

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

ETWALL

1st July 2015 at Hilton Village Hall, Hilton

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Andy Billings (Acting Chairman) and Councillors: Neil Atkin, Martyn Ford, David Muller, Mrs Patten and Mrs Plenderith

Frank McArdle - Chief Executive
Ardip Kaur – Legal & Democratic Services Manager
Julie Marson - Clerk

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

Councillor Mrs Patten and Martyn Ford

Paul Jameson (DCC)

Parish Council/Meeting Representatives

I.Bennett, N.Ireland (Etwall Parish Council); B.Myring (Etwall Neighbourhood Watch), C.Hall (Burnaston Neighbourhood Watch); S Cooper (Hilton Parish Council)

EA/1 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs Brown and Andy Roberts

EA/2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

EA/3 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUCEMENTS**

South Derbyshire Sport, Recreation, Community facility Strategy

A strategy for the future provision of built community facilities, including formal open space and play is being developed. The Strategy will aim to provide a plan for the provision of community infrastructure for the growing population, building on the significant progress made in recent years. Parish Councils and Community groups will be consulted and a workshop will be held in September to allow more in depth discussion with stakeholders.

Derbyshire Cycle Plan

The County, City, Districts and a number of other bodies are producing a Plan for Cycling which aims to raise the participation of cycling in the County significantly over the next decade. The consultation process will be promoted from next week via the Derbyshire Sport website and the District Council will host a briefing session for interested parties. A South Derbyshire Action Plan will be developed from that briefing session and will feed into infrastructure development and cycle participation and events.

Members and Parish Council Briefings

Following on from the sessions that were delivered in previous years, a new series of briefing sessions are planned for the coming year starting with Sport, Recreation and Open Space Strategy and Development on 16th September. The full programme of dates will be sent out to parish councils in July. (Programme attached for reference).

MEMBERS AND PARISH COUNCIL BRIEFING **2015/16 PROGRAMME**

16 September 2015	Sport, Recreation and Open Space Strategy and Development - Reducing Physical Inactivity and Developing a Community Facility Infrastructure
14 October 2015	Planning and Enforcement - What is a Planning Consideration?
18 November 2015	Environmental Protection - Food, Noise and Nuisance
27 January 2016	Refuse and Recycling - Keeping the District Clean and Green
24 February 2016	Public Health - The Emerging Role for Local Authorities
30 March 2016	Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour - What Can Be Done To Reduce ASB??

EA/4 **TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 28th January 2015**
(COPY ATTACHED)

The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed as a true record.

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

Paul Jameson gave a report back on the issues raised at previous meetings.

REMOVAL OF STREET LIGHTING DERBY ROAD, MARSTON ON DOVE, HOON.

After identifying a highway asset as not being required, DCC monitored the situation for approx. 12 months to see if any reasons emerged to retain it. In this case no reasons were found and the columns were removed.

DCC have an ongoing maintenance liability on anything in the public highways so while there is costs incurred to removing lamps there is also a cost to keep them. Also if anyone was to be involved in a collision with an asset we had identified as not being required – and nothing had been done about removing it the council could be criticised.

The repeater signs were placed in error on this road following the removal of the street lighting. They are to be removed and will be reused elsewhere but this is a low priority.

DIGITAL DERBYSHIRE QUERY

The Broadband Project Manager has said that the service from Devil's Elbow will be available by the end of July. B T is laying Fibre Optic lines in Sutton Lane Etwall at present.

MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Enquiries had been made with DCC's Right of Way Team, following a request at the last forum for an officer to attend to explain the reduced maintenance of public footpaths. In response, the Rights of Way Team have advised that they have had to reduce the number of cuts to vegetation on footpaths as a consequence of a reduction in the budget they receive. There is little more an officer could add by attending the Forum and therefore it is not considered necessary at this time.

Paul Jameson contacted the Councillor who raised the issue to offer to provide feedback on any specific issues relating to public footpaths in the Hatton Area. There has been none received.

HARTSHORNE ROAD/REPTON ROAD, REPTON-SWADLINCOTE: CARRIAGEWAY DETERIORATION.

DCC's Rapid Response Team undertook repairs on 4th February, at the locations as specified at the last meeting. Councillor Ford says no surface dressing has been done at present but it is improved.

EA/6 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

Councillor Plenderlith raised the issue about Pot Holes on Welland Road and Alders brook up to the Surgery. They have been reported in the correct way they are square and shallow there is a run of them up to the surgery. DCC are to patch one up in 10 days' time but the others are not due for any works. Why is this the case surely it would be more productive and cost saving to patch up all the potholes in one go as they have all been reported.

Action: Paul Jameson to follow up and report back.

Steve Cooper raised the issue about Street lighting at the bottom end of The Mease has been switched off overnight under the part night lighting programme. However, parish councillors reported that the route attracts a lot of runners and dog walkers; it was also reported that youths have started to congregate under the bridge here. Could a request be made to have the lighting along this stretch turned back on overnight please?

Paul Jameson – We would need very clear justification for turning the lights back on. For example, if there has been a significant increase in night-time crime, anti-social behaviour, etc. As part of the consultation process we will have spoken to the Police who would have flagged up any issues of this nature. The parish councillors advised that they had made a request for these lights to stay on during the consultation but this had been refused.

The noise level on the A50 Etwall to Egginton Road – This is a matter for the Highways Agency as they are responsible for the A38 & A50). Councillor Atkin said that they had a similar issue in his area and he contacted the Highways agency to try and meet a solution.

Action: Cllr Andy Billings to contact Highways Agency and obtain the contact details from Cllr Atkin.

Is there any further information on the Ash Die Back situation within our district?

Action: Julie Marson to contact Martin Buckley – Tree Officer to provide an update on the matter for the next meeting.

The new leaflet that has been distributed by SDDC on the new recycling requirements. The leaflet is quite confusing to members of the public could they be made simpler as to what is meant by 'black plastic'. Also not every resident received a leaflet some bins were not emptied, the tags put on the bins which explains why the bin was not emptied is not clear. The Chief Executive said 'Black Plastic' is the ready meal type plastic and he would ask the team about a more photographic leaflet being produced and to look at the tags and how they can be made clearer.

EA/7 **COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES**

Paul Jameson was asked to pass on the thanks from Cllr Ford to those involved in arranging the extension of the 30mph speed limit. The work has been processed very quickly.

Buses parked on the road outside the Swimming Pool in Etwall this is causing ongoing problems, could a layby be put in to help the problem. Cllr Plenderith said that the buses would be more suited to parking in the bus park at the school and for the children to be escorted the short distance back up to the leisure centre.

Action: Paul Jameson to look into layout of the area and to see if there any any feasible solutions. It is also recommended that the District Councillors approach the manager of the Leisure centre to discuss solutions.

Cllr Ford raised the issue in relation to car parking charges to be imposed at Willington Station. It was raised that if charges were imposed people would stop using the station and also people visiting the villages would no longer come.

There is a consultation on line for members of the public to complete.

Reports were received of trees overhanging the entire carriageway on Burnaston Lane. Residents felt that the situation was becoming dangerous and asked that action be taken. It is suspected that the trees are on private land.

EA/8 **DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES**

There is a planning application in at present for Dove Valley Park – this shows a picture of recovery, growth and confidence within South Derbyshire.

The Festival of Leisure was held at the end of June and 10,000 people attended. It is the biggest event that SDDC arrange and with a small amount of Officers to organise and facilitate.

Unemployment for the area is at a record low of 0.7%.

A Jobs fair was held at Greenbank Leisure Centre with 74 exhibits aimed at school leavers and was a great success.

A register of electors form will be sent out in the post to all households over the next few weeks.

There will be a Police Crime Commissioner's election held on 5 May next year.

Ardip Kaur, Legal and Democratic Service Manager outlined two Parish Councils, namely Burnaston and Dalbury Lees did not have sufficient Parish Councillors to be quorate. She informed the meeting District Councillors had been appointed to the aforementioned Parish Councils on a temporary basis so that they were quorate and able to transact business. She further advised Notices of Election would be put up in the relevant areas in the next couple of days advising the nomination process would soon commence and individuals interested in undertaking the role of Parish Councillor could contact the Elections Office at the District Council offices in order to obtain the necessary paperwork for completion.

Cllr Patten said that being a Parish Councillor is a good thing to do as they are on the radar and they obtain information. Also they have a voice in planning matters and that people should be encouraged to be put forward for Parish Councillors.

The question was raised as to why Swadlincote had not got a Parish Council. Newhall and Stanton are being petitioned to become a Parish Council but no formal application has been made so far.

EA/9 COUNCILLORS ATKINS INTRODUCTION TO CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

Councillor Atkin addressed the meeting to introduce himself as the new Chairman and how the SDDC Chairman's office can help the residents.

The Chairman's theme for the civic year is called 'Unsung Heroes in the Community' and a publicised request for members of the community take some time to consider if any Voluntary group in the district should be acknowledged for their contribution to the community whether they are an individual or company that they believe may deserve some recognition.

The Chairman wishes to attend and support local community events no matter how big and small they are. The office would also like to promote what South Derbyshire has to offer and what it does best.

The Chairman's nominated charities are Rainbows Hospice for Young Adults and Children.
SSAFA – Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Families Association.

EA/10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Meeting is Wednesday 11th November 2015

Councillor Andy Billings

ACTING CHAIRMAN

The meeting terminated at 8.20pm