

REPTON AREA MEETING

8th November 2004

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillors Ford, Isham (arrived at 7.25 p.m.), Jones and Mrs. Wheeler.

Mr. I. Reid (Deputy Chief Executive), Mrs. D. Cook (Democratic Services Officer) and Mr. B. Jones (Helpdesk).

Derbyshire County Council

County Councillor A. Jones.

Derbyshire Constabulary

PC P. Martin.

Parish Council Representatives

S. Edwards and K. Gibbs (Willington Parish Council).

Members of the Public

I. Parker, K. & M. Vincent, J. Orme, Mrs. A. Gillespie, S. Ellis, A. Atkin, G. Varty.

RA/11. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR THE MEETING**

In the absence of both the Chair and Vice-Chair, Councillor Mrs. H.K. Wheeler was appointed Chair for the Meeting.

RA/12. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from District Councillors Taylor (Chair), Bladen (Vice-Chair), Bell and Mrs. Hood. Apologies were also received from Cliff Warner, Mr. Adams and J. Burley (Hartshorne Parish Council), R. Statham and S. Smith (Woodville Parish Council), J. Newman and A. Gifford.

RA/13. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 27th July 2004 were received.

RA/14. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Chair asked the Democratic Services Officer to update the Meeting on the progress made on matters raised since the last Meeting. With regard to traffic wardens for the District she advised that a letter had been sent to Divisional Commander T. Hurrell. In his response he advised that he would discuss the matter with the Traffic Warden Management department and Inspector Fairbrother of Swadlincote to improve the situation and that the "bigger picture" saw many authorities taking responsibility for parking matters themselves. He also advised in his letter that he felt the situation at Repton would have been improved, had permission for him to have a base there been approved.

The Democratic Services Officer advised that the overgrown hedge causing an obstruction from Repton to Willington had been cut by Derbyshire County Council.

With regard to various highway matters which were raised at the last Meeting, County Councillor Jones advised the Meeting that the dropped kerb requested on Twyford Road, next to the sub-station at Willington had been included in this year's work programme.

Reference was made to the concerns expressed at the last Meeting regarding the access issues surrounding the Blue Mumbai Restaurant on the A38. The Democratic Services Officer advised the Meeting that Derbyshire County Council had been made aware of the concerns expressed at the last Meeting and a response was awaited. In light of the recent fatal road accident in that area, Councillor Ford and Mr. Orme re-emphasised the need to look into this matter effectively. Mr. Orme advised the Meeting that he had received correspondence from Derbyshire County Council's Partnerships Co-ordinator who had circulated his letters regarding flood risks and road safety to various agencies and made particular reference to the fact that Councillor Trevor Southerd, Derbyshire County Council Member for Swadlincote was looking into the road safety issues concerned.

With regard to the highways issues at Woodville, the Democratic Services Officer advised that this matter was being pursued outside of the Meeting with the County Council.

Mr. Orme referred to a letter of 5th November 2004, which stated that with regard to the South Derbyshire Local Plan, the report on the Inspector's findings recommended deleting the Willington Power Station as a major housing site in the Local Plan. The Deputy Chief Executive advised the Meeting that the Council's Local Plan was being discussed at a Meeting of the Council's Environmental and Development Services Committee on 11th November 2004 and the next Council Meeting on 2nd December 2004. Mr. Parker queried whether the District Council had a Flooding Officer and the Chair reported on the excellent work of the Flood Liaison Committee organised by the District Council which met twice a year and was attended by representatives from the Environment Agency, Derbyshire County Council, Parish Councils etc. She advised the Meeting that Severn Trent were also invited to attend this Meeting. Mr. Parker asked who was the most appropriate person to communicate a serious sewerage problem in Willington to and the Deputy Chief Executive suggested that he forward his comments to Severn Trent Water Limited.

Mr. Atkin referred to continuous flooding outside the Newton Park Hotel and suggested that this was due to a problem with a culvert running from the hotel to the river. It was agreed to refer this matter to Derbyshire County Council as the Highways Authority.

RA/15. **DRAFT COMMUNITY STRATEGY FOR SOUTH DERBYSHIRE**

The Director of Community Services advised that the Local Government Act 2000 placed a duty on the Council to work with its partners to produce a Community Strategy that would help to improve the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of South Derbyshire. The South Derbyshire Local Strategic Partnership (SDLSP) was taking responsibility for preparing the

Community Strategy and for making sure that the plans in it were put into action. The Meeting was advised that the SDLSP was established in October 2003. It consisted of a forum which met twice a year and was open to all residents and any organisation with an interest in the area. The Partnership Board (made up of representatives from public, private and voluntary sector organisations) carried out the day-to-day work of the partnership. This included developing the Community Strategy.

The Meeting was advised that the draft Strategy was made up of a number of building blocks which included:-

- (1) An overall vision
- (2) Six broad themes
- (3) Priorities for action
- (4) Examples of the types of action that could be taken

The overall vision for the strategy (which would cover the next five years) was “Working together for a better South Derbyshire”. To help the partnership to deliver this vision, six broad themes had been identified relating to:-

- (1) Safe communities
- (2) Healthy communities
- (3) A vibrant economy
- (4) A sustainable environment
- (5) Lifelong learning and culture
- (6) Creating opportunities for all

These themes were intended to cover the issues, which were important to local people. The Meeting received a presentation on the contents of the draft Strategy on a theme by theme basis. A short questionnaire was circulated and those present were encouraged to complete the questionnaire and return it to the Council to assist the SDLSP find out more about local priorities. The SDLSP would be consulting local people and groups across South Derbyshire until early December 2004. The feedback would then be analysed and used to shape the final version of the strategy which would be presented for approval to a meeting of the Partnership Forum in January 2005.

Mr. Orme referred to the flooding issue and stated that Theme 3 of the Community Strategy highlighted that coal mining was local to southern parishes. He stated that flooding was relevant to the northern parishes and he didn't want to see flooding written out of such plans because it was parochial. The Deputy Chief Executive encouraged those present to fill in and return the questionnaires, as the SDLSP welcomed the views and ideas of the community.

Councillor Ford referred to the smaller community groups within the District and asked whether it was possible to employ a Grants Officer able to assist such groups with form filling etc. Councillor Isham referred to an Officer with this role based at South Derbyshire CVS who also utilised Funding Finder software effectively.

MRS. H.K. WHEELER
CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 7.40 p.m.