

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

LINTON

10th November 2010

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Wheeler (Chairman), Councillor Jones (Vice-Chairman) and Timms.

F. McArdle (Chief Executive), P. Spencer (Democratic Services) and C. Lukaszewicz (Helpdesk).

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

Councillors Jones and Lacey.

Paul Jameson (Democratic Services).

Derbyshire Constabulary Representative

Sergeant J. Thompson.

Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service

S. Fairchild and G. Tomlinson.

Census 2011

H. Bralesford.

Parish Council/Meeting Representatives

J. Pallett (Castle Gresley Parish Council), A. Lees (Coton-in-the-Elms Parish Council), J. Powell (Linton Parish Council), P. McGibbon (Netherseal Parish Council) and S. Jones (Overseal Parish Council).

Members of the Public

M. Hall, Mrs. J. Nicklin and O. Pallett.

LA/10. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from H. Wheeler M.P., T. Elson, S. Jackson, P. Marbrow and Mr. & Mrs. Taylor.

LA/11. **POLICE ISSUES**

Sergeant Thompson advised that he had recently transferred to the area from Buxton, replacing Sergeant Pitt. The Officer referred to key actions taken in the area to target anti-social behaviour in Woodville Road, Overseal also reporting on the arrest of an individual causing damage to motor vehicles and

the increased patrols in Castle Gresley to tackle anti-social behaviour. Comparative crime statistics for the period July to September were provided, with specific reports on burglary, robbery, vehicle crime, violent crime and anti-social behaviour. A further update was given on the figures for October. The Officer also reported the trend of theft in rural areas and the potential for criminals to travel into South Derbyshire from other areas.

A resident questioned whether there was a rural alert system. The Officer explained his knowledge of other similar schemes elsewhere in the County. It was confirmed that the next Safer Neighbourhood Meeting would be held at 6.30 p.m. on Monday, 13th December 2010 at Coton-in-the-Elms Village Hall.

A resident referred to people collecting scrap items. Vehicle registration details had been passed to the Constabulary, as it was understood that there was only one such vehicle that was licensed for waste transfer.

The Area Forum welcomed Sergeant Thompson to the area and recorded its thanks to Sergeant Nick Pitt for his work.

LA/12. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman reported that the Communications Team had circulated a questionnaire, which sought public feedback on the services that the District Council provided. Residents were asked to either complete the questionnaire and leave it on the Helpdesk after the Meeting, or to return it in the freepost envelope provided.

LA/13. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Linton Area Forum held on 14th July 2010 were noted, subject to an amendment in the list of those present to Mr. P. Marbrow.

LA/14. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

A report had been circulated, which gave an update on the issues raised at the previous Meeting. With regard to the former Band Room in Coton-in-the-Elms, it was noted that rubbish was still being deposited on this site periodically. There were also flooding problems at times. It was confirmed that planning consent had been secured for this site and it was due to be sold by auction. **It was requested that the Clean Team undertake a further visit to tidy the site.**

LA/15. **DERBYSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – SERVICE PLAN CONSULTATION**

A presentation was made by Simon Fairchild on the Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service Plan for the period 2011-2014. Information had been circulated for residents to read and feedback was sought through a questionnaire contained in the document. Mr. Fairchild explained how the role of the Service had been expanded in recent years. He drew residents' attention to the Fire and Rescue Service's vision and a diagram, which gave

information on the Fire Authority's expenditure and funding sources. The document included the proposals for effective service delivery.

Mr. Fairchild explained how the Comprehensive Spending Review would impact on Fire Service budgets. He confirmed that Swadlincote was now a full time fire station and gave examples of specific services provided including the Swift Water Team and Major Rescue Team. The Officer then spoke about the challenge process used when automatic fire alarms were sounded and about the partnership working undertaken.

It was questioned whether training was still provided for industrial fire teams. This now presented a conflict of interest and had ceased as the Fire Service had an enforcement role. The representatives of the Fire and Rescue Service were thanked for the presentation.

LA/16. **CENSUS PRESENTATION**

Helen Bralesford from the Office of National Statistics advised those present that the next Census would take place on 27th March 2011. She gave background information on the Census, which was an account/estimate of the whole population, and had happened every 10 years, since 1801.

She provided details of who used the Census information, and the methods in which they attempted to contact the whole population, including hard to reach groups. There was currently an address register being completed, which would be used for the delivery of questionnaires to every address in the United Kingdom. These would be delivered from 27th March 2011, and residents would have ten days to return the form. Once all questionnaires were completed Census information would be provided.

She confirmed that completing a Census form was fairly straightforward, and usually took around 10 minutes. She also assured those present that the Census information was never shared, and was totally confidential. It was used to produce statistics, kept confidential for 100 years, then was released.

She added that help would be available for anyone unable to complete the form. She asked that those members of the public who were able, assist vulnerable people and hard to reach groups. She added that further information could be found via the website 2011.census.gov.uk.

Further information was sought about the postal arrangements, data protection and whether staff were required to have CRB checks. Responses were provided to each of the questions raised.

LA/17. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

A resident reminded of the ongoing concerns about the condition of a footway in Coton Park, Linton, leading to the recreation ground. The Local County Councillor was thanked for his assistance to date and it was suggested that this matter be pursued at the Linton Parish Council Meeting.

LA/18. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Linton Area Forum would be held on Wednesday, 26th January 2011 at the Coton-in-the-Elms Community Centre.

R. WHEELER

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8.00 p.m.