

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

REPTON

25th October 2012

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Smith (Chairman) and Councillors Chahal, Ford (Vice-Chairman) and Stanton.

B. Ledger (Head of Housing & Environmental Services) and D. Townsend (Democratic Services Officer).

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

Councillors Ford and Murray.

P. Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

Parish Council/Meeting Representatives

C. Jerram and G. Steel (Repton Parish Council), D. Smith, F. Hill and G. Tully (Newton Solney Parish Council), B. Harding and P. Ricketts (Willington Parish Council), N. Jenkinson (Smisby Parish Council) and S. Bell (Findern Parish Council).

Members of the Public

P. Bishop, M. Bishop, J. de Blaquierey, N. Cumming, S. Dunicliffe, D. Eastman, T. Fletcher, A. Gifford, J. Hawkins, A. Lomas, J. Orme, S. Toone and P. Woods.

RA/10. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillors Shepherd and Murray and L. Nash.

RA/11. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Repton Area Forum held on 19th July 2012 were noted.

RA/12. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Chairman reviewed those items raised at the last Meeting and reported the progress made in each case.

With regard to the drainage issues on Bretby Lane, the Forum Liaison Officer reported that there were still problems in this area which we were subject to ongoing investigation.

RA/13. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS.**

A representative from Repton Parish Council reported that the Broom Hills Field Pavilion was in need of some repair work. This had recently been surveyed by South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC), and it was on the SDDC owned part of the site.

The Head of Housing & Environmental Services agreed to look into this matter and provide a response direct to Repton Parish Council.

It was reported that venues, such as Milton Village Hall, were very difficult for those who were hearing impaired, and a mobile audio loop system was available and could be used in such venues. It was suggested that there were 2 sources for this equipment, either CamTAD (Campaign for Tackling Acquired Deafness), and also South Derbyshire CVS had a portable hearing loop which could be borrowed.

The Head of Housing & Environmental Services responded that a mobile system existed within the District Council, and that Officer would investigate providing one for the next meeting.

It was reported that the boundary commission had published an interim conclusion to their recent investigations, and it had been suggested that South Derbyshire be renamed 'Derbyshire South & Swadlincote'. It was also queried why Swadlincote was not a parished area, with a precept. The Head of Housing and Environmental Services responded that if there was community demand for an un-parished area to become parished, the District would support this. However there was no public demand for this at the current time.

A Resident asked if the Domino Public House at Hartshorne could be considered for enforcement, as it was considered to be an eyesore.

The Head of Housing and Environmental Services responded that he would ask an Officer to assess this site.

RA/14. **COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES**

The Forum Liaison Officer reported that a Healthwatch Derbyshire consultation exercise was being undertaken. This was a new initiative set up by the Government to make sure that residents could influence and challenge health and social care services in Derbyshire. The consultation process had been extended to 31st October 2012, and further information was available at GP's surgeries, libraries and online.

It was also reported that a Mineral Plan consultation was taking place, and that this was available via the Derbyshire County Council website.

RA/15. **DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES**

The Head of Housing and Environmental Services reported that the District Council was currently undertaking consultation on the Local Development Framework. He reported that this would have an implication on all major developments in the local area. Further Information would be available via the local press, on the website and in libraries etc.

The District Council was also currently undertaking consultation on the Council Tax Support Scheme. Changes to this scheme would only affect people in receipt of Council Tax Benefit. It was proposed that funding passed from Central Government to the District Council would be 10% less which equalled £500,000. South Derbyshire District Council currently supported 6,000 people and 2/3's got 100% support towards their council tax. As the funding was being reduced by 10%, the District Council had to decide if they could still afford this level of benefit.

The District Council were consulting on options on how to deal with this. Options that were being considered were listed within the presentation.

Final proposals would need to be in place by the end of December 2012, and the Council would decide how they were going to deal with this issue on 24th January 2013. The Scheme must be in place by the end of January 2013 and would operate from 1st April 2013.

RA/16. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next Meeting would be confirmed in due course.

P. SMITH

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8.20 p.m.