

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

ETWALL – AREA 1

Tuesday 11th June 2019 at Egginton Memorial Hall

PRESENT: -

South Derbyshire District Council representatives

Councillor Lisa Brown (Chair), Councillor David Muller (Vice Chair), Councillor Andrew Billings

Frank McArdle – Chief Executive Officer
Ian Hey – Community Partnership Officer
Debbie Ward – Service Assistant

Derbyshire County Council representatives

Councillor Martyn Ford

Derbyshire Police representatives

PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite

Parish Council/ Meeting representatives

Councillor Geoff Allen (Burnaston Parish Council), Councillor Sir Henry Every, Councillor Nikki Lawton (Egginton Parish Council), Councillor Anne du Celliee Muller, Councillor Norman Ireland, Councillor David Neal (Etwall Parish Council), Councillor Robert Brooks (Hatton Parish Council), Councillor Suzanne Champion, Councillor Sandra Stanton (Hilton Parish Council)
David Clarke, Paul Herickx (Environment Agency)
Stella Collishaw (South Derbyshire CVS)

Members of the public

Eddie Bisknell, Robert Brooks, Steve Cooper, Anne Hughes, G. Towne, V. Towne, Barry Willis, Dianne Willis

EA/1 **Open meeting**

- **Introductions and apologies**

Councillor Dave McDonald (Etwall Parish Council), Councillor Julie Patten, Councillor Andy Roberts, Councillor Jason Whittenham

- **Declarations of interest**

None.

- **Chair's announcements**

Councillor Lisa Brown proposed Councillor David Muller as Vice Chair, all were in favour.

Festival of Leisure 2019 takes place on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th June at Maurice Lea Park.

The new Summer Activities leaflet has been launched to promote Active South Derbyshire's summer holiday programme.

The Council has just submitted its Local Green Spaces Plan for examination by the Planning Inspectorate. Local Green Spaces are areas of land that are of value to the local community; they can be located in rural or built up areas. Once allocated, a local green space would have a policy designation similar to that of green belt, and therefore would restrict future development. The examination is expected to take place in the late summer or autumn.

- **To receive the minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.

- **Matters arising from last minutes**

None.

EA/2 **Police Safer Neighbourhood report**

PCSO Kerry Wallington-Waite provided the following report: -

- A rural crime team has been set up and PC Paul Russell and PC Joe Pilgrim have both now gone to that.
- There are more staff changes coming to include another PC at the end of June and additional PCSO's are also in the pipeline.
- There is a Bike Marking & Van Alarm event due to be held at the Salt Box Café in Hatton on Saturday 15th June 2019 between 6:00-8:00pm.
- There is a Safer Together event planned for Thursday 27th June 2019 between 10:00am and 1:00pm to be held at The Delph in Swadlincote.

A member of the public asked about speed checks in Etwall as they were concerned that they may not have been carried out at opportune times.

PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite responded to say that several speed checks have been carried out in the area and that if residents have continued concerns regarding speeding motorists that they should report them directly to CREST via their website (www.crestderbyshire.org). PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite explained that the more reports that are received, the more it highlights problem areas and the higher chance there is of something being done about the issues raised.

Councillor Sir Henry Every raised concerns regarding near misses and potential danger at Etwall/ Egginton crossroads explaining that the signage as you approach from Etwall is considered to be wrong due to being too high and not in line of sight. It was explained that the signs should be a maximum height of 2.1m whereas the two signs by the cross roads in question are 2.9m and 2.5m.

Councillor Sir Henry Every went on to add that as you approach the crossroads from Etwall direction you can see the black and white circular national speed limit signs in the distance which could prompt drivers to start accelerating when they should be thinking about reducing their speed and asked the question as to whether any additional help could be sought in order to help address these issues.

In addition to the above, a point was raised about the new electronic signage that has been put in place on the Egginton/ Etwall road as it is considered to be situated on the wrong side of the road. A suggestion from a member of the public followed to say that it would make more sense for the sign in question to be re-sited on the Etwall/ Egginton Road. There was also mention that the signage currently in place would benefit from being rationalised.

Councillor Martyn Ford advised that there may be something that can be done regarding the height of the signs and that he would need to find out why the electronic sign has been sited where it has.

ACTION: Councillor Martyn Ford to take back issues raised regarding height and positioning of road signs to DCC and report back.

Councillor David Muller queried whether the Police hold records of statements made by people involved in accidents where they may have said that they didn't see the sign regarding the crossroads. PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite advised that this kind of information would have to be obtained through the Traffic department at Police Head Quarters.

PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite also stated that when the Police attend an accident, the statistics would then be sent to Derbyshire County Council.

Councillor Andy Billings queried whether reporting to CREST was a recent thing and stated that when reports have previously been made in Scropton, the response from CREST has taken considerably longer than the 12-14 week lead time quoted on their website.

PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite responded to say that CREST has been around for a while but is better publicised now and that if CREST deem it necessary then they will ask the Police to carry out certain checks on their behalf. However, the Police do not have the speed guns and facilities that CREST have in order to conduct speed checks (but are able to assist with community speedwatch checks) and reiterated that people must continue to report via CREST in order to get the appropriate response.

Councillor Robert Brooks also raised that Councillor Andy Roberts has received several reports of speeding in respect to Station Road, Hatton, since the recent roadworks have been cleared away. There have also been reports that the electronic speed warning sign sited near to the Hatton Community Education Centre is not working.

ACTION: PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite to raise issue of long lead times with CREST and report back.

ACTION: Councillor Martyn Ford to take back issue regarding out of order speed warning sign to DCC and report back.

Councillor Suzanne Campion and Councillor Sandra Stanton of Hilton Parish Council stated that they would like to see more of a Police presence in Hilton. There have been recent reports of suspected drug dealing taking place in local car parks and issues with bags being found in Marston Church cemetery. Youths have also been blatantly smoking cannabis in front of young children outside of the Youth Group held at Hilton Village Hall on a Thursday evening.

PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite urged anybody with concerns to report via 101 so that they can be logged and an incident raised. It is also advisable to speak to the call centre and not to leave messages/ emails for officers if you require an urgent response.

Councillor Martyn Ford extended thanks to the Police for their turnout to the annual Raft Race event held in Willington on Saturday 8th June 2019.

Councillor Martyn Ford suggested that a rural task team would be beneficial for the rural areas.

Frank McArdle responded to say that he will be having a meeting with Divisional Commander, South Division - Chief Superintendent David Cox on Friday 28th June 2019 and that a rural task team is on the agenda to revisit.

PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite added that now there is a dedicated rural crime team in place, residents in rural areas of South Derbyshire will start to see an increase in rural patrols.

EA/3 **Safer South Derbyshire Partnership update and Safer Neighbourhood grants**

Ian Hey provided the following update: -

- We have reintroduced the contacts page in the Area Forum Agenda Packs which contains useful contact information including that of CREST (to report speeding).
- 'Your Choice' events have been taking place in secondary schools across the district, coordinated by Derbyshire Police. Talks around gangs and knife crime are given by Jason Farmer who was on the verge of getting into gang related trouble as a youngster in Liverpool and has since joined the Police and Dr Manny Barot who is a hate crime expert and has previously worked with right-wing extremists. These events have gone down extremely well with the schools involved and pupils have been completely engrossed.
- Nuisance motorbikes have been an issue throughout the district. Operation BRENCO has now been set up in order to try and tackle the problem. Members of the Public are encouraged to get in touch with Crime Stoppers and a £1000 reward is on offer for information which leads to a successful conviction. The campaign also invites motorists to upload dash-cam footage of nuisance motorbikes to the Derbyshire capture website (<https://snap.derbyshire.police.uk/>).
- Safer & Stronger Funding Stream – there is currently £4000 available for the community to spend on projects which look to address crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the area.

EA/4 Local authority issues

Frank McArdle updated: -

The Council is now in the process of formulating a new corporate plan which will outline key issues to be focused on over the next 4 years.

Swadlincote now has a new pay as you play 9 hole golf course which is well worth a visit. In addition to this the formation of the Forest Park is now under construction with pathways and cycle tracks being put in place.

There was a major fire incident on Saturday 26th May at a local pallet yard based in Church Gresley and flames could be seen for miles around. Thankfully nobody was injured and the Fire Service did an excellent job of controlling the fire.

An unexploded Second World War bomb was found at an industrial premise located behind Sainsbury's in Swadlincote last week but luckily the device was found not to be live.

The European elections have now taken place. Figures show that 30% of people across the district voted which was in line with the national average. The voting figures for the District elections were similar at 31% with 98% of the district actually registered to vote.

Councillor Sir Henry Every asked what the process is in regard to formulating the corporate plan. Frank McArdle advised that we have had corporate plans in place since 1974 and that they are reviewed and updated on a 4 yearly cycle, in consultation with members. Residents are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the existing plan which can be found on the SDDC website and feedback to their elected members anything they feel should be included in the new plan.

A member of the public asked what guarantee SDDC can provide to confirm that the district's plastic waste is not being sent to third world countries. Frank McArdle advised that as a council we look to have due diligence in all contracts we engage in and if we discover things that we don't want to see happen then we disengage from those contracts. Frank McArdle suggested that Councillor Martyn Ford raise this question with DCC and report back.

ACTION: Councillor Martyn Ford to take back question in regard to where the district's plastic waste ends up to DCC and report back.

A member of the public queried whether SDDC are responsible for providing charging points for electric cars across the district. Frank McArdle advised that whilst the council is not responsible we would look to do this in conjunction with major manufacturers such as Toyota for any new or existing car parks that may require refurbishment.

Sir Henry Every followed on to ask whose responsibility it is to provide charging points. Frank McArdle advised that it is ultimately up to the car manufacturers if they want to sell their vehicles. However, major employers such as SDDC may decide to provide these facilities for their staff in order to make a positive contribution towards environmental sustainability.

Frank McArdle added that SDDC have recently started a programme of healthy living which actively encourages staff to walk to work and go out for lunchtime walks.

A member of the public asked whether it is likely that car parking charging points would become a condition in planning approvals. Councillor Lisa Brown advised that it may well be something that is given consideration and will be on the table to discuss at future planning meetings.

EA/5 Local community and voluntary sector projects/ update

Stella Collishaw provided a brief introduction to South Derbyshire CVS and the services it offers.

Support services currently offered by CVS include the following: -

- Work with volunteers to support people in crisis and need.
- Provide support to help develop/ fund community projects and ideas.
- Home from Hospital Support Service – anyone can make referrals including self-referral, providing that you are over 60, registered with a GP and have limited support from family/ friends.
- Food bank and Community fridge.
- Training – for groups and organisations that work in the charitable/ voluntary sector and want to gain some further skills.

Environment Agency presentation

David Clarke and Paul Herickx gave a short presentation in respect to the impending Dove Cliff weir removal followed by a brief question and answer session for residents to raise any issues or concerns.

Councillor Robert Brooks queried why the design of the new weir hasn't sought to provide a reduction in velocity and went on to explain how over the last 20 years there has been significant erosion to the North Bank area.

David Clarke confirmed that a reduction in velocity would not be achieved by removal of the weir however design considerations had proven this would not be an issue.

ACTION: David Clarke to report back on natural erosion to the right bank.

EA/6 Summary of agreed priorities/ actions

- Councillor Martyn Ford to take back issues raised regarding height and positioning of road signs to DCC and report back.
- PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite to raise issue of long lead times with CREST and report back.
- Councillor Martyn Ford to take back issue regarding out of order speed warning sign to DCC and report back.
- Councillor Martyn Ford to take back question in regard to where the district's plastic waste ends up to DCC and report back.
- David Clarke to report back on natural erosion to the right bank.

EA/7 Close and date of next meeting

Thursday 24th October 2019.

Councillor Lisa Brown
CHAIR

The meeting terminated at 7:50pm