

NEWHALL AREA MEETING

17th August 2005

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Richards (Chair) and Councillors Bambrick, Mrs. Mead and Wilkins.

Mrs. J. Jones (Director of Corporate Services), N. Betteridge (Democratic Services Officer) and B. Jones (Helpdesk).

County Council Representative

Councillors Bambrick and Jones.

Derbyshire Constabulary

Acting Inspector S. Pont.

Members of the Public

P. Bambrick, E.A. Foy, P. Foy, P. Laughlin, C. Maddock, G. Myatt, K.J. Parker, M. Richards, D. Tagg, R. Tagg and B. Woods.

NA/1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

It was noted that District Councillor Richards had been appointed as Chair of the Area Meeting at the Council Meeting held on 30th June 2005.

NA/2. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from L. Gadsby, C. Gillespie, R. House (CVS) and M. Perry.

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

It was agreed that District Councillor Mrs. Mead be appointed Vice-Chair of the Area Meeting for the remainder of the municipal year.

NA/4. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Area Meeting held on 10th February 2005 were noted.

NA/5. **CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair advised that a Sponsored Walk from the Old Post Centre, Newhall would be held on 11th September 2005 in aid of St. Giles Hospice. Sponsorship forms were available from Mr. B. Woods.

NA/6. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES PROGRESSED SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

The Meeting reviewed those items raised at the last Meeting and noted the progress made in each case. With regard to the Youth Facilities Plan, a summary of the Plan was circulated and a full copy of the Plan was available

for any resident interested. County Councillor Bambrick advised that the County Highways Authority was prepared to undertake a survey relating to traffic routes in the vicinity of Coronation Street/Darklands Road, Swadlincote. He also reported that remedial works would be undertaken to the road surface at Robinsons Road/Parliament Street, Newhall following deterioration. With regard to the parking restriction lines opposite the Lamb Inn, Main Street, Newhall, residents were advised that any illegal car parking should be reported to the police. The deterioration of walls within Newhall Park had been reported to the Leisure Services Manager for attention and with regard to a parking facility for residents in Field Way, Newhall, the Chair advised that the Housing Division was still investigating a possible solution associated with the area of garages in St. Catherines Road.

NA/7. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE LOCAL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A resident queried the opening times of the new Community Police Office at High Street, Newhall. It was reported that the local Beat Officer was currently on leave and it had never been the intention for the premises to be open constantly on the basis that the Beat Officer would be circulating within the community. When an Officer was present at the premises, the doors would be open and a sign displayed. It was noted that the local Beat Officer's mobile phone number was available for residents.

Concern was expressed at illegal parking in the vicinity of Orchard Street/High Street, Newhall, causing traffic problems in the area. Accordingly, arrangements would be made for the local Beat Officer to monitor the situation.

A resident considered that alignments on the highway were required at A444/Park Road, Stanton, as many drivers were cutting the corner when manoeuvring a right turn from Park Road and County Councillor Bambrick agreed to pursue this matter with the County Highways Authority.

The current position on the proposed mobile phone mast at Queens Drive, Swadlincote was queried following an appeal lodged against the refusal of planning permission. The Chair advised that the Council had now considered the adoption of a hierarchy relating to the location of masts. A resident reported that she had attended a meeting organised by the mobile phone company concerned, which had agreed to consider alternative sites.

It was reported that an increasing number of children were congregating within the grounds of Newhall Cemetery and Acting Inspector Pont confirmed that he was aware of this problem and patrols would be increased. He also encouraged residents to ring the police at the time of any problems and the Church Warden considered that CCTV would assist, if this facility could be installed.

A resident referred to the untidy condition of the area of land at Oversetts Road, Newhall, adjoining the Lamb Inn. In this regard, it was reported that a planning application had been submitted for residential development on the site.

County Councillor Bambrick advised residents that a funding bid had been submitted for improvements to Alma Road, Newhall. Severn Trent Water

should be undertaking sewerage works in September, following which the County Highways Authority would surface the road.

A resident queried the current situation on the proposed golf course on the former Nadins site and it was reported that negotiations were ongoing.

It was reported that the recycling facilities at Sainsbury's on Civic Way, Swadlincote were often full and required emptying more frequently. This would be pursued with the Council's Recycling Officer.

Residents were advised that Mr. and Mrs. Hansford, who were unable to attend the Meeting, had queried the current situation relating to land on the corner of Oversetts Road and Alma Road, Newhall. In their absence, it was reported that the Council had disposed of this land on 23rd March 2005 and this information had already been conveyed to Mrs. Hansford by telephone earlier in the day.

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

It was reported that the next Area Meeting would be held during October/November and residents would be advised of the date in due course.

NA/9. **FUTURE STRUCTURE OF AREA MEETINGS**

A report was circulated advising that since 1997, the District Council had had six Area Meetings based on the previous County Electoral Division boundaries. However, an Electoral Commission boundary review of the County had resulted in seven Electoral Divisions for South Derbyshire and these came into effect at the recent County Council elections held on 5th May 2005. This revision of the County Council's Electoral Divisions and the decision taken by the County Council to make use of the established Area Meeting structure at the District Council provided an opportunity for the Council to review the current boundaries of its Area Meetings.

It was proposed that South Derbyshire District Council would submit a proposal for a revised structure of Area Meetings in the near future. The Council's Constitution required that 'the Council will consult with relevant Parish and Town Councils and the Chairs of relevant Parish Meetings when considering whether and how to amend the operation of its existing Area Meetings'. It was reported that as well as using the forum of Area Meetings to undertake such consultation, letters would also be sent to the relevant Parish Clerks in order that the matter could be discussed at Parish Council Meetings and comments fed back to the District Council. Those present were requested to contact the Council's Head of Legal and Democratic Services on this matter should they require further information, or have comments to make.

NA/10. **CORPORATE PLAN**

A detailed report on the Council's Corporate Plan for 2005/2008 was circulated. The Director of Corporate Services advised that the main purpose of this report was to outline the contents of the Council's latest Corporate Plan, which detailed its plans and priorities for delivering local services over the next three years. A secondary purpose was to provide a context for the consultation the Council would be undertaking shortly with local people and

groups on the development of the next Corporate Plan. The key aims and underpinning themes together with a sample of the Council's milestones for 2005/06 were circulated. The Director of Corporate Services advised that the Council would be undertaking a consultation exercise to roll forward the Corporate Plan at the next Meeting and would also be consulting on its budget proposals.

Residents offered several comments relating to matters contained within the Corporate Plan, including landscaping in the vicinity of the new Bison Factory at Swadlincote, the provision of brown bins in the area and the provision of Public Footpath signs.

K. J. RICHARDS

CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 7.50 p.m.