

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

NEWHALL

24th July 2012

**PRESENT:-**

**District Council Representatives**

Councillor Dunn (Chairman) and Councillors Bambrick, Mrs. Mead, Pearson and Wilkins.

F. McArdle (Chief Executive), M. Holford (Environmental Services Manager) and D. Townsend (Democratic Services Officer).

**In attendance**

Councillor M. Mulgrew.

**Derbyshire County Council Representatives**

Councillors Lacey and Murray.

P. Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

**Members of the Public**

P. Bambrick, H. Foy, P. Foy, R. House, A. Howell, A. Jones, C. Maddock, K. Parker, M. Richards, R. Trim and B. Woods.

NA/1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

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

NA/2. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillor Wilkins, B. Dunn, M. Dunn, C. Gillespie, G. Hall, R. Hughes, P. Lowry and B. Parker.

NA/3. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

It was agreed that Councillor Mrs. Mead be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Newhall Area Forum for the ensuing year.

NA/4. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Newhall Area Forum held on 3rd May 2012, were noted.

NA/5. **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. The Forum Liaison Officer provided an

update on the proposed mini roundabout at the junction of High Street/Union Road/Queen's Drive, Newhall. He advised that a report had been presented to Derbyshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, and the proposal had now been abandoned. However, a length of white carriageway hatching had been approved for this location.

With regard to the land adjacent to The Lamb Inn, it was reported that there was still concern about the state of this site. The Chief Executive responded that he had seen this area and was aware that the boarding had fallen down and was not suitable. He added that the owners had been contacted, but had not done the remedial work as promised. They would now be served with a statutory notice. It was requested that a copy of this notice be sent to local members and also the Derbyshire County Council Member, Councillor Lacey.

An update was also provided on the situation with regard to litter approaching the Newhall Civic Amenity Site. It was reported that this area was attended by the Clean Team on 2nd July 2012, and was now programmed to be visited on the first Tuesday of each month.

NA/6. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

It was requested that a number of areas be considered for traffic calming, including the B5353 outside Garden King, the junction between Beards Road and Four Lanes End, and the top of Union Road.

**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into these areas and report back to a future Meeting.**

It was pointed out that the shop adjacent to The Old Post Centre was in a very bad state, and asked if anything could be done to tidy it up. The Chief Executive responded that the District Council was trying to bring empty residential properties back into use, but they had very few powers with regard to commercial properties. It was asked if the District Council could assess the site, as it was considered to be dangerous around the back area of the shop, and it was believed that there were vermin in this area.

**The Chief Executive agreed to request that this site be visited, to assess the current situation.**

Concern was raised regarding planning permission that had been granted at Potter's Croft adjacent to the school. It was felt that traffic would become an issue in this area. The Chairman responded that if planning permission had been granted, highways advice would have been sought from Derbyshire County Council, and they must have felt that provision was adequate.

In addition, also in this area, it was pointed out that the school carried out many trips, and buses dropped children off at Potter's Croft. As a result, local residents were experiencing problems with parked cars, waiting to pick up and drop off students. It was requested that the school consider dropping off at an alternative location out of school hours.

**It was agreed that a letter be sent to the school asking that they consider unlocking the car park and dropping off and picking up from there outside school hours.**

It was reported that hedges were becoming very overgrown in the jitty between Hill Street and High Street and it was becoming difficult for residents to pass through. The Chief Executive responded that enforcement action had been taken in the past in this area.

**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this matter and report back to a future Meeting.**

Similar problems were reported with an overgrown hedge on Park Road, between Buildbase and the A444 junction.

**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this matter and report back to a future Meeting.**

It was also reported that the pathway on Darklands Lane, adjacent to the allotments, was almost impassable.

**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this matter and report back to a future Meeting.**

The Forum Liaison Officer also gave an update on the footpath at the Horse and Jockey Public House site. He reported that consultation had been completed, however an objection had been received which had to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate. He reported that Derbyshire County Council were dealing with a number of claims at present, and this was being pursued.

It was felt that the Rainbow Waste Site was becoming untidy, and should be screened off. The Chief Executive responded that he had contacted Rainbow Waste, however the District Council had no enforcement powers in this matter. Councillor Lacey reported that he had looked at the site with an officer from Derbyshire County Council and actions were being taken following this visit.

**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this matter and report back to a future Meeting.**

It was reported that drains on Eureka Road had been blocked during the recent flood and that the road on the junction with Skinners Road, was rupturing.

**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this matter and report back to a future Meeting.**

It was reported that there were many potholes on Eureka Road.

**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this and report back to a future Meeting.**

It was asked if the Midway sign could be realigned on Burton Road from Woodville.

**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this matter and report back to a future Meeting.**

It was reported that Manor Road was being used as a short-cut to bypass queuing on the A444, and the vehicles using this route were travelling at speed.

**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this matter and report back to a future Meeting.**

NA/7. **DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES**

The Forum Liaison Officer reported that Derbyshire County Council had embarked on a Derbyshire Health and Well Being Strategy 2012/13 consultation. Consultation was open until 2nd September 2012. Copies of the survey were available in GP's surgeries and Libraries, and could also be accessed online.

NA/8. **DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES - DOG CONTROL ORDER CONSULTATION**

Matt Holford (Environmental Health Manager) reported on dog control order consultation which was taking place throughout the district. He reported that the District Council had powers under legislation relating to dogs and open spaces. Consultation had already been undertaken with parishes, and a report had been submitted to the District Council's Environmental and Development Services Committee, where it had been requested that wider consultation take place. Consultation would take place over the next two months, and outcomes would be reported back to the Committee where members would make any further decisions.

The Chief Executive gave an update on South Derbyshire and reported that the District was growing by 15.8% per annum, and was in the top 20 in the country. He added that this put many pressures on the District including transport and infrastructure issues. Over the next few months, there would be further consultation on housing for the future and encouraged residents to respond to this. It was necessary to balance all the needs of local communities and also bring in additional facilities and infrastructure.

A further discussion ensued on public transport, as a crucial requirement of any infrastructure that was to be put in place in the future. It was felt that currently the service was unsatisfactory. The Chief Executive responded that although the District Council was the local planning authority, the public transport issue could only be dealt with by bus and transport companies.

The Chief Executive gave an update on developments within Swadlincote and reported that a Brantano outlet and a Danish furniture store would be opening on the Pipeworks. In addition, he reported that the Somerfield site would be taken over by B & M. A Swadlincote Town Centre Vision Strategy would be published later this year, and it was important that residents took the opportunity to comment, and make suggestions on this via the consultation process.

An update was also provided on the new golf course, and the Chief Executive confirmed that he would have dates for the next phases of the project at the next Meeting, and in addition the hotel site was currently being marketed.

NA/9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

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

P. DUNN  
CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8.30 p.m.