

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

REPTON

25th January 2011

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Bladen (Chairman), Councillor Ford (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors Mrs. Hood, Murray, Taylor and Wheeler.

J. Jones (Director of Corporate Services), D. Townsend (Democratic Services Officer) and K. Ward (Helpdesk).

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

Councillors Mrs. Farrington, Ford, Lacey and Murray.

P. Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

Derbyshire Constabulary

Sergeant A. Sutherland.

Parish Council/Meeting Representatives

Mr. & Mrs. Pallett (Castle Gresley Parish Council), A. Jones (Hartshorne Parish Council), K. Overton (Willington Parish Council).

Members of the Public

A. Gifford, Mr. Harrison, J. Lacey and J. Orme,

RA/21. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillor Mrs. Wheeler, M.P., and R. Statham.

RA/22. **POLICE ISSUES**

Sergeant Sutherland gave an update on crime statistics for the area, and compared September to November 2010 to the same period of the previous year. He reported that crime had fallen by 14% overall compared to the previous year. However, burglary had increased slightly. In addition, robbery remained unchanged, vehicle crime had decreased, violent crime had increased and anti-social behaviour had decreased by 30%, mainly due to recent police operations. He confirmed that the crime figures were for the Mercia Area, which had a slightly different boundary to the Repton Area Forum, and gave a brief overview of the figures for Woodville, Goseley and Hartshorne, which were not included in the Mercia figures.

Sergeant Sutherland reported that at the last Safer Neighbourhood Meeting, it was agreed that parking issues in Repton became a priority.

RA/23. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman reported that a series of drop-in events had been arranged by the District Council, beginning in February, to talk to local people about planning for their neighbourhood.

The events followed the Coalition Government's localism proposals to abolish centrally imposed building targets and encouraged local people to get more involved with deciding how their neighbourhoods should change. Details were provided of dates and times of the neighbourhood planning drop-in events.

RA/24. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Repton Area Forum held on 1st November 2010 were noted. **The Forum Liaison Officer reported that he was still awaiting a response regarding the vehicle activated speed sign for Sandcliffe Road. However, he would pursue this and report back to a future meeting.**

RA/25. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Chairman reviewed the item raised at the last meeting and reported the progress made.

With regard to car park charges at Willington, the Forum Liaison Officer reported that Derbyshire County Council's Cabinet was still considering this, and a further report was not yet available.

The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to report any further response to a future Meeting.

RA/26. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

It was reported that the yellow bus stop markings at Trent Lane, Willington had still not been completed.

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

It was reported that there had been two serious accidents on the A514 between Ticknall and Stanton (at the bottom of the hill, adjacent to a sharp bend). There had been significant seepage of water onto the carriageway, which became very icy during the cold weather. It was understood that surface water was coming off the adjacent fields. This was being investigated jointly by both Derbyshire County Council and the Police.

It was reported that an area on Woodville High Street was flooding regularly, due to nearby manholes being pumped out.

The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this matter and report back to a future meeting.

A resident reported that there were no grit bins in Willington. In addition, he was aware that two members of the public had volunteered to be Snow Wardens (an initiative from Derbyshire County Council). They had, however received no information.

The Forum Liaison Officer responded that the Snow Patrol scheme was in place, and he would attempt to get further information, including why Willington had not been invited to take part in the scheme.

It was understood that further to a Section 106 Agreement with a developer, the road adjacent to Granville School, should have had a pelican crossing installed.

The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to request an update on any work proposed in this area.

A resident asked if the District Council could become involved in the setting of a parish council precept. The Director of Corporate Services responded that the District Council could not give advice on a parish council precept, as they were independent and democratically elected.

RA/27. **COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES**

The Forum Liaison Officer reported that the 2011 Kilomathon was being run on Sunday 20th March 2011, and would have approximately 3,000 runners. The proprietary route would be mainly confined to Derby City, but would enter South Derbyshire at Findern. Letters would be sent to all affected residents.

It was asked if work on The Cross at Repton could be included as an agenda item for a future Meeting.

RA/28. **DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES**

2011/12 Budget

The Area Forum received a presentation on the Council's budget for 2011/12. Information had been circulated at the Meeting showing current council tax levels and the proportion that was received by the District Council. Charts also showed how the District Council was funded, its net general fund expenditure for 2010/11 and the initial budget for 2011/12. A key issue of the financial settlement for 2011 – 13, concerned the reduction in Government grant funding levels. This had resulted in key challenges for 2011/12 and the need to identify savings and efficiencies. The Council's aims were to reduce the deficit, maintain reserves and keep council tax low through cutting costs not services. The presentation concluded with the budget timetable and where residents could find out more information on the budget process.

Report on Flooding Measures

The Chairman reported that information on flood defence improvements, as requested at the previous meeting, was included within the papers circulated for the Meeting.

RA/29. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting would be confirmed in due course.

J. BLADEN

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8:10 p.m.