

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

NEWHALL – AREA 5

Meeting minutes – Wednesday, January 27, 2021

Microsoft Teams

PRESENT: -

South Derbyshire District Council representatives

Councillor Paul Dunn (Chair), Councillor Sean Bambrick, Councillor Mick Mulgrew, Councillor Kevin Richards, Councillor Linda Stuart

Frank McArdle – Chief Executive Officer
Chris Smith – Communities Team Manager
Ian Hey – Community Partnership Officer
Lee English – Active Communities & Health Officer
Debbie Ward – Service Assistant (Taking notes)

Derbyshire County Council representatives

Aariana Sohal (Adult Social Care & Health)

Derbyshire Police representatives

PCSO Jordan Edwards

Parish Council/ Meeting representatives

Roger Moors – South Derbyshire CVS

Members of the public

Chris Baldwin, Ian & Lucy Felthouse, Linda Harris, Richard House, Richard Smith

NA/1 1. Open meeting

a) Introductions and housekeeping

b) Apologies

Pat Bambrick, Ian Bottrill, Ron Hughes, Mike Lacey, Mary Richards, Mr Trim

c) Declarations of interest

None declared.



d) Chair's announcements

Thanks were extended to all staff, volunteers, and workers from all public sector organisations and the community and voluntary sector for the tremendous work they have done and are continuing to do throughout the pandemic.

The Chair reminded the meeting that there are three COVID-19 Testing Centres at Gresley Old Hall, Midway Community Centre and Grove Hall in Swadlincote that can be visited by residents of South Derbyshire.

e) To receive the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.

f) Matters arising from the last minutes

None.

NA/2 2. Police Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) report and police Q&A

PCSO Jordan Edwards provided the following update: -

Newhall Park continues to be a hotspot area for large groups of youths to congregate, particularly between the hours of 8-10pm at night.

There was a recent incident at Newhall Park involving three individuals carrying knives. The parents of the individuals in question have subsequently been spoken to.

A Community Protection Notice (CPN) was issued to a woman on Oversetts Road in respect to anti-social behaviour (ASB).

Councillor Dunn praised the Police for their innovative approach to engaging with the public via social media by providing informative yet sometimes comical updates via their SNT Facebook page.

Councillor Dunn extended thanks on behalf of former Hartshorne Parish Councillor, Jim Seaton in relation to the speeding enforcement action taken by the Police following the last Newhall Area Forum meeting.

PCSO Edwards updated that the Police have been carrying out an increasing number of speed checks across all areas of South Derbyshire.

Councillor Kevin Richards queried whether the pilot scheme being trialled of turning off the lights in hotspot areas such as Newhall Park at night to deter groups of youths from congregating and causing ASB had been a success.

PCSO Edwards updated that the scheme had been successful and has had a positive effect in the area at night-time.



3. South Derbyshire Community Safety Partnership/ Safer Neighbourhood grants update

Ian Hey provided the following update: -

After a short period of uncertainty during the first lockdown many of the Local Partnership meetings quickly resumed using Microsoft Teams, including Police and Partners ASB Meetings, Pub Watch meetings, Child Exploitation meetings and the Violence Alcohol and Licensing meetings.

During the first lockdown there was an increase in calls to Police service for Domestic related incidents, and as a result a new South Derbyshire Domestic Abuse Action Group was set up to ensure key partners and support services are working closely together to raise awareness of domestic abuse and promote what local support services are available.

The easing of the first lockdown also saw a large increase in ASB both in terms of neighbour issues, parking issues at Tourist sites and large groups of young people gathering and causing a nuisance in parks and open spaces across the District.

Over the Summer local police SNT Officers were in daily communication with the Councils Communities and Cultural Services Teams and the Councils Community Enforcement Officers and multi-agency meetings were introduced to deal with specific issues at Foremark Reservoir and Newhall Park. New CCTV cameras have also been installed at Maurice Lea Park.

The Partnerships Safer Homes scheme which is delivered by South Derbyshire CVS was temporarily suspended when lock down commenced in April and through to July the Safer Homes worker was redeployed and delivered over 160 essential medical and food parcels to vulnerable individuals who were unable to leave their property.

Safer and Stronger Neighbourhoods Funding

Two funding applications have been received and approved this financial year for a total sum of £3475 which went towards replacement security windows at Newhall Scout Hut and a Passport to Music project provided through People Express.

Funding is still available to local community groups, parish councils, clubs & associations and not for profit organisations to make their community feel safer and stronger and to enhance the local community.

For more details, please visit the Council Website or contact Chris Smith or Debbie Ward in the Communities Team at community.safety@southderbyshire.gov.uk

NA/4 **4. Local community and voluntary sector projects/ update**

Roger Moors, CEO of South Derbyshire CVS (SDCVS) provided the following update:

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CVS have continued to provide help and support to residents of South Derbyshire throughout the pandemic and have intensified the services offered.

Foodbank operations have now moved to Hill Street Baptist Church in response to the increased demand for food provision during the pandemic. Over the last 6 months there has been a huge rise in demand for food and wrap around support, such as sign posting and moral support for people that have fallen on hard times. A closed door policy is in operation to ensure that each and every person is offered 30 minutes of one to one support during their appointment and to ensure that social distancing is observed.

The biggest area of growth for SDCVS has been the volunteer centre and since launching the 'South Derbyshire Volunteer Force' (SDVF) over 300 people have come forward to help support the roll out of COVID-19 vaccinations. Roger Moors extended thanks to everyone from Newhall and surrounding areas for their invaluable support.

The SDVC also helps to find suitable volunteers to support people who are lonely and isolated. Currently there are 129 volunteers supporting over 200 people in the community who are lonely and isolated and there is a waiting list for befrienders. Roger encouraged anyone who would like to help in this area to come forward and register their interest to become telephone befrienders.

Roger explained that one of the ways that SDCVS has been able to sustain and grow to respond to the additional demand on services has been through the promotion of the 'Winter Giving Campaign' and thanked the people of South Derbyshire for their kindness and generosity. So far, this financial year over £55,000 has been donated to the campaign which will continue until Spring 2021.

An important piece of work that SDCVS have been doing courtesy of a grant received from the South Derbyshire Partnership and Foundation Derbyshire is to look at social immobility issues in Newhall and surrounding areas. Roger raised awareness about a regular weekly 'Newhall Community Network' event which is held each Friday and encouraged people to attend to contribute towards this work. It is hoped that additional funding will be secured to take the project forward in 2021-22.

RM raised awareness there is an abundance of small grants available currently and encouraged the meeting to spread the word and welcomed applications from not for profit organisations, community groups and Parish Councils in Newhall and surrounding areas up until Wednesday, March 31, 2021.

Councillor Dunn passed on his thanks to the people of South Derbyshire in respect to the overwhelming response received in respect to the call for volunteers to assist with the roll out of the COVID-19 vaccination programme.

Councillor asked how people make appointments for the Food and Clothing bank. Roger Moors updated that Petra Parker is the main contact in respect to appointments for the Food Bank and that all her contact details can be found on the SDCVS website (www.sdcvs.org.uk/services/food-projects). Tel: 07458 305314 or email: projectsupport@sdcv.org.uk



Councillor Dunn urged the meeting to check on elderly friends and neighbours who may be struggling and who may not be computer literate and/ or have access to the internet to obtain contact details for SDCVS.

NA/5 5. Local authority update and public Q&A

Frank McArdle provided the following update: -

COVID-19 Pandemic update

South Derbyshire's response to the COVID-19 pandemic has been co-ordinated by the County Local Resilience Forum, the forum that guides our efforts in dealing with all local emergencies. All the work on the pandemic is overseen by a Strategic Coordinating Group, chaired by Derbyshire Police, this comprises senior representatives for health, social care, police, fire, military, local authorities, ministry of housing, communities and local government. South Derbyshire District Council's Chief Executive sits on this group. Under this sits a range of sub-groups all dealing with specific areas of action from:

Maintaining Front Line Services – in particular, essential services and maintaining customer access to those. All organisations have had to adapt the way they do things.

Capacity in the Health and Social Care system – dealing with pressure on hospitals, care homes and supporting people in their own homes.

Community Response and Coordination – this has been a big area for us locally. Whether that be in ensuring the delivery of food parcels to vulnerable people who were shielding, providing prescription deliveries, supporting people being discharged from hospital, co-ordinating volunteers for services such as befriending, supporting the local food bank and providing local testing facilities. A huge amount of effort has gone into this strand of work and partners should be rightly proud of the support they have provided to the local community at what has been and continues to be a very challenging time.

Frank McArdle reported that South Derbyshire continues to be well placed to respond to the pandemic. Unlike other areas across the County, South Derbyshire retained its Local Strategic Partnership in the form of the South Derbyshire Partnership meaning there were already structures in place to act quickly.

South Derbyshire is being held up as best practice in the County in this regard and other areas have been very complimentary about the strength and depth of the District's partnership arrangements.

Draft Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy

South Derbyshire District Council is currently inviting residents to comment on the Council's draft Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy 2021-25. Equality, diversity, and inclusion are an integral part of everyday life for South Derbyshire District Council and the Council is committed to ensuring that the services it provides are accessible to our residents, businesses, and visitors.



The Strategy and Action Plan for 2021-2025 sets out the Council's equality objectives for the next four years. In developing this strategy, the Council has consulted with Elected Members, Council Officers, Trade Unions, residents, community and faith-based groups through events held in partnership with SDCVS.

The Council is proud of the progress being made but before the final version of the Strategy is approved, any comments and feedback the Forum has is welcomed.

The strategy and Action Plan are available on the Council's website and can be viewed in the following link <https://www.southderbyshire.gov.uk/equality-diversity-and-inclusion> The deadline for comments is Thursday, 4 February 2021.

Christmas Waste Service Disruptions

Unfortunately, the brief spell of snow over the period between Christmas and New Year had a significant impact on all waste collection services and in particular recycling collections.

The recycling collections have been impacted by the increased amount of waste being generated at home due to the COVID-19 restrictions on households with tonnages presented for collection at times 30% above normal levels.

In normal times the Christmas week and the first two weeks of the new year see the highest volumes of waste presented for collection, these volumes are even higher than normal.

The three issues combined, tonnages due to COVID-19, increased tonnages due to Christmas and the loss of collection days due to Christmas/ weather have made it extremely difficult to catch up with collections.

The Council and its contractor have made every effort to get collections back to normal in as short a time as possible including additional resources and additional working days.

As of January 12, 2021, black and brown bin collections are back to normal. However, green bin collections are approximately one day behind. These collections are only delayed and not cancelled, therefore, residents should be advised to leave their bins out and they should be collected no later than the following working day.

Housing Services Update

Neighbourhood and Estate Management

Seven Community Protection Notice Warnings (CPNW) were issued for anti-social behaviour and condition of gardens, Two Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) letters were issued, one for littering and the other for breaching a previously issued Community Protection Notice (CPN).



Community Engagement

The 2020-23 Housing Customer Engagement Strategy Action Plan has been consulted on with Council tenants, Council employees and other social housing landlords. 185 tenants responded, with 82% saying that they found the Action Plan easy to read and understand. More information about the Strategy is available by contacting Community Engagement Officer Laurie Coombs on 07891 071980.

Helping vulnerable residents stay warm and well at home in South Derbyshire.

Householders living with cold sensitive health conditions who are unable to achieve affordable warmth are at high risk of needing extra support from the NHS and Adult Care.

The Council can provide support services at short notice and will work with referral partners to provide appropriate and cost-effective solutions for the NHS and Adult Care.

- Privately own or privately rent their house ✓
- Have a health condition made worse by the cold ✓
- Struggle to afford to keep their home warm ✓

People can self-refer/contact us for advice through our generic email environmental.health@southderbyshire.gov.uk or stephanie.thandi@southderbyshire.gov.uk

Frank McArdle provided a response to matters raised by a Newhall resident by email in advance of the meeting as follows: -

Dog waste

“Since the first lockdown last March, there has been a marked increase in the amount of dog waste being left on pavements - the problem is particularly noticeable on Wood Lane, Newhall, towards the top, near the Chesterfield Arms but on the opposite side of the road”

ACTION: Communities Team to forward on the matter of dog fouling around the top of Wood Lane and the Chesterfield Arms to the Clean Team for further investigation.

Litter bins

“After various bouts of vandalism over the years, litter bins in the alleyway running from Bretby Road to High Street, Newhall, via Hawthorn Rise, have all been removed. None have ever been replaced, meaning that other than a single bin at the High Street end, near the new hairdresser’s, there are no bins, which has led to an increase in littering and dog waste being left”

ACTION: Communities Team to forward the matter raised regarding litter bins on to Operational Services.



Grit bins

“Grit bins are in short supply - living on Hawthorn Rise, which is on a considerable slope and also a cul-de-sac, can be a challenge in weather like we’ve had recently. Once snow gets driven on, then frozen over, the road becomes like an ice rink and incredibly difficult and unsafe to get cars off. Willow Drive is only slightly better since it’s flatter and not a cul-de-sac. I feel this area would benefit from a grit bin, making it easier and safer for keyworkers to get to and from work, and for delivery drivers to be safer as they attempt to deliver to the elderly and vulnerable. The public area of grass at the top of the street would be the ideal spot for this and would benefit many”

Frank McArdle advised that the request for a grit bin located at the top of Hawthorn Rise, Newhall will be assessed in due course by Operational Services in accordance with the SDDC grit bin policy.

Recycling

“I’d be really interested to know how much waste that goes into the green bins actually gets recycled. There are so many types of plastic that companies/councils claim can’t be recycled - I’d like to know how much our local council actually manages to get recycled and if any gets diverted to landfill”

Frank McArdle updated that over the last 12 months 6789.39 tonnes of waste was collected via the green bins and 89.92% of the waste collected was recycled.

A member of the public raised that a waste bin located opposite the Thorn Tree pub on Bretby Road, Newhall has recently been crashed into and requires replacement.

ACTION: Communities Team to forward on the report provided regarding the damaged waste bin located on Bretby Road to Operational Services.

NA/6 6. Summary of agreed actions

Action	Person responsible
Communities Team to forward on the matter of dog fouling around the top of Wood Lane and the Chesterfield Arms to the Clean Team for further investigation.	Communities Team/ Clean Team
Communities Team to forward the matter raised regarding litter bins on to Operational Services.	Communities Team/ Operational Services
Communities Team to forward on the report provided regarding the damaged waste bin located on Bretby Road to Operational Services.	Communities Team/ Operational Services



NA/7 **7. Close and date of next meeting**

TBC (May/ June 2021)

Councillor Paul Dunn
CHAIR

The meeting terminated at 6:53pm

