

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

SWADLINCOTE

16th March 2010

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Taylor (Chairman), Councillor Tilley (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors Mrs. Gillespie, Mrs. Lane, Rhind and Mrs. Wheeler.

J. Jones (Director of Corporate Services), J. Twomey (Environmental Protection Manager), D. Townsend (Democratic Services) and C. Lukaszewicz (Helpdesk).

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

Councillors Mrs. Farrington and Lacey.

P. Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

Members of the Public

B. Aldridge, J. Aldridge, M. Brotherhood, R. Causer, K. Dicken, B. Farrington, J. Green, J. Grew, C. Horridge, S. Horridge, E. Key, E.M. Key, C. Lenton, M. Lunn, J. Pallet, O. Pallett, Mr. Rose, Mrs. Rose, M. Shepherd, A. Sheriff, Mr. R. Smith, R. Thomas, J. Williamson, C. Wright and P. Yates.

SA/26. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillors Lane and Southerd, and S. Tomlinson.

SA/27. **POLICE ISSUES**

It was reported that a Officer of Derbyshire Constabulary was not available to attend this Meeting. However, if there were any police issues, they could be raised during public question time, and would be forwarded to the police representative.

SA/28. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman provided further information on Liberation Day, which was due to take place at the Bretby Conference Centre on 20th May 2010. The telephone line for registration would remain open until 6th April 2010. This year, priority was being given to people who had not attended before, which should help residents in rural areas to get the much sought after places. It was noted that residents had to be aged sixty five or over to attend. To request a place, residents were advised to ring the registration line on 01283

595795 to book their place. Full details were available via the District Council's website.

SA/29. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Swadlincote Area Forum held on 26th January 2010, were noted, subject to an addition to Minute No. SA/23 to read as follows: 'A District Councillor pointed out that the schemes identified were already in the pipeline, and wanted to know what new projects would be delivered by the new administration at Derbyshire County Council.

SA/30. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Chairman reviewed those items raised at the last Meeting and reported the progress made in each case.

With regard to the question on noise nuisance, Jack Twomey (Environmental Protection Manager) reported that he had made further enquiries, and he confirmed that if a call was made to the police, and was about, for example, a noisy party, they had no power to deal with it, and would refer the call to South Derbyshire District Council. However, the Council had no out of hours service, and would follow this up the next working day. He added that the District Council only received between 5 and 10 complaints on this issue per year and the provision of an out of hours service was considered too costly. He also added that residents could contact South Derbyshire District Council directly if they wished.

It was asked how the Police would deal with an incident that was reported to them.

It was agreed to refer this query to the Police for a response at the next Meeting.

It was reported that the 'No Cycling' signs on Swadlincote High Street had been replaced and re-sited.

With regard to the parking on Coppice Side, the Chairman gave a brief overview of the background to this item and the Forum Liaison Officer reported that a letter and petition had been received in relation to the congestion on Coppice Side and Hastings Road. Further investigations had taken place and two timed seven day traffic surveys had been instigated. County Councillor Mrs. Farrington added that she had spoken to the Cabinet Member on this issue and had arranged a meeting with residents to discuss this further and to consider possible solutions.

It was requested that a further report be brought back to the next Meeting.

It was reported that the bottom of Coppice Side had been resurfaced and on the right-hand side, there was now 60 yards of standing water.

The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this issue and report back to the next Meeting.

It was also reported that, with regard to an issue at 18 Coppice Side, a complaint had now been logged with a senior officer at Derbyshire County and this matter would be dealt with directly with the resident concerned.

A resident thanked the District Council for clearing the litter on the footpath adjacent to Tesco store in Hearthcote Road, but added that this was becoming increasingly littered again. The Environmental Protection Manager responded that the District Council had the power to serve a Street Litter Control Notice on a local business, making them take responsibility for the litter from their business.

SA/31. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

It was reported that the weight limit signs leading from Herbert Wragg Way needed reviewing as the signage was not adequate.

The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this and report back to the next Meeting.

It was reported that large shrubs were obstructing visibility for motorists on the island adjacent to Morrisons on Coppice Side.

It was agreed that Officers of both Derbyshire County Council and South Derbyshire District Council look into this, as it was unclear whose responsibility this was.

It was requested that it be noted that there was some disappointment and concern that there was no police presence at this Area Forum.

It was agreed to make Derbyshire Constabulary aware of this concern.

A resident pointed out that he had experienced difficulty when ringing South Derbyshire District Council, and then being transferred to Derbyshire County Council. He added that he had waited for South Derbyshire to answer the call, and was then put through to Derbyshire County Council's switchboard, who then had to refer it onwards.

The Director of Corporate Services agreed to forward this to the Head of Customer Services at the District Council to see if any action could be taken to streamline this service.

Residents of Harebell Close presented a petition to close the footpath adjacent to their properties, due to increasing levels of anti-social behaviour. They added that the Police were aware of the level of nuisance, which was becoming totally unacceptable.

Councillor Mrs. Farrington and the Forum Liaison Officer agreed to report back on this item at the next Meeting.

It was requested that an update be given on the disposal of Bretby Crematorium, which had recently been reported in the press. The Director of Corporate Services confirmed that this was being dealt with by East Staffordshire Borough Council, and that South Derbyshire District Council had very limited information at this time.

Residents of Appleby Glade reported that dust from building work at the golf course and also from Lafarge was becoming unacceptable.

The Environmental Protection Manager agreed to look into both of these issues.

It was asked if contractors vehicles exiting the proposed golf course site on Nadin's Way should be subject to a 'wheel wash'. The roads were becoming very muddy and large vehicles were constantly entering and exiting this site.

The Environmental Protection Manager agreed to look into this and an update would be provided to the next Meeting.

SA/32. **COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES – BIG CHOICES WASTE CONSULTATION**

The Forum Liaison Officer publicised a joint consultation by Derbyshire County Council and Derby City Council on plans for waste management over the next twenty years. This consultation ended on 9th April 2010 and residents' views were sought to shape the formation of a draft plan, on which further consultation would take place. A copy of the report was available via the County Council's website or by phoning Call Derbyshire.

Arising from this report, a resident asked questions with regard to the recycling of plastics. The Chairman responded that the District Council had had a desire to do this for sometime, but it was a very expensive process. However the Authority were considering all options for the future.

It was suggested that a Waste Management Officer be requested to come to the next Meeting to discuss recycling.

SA/33. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Details of the dates and venues for future Area Forum Meetings would be circulated in due course.

S. TAYLOR

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 7.55 p.m.