time and suggestions for future local discussion items.
6. Date of Next Meeting – Thursday, 9th May 2002 at Overseal Village Hall.

Community Items

7. Budget Consultation.

LINTON AREA MEETING

7th November 2001

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Southern (Chair) and Councillor Lauro.
S. Whiles (Head of Community Services), J. Hansed (Technical Services Manager), N. Betteridge (Members' Services) and P. Spencer (Helpdesk).

County Council Representative

Councillor Mrs Lauro (Vice-Chair).

Derbyshire Constabulary

W.P.C. D. Hornblower.

Parish Council/Meeting Representatives

B. Laxton (Castle Gresley Parish Council), J. Blythe and S. Lee (Linton Parish Council), C. Tagg (Netherseal Parish Council), G. Edwards (Overseal Parish Council), V. Taylor (Walton-on-Trent Parish Council) and D. Eaton (Caldwell Parish Meeting).

Members of the Public

A. Cook, L. Culpan, P. Ellis, Dr. T. Elson and R. Kirkland.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from District Councillors Douglas and Knight and R. Palmer (Linton Parish Council).

LA/12. **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 31st July 2001 were noted.

LA/13. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

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

With regard to the travellers on land at Caldwell Lane, Linton, it was reported that the site had been monitored and substantial works may be necessary. Residents expressed concern at the types of substances which had been deposited on the land when it was formerly a refuse amenity site.

With regard to the cutting back of the hedgerow on Caldwell Lane, County Councillor Mrs. Lauro advised that she had pursued this matter with the County Highways Authority and the hedgerow had been cut. However, a resident considered additional cutting was required and County Councillor Mrs. Lauro agreed to pursue this matter further.

LA/14. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE LOCAL DISCUSSION ITEMS

A resident expressed concern at the parking of vehicles on Elmslea Avenue, Coton-in-the-Elms, particularly during school hours. Problems were caused with vehicles obstructing the driveways of properties and W.P.C. Hornblower advised that this had already been noted by the police. Police Officers had recently been instructed to monitor the situation closely and the Road Safety Department of the County Council was currently investigating the matter in conjunction with the school. The school may be used as part of a pilot scheme with a view to alleviating the problems currently experienced. A resident advised that the County Highways Authority had estimated that the imposition of white advisory lines on the highway at the end of driveways would cost in the sum of approximately £80 for each property but further problems may then be caused by the enforcement arising from this. It was noted that the school had forwarded newsletters to parents on the matter and had also erected notices.

Residents expressed concern at the speed of vehicles travelling along Rosliston Lane, which was currently a derestricted highway. County Councillor Mrs. Lauro agreed to pursue the matter with the County Highways Authority with a view to identifying any measures to improve the situation. However, she was not particularly optimistic that measures would be considered necessary and W.P.C. Hornblower advised that from the experience of the police, local authorities tended to prioritise resources to traffic calming schemes within urban areas.

A representative of Walton-on-Trent Parish Council referred to the considerable number of heavy goods vehicles travelling along the lanes within the vicinity of the village and enquired as to any possible measures to prevent such usage. It was noted that there were weight limits of three tonnes on the Bailey Bridge and seven tonnes on the lanes and it was often necessary for vehicles to reverse after attempting to cross the Bailey Bridge. Representatives of other adjoining parishes also claimed to be affected by this matter and County Councillor Mrs. Lauro agreed to pursue any possible measures, including an increase in the level of signage.

A resident considered that the villages were suffering continually from the closure of local amenities such as petrol stations and post offices. It was claimed that these closures should encourage such provision as a footpath from Rosliston to Coton-in-the-Elms, which had been raised at a previous Area Meeting. County Councillor Mrs. Lauro agreed to request an officer of the County Council to attend the next Area Meeting to discuss the provision of footpaths. With regard to the closure of post offices, it was noted that in many cases the District Council offered rate relief for such a facility.

LA/15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next Area Meeting would be held at Rosliston Village Hall on Thursday 24th January 2002 at 7.00 p.m.

LA/16. FLY-TIPPING

Mr. J. Hansed, Technical Services Manager at the District Council, made a presentation on this matter. He advised that during the previous few years, fly-tipping activities had increased and in 2000/01, 233 occurrences had

been recorded. Associated costs of clearing the tipped material had also increased and for 2000/01, costs were in excess of £21,000. In this regard it was noted that the considerable increase in costs related mainly to commercial tipping which may be due to the increasing cost of landfill .

The areas affected most throughout the District included Linton and Mr. Hansed advised that the District Council was responsible for the removal of tipped material from roads, verges and open spaces. However, the District Council was not responsible for removing materials from private land, in which case the Environmental Health Department may be able to order the removal where appropriate, and recharge accordingly. Mr. Hansed referred to the recent Best Value Review "Cleansing the Environment", on which Parish Councils had been consulted and had expressed dissatisfaction with the District Council's response to fly-tipping activities.

In comparison to other similar Authorities, this Council's costs were similar. With effect from 3rd December 2001, the District Council was to introduce a hit squad called "The Clean Team" to concentrate on littered areas. A 24 hour free phone number would be available and it was hoped to improve the response time accordingly. The prosecution of offenders was discussed and the associated need for evidence and it was advised that at least one independent witness was required to provide evidence to a court.

Residents took the opportunity to ask several questions to Mr. Hansed on various matters. Residents were reminded that the mobile disposal facility was terminated as part of the budget cuts in connection with the District Council's financial crisis in 1999/2000. A charge was now made for collection of bulky waste from properties and it was still possible for Parish Councils to meet the cost of a mobile facility within the Parish. With regard to the provision of additional bins in connection with dog fouling, Mr. Hansed advised that at the present time, no more litter bins or dog fouling bins were available due to the financial restrictions, but it may be possible to consider any relocations as appropriate. Mr. Hansed advised that the average cost of clearing a fly-tipping occurrence was approximately £100 which was considered very reasonable by several residents. The Chair advised that several reports had appeared in the media during the last year regarding fly-tipping and the District Council's Dog Warden also undertook some educational work. The Clean Team facility would also be the subject of a press release shortly.

LA/17. **CRIME AND DISORDER INITIATIVES**

Sandra Whiles, the District Council's Head of Community Services, referred to a Teamwork newsletter which had been circulated to attendees. This outlined the provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, which required the Council and the Police to work together with the Police Authority, Probation Service, Health Authority and other organisations set down by the Secretary of State in order to reduce crime and disorder in South Derbyshire. The Teamwork newsletter provided details of a recent audit carried out on crime and disorder in the District, which highlighted that overall, South Derbyshire was a safe place in which to live and work. Derbyshire had the second lowest recorded crime rate in the East Midlands of 84 crimes per 1000 population in 2000/01 and it was noted that in South Derbyshire, the recorded figure was 54 crimes per 1,000 population. The information gathered outlined in the Teamwork document prepared by the

South Derbyshire Crime and Disorder Partnership was to be utilised to set priorities for the types of crime to be tackled and in which particular order.

The Chair advised that the District Council was one of only a few Authorities in the country to have the benefit of the secondment of a Police Sergeant based at their Offices to work on crime and disorder. The District Council had also recently been awarded a grant of approximately £70,000 towards action on drugs, together with additional funds of approximately £20,000 towards other areas of work.

R W SOUTHERN

CHAIR

The meeting terminated at 8.25 p.m.

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

LINTON AREA MEETING

(Covering Castle Gresley, Caldwell, Coton-in-the-Elms, Linton,
Lullington, Netherseal, Overseal, Rosliston and Walton-on-Trent)

Thursday, 24th January 2002

REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING

At the last meeting held on 7th November 2001 at Coton-in-the-Elms Primary School, a number of issues were raised. These issues are listed below, together with progress made to date:-

ISSUES	PROGRESS	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER
1. Cutting of hedgerow on Caldwell Lane	Report to be submitted to the Meeting.	County Councillor Mrs. Lauro
2. Speed of vehicles of travelling along Rosliston Lane.	Report to be submitted to the Meeting.	County Councillor Mrs. Lauro
3. Weight limits – Walton-on-Trent	Report to be submitted to the Meeting.	County Councillor Mrs. Lauro
4. Provision of footways.	Officer of the County Highways Authority to attend the next Area Meeting.	County Councillor Mrs. Lauro

BUDGET CONSULTATION

This meeting includes a presentation by the Council's Finance Services Manager on the Council Budget Plan for 2002/3. Clearly, like most over Council's South Derbyshire needs to work within tight spending constraints. It is therefore essential that the Council looks at how it makes the best use of the limited resources available to it.

In the case of South Derbyshire, the Financial Crisis of only 2 years ago raised further the awareness of local people of Council Finances and the need to ensure that they are managed soundly.

The presentation will update the area meeting on the considerable work undertaken to date to stabilise the Council's financial position and how this will affect future spending plans.

It also aims to provide an insight into the constraints that affect future spending plans and how the Council tries to balance the demands for new spending against the resources that it has available.

This is very much the first public consultation on Council budget proposals. It is hoped that as the year progresses there will be more opportunities for those attending area meetings to put forward their priorities for future Council Spending. Indeed initial consultation on the next year's budget (2003/4) is scheduled for the summer of 2002.

The results of this current consultation exercise will be reported to the Council's Scrutiny Committee that has been set up to examine in detail council spending proposals before final proposals are drawn up by the Council's Finance & Management Committee.

Terry Neaves
Chief Finance Officer
January 2002

