

**SOUTH DERBYSHIRE COMMUNITY MEETING**

**REPTON – AREA 2**

**Meeting Minutes – September 7, 2023 at 6:30pm**

**Willington Old School**

**PRESENT: -**

**South Derbyshire District Council Representatives**

Councillor Ian Hudson (Chair), Councillor David Shepherd, Councillor Martyn Ford  
Councillor Lakhvinder Singh, Councillor James Lowe, Councillor Kerry Haines

Dr Justin Ives – Chief Executive Officer, Claire Rawlins – Anti-Social Behaviour Officer,  
Paige Robinson – Communities Team Service Assistant

**Derbyshire County Council Representatives**

Councillor Martyn Ford, Councillor Neil Atkin

**Derbyshire Police Representatives**

INSP Mike Sisman, PCSO David “Bob” Marley

**Parish Council/ Meeting Representatives**

Helen Adcock – South Derbyshire CVS, Phillip Allsopp – Willington Parish Council  
Heather Hall – Findern Parish Council, David Dickson – Repton Parish Council

**R/A 1. Open Meeting**

**a) Introductions and Housekeeping**

**b) Apologies**

Ticknall Parish Councillor and Cliff Warner

**c) Chair’s Announcements**

**Free Tree Scheme (Parks and Green Spaces)**

The details for the Councils Free Tree Scheme are currently being finalised. Anyone interested will be able to apply online for up to two trees in their garden, whilst organisations can apply for up to ten. The choice of tree species will be confirmed at the start of October, at which point you will be able to make an application online via the Councils Website. The closing date is the end of October.



## **Council Information**

There are a variety of information leaflets at the back of the room by the signing in sheet so please have a look on your way out.

Included is information on Vision Derbyshire, who can provide support on setting up new business, how to report dog fouling issues, information on the new Housing Tenants online access system and No Cold calling stickers.

## **New Chairs Charity**

The new Chair of the Council Sean Bambrick has chosen Miles for Smiles as his chosen charity for this year. The Charity's mission is to relieve the needs of people with life limiting or life changing health conditions or who are disabled living in south Derbyshire, North-West Leicestershire, or East Staffordshire by providing grants and memorable experiences, through days out or mini breaks to individuals in need to enhance their quality of life.

### **d) To Receive the Minutes of the Last Meeting**

All received as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

### **e) Matters Arising from the Last Minutes**

1. An issue was raised regarding the cleaning of the gullies. They want to have a schedule of when they're supposed to be cleaned and won't accept that a schedule can't be made. Dr Justin Ives will pass this issue onto Heidi to see what can be done.

**ACTION: Dr Ives to go back to Heidi McDougall to make a further request for a spreadsheet regarding the gully cleaning schedule.**

2. Repton would like the '20's Plenty' scheme due to problems with speeding and parking but can't understand why Derby's County Council's permission is needed. Councillor Ford updated that results are being analysed to be sent off to cabinet.

## **R/A 2. Police Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) Report and Police Q&A**

Police continue to respond to incidents and reports throughout the Mercia policing beat area. This includes every village, covering a very large geographical area including: Bretby, Calke, Findern, Foremark, Ingleby, Newton Solney, Repton, Milton, Smisby, Stenson Fields, Ticknall, Twyford & Stenson and Willington.

The community remain concerned about the impact speeding has on the quality of life on residents. Police have continued to encourage the growth of Community Speed Watch Groups. There are now numerous active speed watch groups carrying out regular checks. Praise should be given to the Willington, Milton, Repton and Smisby volunteers who give their time to keep roads safe. Police have regularly supported the work of these groups in the past months.



On Wednesday this week, police supported Smisby Speed Watch after volunteers had been subjected to verbal abuse. Several speeders were dealt with at the location and one driver was stopped by police and discovered to have no insurance, resulting in his vehicle being seized. Similarly, when volunteers in Milton and Repton were subjected to unwanted abuse, officers investigated and discovered the identities of offenders who were visited at their home addresses and dealt with. Several volunteers from the area have been invited to attend the Police and Crime Commissioners' Speed Watch conference this weekend in Ripley. PCSO Marley stated he was proud of their contribution to keep local roads safe.

Police continue to undertake vehicle-related activity in Mercia. Operations have been conducted in Stenson Fields, Milton, and Repton recently. Several residents have expressed umbrage about e-scooters being ridden on public roads and pathways. SNT has taken action to address these concerns. In Findern, Willington and Stenson Fields officers have issued section 59 notice warnings to youths riding e-scooters. Following a disturbance in Stenson Fields officers seized two e-scooters which were being used to commit anti-social behaviour in the area. A male driver in Willington, who thought it was appropriate to use his vehicle to hurl rubbish in the village on several occasions, was identified and issued a section 59 notice warning.

Parking remains an issue in the villages of Repton and Willington. Police have taken action to address these concerns by patrolling locations of concern. Formal warnings have been issued to drivers who continue to park cars on pavements which causes concern to local residents, particularly those using mobility scooters and wheelchairs. Repton Parish Council are seeking to introduce an awareness campaign to educate drivers to this problem and police will continue to engage also.

In Newton Solney, police executed a drugs' warrant, items were recovered from the address and there is currently an investigation ongoing.

A man who robbed a pensioner in a targeted attack in Newton Solney after following him home from the pub has been jailed. The man grabbed the 86-year-old man from behind and tackled him to the floor. He then stole the victim's wallet, which contained £50 in cash and his bank cards, before running away.

In Repton, police have worked with the Youth Club which was developed in the last 12 months. SNT have assisted with funding bids to secure extra finance to keep the group operating into the future. Police have continued to visit schools to engage with young people, this includes talks and patrols at Newton Solney Infants School, Repton Primary School, St Wystans School, Repton Prep, Repton School, Willington Primary School, Findern Primary School, Stenson Fields Primary School, Littleover Highfields and numerous nurseries and private institutions in Ticknall, Littleover, Smisby and elsewhere. This positive engagement will continue throughout the year with several more visits already in the diary.

Police have supported volunteer groups too, this has included visits to a dementia group in Repton, several church and community action groups in Willington and youth groups in Stenson Fields



Officers continue to attend incidents throughout the area. Some recent examples include:

1. Near Foremark, officers searched for a suicidal missing person and persisted throughout the evening. The male was discovered and supported. All necessary safeguarding was completed.
2. Police received reports of a vulnerable male who had jumped from Willington Bridge into the waters. Despite the horrendous weather conditions a rope was hooked over the male by members of the public and he was recovered from the river. All safeguarding and support were then completed.
3. The team have dealt with several dog-related incidents. Police are now working in partnership with South Derbyshire District Councils Environmental Health Team to create educational events about legal obligations of how owners should keep dogs under control.
4. Officers attended a local reservoir after receiving reports of over 20 children swimming in the water. The team dealt with the situation and took action to escort the young people away from the location. Firm words of advice were given about the dangers of swimming in the potentially dangerous waters.

### Q&A

1. An issue was raised regarding the volume of car exhausts as they have been causing disturbances across the area. The police informed that if a number plate can be provided, they can place markers on the vehicle.
2. An issue was raised regarding speeding over the local areas. Most of the speeding happens after hours which is when the Crest Team isn't around as they work 9 to 5 on a Monday to Friday. A request was made for a team to be around all the time for a more proactive approach to catching speeders. The police responded that if they had videos of those who are speeding, it can be sent to them for the footage to be reviewed.

**ACTION: Insp Sisman to give feedback to the Crest Team regarding speeding in Wragley way outside of the 9 to 5 hours and on weekends.**

3. The Police were praised for the policing that has been received around the area of Repton.
4. Concern raised about how police prioritise calls/reports. A call was made to the police regarding drugs on a children's playground, it wasn't prioritised, and the lady had to take the drugs into the police station herself. However, another call regarding a dog urinating on a neighbour's lawn resulted in two police officers being dispatched. The police stated they had received the complaint and have dealt with the situation accordingly. The police also informed that if people had details regarding situations they are not happy with, then they can also put in a complaint.
5. The Willington Youth Group have the funding to open but do not yet have the number of volunteers they need to open. The group are still looking for more volunteers.



6. Police were praised on their response times to calls, as they had a response back to them within 24 hours.

### **R/A 3. South Derbyshire Community Safety Partnership/ Safer Neighbourhood**

#### **Grants Update**

##### **Safer Homes Service**

South Derbyshire CVS have produced a new leaflet for the Safer Homes service, a supply of these can be found on the signing in table at the back.

The service can improve the security of people's homes through a free crime prevention survey and the fitting of free security items. Victims of crime, vulnerable people and the over 60s can access the scheme. Self-referrals are accepted. Contact details and how to refer are included on the leaflet.

281 properties were secured in South Derbyshire in 2022/23 and 90 referrals were received in Q1 of this year.

##### **ASB**

The area has been quite with much of the partnerships resources and action taking place in and around Swadlincote where there has been ongoing ASB Issues in the local parks and town centre.

##### **Safer Neighbourhoods Funding**

Area 2 = £0. No applications received so far this year. There is still £2500 Funding available for projects for the current financial year. The funding can support security measures, youth groups and anything that can impact on reducing or prevent crime or ASB. Anyone with any project ideas should contact Chris or Paige in the Communities Team.

### **R/A 4. Local Community and Voluntary Sector Projects/ Update**

Active Travel – This service supports people who have no transport and are unable to use public transport to take them to medical appointments (GP's and hospital appointments). From April – June 23 we have supported 221 individuals and had 352 contacts. We are looking for more volunteers to help deliver this service. Referrals and enquiries 01283 219761 [projectsupport@sdcvs.org.uk](mailto:projectsupport@sdcvs.org.uk)

Befriending – Since March 2020 our Befriending Service has been carried out through telephone calls. We are beginning to talk to volunteers and service users who want to resume face to face visits. From April – June 23 we have supported 102 individuals and 306 contacts based on 1 visit per week. We are looking for more volunteers to





help deliver this service. Referrals and enquiries 01283 219761  
connect@sdcvs.org.uk

Handy Person Help at Home Support Service - This service provides practical solutions for those who need a bit of help to stay independent in their own homes. We can help with grab rails, key safes, and other minor adjustments. From April – June 23 we have received 137 referrals and 142 visits. Referrals and enquiries to 01283 219761 handysupport@sdcvs.org.uk

### **Home From Hospital**

Has been continuing to support people throughout the pandemic. We have been helping people with shopping and prescription/ medication collection doing doorstep deliveries and these are continuing too. From April – June 23 we have supported 44 open cases and 23 new referrals across South Derbyshire. We are beginning to plan to introduce home visits again, but we will be doing so with caution and with procedures in place to keep everyone involved safe. We are looking for volunteers to help deliver this service. Referrals and enquiries 01283 817417 home@dhfh.org.uk

### **Safer Homes**

This service is available to offer advice and practical assistance to people who have been victims of crime or are vulnerable. People will feel safer at home and have some things in place to protect their home. From April – June 23 we have completed 90 visits in South Derbyshire. Referrals and enquiries 01283 219761 projectsupport@sdcv.org.uk

### **Food Bank**

Our Food Bank is now well established in our new premises at The Hive Unit G First Floor, Sharpes Industrial Estate, Alexandra Road, Swadlincote DE11 9AZ Swadlincote and collection of food parcels is by appointment only. Due to the increase in demand for this service we are now open 4 days a week - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday between 9.00am - 3:30pm. The service provides free emergency food parcels to families and individuals in the South Derbyshire area. From April – June 23 we distributed 313 food parcels to families/single people/homeless people, supported 383 adults and 255 children, provided 6012 meals through the distribution of the food parcels.

We are looking for more food donation collection points in South Derbyshire, so if anyone in your community would like to start collecting donations to support our food bank, please contact Petra on 07458 305314 or email [petrap@sdcvs.org.uk](mailto:petrap@sdcvs.org.uk)

### **Partnership working with CAMM (Citizens Advice Mid Mercia)**

CAMM continue to offer a great service in the Food Bank. The Casework Advisor is available every Thursday offering support clients who are experiencing debt and energy issues. From April to June

May we take this opportunity to thank the local residents and businesses in South Derbyshire that have supported the Food Bank over the past year with financial and food donations. This valued support has meant that many vulnerable and disadvantaged people have been able to access this service and start receiving other



support including debt and benefit issues, domestic abuse and more recently the cost-of-living crisis.

Community Development Team – the team support local communities, not-for-profit groups, and volunteers in South Derbyshire. Our aim is to provide support, information and advice to volunteer trustees, voluntary and community groups, registered charities, and social enterprises. We help new groups to set up with the appropriate governance (constitution, trustee board, policies and procedures and funding). For further information – [development@sdcv.org.uk](mailto:development@sdcv.org.uk)

In the period April – June 23 the Team supported 88 groups during the three-month period supporting them with funding searches, governance, community engagements, finance, and volunteer recruitment.

### **Connect With CVS – our first Roadshow**

In the next couple of months, the Com Dev and Direct Services Team will be visiting a number of venues in South Derbyshire to promote the work that we do at SDCVS.

We will be at the following venues:

- Shardlow Marina – Saturday 9 & Sunday 10 September – 10.00am – 4.00pm
- Repton Village Hall – Friday 15 September – 10.00am – 12.30pm
- Mid Mercia Marina – Monday 18 September – 10.00am – 1.00pm
- Rosliston Forestry Centre – Wednesday 27 September 10.00am - 12.00
- Walton Village Hall – Wednesday 27 September – 1.30am - 3.30pm
- Hatton Co-op – Thursday 28 September – 9.00am – 12.00
- Newlands Farm Shop at Hilton – Thursday 28 September – 12.30pm – 3.30pm
- Ticknall Village Hall - Tuesday 3 October – 9.00am – 11.00am
- Swarkestone Garden Centre – Tuesday 3 October – 11.30am – 1.30pm
- Staunton Harold - Tuesday 3 October – TBC

So please do drop in and find out more about our services – Active Travel, Befriending, Home from Hospital, Safer Homes, Handy Person Help at Home, Derbyshire Time Swap, Volunteer Force, and our Com Dev Team supporting local groups.

Social Connectedness in South Derbyshire – a project to connect, engage and socialise local citizens in South Derbyshire with the volunteers, groups and organisations providing social connection in their communities. Since the project started, we have engaged in a number of community networks in Etwall, Hatton, Hilton, Repton, and Willington and supported 7 Warm Hubs in South Derbyshire. For more information email: [helena@sdcv.org.uk](mailto:helena@sdcv.org.uk)

### **Volunteer Force**

The Volunteer Force helps to develop and promote volunteering in South Derbyshire with particular reference to the advertising, recruiting, training, and referring potential volunteers and providing recruitment support to voluntary and community groups and social enterprises. For more information email [Volunteer@sdcv.org.uk](mailto:Volunteer@sdcv.org.uk)



### **Shout out for Community Projects**

SDCVS have access to volunteers and Time Swap members who would like to engage with and support community projects and events that fit in with the following criteria:

- Focusing on crisis support, e.g., food banks homelessness projects
- Youth advancement – projects involved with schools, sports clubs, youth groups or youth support organisations
- Projects which have environmental impact
- Projects which promote or support social action or have a direct impact on the community, e.g., tackling loneliness
- Completed projects so far:
- Work with a conservation group in South Derbyshire, which is community-led, to build fencing to protect a butterfly conservation area.
- Work with a local church to complete the groundworks in preparation for the building of a community garden

To register your community project please click on the link <https://forms.office.com/e/ueEx3cDTKb> or email [Adrianm@sdcv.org.uk](mailto:Adrianm@sdcv.org.uk)

### **Hive Training Solutions**

As part of South Derbyshire CVS, Hive Training Solutions aim is to maximise the impact of the sector, help develop new opportunity and realise the potential in everyone.

Hive Training Solutions provides a range of pre-developed and accredited courses (see our Workshop Learning page for more details) ranging from GDPR, First Aid and Safeguarding to Impact Reporting and Search Engine Optimisation.

Additionally, HTS can develop bespoke solutions based around specific needs. For example, two local youth groups requested training on Working with Behaviour That Challenges. HTS prepared and delivered 13 hours of accredited learning to the voluntary youth support workers.

For a full list of training workshops and courses available to community groups and organisations, please go to <https://hivetraining.org.uk/> .

### **Community Connectors Project**

There are now 41 Community Connectors covering South Derbyshire supporting us to share information in their local communities regular Health and Wellbeing bulletins are sent out covering support around health and wellbeing, cost of living crisis, events, and training sessions. For more information – [Selinaw@sdcv.org.uk](mailto:Selinaw@sdcv.org.uk)

### **Communications**

We continue to send out regular newsletters/e-bulletins, events, training, job vacancies, volunteering opportunities and funding – [www.sdcvs.org.uk](http://www.sdcvs.org.uk)

You can sign up to receive these communications via the homepage of our website – [www.sdcvs.org.uk](http://www.sdcvs.org.uk), and if you would like anything advertised, please email [communications@sdcv.org.uk](mailto:communications@sdcv.org.uk).





We continue to target our non-digital audiences through our outreach work – leaflets/posters on parish notice boards, using the community magazines and attending more community events.

### **Derbyshire Time Swap in South Derbyshire**

This project is a way of exchanging skills without any money changing hands. You do what you love, when you want to and get a little help when you need it. For every hour you spend helping someone, you earn an hour back from your time bank. Our Development Officer so far has:

- Attended the Festival of Leisure, Liberation Day, Volunteer Fair, and the Funding Fair events
- Has a regular drop in at Swadlincote Library to promote Derbyshire Time Swap
- Meeting with existing Time Swap members
- Sending out regular newsletter, promoting offers and swaps

To find out more about Derbyshire Time Swap email [Stuartm@sd cvs.org.uk](mailto:Stuartm@sd cvs.org.uk)

Derbyshire Befriending – Our new Derbyshire Befriending website is now LIVE [www.derbyshirebefriending.org.uk](http://www.derbyshirebefriending.org.uk). You can find out all about befriending, what it is, how to find services or even become a volunteer.

**SDCVS Annual Report – April 2021 – March 2022 - <https://bit.ly/3jZ7LsD>**

### **R/A 5. Local Authority Update and Public Q&A**

#### **Housing**

The Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Wave 1 is now approaching completion, providing improved insulation, doors, and windows to 89 properties in Swadlincote, Melbourne, Hartshorne and Netherseal.

Wave 2 will provide similar improvements to around 103 properties in:

Hilton, Church Broughton, Scropton, Smisby, Hartshorne, Netherseal and Lullington.

The tenants of the properties that may be included are being written to informing them of the scheme and will be consulted with before any works commence.

#### **Legal and democratic services**

The Annual Canvass for 2023 has started - this is the process where the Council contacts every household to check we've got the right information on the Electoral Register. The process also gives anyone who isn't registered to vote yet, the chance to do so.

The Council is committed to reducing its impact on the environment and therefore we will be using on-line methods of contact where possible. Online contact will also reduce costs by reducing postage, paper and processing time.



You will receive an email or letter asking if your household's details on the Electoral Register are correct. All you need to do is follow the instructions, and you'll be ready to have your say in upcoming elections. You can reply online, by phone, text, or by returning the paper form.

If you can reply online, we encourage you to do this.

If you have to respond and do not respond, we will try to contact you by telephone or make a property visit.

### **Cultural and Community services**

The new South Derbyshire Community Grant Fund is now open for applications (leaflets with details are available on the table by the signing in sheet.)

This scheme, administered by South Derbyshire District Council, is financed by part of South Derbyshire's allocation of UK Shared Prosperity Funding (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) monies.

The Fund has a total of £350,000 available over the next two years until March 2025.

Capital grants of between £2,000 and £25,000 are available (up to 80% of total project costs) with a minimum project cost of £2,500. Match funding of 20% is required.

Applicants must demonstrate that their project meets one or more of the Shared Prosperity Fund outcomes and further information including a Guide to the Criteria, Application Process and Conditions of Funding is available on the Community Grants section of the Council's website, when you search "Community Grants"

It is an open rolling application process until the 31 December 2024 (to allow for completion of projects) or until all funding has been allocated.

### **Customer Services**

South Derbyshire District Council is currently developing its Customer Access Strategy. The aim of the strategy is to shape how the Council will serve its customers, and to define the projects and initiatives it needs to deliver in order to achieve its ambitions.

We want local people to feel valued by their Council, trust us and have excellent customer experiences in their dealings with us, whatever channel they choose.

The Customer Access Strategy will set out how we will improve access to our services for our customers. We want to make dealing with the Council as quick and easy as possible, making the best use of technology whilst working in a cost-effective way.

The document can be found on the Council's Website, or if you speak to us after the meeting, we can take your details and email you a copy of the document.

### **Q&A**



1. Concerns about emails not being responded to by SDDC and that even emails from Parish Councillors aren't being responded to. Requests for the council to improve this so that response times are quicker. Dr Ives is working on controlling communication issues and is looking into implementing ticket numbers with the Customer Access Strategy. Dr Ives asked for any un-responded emails to be forwarded to him.
2. Councillor Kerry Haines raised a question to ask if another flood liaison meeting would be organised shortly as there has not been one in a while and they have proved to be useful meetings. Dr Justin Ives advised that there should be another planned for the near future.
3. Councillor Shepherd raised multiple matters on behalf of himself and Councillor Singh. The first issue raised regarded the canal bridge in Sinfin Lane, there is foliage on the western side of the bridge which restricts the view of any vehicles approaching so has asked for the foliage to be cut back. Another issue raised was regarding speeding on Stenson Road; throughout the night there is a problem with speeding so has suggested a small roundabout at the junction of Stenson Road. The third issue raised is the increase of cost for school meals by 95p each. Whilst some have free school meals, Cllr Shepherd pointed out that those who just didn't meet the criteria for free meals will struggle to afford the raise. He has asked for the price to be reverted. The final issue raised by the Councillor was about the Local Government Boundary Commission as he doesn't think that Stenson Fields should be separated and served by two different county councillors.

**ACTION: Councillor Atkin to take Councillor Shepards list of community concerns back to Derbyshire District Council for a response. Councillor Atkin to update on DDC's response at the next forum.**

4. There were concerns raised regarding the erosion of Trent riverbank as lorries are unable to go down there. Any action that has tried to take place has ended up being halted and any suggestions haven't progressed. There has also been no response despite residents contacting the council about the issue.

**ACTION: Chief Executive to arrange a meeting with Environmental agency and councillors regarding the erosion of the riverbank on Ferry Lane**

**R/A 6. Summary of Agreed Actions**

| Suggestion   |
|--|
| 1. Dr Ives to go back to Heidi McDougall to make a further request for a spreadsheet regarding the gulley cleaning schedule.     |
| 2. Insp Sisman to give feedback to the Crest Team regarding speeding in Wragley way outside of the 9 to 5 hours and on weekends. |
| 3. Councillor Atkin to take Councillor Shepards list of community concerns back to Derbyshire District Council for a response.   |



4. Chief Executive to arrange a meeting with Environmental agency and councillors regarding the erosion of the riverbank on Ferry Lane.

**R/A 7. Close and Date of Next Meeting**

TBD.

**Councillor Ian Hudson**  
CHAIR  
The meeting terminated at 7:35pm

