

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

LINTON

18th July 2012

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Wheeler (Chairman) and Councillors Frost, Jones and Mrs. Hall.

M. Alflat (Director of Operations), P. Spencer (Democratic Services) and M. Holford (Environmental Services).

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

County Councillors Jones and Lacey.

Parish Council/Meeting Representatives

S. Jackson, J. Pallett, O. Pallett and C. Wright (Castle Gresley Parish Council), A. Lees (Coton-in-the-Elms Parish Council), J. Powell (Linton Parish Council), M. Gatrack and C. Knight (Overseal Parish Council) and M. Horne (Walton-on-Trent Parish Council).

Members of the Public

D. Bird, G. Palmer and S. Lees.

LA/1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

It was noted that Councillor Wheeler had been appointed Chairman of the Linton Area Forum at the Annual Council Meeting.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from P. Jameson (Derbyshire County Council Forum Liaison Officer), K. Bradford, S. Jones and W. Wadsworth.

LA/2. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

It was agreed that Councillor Jones be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Linton Area Forum for the ensuing year.

Note: At this point, Councillor Wheeler left this Meeting, due to a prior engagement for the reception of the Olympic Badminton teams and Councillor Jones chaired the remainder of the Meeting.

LA/3. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Linton Area Forum held on 15th May 2012 were noted.

LA/4. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

In response to a question about the recycling of plastics, the Director of Operations gave a progress report about the new contract that would commence in June 2013. At the previous Meeting a recycling survey had been circulated and the Director of Operations gave a summary of the responses received. It was also noted that a further Meeting of the Drakelow Development Liaison Committee was due to take place the following month.

LA/5. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

Concerns were raised about the number of potholes in roads, with particular reference being made to the Bass's Crescent and Linton Road area of Castle Gresley. Residents were urged to ring "Call Derbyshire", which aimed to repair such potholes within 48 hours of them being reported.

It was noted that the Bailey Bridge at Walton-on-Trent would be closed for 3 days for maintenance works. The Chairman responded to a question explaining why the County Council could not reconsider a request for additional signage on Hillside Road, due to insufficient funding presently.

LA/6. **COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES**

County Councillor Lacey reported on recent flooding problems in a number of parishes and added further detail about the closure of the Bailey Bridge at Walton-on-Trent for refurbishment works. He explained planned maintenance works and the redesign of the Lullington crossroads, confirming the diversionary routes. Finally, it was confirmed that a 30mph speed restriction would be introduced on the road between Walton-on-Trent and Catton.

LA/7. **DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES – DOG CONTROL ORDERS**

Matt Holford of the District Council's Environmental Services Department addressed the Meeting. He explained that the District Council had powers to designate Dog Control Orders for certain areas. This included the power to prohibit dogs, to require that they were kept on a lead or even to limit the number of dogs per dog walker. The Council had introduced Dog Control Orders in 2008 and had recently consulted with parish councils to review the areas requiring such orders. A wider consultation process was now underway and feedback was sought by 10th September 2012.

A resident asked how the questionnaires would be circulated and it was suggested that a small number be provided to each parish council in the area covered by the Forum. A resident considered that dogs should be prohibited from recreation grounds. Enforcement aspects were also discussed. It was noted that there were now additional staffing resources and changes to the kennelling contract, which would increase enforcement capacity. Residents were encouraged to report incidents and where possible to provide contact details so that they could be visited by the Enforcement Officers. The Officer explained some of the strategies being considered at present to relocate signage and use footpath stencils to provide a visual reminder.

There was also discussion about broadband coverage in the southern parishes. Those present were reminded of previous work by the District Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Information was then given on the County Council's project to improve broadband speeds and the significant funding being dedicated to seek the roll-out of a fibre optic supply to all areas of the County.

LA/8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was confirmed that the next Linton Area Forum would be held on Tuesday, 23rd October 2012 at the Coton-in-the-Elms Community Centre.

C. JONES

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8.20 p.m.