

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

NEWHALL

30th September 2014 at the Rowland Memorial Hall, Midway

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Richards (Chairman)
Councillor Mulgrew
Councillor Wilkins
Councillor Bambrick
Councillor Dunn

Kevin Stackhouse (Director of Finance & Corporate Services)
Mandy McKeon (Clerk, Service Assistant)

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

Councillor Bambrick
Councillor Dunn

Members of the Public

Mr & Mrs Wallace; David Ellis, Jenny Ellis, P Foy, H Foy, Colin Maddock, Geoff Fox, Chris Fox, Cheryl Pidgeon, Stephanie Foster, Daniella Harper, Helen Kreft; Richard House, Mrs C Hobson, Mr H Hobson, Mike Lacey, Mr & Mrs R Foster, Peter Randle, Judy Wilkins.

NA/13 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence for the meeting were received from Councillor Pearson; Councillor Mrs J Mead, Chris Gillespie, Mr R Trim and the Forum Liaison Officer.

NA/14 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

NA/15 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Introductions were made by the Chair of those Councillors in attendance.

NA/16 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Newhall Area Forum held on 17th July 2014 were agreed as true and accurate.

NA/17 **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Chairman reviewed those items raised at the last Meeting and in the Forum Liaison Officer's absence, reported on the progress made in each case:

Redevelopment of Chestnut Avenue: Being done and is in the process of development.

Theatre opening: Just blue sky thinking and Chief Executive is Looking at that and the possible issues within South Derbyshire.

NA/18 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

A resident read out a letter on behalf of another resident, who was away on holiday so unable to attend the meeting. The letter asked for improved signage at the entrance to Sandcliffe Road – larger signs for the 30 mph and 7.5 tonne sign. The letter stated the Forum Liaison Officer had previously advised there would have to be a 'declutter of two signs in order to site a new one'. The resident enquired whether the school sign post (not being used) further down the Burton Road, along with signs at the junction of Dunnsmoor Lane - 30mph, Midway – Drive Carefully and National Forest, could be removed to accommodate new signage?

The Chair advised Councillor Dunn and Councillor Bambrick would be taking the matter up with Highways Authority. He also said an issue had been raised regarding a brick falling from the building at the crossroads by the Masons Arms and he would be taking up the matter with Environmental Health.

Action: Councillor Dunn and Councillor Bambrick to speak with Highways Authority and report back.

Action: Councillor Richards to speak with Environmental Health and report back.

A resident asked for a brief overview on what financial cuts will be made in Derbyshire. The Chair replied there would be £157m of cuts being made to

budgets. It is County Council's jurisdiction and invited Councillor Dunn to reply. Councillor Dunn said the major cuts would be in adult care – about £30m. Cuts will be made across all areas but will be by consultation.

A resident complained about the narrow footpath on B5353 from Stanton Chapel into Newhall. He said his wife witnessed a lady on disabled scooter having difficulty as there were overgrown brambles in the way. The Chair agreed it was a problem and said Councillor Bambrick has raised it with the Chief Executive and it should be cut once ownership has been sorted out.

A resident asked what is being done with the park at Chestnut Avenue. The Chair replied it has been removed for now. A development is taking place. There will be buildings, community centre, 2 football pitches with changing/shower facilities, MUGA, 44 space car park and a park in due course.

A resident commented that these facilities were mentioned at the last meeting and he was told there would be consultations regarding the play area but has not heard a thing since. Councillor Mulgrew said there is a meeting scheduled for 23 October on this matter and he will report back directly to the resident.

Action: Councillor Mulgrew to report back to the resident directly.

A resident asked if South Derbyshire District Council were still planning to go ahead with building new houses. The Chair confirmed the authority will be building council houses and in areas suitable and acceptable to residents. The Director of Finance commented that national government will be giving money to help with costs. The Council are going through a process of identifying areas at present, preferably on Council owned land.

A resident requested for the map on the website around Areas 4 and 5 to be clearer so he can identify which area forum he should be attending. Councillor Dunn said he would be welcome to attend the Newhall Area Forum for the whole of Sandcliffe Road should he wish. The Chair asked for the resident to leave his details at the end of the meeting and he would ensure he receives an update on the clarity of areas.

Action: Chair to report back to the resident.

A resident enquired as to why the Council do not clean around a set of garages on Pine Grove, opposite an area where bungalows being built. He also said the hedgerow on the footpath that runs past the parking area is full of rubbish and bottles. The Chair advised him to contact Clean Team.

A resident announced there is funding in place for Newhall Park to have six pieces of gym equipment installed within the next six months. The Chair requested the resident pass on his congratulations to the Friends of Newhall Park.

A resident read a quote from a newspaper article saying that 'Newhall and Stanton are classed as deprived areas' due to local areas being dishevelled and not kept tidy. He said earlier that day he had seen some school children aged six or seven, stood by a tram pole with their teacher. The tram pole was a rusty old thing and he asked whether funds would be available to have this and another one further up the road painted back to its original colour. The Chair asked the resident to write to County Councillors. Councillor Dunn said the resident should speak with the District Council and if they are unable to come up with funds then the County Council may be able to help by giving funds to a group of volunteers, within the community, to restore historic artefacts/monuments.

A resident said he was in touch with Matthew Holford who is looking at developing a project to help on issues in Newhall (such as dog fouling) and will be attending the next Newhall Area Forum to give an update on how the project will work and how it will be implemented.

A resident mentioned the scaffolding surrounding the Masons Arms, saying it is up to the footpath on one side of the road so there is no form of walkway on that side of the road. Since the work there could go on for 12 months or more he asked who is responsible for the pedestrians crossing as there is very little time given when the green man is lit up and this could prove dangerous to those who have a slower pace. Councillor Dunn said he would try and get an extension to the green man on the crossing. Director of Finance said he would also look into this matter to check and see whether there is a responsibility for South Derbyshire District Council within planning enforcements.

Action: Councillor Dunn to look into getting an extension to the green man on the traffic lights for pedestrians and report back.

Action: Director of Finance to look into and report back.

NA/19 **COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES**

A resident complained of the long delays he encountered on A444 waiting for the filter light to come on. There seems to be a problem with the time delay. He doesn't think the sensor is picking up drivers.

Action: Councillor Bambrick will look into and report back.

A resident asked who it is he should speak with to have two 30mph signs painted on the road in Dunnsmoor Lane and Netherall Road. He was told by the Chair it would be County Highways. The resident said he had received correspondence from Paul Jameson at County advising him that there was a three year survey in this area and since there were no accidents on the road, nothing would be done to improve the road (signage, calming measures). The

resident asked if it could be taken forward and actioned? The Chair said it can be taken forward and a County Councillor will report back.

Action: Councillor Bambrick/Councillor Dunn to look into and report back.

A resident asked if there was any news on the new golf course opening? He said the Chief Executive has been saying for a long time that it is near to completion. The Chair said it is progressing and should be open early next year.

NA/20 **DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES**

None.

NA/21 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next Meeting is 17th February 2015 at The Old Post Centre, Newhall.

Councillor Kevin Richards

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8.20 pm