

## **SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM MEETING**

### **LINTON – AREA 6**

**Meeting Minutes – September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Rosliston Forestry Centre**

#### **PRESENT: -**

##### **South Derbyshire District Council Representatives**

Councillor Alistar Tilley (Chair), Councillor Amy Wheelton, Councillor Gareth Jones  
Councillor Daniel Pegg

Heidi McDougall – Strategic Director, Chris Smith – Communities Team Manager  
Paige Robinson – Communities Team Service Assistant, Max Boyce – Community  
Safety Enforcement Officer

##### **Derbyshire County Council Representatives**

N/A

##### **Derbyshire Police Representatives**

Inspector Mike Sisman, Sgt Taj Nizzer, PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite  
PCSO Andrea Thompson, PCSO Kieran Bell, PC Shaun Murray

##### **Members of the Public**

Eddie Biskell, J Hale, M Hale

##### **Parish Council/Meeting Representatives**

Adrian Moore – CVS, Ann Hughes – Overseal Parish Council, Julianne Reynolds –  
Netherseal Parish Council, Avril Wing – Netherseal Parish Council, Steve Sharp –  
Overseal Parish Council, Kevin Tizzard – Linton Parish Council, Paul Marbrow –  
Rosliston Parish Council, Stephanie Marbrow – Rosliston Parish Council

##### **L/A 1. Open Meeting**

**a) Introductions and Housekeeping**

**b) Apologies;** Councillor Stuart Swann

**c) Chair's Announcements**



## **Free Tree Scheme (Parks and Green Spaces)**

The details for the Councils Free Tree Scheme are currently being finalised. Anyone interested will be able to apply online for up to two trees in their garden, whilst organisations can apply for up to ten. The choice of tree species will be confirmed at the start of October, at which point you will be able to make an application online via the Councils Website. The closing date is the end of October.

## **Council Information**

There are a variety of Council and Partner information leaflets at the back of the room, by the signing in sheet, so please have a look and help yourselves on your way out.

## **New Chairs Charity**

The new Chair of the Council Sean Bambrick has chosen Miles for Smiles as his chosen charity for this year. The Charity's mission is to relieve the needs of people with life limiting or life changing health conditions.

The Charity provides days out and mini breaks to individuals in need, to help enhance their quality of life.

## **d) To Receive the Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes were received as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

## **e) Matters Arising from the Last Minutes**

No matters raised from the last minutes.

## **L/A 2. Police Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) Report and Police Q&A**

### **Since the last meeting:**

The Rural Crime Team are carrying out frequent visits across Linton, Netherseal and Overseal. The current police priorities across South Derbyshire are burglary, robbery, and domestic abuse. Both burglary and robbery are low but domestic abuse rates are quite high, so is their highest priority. There has recently been new staff recruited to the SNT, so the team is now fully staffed. Funding has also allowed for each officer to have laptops which helps save paper and time. The police have done a lot of cross-border work with other police forces such as Leicestershire.

- Our communities remain concerned about the impact speeding has and we encourage anyone that is interested in forming or joining a Community Speed Watch group. Currently there are active CSW teams in Coton-in-the-Elms and Overseal with Walton on Trent becoming active in a few weeks' time. Any further details required then please get in touch with your SNT.



- HGV's breaching the weight restrictions has been an issue, this is currently a Neighbourhood Priority for Police and Partners to try to resolve. PCSO Thompson has spoken to 47 haulage companies since last Forum. From the 47, 16 had legitimate reasons to be driving within the weight restricted area.

### August Speed results –

#### **a) Coalpit lane:**

1:15pm – 2:00pm

- 1) 68 Cars checked = 4 Speeders
- 2) 1 HGV – Transport Manager contacted

#### **b) Castle Gresley:**

2:10pm – 2:40pm

- 1) 80 cars checked = 1 Speeder
- 2) No HGVs

#### **c) Walton on Trent:**

2:50pm – 3:20pm

- 1) 100 cars checked = no speeders
- 2) 2 HGV's

### September Speed results –

#### **a) Coalpit Lane:**

09:00am – 09:30am

- 1) 50 cars = no speeders
- 2) No HGV's

3:45pm – 4:06pm

- 3) 55 cars = no speeders
- 4) No HGV's

08:05am – 08:55am

- 5) 77 cars = 5 speeders
- 6) 2 HGV's

#### **b) Rosliston Friday:**

08:00am – 08:50am

- 1) 72 cars = 5 speeders (*three from the village*)
- 2) 8 HGV's/tractors – all legitimate

- Most of the HGV's breaching the weight restriction are national companies who may never return to the location again so moving forward we will stop this method and focus resources on enforcing breaches when we complete checks/patrols. Whilst this remains an issue any long-term action/changes would sit with Derbyshire County



Council, and we would urge you to liaise with your local District and County Councillors with a view of taking further action.

### **INTELLIGENCE LED – ENFORCEMENT PRIORITIES**

- SNT have found and recovered approximately 15 stolen vehicles across Swadlincote areas and have seized numerous vehicles relating to no insurance and no licence offences.
- A warrant was executed at Princess Avenue, Linton – and a 28year old male was arrested and a large Cannabis grow with a street value close to half a million pounds was found. The electricity was bypassed from a different location, a neighbouring garden had to be dug up before the property was made safe.
- A 37-year-old woman also from Linton has recently been issued with a Dog Control Order after reports of a person being bitten. The control order will have strict conditions in place to prevent further issues in the community.

### **COURT UPDATES**

- A male from Coton Park Linton has been convicted at court for driving whilst under the influence of alcohol and for driving with no insurance, he received a 36-month disqualification from driving and a £133 in court costs.  
We engage regularly with schools and Nursery schools encouraging them to speak and engage with us conduct talks.
- **Drakelow:** We have attended the newly formed Drakelow Parish meetings at Stapenhill following some issues caused from youths crossing the border. Joint working will continue should further ASB occur.
- Kieran and Andrea have been introducing themselves to new residents at Drakelow, offering crime prevention advice, engagement and signing up residents to Derbyshire Alert along with working with Housing associations and partner agencies to tackle a few issues.

### **Q&A**

1. A resident questioned how many of the 47 HGVs were prosecuted as this is an ongoing issue within the local area.

The police informed that none were prosecuted but if they keep going through then they will be prosecuted. The police go as much as they can but can't be there 24/7 but if they are seen, they will be dealt with. A lot of work is being done with local councils about this issue. However, the same driver is almost never seen twice.

2. The police were praised for their work as many people are pleased about the level of policing within the area. An issue was then raised regarding some of the 30mph signs being faint or missing so queried if the county council can replace these signs on Coton road and Rosliston Road.

**ACTION: Contact to be made with DCC regarding faint 30mph signs.**



3. A question was asked about crime stats as they no longer get them at Parish Council meetings like they used to.

If people are interested in crime stats, then they can email their local PCSO about them since they can't always be at meetings and don't always have the time to be in the office making the reports. They are also available via <https://www.police.uk/>.

4. Some concerns were brought up regarding a lack of footpath at Walton Road in Drakelow, so pedestrians are having to walk in the road. According to the resident, there used to be a footpath there but due to roadworks, the path was flattened and now isn't visible.

Councillor Amy Wheelton informed residents that footpaths and sustainable transport (buses, footpaths) are a Derbyshire and Staffordshire County Council matter, however the District Council planning department is working with the County Councils and developers looking at solutions.

The Police are also aware of the issue since they know it is a road used by children getting to and from school so could be a potential risk, the police will visit the local primary school and distribute high vis items to help make them seen at night.

**ACTION: Police to visit Drakelow School and give out high vis items**

**ACTION: Amy Wheelton to provide update on the situation of Walton Road.**

### L/A 3. South Derbyshire Community Safety Partnership/ Safer Neighbourhood Grants Update

#### Safer Homes Service

South Derbyshire CVS have produced a new leaflet for the Safer Homes service, a supply of these can be found on the signing in table at the back.

The service can improve the security of people's homes through a free crime prevention survey and the fitting of free security items. Victims of crime, vulnerable people and the over 60s can access the scheme. Self-referrals are accepted. Contact details and how to refer are included on the leaflet.

281 properties were secured in South Derbyshire in 2022/23 and 90 referrals were received in Q1 of this year.

In June the Town Centre Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) was re-introduced, this gives police and Council Enforcement officers additional powers to deal with ASB. The order includes prohibitions on street drinking and any person's misbehaving can be removed from the area for a 24-hour period. There is also a new prohibition to prevent nuisance cycling and scooter use.

We are currently consulting on introducing another public space Protection Order at Eureka Park. The park has had persistent ASB over the last few years and the prohibitions will be exactly the same as in Swadlincote Town Centre.



We are again supporting knife crime education sessions in South Derbyshire Support Centre in Newhall. An organisation called Street whyze visit the school and provide both 121 work and group sessions. The service is being extended to be delivered at Pingle, William Allitt and Granville Schools during the coming year.

Safe and Sound continue to visit Swadlincote and Newhall to do valuable outreach work. The charity which focuses primarily on Child Exploitation are making weekly visits to our urban parks to talk to young people. Valuable information is passed onto us and also to the Parks team about any issues or requests to improve the parks.

#### **L/A 4. Local Community and Voluntary Sector Projects/ Update**

Please see the attached document.

#### **L/A 5. Local Authority Update and Public Q&A**

##### **Housing**

The Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Wave 1 is now approaching completion, providing improved insulation, doors, and windows to 89 properties in Swadlincote, Melbourne, Hartshorne and Netherseal.

Wave 2 will provide similar improvements to around 103 properties in: Hilton, Church Broughton, Scropton, Smisby, Hartshorne, Netherseal and Lullington.

The tenants of the properties that may be included are being written to informing them of the scheme and will be consulted with before any works commence.

##### **Legal and democratic services**

The Annual Canvass for 2023 has started - this is the process where the Council contacts every household to check we've got the right information on the Electoral Register. The process also gives anyone who isn't registered to vote yet, the chance to do so.

The Council is committed to reducing its impact on the environment and therefore we will be using on-line methods of contact where possible. Online contact will also reduce costs by reducing postage, paper, and processing time.

You will receive an email or letter asking if your household's details on the Electoral Register are correct. All you need to do is follow the instructions, and you'll be ready to have your say in upcoming elections. You can reply online, by phone, text, or by returning the paper form.

If you have to respond and do not respond, we will try to contact you by telephone or make a property visit.



## **Cultural and Community services**

The new South Derbyshire Community Grant Fund is now open for applications (leaflets with details are available on the table by the signing in sheet.)

This scheme, administered by South Derbyshire District Council, is financed by part of South Derbyshire's allocation of UK Shared Prosperity Funding (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) monies.

The Fund has a total of £350,000 available over the next two years until March 2025.

Capital grants of between £2,000 and £25,000 are available (up to 80% of total project costs) with a minimum project cost of £2,500. Match funding of 20% is required.

Applicants must demonstrate that their project meets one or more of the Shared Prosperity Fund outcomes and further information including a Guide to the Criteria, Application Process and Conditions of Funding is available on the Community Grants section of the Council's website, when you search "Community Grants"

It is an open rolling application process until the 31 December 2024 (to allow for completion of projects) or until all funding has been allocated.

## **Customer Services**

South Derbyshire District Council is currently developing its Customer Access Strategy. The aim of the strategy is to shape how the Council will serve its customers, and to define the projects and initiatives it needs to deliver in order to achieve its ambitions.

We want local people to feel valued by their Council, trust us and have excellent customer experiences in their dealings with us, whatever channel they choose.

The Customer Access Strategy will set out how we will improve access to our services for our customers. We want to make dealing with the Council as quick and easy as possible, making the best use of technology whilst working in a cost-effective way.

The document can be accessed by contacting Customer Services at SDDC, or if you speak to us after the meeting, we can take your details and email you a copy of the document.

## **Q&A**

1. One resident asked about if the elderly residents at the Arms houses were able to claim grants for energy efficiencies. Heidi McDougall informed that there is a Green Homes grant available but there is certain criteria to meet. The application form and information can be found on the SDDC Website. Cllr Wheelton stated that she could provide the information if people wanted to contact her.



2. Another resident requested for better HGV signs for the roads by Cricket Inn. Heidi McDougall informed that this was a County Council issue so requests need to go direct to them, and via the local County Councillor.
3. There was a question raised about if the speed limit could be reduced on 50 mph roads within the area. Heidi McDougall pointed out that this issue was another County Council matter rather than an issue that SDDC could deal with.

#### N/A 6. Summary of Agreed Actions

Action	Person responsible
Request better 30mph speed limit signage within the Linton area due to it being faded or missing	SDDC to Contact Highways and County Councillor Swann
Police to visit Drakelow/ Walton Primary School with high-visibility supplies to discuss road safety	SNT
Provide an update at the next meeting on further plans regarding Walton Road	Amy Wheelton
Contact DCC about better signage at Cricketts Inn on A444	Communities Team

#### N/A 7. Close and Date of Next Meeting

TBC. Venue to be confirmed.

**Councillor Alistair Tilley**  
CHAIR  
The meeting terminated at 19:52pm

