

**SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM**

**LINTON – AREA 6**

Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at Netherseal Village Hall

**PRESENT: -**

**South Derbyshire District Council representatives**

Councillor Dan Pegg (Chair), Councillor Melanie Bridgen (Vice Chair),  
Councillor Andrew Brady, Councillor Amy Wheelton

Mary Bagley - Head of Cultural and Community Services  
Ian Hey – Community Partnership Officer  
Debbie Ward – Service Assistant

**Derbyshire County Council representatives**

Councillor Martyn Ford

**Derbyshire Police representatives**

PC Joanna Saddington, PCSO Harriet Dunn, PCSO Shelley Johnson

**Parish Council/ Meeting representatives**

Councillor Andrea Barnes (Walton on Trent Parish Council), Councillor Karen Bradford (Coton in the Elms Parish Council), Councillor Sheila Jackson (Castle Gresley Parish Council), Julia Nicklin (Netherseal Parish Council), Councillor Janice Pallett (Castle Gresley Parish Council), Oliver Pallett (Castle Gresley Parish Council), Councillor John Powell (Linton Parish Council), David Savory (Netherseal Parish Council), Councillor John Taylor (Netherseal Parish Council), Councillor Kevin Tizzard (Linton Parish Council)

Cathy Miles – South Derbyshire CVS

**Members of the public**

Richard Bennett, Tim Bidder, Eddie Bisknell, Mae Cummings, John Grant, Mervyn John, Noel Lawn, Iain Liston-Brown, Tracey Midson, Paul Robinson, Chris Summers, Alison Smith, Stuart Upsall, Paul Woolaway

LA/8 **Open meeting**

- **Introductions and apologies**

Councillor Paul Marbrow (Rosliston Parish Council), Stephanie Marbrow (Rosliston Parish Council), Frank McArdle, Councillor Pat Murray

- **Declarations of interest**

None.

- **Chair's announcements**

New waste and recycling calendar booklets are currently in production and will be delivered in the next few weeks, if you have not already received one.

These include full details of Christmas and New Year bank holiday collections as well as information about what goes in each bin.

Don't forget, you can check your collection dates by simply submitting your post code on the Bin Collection Dates page of our website. If there are any disruptions to collections because of winter weather, we update continually about these on our Facebook and twitter accounts.

New payment machines

From January 1, 2020 it will no longer be possible to make payments using cash at the Civic Offices in Swadlincote.

Alternative cash payment facilities are available through Post Offices. The "Pay Point" network, featuring a variety of independent local retailers, is also established. There are 10 of these locations within one mile of the Civic Offices.

Payment by cheque will still be allowed – but they must be submitted by post, not over the counter. Anyone requiring a receipt must include a stamped addressed envelope with their cheque.

Free Tree Scheme!

Both residents of South Derbyshire District and organisations with a South Derbyshire address are eligible to apply.

Households can apply for up to two trees per household. Applications are welcomed between Tuesday, September 24, 2019 and Monday, October 28, 2019 (5pm) by visiting the Council Website or by calling Customer Services on 01283 595795.

This year's tree choices are; Cherry Plum, Hazel, Crab Apple and Holly and all trees will be around two years old.

### Heritage Trails

SDDC has a new webpage to showcase heritage trails for the different parts of the District. See [www.southderbyshire.gov.uk/heritagetrails](http://www.southderbyshire.gov.uk/heritagetrails)

There is a Heritage Trail 'home' page which can be used to share heritage trails from around the District. If you would like your village/ town trails or leaflets about your local heritage to feature on the website please send a link to: [communications@southderbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:communications@southderbyshire.gov.uk)

- **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.

### LA/9 **Police Safer Neighbourhood report**

PCSO Shelley Johnson updated that PC Joanna Saddington and herself would now be responsible for policing the Linton area (in regard to SNT) and that PC David McMillan would be returning to work in the New Year.

Current issues raised by residents whilst out on patrols include: -

- Van break ins
- School parking
- Local policing and visible patrols
- Speeding
- Bikes and mopeds on parks

Events/ other: -

- Bike Marking event due to be held 02.11.19 at Linton Village Hall between 10am - 12pm
- Van Security event due to be held 17.11.19 at Rosliston Beehive Lakes carpark between 10am - 12pm
- Suggestions were welcomed in respect to venues to host a regular 'Cuppa with a Copper' event
- Regular school patrols are ongoing across the whole of Police area 6
- Speedwatch training is scheduled to take place on 16.11.19 at 2pm – details of location will be given once you have registered your attendance

- Residents were reminded to report speeding directly to CREST via their website ([www.crestderbyshire.org](http://www.crestderbyshire.org))
- Nuisance bikes – those that have been reported to the Police with a registration plate (VRM) have been dealt with accordingly and patrols in hotspot areas are ongoing

Cathy Miles of South Derbyshire CVS queried whether Speedwatch volunteers from a particular area could carry out Speedwatch checks in other areas once trained?

**ACTION: PCSO Shelley Johnson to take question back regarding Speedwatch volunteers and report back.**

Councillor Martyn Ford asked whether during Bike Marking events the Police encourage members of the public to be seen and safe when riding bikes.

PCSO Johnson responded to say that yes advice is given where appropriate, and reflective items such as stickers are also provided. Safety packs have also recently been issued at Bike Marking events held at local schools in the area.

A member of the public asked whether the highway code is law or just a guide book?

PC Joanna Saddington advised that the highway code is endorsable by the issue of a ticket by a Police Constable (at their discretion).

A resident raised concerns regarding the volume of traffic passing through the village of Netherseal due to the ongoing works along the A444. In particular, there has been a large increase in the number of HGV's coming through the village.

Another resident added that there was a meeting held back in March of this year with County Councillors at the Cricketts Inn, Acresford where it was agreed that a 'Unsuitable for HGVs' sign would be erected on the approach to Netherseal village and that this has not yet been done.

**ACTION: Councillor Martyn Ford to investigate why the 'Unsuitable for HGV's' sign post has not yet been erected and report back.**

A resident queried what the process is to report speeding issues to CREST.

PCSO Harriet Dunn explained that speeding issues should be reported directly to CREST via their website and added that Community Speedwatch results can also be sent to CREST which will provide further evidence of a problem.

Councillor Pegg added that there is more that needs to be done regarding speeding by working together to come up with ideas to improve the situation.

LA/10 **Safer South Derbyshire Partnership update and Safer Neighbourhood grants**

Ian Hey provided the following update: -

- National Hate Crime Awareness Week took place last week between the 12th and 19th October. Primary schools were invited to enter a poster competition to raise awareness, Stop Hate reporting packs were also issued to Private Hire Operators alongside a social media campaign and two public engagement events.
- ASB Tasking Meetings have been reintroduced involving Schools, Multi Agency Team (MAT), Police and Derbyshire County Council (DCC) to discuss young people who are causing concern both in school and outside in the community.
- Safer Neighbourhoods Funding – Projects funded to date 2019/20: -

| Project Name | Ref.  | Project Lead | Organisation   | Amount Applied for | Total Project Cost | Amount Granted |
|--------------|-------|--------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Stay & Spray | A6:01 | Hema Mistry  | People Express | £2500              | £5000              | £2500          |

There is still £1500 left to spend. Any ideas contact Chris Smith, Ian Hey or Debbie Ward.

LA/11 **Local authority update**

Mary Bagley provided the following update: -

In spring and early summer 2019, the Council ran two environmental awareness campaigns aimed at helping local residents positively influence their local environmental standards.

The **We're Watching You** campaign was delivered in the District's parks and open spaces to encourage responsible owners to pick up after their dog and to apply peer pressure to less responsible owners.

The campaign used glow in the dark signs to promote a positive message to all dog walkers about picking up after their animal. It was supported by an active social media campaign over the two months.

The social media campaign resulted in over 62,000 residents seeing the content on Facebook and Twitter and nearly 4,000 residents engaging with the content. As a result dog fouling complaints reduced by 35% during the campaign compared to previous years.

Officers intend to redeploy the **We're Watching You** luminous signs at four areas of public open space in early November (Locations to be confirmed).

### Swadlincote Heroes World Clean-up Day

On Friday, September 20, 2019 25 volunteers took part in a #SwadHeroes litter pick to mark World Clean-up Day, including staff from McDonalds, and South Derbyshire District Council.

A staggering 42 bags of rubbish as well as two full wheelie bins of recycling were collected. A shopping trolley and road sign were also among the debris cleared from the town centre.

Any community organisations who want to run their own litter collection event can sign up on the Keep Britain Tidy website and can contact the Councils Operational Services team at [waste.cleansing@southderbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:waste.cleansing@southderbyshire.gov.uk) to request support such as provision of litter pickers and other equipment or ring the Council's Customer Services Team on 01283 595795.

### **Climate change**

The Council have set up an Environmental Sustainability Group to develop and implement measures that demonstrably improve the Council's environmental performance and to respond to the Council declaring a Climate Emergency on June 27<sup>th</sup> 2019. The Council will: -

“Strive to make South Derbyshire District Council carbon neutral by 2030 and achieve Carbon Neutrality before the Government target of 2050”.

The Group has a number of work streams to improve the Council's environmental performance, including: -

- To retain ISO140001 (International Environmental Standard) accreditation;
- To reduce the Council's Energy Consumption;
- To improve the Council's Water Management;
- To focus on reducing Staff Travel – both miles driven by Council vehicles and miles driven on Council business using employee's own transport
- To enhance biodiversity across the District.

A number of initiatives are currently being worked on to address these issues, including: -

- The Recruitment of a new Environmental Protection Officer
- A Travel Plan for the Council is being developed to encourage staff to walk, cycle and use public transport

- The Council has had a grant to install its first public Electric Vehicle recharge point on Council land in the Bus Station Car Park in Swadlincote
- A Biodiversity Working Group has been formed to develop an Action Plan for Nature across the District which will help to improve biodiversity on Council owned land and influence developers to delivery biodiversity improvements through our planning policies.

### **Grass cutting at Daisy Lane, Overseal**

There is an arrangement agreed that the Council will aim to cut the site twice a year, once in April and once in September. Unfortunately this year the Grounds Team was unable to make a planned cut in April due to equipment problems. The issue appears to be one of communication and resources and we will endeavour to collectively address this at our monthly service meetings.

The Cultural Services Team has engaged The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) to undertake site visits on a number of our “nature sites” (including Daisy Lane) with a view to identifying works required and as a first step towards site management plans. Hopefully in the longer term any management plans will aid our biodiversity efforts and clarify maintenance regimes and responsibilities.

### **Wildflower planting pilot**

A pilot scheme for pictorial wildflower planting at four locations within the District has been approved. The proposed pilot areas for pictorial meadows are as follows:

Hartshorne Road, Repton  
Ticknall Road, Ticknall  
The Mease, Hilton  
William Nadin Way, Swadlincote

Wildflower planting increases biodiversity and encourages wildlife; pictorial planting enhances the aesthetic appearance of otherwise bland green spaces.

Unlike the current grass cutting arrangements, wildflower plantings require a different management and mowing regime.

### **Corporate Plan**

The Council is currently working on producing its new Corporate Plan for 2020 – 2024.

**The Vision** for the plan will be – South Derbyshire is a *‘Great place to live, visit and invest’*

**Ethical Standards/Values** will be - Respect, Honesty, Openness, Accountability, Impartiality, Selflessness, Leadership and Integrity

The three key priorities of the Council will be:

**Our Environment** - *Keeping a Clean, Green District for future generations*

**Our People** - *ensuring we deliver high quality services*

**Our Future** – *growing our District and our skills base*

Further information will be provided at future meetings.

A member of the public queried what percentage of household waste is recycled.

Councillor Wheelton responded to say that the figure is around 52%. Mary Bagley confirmed that she would double check this figure and confirm for definite at the next meeting.

**ACTION: Mary Bagley to confirm what percentage of household waste is currently recycled and report back.**

A member of the public raised concerns regarding the traveller site situated opposite the Cricketts Inn, Acresford on the A444 and asked why when planning conditions are attached to a grant of permission are those conditions not then enforced?

Mary Bagley provided an update from Gaynor Richards, Senior Enforcement Officer, Planning advising that discussions have been held with the land owners and agent regarding a revised planning application.

Councillor Melanie Bridgen requested that the following questions be answered: -

What are the penalties available in respect of breach?

What evidence is needed to establish breach?

Why should any mitigation be accepted by the local authority?

**ACTION: Mary Bagley to take back questions regarding a breach of planning conditions in respect to the A444 Traveller Site and report back.**

Environmental concerns were also raised regarding the aforementioned traveller site in respect to the amount of rubbish that is currently present and the potential for contamination of the river situated at the bottom of the site.

A resident added that the sewage trench that was put in across the A444 to service the traveller site is sinking.

**ACTION: Councillor Martyn Ford to take back the issue raised regarding the sinking trench situated by the A444 traveller site to DCC Highways and report back.**

Andrea Barnes of Walton Parish Council asked whether there was any update regarding the Walton bypass.

Mary Bagley updated that Planning have advised that the developers haven't been able to build enough houses yet in order to pay for the bridge using the agreed section 106 money and that there is a meeting scheduled to take place with the developers to look at future timescales.

**ACTION: Mary Bagley to speak with Planning regarding timescales in regard to the Drakelow housing development and associated Walton bypass and report back.**

Matt Comings, a resident of Drakelow raised the following questions: -

For DCC – Waste Plant and Access

- When the last two or three amendments were considered why were residents on Drakelow Park, by that time in residence, not specifically advised or even covered by a statutory roadside notice as guidelines require?
- In the knowledge that the Walton Bridge project was already effectively dead in the water how could DCC describe in 2019, 200 HGV movements a day (3 a minute) and SDDC, ESBC and SCC have no objections to the plans on this basis given that the official and only route to the plant would be via the already overloaded Rosliston Road though Stapenhill and the railway bridge to Walton Road which cannot handle a HGV and on-coming traffic simultaneously?

For SDDC - Drakelow Park

- How does the local authority square its original planning for Drakelow Park, which originally insisted 'no start' on public safety grounds until the Walton Bridge project started, with its later decisions made to allow 100 and then 400 houses to be completed and sold before the bridge was built and with no mention of the public safety issues aforementioned?

For All

- Who if anyone is at the helm of the Walton Bridge project DCC/SCC/SDDC/ESBC?
- How does Mr McArdle for SDDC square his public appeals to get on with the bridge with the decision of his own planners, who I imagine report to him, and who by passing amendments to the Drakelow Park permissions effectively delayed the bridge?
- How do we protect the lives of people on the HGV route for the years until the bridge is built?

Councillor Wheelton responded to say that the current state of play is that no developer will take on the site due to it being a brown field site and that a request has been made to Homes England to try and obtain funding through them to get the bridge built.

Another resident asked what can be done over the next three years about the dangerous level of HGV traffic that will pass through Stapenhill and can anything be done to stop these traffic movements in the interim?

Councillor Amy Wheelton suggested providing a full update in readiness for the next Area Forum meeting.

Mary Bagley also suggested inviting Tony Sylvester, Head of Planning to the next meeting.

**ACTION: Councillor Amy Wheelton to take back the questions raised in respect to the Walton bypass bridge and Mary Bagley to invite Tony Sylvester to attend the next Linton Area Forum meeting.**

#### **Local community and voluntary sector projects/ update**

Cathy Miles provided a brief introduction to CVS and the services it offers which include (but are not limited to) the following: -

- Safer Home scheme
- Home from Hospital scheme
- Community Fridge and Food Bank
- Active Travel
- Befriending
- Linking people to each other
- Business advice
- Payroll services
- Small Grants funding

Current projects that are being worked on by the CVS include tackling social isolation.

Cathy also updated that their Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on the 15.11.19 to include workshops around writing a successful funding bid and effective minute writing and announced that the new look South Derbyshire Awards are due to be held at Toyota Manufacturing UK in February 2020.

**LA/13 Summary of any agreed priorities/ actions**

- PCSO Shelley Johnson to take question back regarding Speedwatch volunteers and report back.
- Councillor Martyn Ford to investigate why the 'Unsuitable for HGV's' sign post has not yet been erected and report back.
- Mary Bagley to confirm what percentage of household waste is currently recycled and report back.
- Mary Bagley to take back questions regarding a breach of planning conditions in respect to the A444 Traveller Site and report back.
- Councillor Martyn Ford to take back the issue raised regarding the sinking trench situated by the A444 traveller site to DCC Highways and report back.
- Mary Bagley to speak with Planning regarding timescales in regard to the Drakelow housing development and associated Walton bypass and report back.
- Councillor Amy Wheelton to take back the questions raised in respect to the Walton bypass bridge and Mary Bagley to invite Tony Sylvester to attend the next Linton Area Forum meeting.

**LA/14 Close and date of next meeting**

Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at Linton Brick Room.

**Councillor Dan Pegg**  
CHAIR

The meeting terminated at 8:30pm