

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

NEWHALL

14th November 2013

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

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

K. Stackhouse (Director of Finance and Corporate Services) and S. Winfield (Safer South Derbyshire Partnership).

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

Councillors Bambrick and Dunn.

P Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

Members of the Public

M. Richards, H. Hobson, C. Hobson, P. Bambrick, H. Kreft, R. House, G. Hall, P. Woods, C. Maddock, R. Foster, J. Foster, M. Lacey, R. Trim and C. Gillespie.

NA/8. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence for the meeting was received from Councillor Pearson and P. Handley, L. Pardner and A. Argent.

NA/9. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

NA/10. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Draft Local Plan (Part 1) consultation events - The consultation period doesn't close until Friday 15th November. Comments can be made by contacting the Planning Policy Team at SDDC.

Recycling Bins - Lots of compliments received by the council on the new recycling bins.

Fire Service Consultation – Running until 23rd of December. All information is available at www.derbys-fire.gov.uk The proposals will have an impact on Newhall and Swadlincote as it will change Swadlincote station to a retained service rather than full time as it is currently. There is a consultation day at the

Delph in Swadlincote Town Centre on Friday 15th November between 9 am and 4 pm. There will be the opportunity to discuss the proposed transformation of the Service and to complete a consultation survey.

Ash Dieback update – The Chairman updated the group.

Councillor Wilkins raised that it was very important for people to comment on the draft local plan as this determines the shape of South Derbyshire for the next 15 years.

Councillor Wilkins commented that the majority of recycling centres would now be removed following the introduction of the new plastics collection.

Councillor Richards urged residents to attend the consultation day for Derbyshire Fire and Rescue.

NA/11. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Newhall Area Forum held on 17th July 2013 were noted. B Woods incorrectly noted as D. Woods. The B535 should be the B5353.

NA/12. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

Item 5. It was raised that when waiting at the lights in the middle of the road to turn right towards Newhall, on more than one occasion traffic coming from Newhall commences to turn out onto the A444.

Forum Liaison Officer to look into this and report back at a future meeting.

NA/12. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

Resident raised that the hedge alongside the B5353 requires cutting back before it gets out of hand. Councillor Richards raised that the hedge is owned by different organisations and a logical approach would be for each to cut the whole hedge on a rota system. Councillor Bambrick discussed the ownership of the hedge.

The Forum Liaison Officer updated the group on the footpath adjacent to the former Horse and Jockey pub. A proposal was put forward to have the footpath added to the Definitive Map & Statement and, if successful, the footpath would have to be reinstated. Objections were received during the Public Notice period which were not withdrawn. As such, DCC are now legally required to prepare and submit a case to the Planning Inspectorate for an independent decision to be made. Legal department advised that – given existing workloads and other cases being ahead of this one in the queue – it is unlikely that this case will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate before June/July 2014. Councillor Richards raised concerns that this matter had now been going on for in excess of 8yrs; he made reference to the '11 year rule' and questioned whether the

landowner could invoke this, claim he has maintained the land for the required period of time and therefore make a case for the footpath not to be reinstated.

Councillor Mulgrew raised that the wooded area up the hill from Garden King was very overgrown. Buses have to use the middle of the road to avoid overhanging branches. Resident raised that Japanese Knotweed was encroaching onto his garden from this wood. A discussion took place within the group as to the ownership of the wooded area.

Resident raised that 3 years ago enquires were made to the County Council about land at Plummer Road. Advised it would be cleaned up and sold but this land is still derelict, littered with rubbish, damaged and missing manholes.

Councillor Dunn to make enquiries with County Council and report back to a future meeting.

Resident raised that a property adjacent to the Old Post on Main Street, Newhall was finally being renovated and makes a difference to the area. The Spread Eagle pub on Oversetts Road has been demolished.

Resident raised that lights at the civic amenity site have again been on all night. Enquiries had been made with the County Council but no response received to-date.

The road surface through Newhall was raised as an issue between the Post Office and the Social Club. Councillor Bambrick confirmed that a programme of works was on-going along this stretch of road.

Resident issued thanks to the Council for the autumn flowers and crocuses.

NA/14 **COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES**

It was raised that the wall along the A5111 is dangerous, sections are rotten between the top of Wood Lane to Hillcrest. A discussion took place as to the ownership of the wall.

It was raised that a footpath from the Royal Oak pub heading towards Swadlincote on the South side is in a bad state of repair.

Forum Liaison Officer to make enquiries and report back to a future meeting.

NA/15 **DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES**

Resident thanked the Council for the new recycling system.

Resident enquired whether the shops on the Swadlincote Delph were to be demolished and whether the old tram sheds area was to be developed.

Resident raised that enquiries were made with the District Council on an untidy area of land. He was advised to fill out a form on the website. Resident expressed disappointment and felt there had been a reduction in service.

Director of Finance and Corporate Services to make investigations and report back at a future meeting.

NA/16 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

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

MRS J MEAD

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8.10 pm