

LINTON AREA MEETING

16th August 2005

**PRESENT:-**

**District Council Representatives**

Councillor Southern (Chair) and Councillors Bambrick, Mrs. Hall and Lauro.

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

**Derbyshire County Council Representatives**

Councillor Mrs. Lauro, K. McIntyre (Democratic Services).

**Derbyshire Constabulary**

Acting Sergeant Grace and PC D. Croxall

**Parish Council/Meeting Representatives**

K. Bradford (Coton-in-the-Elms Parish Council), K.J. Fairbrother (Castle Gresley Parish Council), V. Taylor (Walton-on-Trent Parish Council), W.P. Marbrow (Rosliston Parish Council), G. Edwards (Overseal Parish Council), I. Chester (Overseal Parish Council),

**Members of the Public**

S. Hill (Rosliston Parish Council), B. Matkin (Rosliston Parish Council), K. Gibson (Burton Mail), P. Loughlin (Mark Todd MP's Office), P. Bambrick.

LA/1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

The Meeting noted the appointment of Councillor Southern as Chair made at the Council Meeting held on 30th June 2005.

LA/2. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Dr. Eaton (Cauldwell Parish Meeting), S. Jackson (Castle Gresley Parish Council), and W. Wadsworth (Coton-in-the-Elms Parish Council).

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

County Councillor Mrs. K. Lauro was appointed Vice-Chair.

LA/4. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st February 2005 were received.

LA/5. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Democratic Services Officer referred to a previous query relating to parcels of land within the District Council's ownership and advised that a report on this matter was in the early stages of preparation and a further report would be submitted to the next Meeting. With regard to an untidy site

at Cauldwell Road, Linton, the Democratic Services Officer advised that the Council did not propose to take any action at the current time but that should anybody have any further complaints to contact the Council's Senior Enforcement Officer.

County Councillor Mrs. Lauro advised that work had been undertaken on the deep drain cover at 'C' Station, Drakelow and that the lime trees at Main Street, Walton had now been cut back.

With regard to vehicles parking on Hillside Road, Linton, Acting Sergeant Grace reported that there had been no further complaints on this matter. PC Charlton reported that there was a possibility in the future that an officer might be appointed specifically with responsibility for speeding and parking complaints. Councillor Fairbrother reported that parking on Hillside Road at Castle Gresley was still a problem near to the allotments and PC Charlton agreed to monitor this situation and feedback to Castle Gresley Parish Council accordingly.

LA/6. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE LOCAL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

B. Matkin of Rosliston Parish Council expressed concern regarding speeding in the village of Rosliston. He stated that the Parish Council had been promised strips to curb traffic flow. The comments were noted by the Derbyshire Constabulary representatives. Mr. Matkin also reported that he had heard that civilians were to be trained in the use of hand-held speed guns and accordingly the Police representatives agreed to clarify Derbyshire Constabulary's policy on this matter. A general discussion took place regarding the introduction of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs).

G. Edwards of Overseal Parish Council questioned the current situation regarding the 'third bridge' over the River Trent. She stated that the A444 was "bogged down" with traffic. The Deputy Chief Executive advised the meeting that he was aware that an announcement had been made by Staffordshire County Council on this proposal but stated that he was not aware of any similar proposals for Derbyshire. He referred to the multi-modal study which had been undertaken which might filter into Derbyshire County Council's transport plan. He advised the meeting that any proposal would require major consultation with the residents of South Derbyshire. V. Taylor of Walton-on-Trent Parish Council stated that she understood that funding was in place for a massive island/interchange off the A38 at Branston and expressed concern that traffic would use the villages of South Derbyshire to access such an interchange. The Deputy Chief Executive advised that there was no firm proposal in any programme currently. Any third river crossing would have a major impact on the highway network of South Derbyshire and the appropriate consultation would need to take place. V. Taylor gave her understanding of the situation following her attendance at a meeting of East Staffordshire District Council. Councillor Hall expressed concern as to how traffic was to access the A38 coming from the M42 and stated that a meeting was needed to address such issues. The Deputy Chief Executive referred to the various agencies responsible for the highway network and suggested that an officer from Derbyshire County Council could be invited to the next meeting to discuss the County's Transport Plan. County Councillor Mrs. Lauro advised the meeting that she was not aware of any firm proposals as yet. A resident queried what the District Council's

preferred solution in this matter was and was advised by the Deputy Chief Executive that the Council favoured the smaller scale proposal submitted by Roger Bullivant. The Local Planning Statement referred to the Council responding to regional bodies and County authorities to identify and develop a third crossing over the river. Councillor Bambrick advised that Councillors were as concerned about this matter as residents. V. Taylor emphasised the problems experienced with lorries short cutting through villages. The Deputy Chief Executive referred to weight restrictions on these particular roads and suggested referring the matters to Trading Standards and the Police. Councillor M. Lauro suggested that perhaps the Council should not consider any third river crossing proposal until the road infrastructure of the District of South Derbyshire had been improved. The Chair stated that industries would resist coming to the District if the road infrastructure proved insufficient. The Deputy Chief Executive confirmed that the District Council's approach was to protect any adverse impact on the environment of villages within the District. Councillor Bambrick suggested that members of the public witnessing heavy lorries travelling through villages should report the registration numbers to the local Police. V. Taylor made a plea for a large 7.5 tonne weight limit sign to be placed in the area of Coton Park. She also suggested that Argos be contacted as this was usually the destination that lorries were travelling, asking them to persuade lorries to use other routes. It was agreed to ask the Democratic Services Officer to write to Argos (plus GUS, the holding company) asking that this route should not be used and stating that the area was to be more heavily policed accordingly.

LA/7. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was reported that the date and venue of the next Linton Area Meeting would be confirmed in due course.

LA/8. **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 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 put forward 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 urged to contact the Council's Head of Legal and Democratic Services on this matter should they require further information, or have comments to make.

LA/9. **CORPORATE PLAN**

A detailed report on the Council's Corporate Plan for 2005/2008 was circulated. The Deputy Chief Executive 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. The 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 2005/2006 was circulated. The Deputy Chief Executive 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.

V. Taylor advised that recently the road sweepers had visited Walton-on-Trent but had not come onto Station Lane. She had also asked for the Bayley Bridge at Walton-on-Trent to be swept. The sweeper had visited the bridge but had not swept it. The Deputy Chief Executive apologised for these incidents and gave an assurance that the Bayley Bridge would be swept in the future.

R. W. SOUTHERN

CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 7.55 p.m.