

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

AREA 1 – ETWALL

Monday, June 27th, 2016 at Sutton on the Hill Village Hall

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Mrs Lisa Brown (Chair), Councillor David Muller,
Councillor Mrs Julie Patten.

Mike Haynes – Director of Housing and Environmental Services.
Tom Sloan – Clerk.

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

Councillor Mrs Julie Patten.

Parish Council/Meeting Representatives

Alison Beatson (Hatton Parish Council), Chris Hall (Burnaston
Neighbourhood Watch), Miles Nesbitt (Egginton Parish Council).

Members of the Public

Richard Hasking, Sue Jolly, Susan Nesbitt, Jean Parkinson, Graham
Wale, Liz Woodcock-Jones, Phil Woodcock-Jones.

EA/1 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor Andy Billings, Norman Ireland,
Lis Kolkman, Councillor Mrs Amy Plenderleith and Councillor Andy
Roberts.

EA/2 **Declarations of interest**

None.

EA/3 **Chair's announcements**

Councillor Mrs Lisa Brown presented statistics from the recent European
Referendum in the first Area Forum to be held "post-Brexit". There had
been an enormous turnout of 76.8%, the biggest in South Derbyshire's
history and higher than the national average. A total of 22,479 people in
South Derbyshire voted to remain in the EU, while 34,216 voted to leave,

roughly a 60-40% split. It had been an overwhelming vote for out in South Derbyshire. Councillor Mrs Brown said she was quite concerned regarding EU funding being spent in South Derbyshire on projects such as Digital Derbyshire. Substantial grants were received. While SDDC did not have any EU funding, DCC did. Measures would have to be sought to safeguard initiatives such as Digital Derbyshire.

Part One of the Local Plan had been adopted by SDDC dealing with major housing sites in the district. Part Two was currently being consulted upon.

EA/4 **To note the minutes of the meeting held on January 13th, 2016 (copy attached)**

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

EA/5 **Report back on issues raised at the last meeting**

Mike Haynes (SDDC Director of Housing and Environmental Services) had been requested to attend the meeting to explain what could be recycled by the council. He reported that every resident received a calendar for collection specific for the area in which they lived. Posted with it was a leaflet stating what could be put in each of the council's bins. It was not possible to cover every single product that was made but what was possible to put in the bins. What could not go in the blue or brown bins went by default into the black bin. Any further questions could be answered by SDDC's Waste and Recycling Team. New residents in the district were sent information about the services and how to look after wheelie bins as well as the role of the Clean Team. In all, six sides of A4 paper was issued to new residents.

In South Derbyshire, there was no charge for composting bins. Black and brown bins were collected by SDDC, while the blue bin was collected by a council contractor (Ward's) before the waste was moved to recycling firm Palm Ltd on Teesside for recycling.

A resident said the leaflet provided had often been recycled by residents. He produced an example of the sheet he had produced for people in Etwall which showed what went where in the various bins. He said he felt the issue was one of communication. He asked why the rules had changed on black plastic trays, something he claimed other authorities went into detail on. He asked if it was to do with recycling machines which relied on light being unable to process it. Mr Haynes said the situation was confusing in the UK, with different authorities having different rules. Some used the private sector to recycle and some kept it in house. He explained that black plastic was a contaminating material at recycling plants. Some contractors removed it and some didn't. Palm, SDDC's contractor, did not recycle

black plastic. This should have been publicised to residents, but Mr Haynes' predecessor did not do this.

Mr Haynes liked the poster produced by the resident and said he would take it back to his directorate to see what could be done with it. He agreed that the situation was confusing. South Derbyshire as a district did well to hit its targets. The bottom had fallen out of the plastic market due to the low cost of oil making it cheaper to make new plastic than recycle it. Councillor Mrs Brown asked if Brexit would make a difference to the market. Mr Haynes said that was unclear with discussions still to take place on withdrawal from the EU. Nothing would change in the next two years as the UK would still be a member.

A resident added that the whole discussion was about the symptom and that it would be better to fix the problem at source by using fewer black plastic items. He asked how pressure could be brought on the supermarkets. Mr Haynes replied that it was down to the individual to make consumer choices that would affect the supermarkets. For example, he bought loose oranges and not the ones sold in plastic netting. As a council, there was not a lot that SDDC could do. Councillor Mrs Julie Patten reported that she had written to South Derbyshire MP Heather Wheeler to take up the point with Government, which she had. Some lobbying of the supermarkets had taken place and Councillor Mrs Patten suggested writing to the MP to see what progress had been made.

A member of the public said that people were starting to reuse plastic bags but that it had resulted in the closure of plastic bag manufacturer in Preston, Lancashire. Mr Haynes replied that it was a sad result of a noble campaign.

Councillor Mrs Brown reported that SDDC had launched a food waste initiative. Mr Haynes added that the council had won the Sainsbury's £1m Waste Less Save More campaign.

Councillor Mrs Brown asked where the waste from brown bins went. Mr Haynes replied that it went to a county council location in Burton. SDDC's figures on composting were good thanks to the council not charging for brown bins.

A resident asked what could be done with Tetra packaging. Mr Haynes replied that they went in black bins.

A member of the public asked when his wheelie bin would be replaced as it had been delivered in 1999 with a lifespan of 10 years. Mr Haynes said he did not know why the bins had been given a 10-year lifespan. If one was damaged, it would be replaced, he said. However, the bins were holding up quite well and it tended to be the hinges that broke. There was no intention to replace the bins en bloc.

A resident said there was no facility at the Egginton Lane tip to dispose of brown bin waste. Residents had to travel to Burton to dispose of their garden waste.

ACTION: Mike Haynes to find out where in the district residents can dispose of compost waste if they have more than will fit in their brown bin

Mr Haynes said that the council provided a service to move heavy bins for vulnerable people.

EA/6 **Public questions on issues raised by residents**

A member of the public reported that she and her husband had been unable to vote in the referendum and wanted to complain about the elections team at SDDC. They had informed the council two months prior to the referendum of their need for a postal ballot before June 7. Despite being clear on the date, their ballot paper arrived after they went away on holiday and they were unable to complete and return it. Councillor Mrs Brown apologised on behalf of the council.

ACTION: Tom Sloan to report residents' issue to Electoral Services

A resident asked about two outstanding planning applications. They claimed that Bloor Homes had started working on their site in Etwall before planning permission had been granted. He thanked Councillor Mrs Brown for voting against the development and said surely it was now an enforcement issue. Councillor Mrs Brown, the vice-chair of SDDC's Planning Committee, said it was still a live planning application and so she couldn't comment on it. However, there was a liaison group being set up and she hoped the developer would act in a neighbourly fashion. A resident said that Bloor Homes was delivering containers for site offices in Willington Road. Councillor David Muller said he hoped the liaison group would be set up fairly quickly. Enforcement officers had been out to the site three times, he added.

EA/7 **County council issues**

Nothing to report.

EA/8 **District council issues**

Nothing to report.

EA/9 **Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting would be announced in due course.

**Councillor Mrs Lisa Brown
Chair**

The meeting terminated at 8.35pm.