

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

NEWHALL

17th February 2015, The Old Post Centre, Newhall

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Richards (Chairman)

Councillor Mulgrew

Councillor Wilkins

Councillor Bambrick

Councillor Dunn

Councillor Mrs Mead

Frank McArdle (Chief Executive)

Julie Marson (Clerk, Technical Assistant)

James Benstead (SDDC)

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

Councillor Bambrick

Councillor Dunn

Members of the Public

B Woods, A Jones, M Richards, C Maddock, G Hall, R House, J Seaton, C Gillespie, N Cockayne, J Cockayne, G Wallace, G Tubey, P Bambrick, A Argent, G Earp, R Trim, D Hutchinson, M Richards, C Pidgeon, H Hobson, C Hobson, J Pass, L Cantrill,

Stuart Aston: - Owner of the Golf Course

Declan Malone: - Director of N1Golf

NA/22 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence for the meeting were received from Paul Jameson (DCC) and Councillor Pearson.

NA/23 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

NA/24 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Introductions were made by the Chair of those Councillors in attendance.

Environmental Pride Project: - In September 2014 SDDC were invited by Derbyshire County Council to bid for projects to support the South Derbyshire Locality Plan. The specific steer for the bids was to seek to address increasing deprivation in the Newhall ward and to aim to raise local aspirations.

Environmental conditions in the Swadlincote urban core generally, and Newhall specifically are not currently deemed to be poor based on the measured evidence available to the Council (such as number of complaints and measurement of street cleanliness). However if the existing trend in deprivation continues, then experience suggests that conditions could deteriorate; and if they deteriorate then the trend of increasing deprivation is more likely to continue. We wanted to deal with this potential scenario before it starts to emerge.

An 'Environmental Pride' project was proposed 'To promote a positive environmental impact on a high deprivation area deemed to suffer from dog fouling and other environmental neglect in order to contribute to a reserve in the measured deterioration in health and well being'.

There is a promotions campaign 'Love Newhall' being launched in February and this is within the 'Green Dog Walkers Pledge' started in November 2014.

The specific outcomes of the project were:

- a) Develop and implement a dog walkers pledge aimed at promoting positive behaviour within the dog owning communities across South Derbyshire.
- b) Deliver a promotions campaign of intolerance of dog mess in the Newhall ward.
- c) Carry out surveys before and after the promotions campaign.
- d) Develop a scheme to empower the communities to self-regulate.
- e) Develop a brand of environmental aspiration for Newhall to use for future marketing purposes.

The Local Plan: - has been through its examination in public which started in November 2014. It lasted 6 days covering all aspects of the Local Plan. Following the examination, the appointed inspector has asked the Council to undertake some further work around housing, viability and infrastructure on strategic sites. This work was complete will be submitted to the Inspector who will then decide on the next steps.

The **Community Partnership Grant Scheme** has now been re-launched with a total pot of £300,000.

Capital funding only available

- Non-profit groups and Parish Council's in South Derbyshire can apply
- Will require a minimum of 50% matched funding
- Minimum Grant £1,000, Max. £25,000

Full details can be found at - www.south-derbys.gov.uk or by contacting Ian Hey; Community Partnership Officer at South Derbyshire District Council ian.hey@south-derbys.gov.uk / Tel: 01283 228741

NA/25 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Newhall Area Forum held on 30th September 2014 were agreed as true and accurate.

NA/26 **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

Improved Signage at the entrance to Sandcliffe Road – Councillor Dunn there is no update but will contact Derbyshire County Council again and to inform them that the HGV's sign is not visible down Sandcliffe Road.

An extension to the Green Man Crossing near Masons Arms – Councillor Dunn reported that they have to wait until the Supermarket is built before they can carry out a survey.

Delays on A444 – Councillor Bambrick reported that Derbyshire County Council have been out and says that the timings are ok. A resident raised that there is still a problem with the timing on all sides of the junction and still needs improving.

Speed signs in Dunsmoor Lane & Netherall Road: - Councillor Dunn & Councillor Bambrick had a site meeting with Highways. Public didn't want a mobile site with flashing sign and there is a lack of funding. Question was raised about the Parish Council funding the project when funds are available things will be put in place.

NA/27 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

Councillor Mulgrew asked what the implications if Newhall and Stanton become a Parish Council.

Chief Executive replied that in South Derbyshire there are Urban Core and Parish Councils. Some people will say positive things are about being a Parish Council and others would not. At present no petition has been received in relation to Newhall and Stanton becoming a Parish Council.

It was raised that in the Burton Mail there was an article about Drakelow Parish Council. The Chief Executive said Drakelow had not formed a Parish Council; the residents had a meeting to discuss issues and formed themselves into a Parish Meeting.

The Swadlincote Post said that the Police Force would be getting some extra money is the Council Tax being raised. Councillor Richards didn't know.

A resident raised the request for a map to be made available marking clearly the Parish and Councils boundaries. Chief Executive replied to say that a District Plan is in process and will be circulated to each meeting when ready.

In the Local Press it was reported that Derbyshire County Council was saving money by cancelling Area Forum meetings. Derbyshire County Council's meetings are different from our Area Forum meetings.

It has been reported in the Local Press that the proposed Housing applications are determined with the Golf Course. The Housing Applications are separate from the Golf Course and applications will be determined on individual basis.

The Hedgerows on Park Road when the houses are built can the Planning Department say about a Grass Verge being left. A Planning application has not yet been submitted and unable to comment.

NA/28 **COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES**

A resident raised the Wood Lane sign had been defaced and there is no sign when Bretby Road finishes for Wood Lane. There is also a problem with car parked outside Kwik Save on Bretby Road. When funding is available could the Grass verge opposite Kwik Save be made for parking and making it easier for buses etc. to pass.

A resident raised the issue of litter in the hedge by the Refuse Site in Newhall, this is caused by loads not being covered. They contacted the Clean Team who said they do that stretch of the road once a month. The resident was informed that even though it is scheduled to be cleaned once a month if the Clean Team are contacted they will come out within 24 hours.

On Queens Drive Newhall there is a building in disrepair and an eyesore can the Council enforce it to be repaired or demolished. The Council can only enforce if the building is deemed dangerous.

The Burton Mail highlighted a building in Church Gresley that was dangerous. The Council issued a notice as of 3pm the day of the meeting.

11% of Council Tax came to South Derbyshire and in the paper Swadlincote Regeneration scheme benefited from this, can this scheme come to Newhall. Swadlincote is partly in a Conservation Area and this gets status and funding from the Government. Councillor Mulgrew added that there are other areas within the district that don't get any money.

NA/29 **DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES**

Budget Update 2015-16

Financial position has stabilised following a period of changes within the Council and this will continue but there have been no changes to the services we deliver. There has been an increase in the New Homes budget from residential development in the district but this means that services to the rural areas are stretched.

11% of the Council Tax bill covers South Derbyshire Services. The rate of Council tax for 2015/16 is subject to Council approval which is to be held on the 2nd March a freeze has been proposed.

Grants have been increased for the Voluntary Sector and Parish Council Funding at rate of 2.3% at the rate of inflation.

There is a balanced budget for next two years – Have to think of ways to be smarter.

It was reported that a proposal to develop a Combined Authority had been unsuccessful as Erewash didn't agree with the proposal. This proposal would bring £m's to each District, Borough, City and County Council. Derbyshire County Council and the Government are hoping to change Erewash's mind and it can be represented in 6 months time. It was said at the meeting that the Labour Group in Erewash did not agree with the decision.

Questions

11% of The Council Tax is just for South Derbyshire Area.
Keep the Voluntary groups going and send Congratulations to Jo and Team – Chief Executive has this in hand.
The Labour Group in Erewash did not agree with the decision about joining other districts.

Progress of Golf Club in Swadlincote

Stuart Aston & Declan Malone gave a brief overview of the progress of the proposed Golf Club.

It is obligated to supply a Golf Course from inherited land of over 30 acres from the Coal Authority. They have explored ways of delivering the Golf Course and are working with NG1 Golf. The Golf Course will be delivered in phases and millions of pounds will be spent in 2015. The driving range including building will be ready in March and the Flood Lights, and Fencing ready for opening in May 2015.

The first 9 holes and fairways are already in place and half a million pounds will be spent on the Greens surrounding these. The first 9 holes will open sometime next year and then the further 9 holes at a later stage.

N1Golf Academy has 12 academies throughout the country and is growing. They provide coaching to schools and the elderly and to people of all ages and abilities.

With the Driving range here coaching is a priority and professionals will go into the schools within the district and have open weekends to encourage people to use the driving range.

It is a Major Milestone to see the opening of the Driving Range in May and to see the continuation of the progress of the 9 and 18 Hole Course.

NA/30 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next Meeting is to be arranged.

Councillor Kevin Richards

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8.32 pm