

MELBOURNE AREA MEETING

**AGENDA
AND
REPORTS**

WEDNESDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY 2007

**VILLAGE HALL,
MAIN STREET,
WESTON-ON-TRENT**

7.00 p.m.

If you would like this document in another language, or if you require the services of an interpreter, please contact us. This information is also available in large print, Braille or audio format upon request.

यदि आपको ये दस्तावेज किसी दूसरी भाषा में चाहिये, या किसी टुभाषिये की सेवाओं की जरूरत है तो हमें सम्पर्क करने की कृपया करें।

ये जानकारी मांग करने पर बड़े अक्षरों, ब्रेअल या आडिओ के रूप में भी उपलब्ध की जा सकती है।

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੂਸਰੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੈ, ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਦੀਆਂ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰਨ ਦੀ ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰੋ ਜੀ

ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਮੰਗ ਕਰਨ ਤੇ ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ, ਬ੍ਰੇਅਲ ਜਾਂ ਆਡਿਉ ਦੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਉਪਲੱਬਧ ਕਰਵਾਈ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ।

اگر آپ یہ ڈاکیومنٹ کسی اور زبان میں چاہتے ہوں، یا اگر آپ کو کسی ترجمان کی خدمات درکار ہوں، تو براہ کرم ہم سے رابطہ کریں۔

درخواست کرنے پر یہ معلومات بڑے پرنٹ، بریل یا آڈیو فارمیٹ میں بھی دستیاب ہیں۔

如果你需要这份文件的中文翻译，或者需要传译员的帮助，请联系我们。

这些数据也备有大字体印本、盲人点字和录音带，欢迎索取

ほかの言語でこの文書をご希望の場合、もしくは通訳サービスをご希望の場合
はご連絡ください。

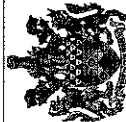
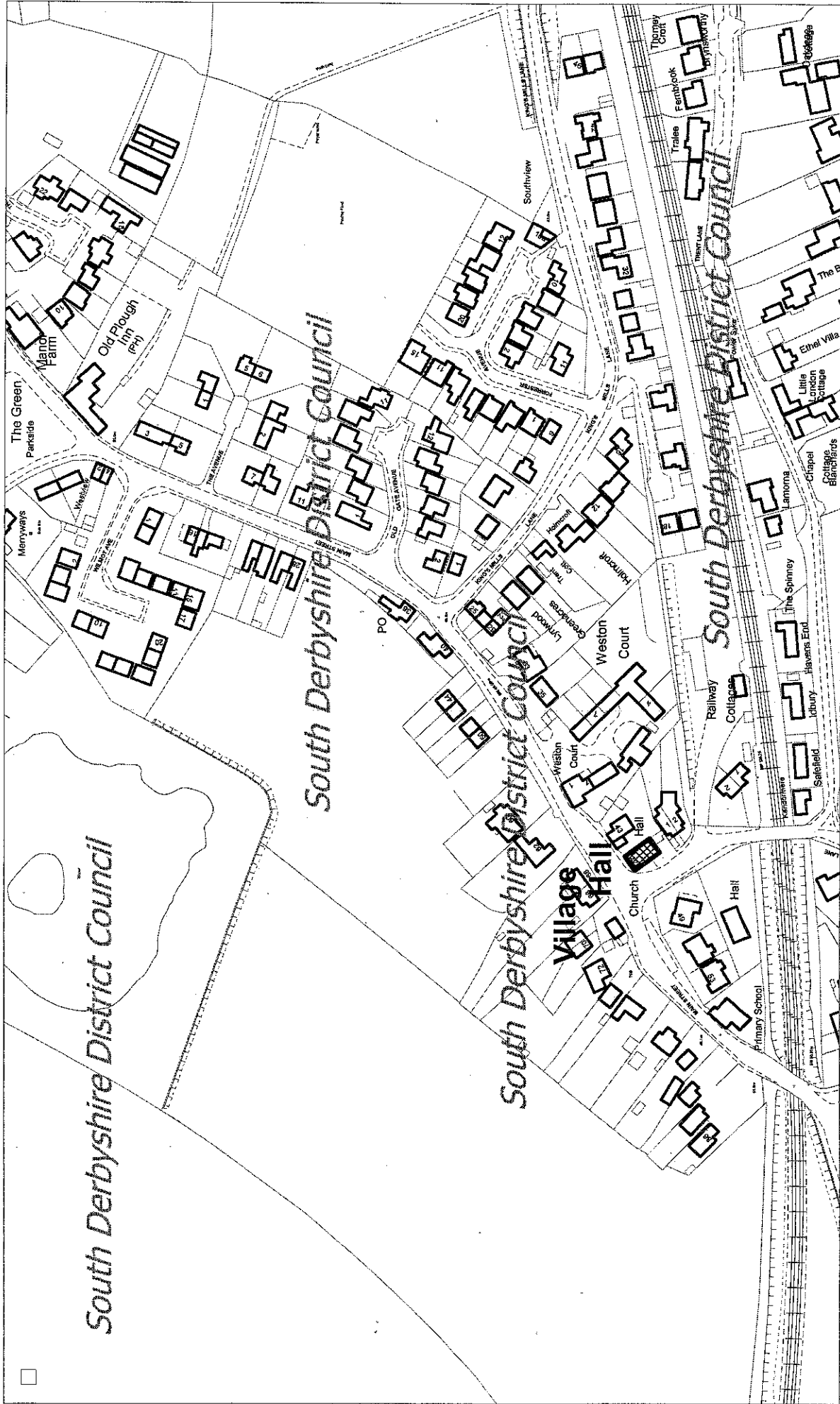
またこの情報は、ご要望により大きなプリント、点字版、また音声形式でも承
っております。

☎ 01283 595795

email: customer.services@south-derbys.gov.uk

Area Meeting Venue

Village Hall Main Street Weston on Trent



South Derbyshire District Council

Policy and Economic Regeneration

O.S. COPYRIGHT LICENCE LA 100019461 2005

This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office (c) Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings



Date Plotted 15/9/2005

Scale 1:2500

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL:

| | |
|--|--|
| Corporate Scrutiny (Special – Budget) | Monday, 29 th January 2007 – 4.30 p.m. |
| Finance and Management (Special – NNDR) | Monday, 29 th January 2007 |
| Environmental and Development Services | Thursday, 1 st February 2007 |
| Housing and Community Services | Thursday, 8 th February 2007 |
| Corporate Scrutiny | Monday, 12 th February 2007 – 4.30 p.m. |
| Development Control | Tuesday, 13 th February 2007 |
| Community Scrutiny | Monday, 19 th February 2007 – 4.00 p.m. |
| Finance and Management | Tuesday, 20 th February 2007 |
| Overview | Monday, 26 th February 2007 – 4.00 p.m. |
| COUNCIL | Thursday, 1 st March 2007 |
| | |
| Development Control | Tuesday, 6 th March 2007 |
| Environmental and Development Services | Thursday, 8 th March 2007 |
| Housing and Community Services | Thursday, 15 th March 2007 |
| Finance and Management | Thursday, 22 nd March 2007 |
| Community Scrutiny | Monday, 26 th March 2007 – 4.00 p.m. |
| Development Control | Tuesday, 27 th March 2007 |
| Corporate Scrutiny | Monday, 2 nd April 2007 – 4.30 p.m. |
| Overview | Monday, 16 th April 2007 – 4.00 p.m. |
| COUNCIL | Thursday, 19 th April 2007 |
| | |
| Etwall Leisure Centre (John Port School, Etwall) | Monday, 23 rd April 2007 – 5.00 p.m. |
| Development Control | Tuesday, 24 th April 2007 |
| | |
| ANNUAL COUNCIL | Thursday, 24 th May 2007 |
| Development Control | Tuesday, 29 th May 2007 |
| CIVIC COUNCIL | Thursday, 31 st May 2007 |

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings will be held at the Council's Civic Offices and will start at 6.00 p.m.

Civic Offices, Civic Way,
Swadlincote, Derbyshire DE11 0AH

Please ask for Paul Spencer
Tel: (01283) 221000 Ext. 5722
DDI (01283) 595722
Fax (01283) 228711
Minicom: (01283) 228149
DX 23912 Swadlincote
E.mail: paul.spencer@south-derbys.gov.uk

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MELBOURNE AREA MEETING

(Covering Aston-on-Trent, Barrow-on-Trent, Calke, Elvaston, Foremark, Ingleby,
Melbourne, Shardlow & Great Wilne, Smisby, Stanton-by-Bridge,
Stenson Fields, Swarkestone, Ticknall, Twyford & Stenson and Weston-on-Trent)

Meeting to be held at
Village Hall, Main Street,
Weston-on-Trent
on Wednesday 7th February, 2007
at 7.00 p.m.

(Light Refreshments will be available at 6.30 p.m.)

Members:

District Councillors: Councillor Carroll (Chair), Councillor Pabla (Vice-Chair) and
Councillors Atkin, Bell, Bladen, Harrison, Jones, Nalty, Mrs.
Renwick, Shepherd and Mrs. Wheeler.

County Councillors: Councillors Ford, Harrison and Jones.



BUSINESS

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To note the Minutes of the Meeting held on 22nd November 2006 (attached).
3. Declarations of interest.
4. Chair's Announcements (if any).
5. Report back on issues raised at the last Meeting.
6. Public Question Time and suggestions for future local discussion items.
7. Date of Next Meeting.
8. Responding to Your Views

MELBOURNE AREA MEETING

22nd November 2006

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Carroll (Chair), Councillor Pabla (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Atkin, Bell, Harrison, Jones, Shepherd and Mrs. Wheeler.

I. Reid (Deputy Chief Executive), P. Spencer (Democratic Services) and B. Jones (Helpdesk).

County Council Representatives

Councillors Ford, Harrison and Jones.

D. Tysoe (County Secretary), P. Leigh (Highways) and G. Duckworth (Democratic Services).

Derbyshire Constabulary

Sergeant Wright.

Parish Council / Meeting Representatives

C. Peck (Aston-on-Trent Parish Council), M. Sharp (Melbourne Parish Council), J. Barnes (Smisby Parish Council), R. Parker (Ticknall Parish Council) and P. Watson (Ingleby Parish Meeting).

Members of the Public

D. Bellis, J. Burden, D. Calvert, C. Ford, F. Hinds, J. Hinds, A. Madeley, R. Saxby, K. Whewell, A. Wood.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from District Councillors Bladen, Nalty and Mrs. Renwick, R. Wheat (Stanton-by-Bridge Parish Meeting) and D. Bayliss.

MA/9. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Melbourne Area Meeting held on 15th August 2006 were noted.

MA/10. **CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair advised that declarations of interest had been added to all Area Meeting agendas and she reminded County, District and Parish Councillors of the need to disclose any relevant interests. The Chair also reported that the District Council's photographer was present and would be taking a number of photographs to publicise future Area Meetings.

MA/11. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Chair invited David Tysoe and Peter Leigh to provide an update on those County Council issues raised at the last Meeting. It was reported that the

request for removal of signage had been actioned. It was understood that an Officer would be attending Shardlow Parish Council to discuss the reinstatement of Long Horse Bridge. County Councillor Harrison advised that this meeting had been held and some progress made. Reference was made to speed limits in the Swarkestone area and the County Council was considering proposals to reduce speed limits between Chellaston and Hilton. This would include a lower speed limit along the Swarkestone Causeway, but Officers explained the difficulties in erecting signage on this ancient monument. A special dispensation was being sought to overcome the normal signage requirements. As part of these proposals, a reduction of the speed limit on Woodshop Lane was also being sought. Councillor Mrs. Wheeler thanked the Officer for the response to this major problem and referred to a recent road traffic accident on the Swarkestone Causeway.

It was questioned whether the Area Meeting could assist by supporting the proposals for the Swarkestone Causeway. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Government Office for the East Midlands accordingly.

Mr. Watson felt there were already too many signs near the Swarkestone Causeway, publicising such things as weight restrictions and enforcement cameras. He suggested that these signs contributed to the problem and the Council should take a radical approach to remove all of this signage.

Another resident complained about the sunken gullies used along the length of the Causeway, which caused a problem for some motorists. The Officer was asked to investigate this issue.

County Councillor Ford advised that some signage had recently been removed, following consultation. County Councillor Harrison disagreed with Mr. Watson's suggestion, reminding of the efforts to secure the 7.5 tonne weight limit along the Causeway and the use of enforcement cameras. He believed that the warning signage was required to enable the prosecution of offenders. Mr. Watson considered that such signage should be relocated away from the Causeway. Presently, some large vehicles travelled to the Causeway before realising the restrictions in place and they then had to turn around. He considered the signage was an eyesore and spoke about the cost of signage to ratepayers. Another resident agreed, quoting examples in Weston-on-Trent. Mrs. Burden asked whether there were any restrictions on the length of vehicles. Officers confirmed that the limits imposed were on the maximum weight of vehicles. The difficulties of enforcement against drivers of foreign vehicles was also discussed. Mr. Leigh spoke about the requirements for advanced warning of such weight limits and to erect signage at the start of the weight restricted zone.

At the last Meeting, there had been a discussion about the cost of producing the Council's newspaper "The News". The Chair confirmed that the total cost of this publication was £65,000 each year, which comprised £10,000 per issue, plus a notional annual cost of £25,000 for all other costs, including staff time. Mr. Watson had raised this issue previously and confirmed that he had now received this information. He was critical of the time taken before the information was provided and equated the extra cost reported in terms of the level of the District's Council Tax. He was also critical of the publication and asked that the District Council consider seriously whether it should be continued. At the time of submitting his original request, he had also asked for the results of the consultation exercise on Council priorities.

He referred to the lack of support for the Council newspaper, when the exercise was undertaken at the previous Melbourne Area Meeting. He had requested the results of this consultation and was still awaiting the information. He then referred to a planned survey from the Council's Policy Division and hoped that this issue had been covered. If residents did not find the newspaper useful, the Council should discontinue the publication and reuse the funding for another purpose.

In reply, the Chair spoke about the positive feedback received about "The News". Previously, residents had complained about the lack of information provided by the Council and many authorities now produced such newspapers, including some parish councils. It was confirmed that the budget cost of The News was £40,000 each year. The other "notional" cost was for staff time. It was a requirement of accountancy codes of practice to quantify such costs, but it was confirmed that no additional staff had been employed.

The Chair then referred to the budget consultation exercise, which had been used as one, but not the only mechanism to inform Members when setting budget priorities. Officers explained that information from the consultation exercise was summarised, considered by a Member scoring panel and then prioritised. Officers were happy to provide further information to Mr. Watson after the Meeting. Mr. Watson replied that residents were told the exercise would be used to shape the budget. Ingleby residents suspected that the newspaper was not supported by the public and they were wasting their time, if their feedback was not taken into account.

In Smisby, the parish newsletter was generally well received and it cost only £40 to produce each year. It was questioned whether the District Council's newspaper had the right content or whether it should be altered to cover issues that affected residents. Reference was made to the size of the newspaper and the cost of colour printing, it being questioned whether something smaller and simpler should be produced. The Chair offered to take these views back to the editorial team, but felt that the pictures made the publication more interesting. The Council was trying to reach 84,000 residents over a very large geographical area. To provide a context, the Deputy Chief Executive explained that approximately 40,000 copies of each issue were produced. Most of the costs related to distribution rather than printing. Councillor Shepherd was a member of the Council's Editorial Working Panel. He was sure that many residents did not read this publication, but gave examples of how the Council could use the news to publicise issues that the press might not cover. He urged residents to read the newspaper. Councillor Ford explained that the newspaper cost approximately £1 per household, per year. If the Council sought to inform its residents through other mechanisms, this would cost considerably more.

Mr. Watson felt that the Council could include an article in the free Melbourne Village Voice. The Chair reminded that this publication only covered a small part of the District. Complaints were made that the publication was not being received in some parts of the District, specifically parts of Ticknall, Aston-on-Trent and Elvaston. Residents were asked to contact the Council if they were not receiving the publication. Following previous complaints, this issue had been pursued with the distribution contractor. Mr. Madeley of Elvaston was critical of the newspaper's content and had received only one copy of it. He questioned whether it had an

independent editor. The Chair confirmed there was an editorial team comprising Members and a specialist Officer.

MA/12. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE LOCAL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Initially, questions were sought on policing matters. A resident complained about vehicles parking on pavements and verges between Aston and Weston-on-Trent. This caused difficulties for pedestrians and those using mobility scooters. Sergeant Wright confirmed that where a Police Officer observed someone parking on the pavement, or it caused an obstruction, this was an offence, which could be prosecuted. It was thought that the vehicles in question belonged to people working on a nearby construction site.

Sergeant Wright would ask the local Beat Officer to pursue this matter.

Mr. Ford sought further information about a recent incident in Aston-on-Trent, involving the Police helicopter. Sergeant Wright had no knowledge of the specific case. Mr. Bellis asked about the recruitment of Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) and Sergeant Wright gave an update. There were currently three Officers, two patrolling the Newhall area and one in Hilton. Four more had recently been recruited and by April 2007, another nine Officers would be in post. Contact details for the PCSO's would be published in due course. In response to further questions, details were provided of the powers available to these Officers, the roles they would undertake and their hours of operation.

Mr. Ford commented on the recent increase in crime in Aston-on-Trent. In recent months, there had not been the same level of visible presence within the Village. Sergeant Wright would report these concerns to PC Shirley Wakefield, the new Beat Officer for Aston-on-Trent. Mr. Whewell understood that many of the PCSO's were middle aged, but Sergeant Wright clarified that this was not the case. The Sergeant also reported that Inspector Fairbrother had now left the Swadlincote Station and would be replaced by Inspector Rick Cuttell. The new Inspector would attend the next round of Safer Neighbourhood meetings. The Chair confirmed that the next Safer Neighbourhood Meeting for this area would be held at 6.30 p.m. on 14th December 2006 at Smisby Village Hall. It was noted that this clashed with a Special District Council Meeting.

Councillor Harrison understood that the previous Inspector was seeking to merge the Police Liaison and Safer Neighbourhood meetings. This seemed to have been met with approval and should result in a higher level of attendance. Sergeant Wright confirmed that Senior Police Officers would now be in attendance at the Safer Neighbourhood Meetings. County Councillor Jones explained that the liaison meetings fulfilled a legal requirement, but it was hoped that move could be made towards the way suggested.

Questions were invited on other matters. A resident commented on the Council's energy efficiency aims, but felt these contradicted a recent planning approval to allow umbrellas for a public house patio area that had integral heating, which was not energy efficient.

Mr. Whewell submitted a request for drains in Elvaston to be cleared. It was confirmed that the District Council undertook these works on behalf of

Derbyshire County Council. **The resident was asked to leave details of the exact location with the helpdesk, in order that the works could be undertaken.**

For many years, flooding problems had been experienced in Weston Road, Aston-on-Trent. Councillor Harrison recalled this issue and he understood that some works had been completed, but that further attention was needed. **Peter Leigh of Derbyshire County Council offered to pursue this matter and the resident was asked to contact him after the Meeting to discuss this issue.**

Mr. Ford referred to the Council's newspaper and suggested that an article be included in each issue on energy efficiency, to give useful advice to the public. Councillor Shepherd agreed to submit this suggestion to the Editorial Working Panel. Mr. Ford then spoke about the Green Box Recycling Scheme, explaining that certain valuable metals could not be included. He requested a mechanism for recycling such items and the Deputy Chief Executive confirmed this was being considered. He spoke of the current arrangements for recycling and the Council's contractual commitments. However, from 2008 a more flexible approach would be sought. A further issue was the recycling of plastics and technology was now available to segregate different types of plastic materials. A report was due to be submitted to a District Council Meeting in February 2007 on this subject.

Mr. Saxby understood that the District Council did not take minutes of its Planning Committee Meetings. The Deputy Chief Executive and Democratic Services Officer gave an explanation of the Minutes produced and their publication arrangements. Information was provided on the operation of these quasi-judicial meetings, the consideration of objections and the availability of documents used in the planning process. Mr. Watson explained that some residents were now fearful of commenting on planning applications, because this process was so public. It was suggested that any comments on planning applications could be submitted via the local parish council, parish meeting or Ward Member.

A resident referred to the missing mile post at Cuttle Bridge and sought its reinstatement. County Councillor Harrison confirmed that the mile post was in safe storage, but it was difficult to comment on this matter further, as the County Council was pursuing legal action.

MA/13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Melbourne Area Meeting would be held on 7th February 2007 at Weston-on-Trent Village Hall.

MA/14. **GETTING YOUR IDEAS INTO ACTION - FEEDBACK**

The Area Meeting considered a report on Ideas into Action. Following the Council's consultation on its Corporate Plan, an Ideas into Action campaign, requesting ideas from individuals, parish councils, and community groups within the District had been undertaken. Over 64 ideas had been received, which included:-

- specific complaints about issues such as untidy land;

- requests for improved services to the whole District such as collecting plastics for recycling;
- ideas for local initiatives that required funding or other support to launch the idea; and
- suggestions where the Council had little influence, such as dismantling electricity pylons and laying the cables underground.

It was confirmed that all the ideas received had been acknowledged by letter and individuals would receive a detailed response when the most appropriate course of action had been determined.

Ideas for improving services across the District or developing local initiatives, that had budgetary implications would be considered in the Council's budget round. Where there was no cost, the idea would be investigated and if possible, implemented. Where the Council was not responsible for provision of the service, a suggestion would be passed to the relevant body or partner.

An analysis had been undertaken of the ideas received. The top issues suggested included:-

- Litter/cleanliness;
- graffiti;
- better recycling facilities and collections;
- untidy sites;
- more trees, flowers and spring bulbs;
- highway maintenance and improvements;
- support for Neighbourhood Watch; and
- better facilities for children and young people.

Arising from the consideration of this item, there was further discussion about the collection and recycling of valuable metals. Details were given of the arrangements made in Stenson Fields and Melbourne, to provide for the disposal of these and other items. Reference was also made to the Council's bulky collection service, the availability of a civic amenity site within South Derbyshire and the difficulties for some residents in using such facilities in neighbouring authority areas.

MA/15. **COMMUNITY SCRUTINY NEEDS YOU**

Councillor Bell introduced this item, advising those present that he Chaired the Council's Overview and Corporate Scrutiny Committees. He referred to the circulated report and an information leaflet, which explained the roles of scrutiny. These meetings had a fairly open agenda and community scrutiny could look at a variety of issues, as demonstrated by the report.

Councillor Atkin provided further information on the work of the Community Scrutiny Committee, which invited contributions from members of the public to participate in its projects. The aims of the scrutiny committees were to improve the Council's performance by monitoring, questioning and making recommendations on the way that Council services were provided and decisions were taken. A short guide to the membership, dates of meetings and work of the three scrutiny committees had been circulated.

It was confirmed that the Community Scrutiny Committee's remit focused on community and environmental issues, culture, leisure and the arts, housing, economic development and land use.

The Area Meeting was advised that the Community Scrutiny Committee had completed four projects to date relating to:-

- The Housing repairs and maintenance service;
- Homelessness services;
- Waste management services; and
- Planning application services.

These four scrutiny reviews had contributed to the Council's delivery of better, more efficient and more effective services to residents and they would ensure continued best value for money. During the period to May 2007, the Community Scrutiny Committee would be investigating the following projects:-

- The future of post offices;
- How health services will be delivered by the new Derbyshire County Primary Care Trust;
- Street Scene review; and
- Cleaner neighbourhoods.

In receiving the report, particular reference was made to Post Office closures and the Chair urged residents to make use of their local post office.

J. D. CARROLL

CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 8.45 p.m.

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MELBOURNE AREA MEETING

(Covering Aston-on-Trent, Barrow-on-Trent, Calke, Elvaston, Foremark, Ingleby, Melbourne, Shardlow & Great Wilne, Smisby, Stanton-by-Bridge, Stenson Fields, Swarkestone, Ticknall, Twyford & Stenson and Weston-on-Trent)

7th February 2007

REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING

At the last Area Meeting held on 22nd November 2006 at the Melbourne Leisure Centre, a number of issues were raised. These issues are listed below, together with progress made to date:-

| ISSUES | PROGRESS | ACTIONED BY |
|---|--|--|
| 1. County Council Issues | Highways Officers were asked to investigate concerns about sunken gullies along the Swarkestone Causeway, and flooding problems in Weston Road, Aston-on-Trent. A report will be provided. | P. Leigh, Highways Dept., Derbyshire County Council. |
| 2. Vehicles parking on verges between Weston-on-Trent and Aston-on-Trent. | The local beat Officer would be asked to look into this matter. | Sgt. A. Wright, Derbyshire Constabulary |
| 3. Reduction in speed limit along Swarkestone Causeway | The Area Meeting gave its support to the County Council's efforts to achieve a reduction in the speed limit. An update will be provided | P. Spencer, Democratic Services, South Derbyshire District Council. |
| 4. Clearance of Drains in Elvaston. | Officers made contact with the resident and arranged for the gullies in question to be cleaned. | M. Chell, Direct Services Organisation, South Derbyshire District Council. |

South Derbyshire District Council Responding to your views

Report to Area Meetings January 2007

What we set out to do?

In the last 12 months we have consulted local people about what they wanted us to do to improve our services and South Derbyshire as a place to live. Last January we asked you to prioritise some of the ideas being considered for our Corporate Plan for 2006. In October we asked you for your ideas in our initiative called "Ideas into Action".

We reported back earlier this year about our new Corporate Plan and to the last Area Meetings about the ideas you had submitted. This report gives you feedback about what we did about what you said to us.

What you told us – and what we did about it

Corporate Plan 2006/09

We have 6 themes in our corporate plan and we put forward a number of suggestions for actions within each theme. We acted on the ones that you prioritised at these meetings and incorporated proposals within our 3 year plan that runs to April 2009. We have listed in Appendix A the 4 highest priority actions, based on the area meeting consultation, together with the actions taken so far and an indication what we will do next, if the proposal is not yet completed.

Ideas into Action

At the last meeting we told you that the top issues people put forward were

- Litter / Cleanliness
- Graffiti
- Better recycling facilities / collections
- Untidy Sites
- More trees, flowers and spring bulbs
- Highway maintenance and improvements
- Support for Neighbourhood Watch
- Better facilities for children and young people

These have gone to the top of the list for any new money that will be available in the new budget that runs from April 2007, but we may not be able to fund everything that we all want to do. However, we have implemented some ideas immediately so we can make a difference straight away. These ideas include

- We now take action to clear litter from private land where public access makes it prominent and noticeable this is in addition to the usual highways and council land where we have a duty to control litter. We will work with private landowners to make sure they do not avoid their legal responsibilities but this will make sure that problem areas remain tidy whilst we sort out the legal position.
- We currently only deal with graffiti on council owned land and buildings. This year we have started to remove prominent graffiti where it is visible to the public.
- We are launching a grant scheme for Parish Councils to plant spring bulbs or other planting to improve the look of public areas. A similar scheme will operate in the unparished urban core.
- We are working with Derbyshire County Council, who are responsible for Civic Amenity Sites, to seek improvements to access, particularly in the north of the district where access is limited. As an interim measure we are introducing a Saturday Refuse Freighter collection from a number of villages and details of locations and dates will be available shortly.
- We will provide financial support for Rosliston, who will represent South Derbyshire in the national Britain in Bloom competition in 2007. We will also contribute to an urban landscape scheme promoted by Groundwork and the Parish Council in Melbourne.

Finally – Thank you

Residents of South Derbyshire are always very positive and helpful in our consultation exercises and this helps us deliver what you want to see. Thanks for all your views and ideas in this exercise and all the other consultation work we do.

We hope this note demonstrates that we do listen to what you say and take action on what our local communities are telling us.

Ian Reid
Deputy Chief Executive
January 2007

Appendix A

| Proposal | Action delivered |
|--|---|
| Theme 1: You at the Centre | |
| 1 st Provide more litter bins and improve weed control and road sweeping | We have provided 20 additional litter bins, improved our approach to street sweeping and litter picking, doubled the frequency of mechanical road sweeping and increased the frequency of weed spraying on footpaths. Our performance is now comparable with the best in the country. |
| 2 nd Extend composting and green box recycling scheme across the whole of the district | We have extended composting collections to 3000 properties and this new scheme collects kitchen waste as well as garden waste. The green box scheme has been extended across the district and now covers over 98% of properties. |
| 3 rd Deliver a programme of community based environmental projects through Groundwork Trust | Groundwork launched. Consultation on use of Council garage sites to improve the appearance of the area. A DVD making it easier to apply for disabled facilities grants, and a consultation on the future appearance of Swadincote. |
| 4 th Deliver an annual programme of communication and consultation | 4 issues of The South Derbyshire District News published per year. Our website has been reviewed externally by the Society of Information Technology Management who gave very positive feedback on content and functionality. Members of the public have tested our website and improvements made following their comments. An information screen has been introduced in our reception area to communicate information. We have improved our approach to consultation and this is exemplified by the Ideas into Action initiative, which was publicised in the newspaper. |
| Theme 2: Safe and Healthy Communities | |
| 1 st Deliver the Safer Neighbourhoods Project | 6 Safer Neighbourhood meetings established across the district. |

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>2nd Appoint Safer Neighbourhood Wardens to patrol anti social behaviour hotspots and enforce "Cleaner Neighbourhoods" legislation</p> | <p>Wardens are now patrolling a hit list of anti social hot spots suggested by the Police, the public and Councillors. Much positive feedback from the community on their beneficial impact.</p> |
| <p>3rd Continue to implement The Youth Facilities Plan</p> | <p>Plan rolled out with a range of new and improved facilities including multi use games areas at Midway, Castle Gresley and imminently Hatton.</p> |
| <p>4th Promote awareness of anti social behaviour hotline</p> | <p>Hotline launched and promoted. 78 calls received and responded to.</p> |
| <p>Theme 3: Prosperity for All</p> | |
| <p>1st Consult older people about the services they need from the council</p> | <p>Consultation framework under development with SDCVS. Specific consultation with Age Concern has identified a number of actions that we will undertake.</p> |
| <p>2nd Promote the use of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts to tackle truancy issues</p> | <p>11 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts in place (0 of which relate to truancy issues)</p> |
| <p>3rd Reduce the time taken to provide home adaptations and promote ways of enabling people to stay in their own home</p> | <p>Time taken to approve major adaptation grants reduced with 100% of grants new grant referrals received this year being completed within the 42 weeks Government Target.</p> |
| <p>4th Significantly reduce the number of households living in fuel poverty</p> | <p>434 households assisted with insulation and heating measures. 1507 tonnes CO2 saved as a result of activity.</p> |
| <p>Theme 4: High Quality Services</p> | |
| <p>1st Set clear standards in consultation with service users</p> | <p>First phase of Service Standards project is complete with publication of standards for environmental services and customer service. Other areas will generate equivalent documents. Achievement of Government approved Chartermark awarded to Environmental Services (supported by Customer Services).</p> |
| <p>2nd Develop a framework for assessing the needs of specific service users</p> | <p>This will follow on from the Service Standards Project.</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>3rd Set targets for service reliability and responsiveness in consultation with service users and monitor performance</p> <p>4th Establish a rolling programme of customer satisfaction surveys</p> | <p>Customer Service standards have been adopted and are used in Customer Services. These standards are available on our website will be rolled out to other service areas. Part of the Service Standards Project.</p> <p>The Best Value User Satisfaction Surveys, the results of which are now starting to come forward, form the basis of this year's project.</p> |
| <p>Theme 5: Rural South Derbyshire</p> | |
| <p>1st Ensure rural environmental issues are adequately covered in the Sustainability Appraisals and policies of Local Development Framework documents</p> | <p>Policy Framework in development.</p> |
| <p>2nd Establish Service Level Agreements with Parish Councils (linked to funding arrangements) in order to promote innovation in the delivery of local service priorities</p> | <p>Initial scoping work undertaken by consultants for the Council and updates given to Parish Council Forum. Parish Council funding to continue on current basis until consultation and discussions with parishes is completed.</p> |
| <p>3rd Establish a means of extending the Rural Transport Partnership (with partners) beyond 2006 in order to improve public transport in rural areas</p> | <p>County Accessibility Partnership to be established to take forward recommendations contained in report commissioned by Derbyshire County Council and East Midlands Development Agency.</p> |
| <p>4th Develop a better understanding of how our performance in delivering services varies across the district</p> | <p>The Pilot Project for examining selected Best Value Performance Indicator data at a ward level is about to commence.</p> |
| <p>Theme 6: Strong in the Region</p> | |
| <p>1st Resisting Changes in the delivery of services which could have an adverse impact on local people and communities and report outcomes back to local people</p> | <p>The Council has resisted changes to the bus route to Melbourne and Nottingham East Midlands Airport. Scrutiny currently undertaking consultation and meetings with the MP and Sub-postmasters about possible closure of rural post offices. The Council has responded to proposals in the Draft Regional Plan has also supported the SDLSP to formulate a response.</p> |

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>2nd Lobby on issues of concern and report outcomes back to local people</p> | <p>Council lobbied against reorganisation of Derbyshire Police. Regional Spatial Strategy discussed at Committee & SDLSP.</p> |
| <p>3rd Ensure that the Council is represented at meetings of the East Midlands Regional Assembly (EMRA) and East Midlands Development Agency (EMDA)</p> | <p>The Leader of the Council is a representative on the EMRA and the Chief Executive works closely with EMDA on all inward investment opportunities. Both attend and represent the Council at all important meetings.</p> |
| <p>4th Provide details of the work we are doing to represent the interest of South Derbyshire in newsletters and on our web site</p> | <p>Details reported to all homes and businesses in The South Derbyshire District News / website. In addition we use the local media, Press Releases and radio networks communicate the work of the Council to local people.</p> |

u:\sac\ideas into action\doing what you told us area meetings jan061.doc