

# **LINTON AREA MEETING**

**AGENDA  
AND  
REPORTS**

**Tuesday, 16th August 2005**

**Rosliston Village Hall,  
Main Street,  
Rosliston**

**7.00 p.m.**

# THE HISTORY OF THE

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### CHARLES

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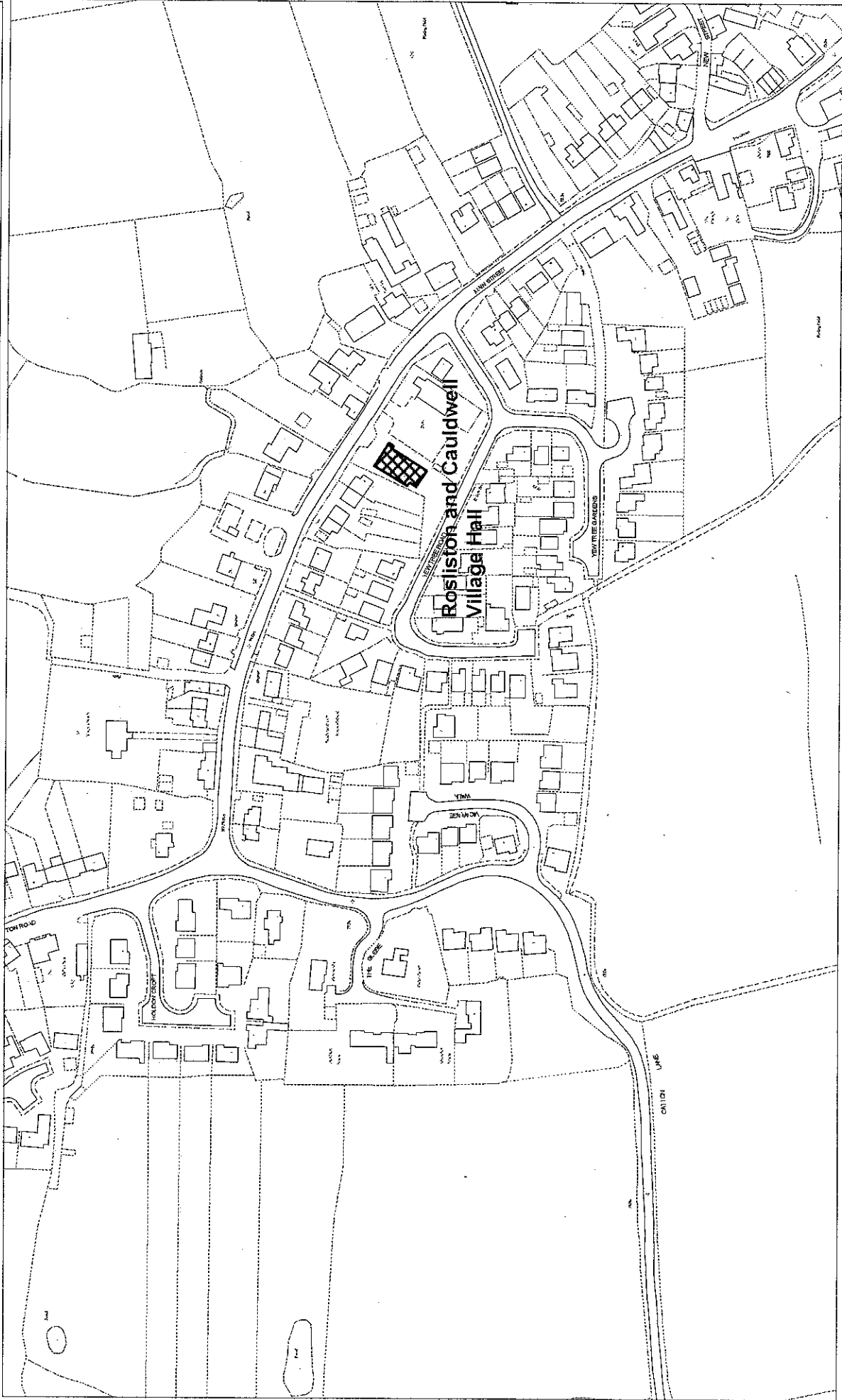
### OF

### THE

### CITY

### OF

Linton Area Meeting Rosliston and Cauldwell Village Hall Rosliston



**South Derbyshire District Council**

**Policy Unit**

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Date Plotted 2/2/2004

Scale 1:2500

## OTHER FORTHCOMING MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL:

COUNCIL	Thursday, 11th August 2005
Linton Area Meeting	Tuesday, 16th August 2005
Newhall Area Meeting	Wednesday, 17th August 2005
Environmental & Development Services	Thursday, 18th August 2005
Development Control	Tuesday, 23rd August 2005
Repton Area Meeting	Wednesday, 24th August 2005
Housing & Community Services	Thursday, 25th August 2005
Swadlincote Area Meeting	Tuesday, 30th August 2005
Melbourne Area Meeting	Wednesday, 31st August 2005
Finance & Management	Thursday, 1st September 2005
Community Scrutiny	Monday, 5th September 2005
Etwall Area Meeting	Wednesday, 7th September 2005
Corporate Scrutiny	Monday, 12th September 2005
Development Control	Tuesday, 13th September 2005
Overview	Monday, 19th September 2005
COUNCIL	Thursday, 22nd September 2005
Environmental & Development Services	Thursday, 29th September 2005
Etwall Leisure Centre	Monday, 3rd October 2005
Development Control	Tuesday, 4th October 2005
Housing & Community Services	Thursday, 6th October 2005
Finance & Management	Thursday, 13th October 2005
Community Scrutiny	Monday, 17th October 2005
Corporate Scrutiny	Monday, 24th October 2005
Development Control	Tuesday, 25th October 2005
Overview	Monday, 31st October 2005
COUNCIL	Thursday, 3rd November 2005

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

Please ask for Deborah Cook  
Tel: (01283) 221000 Ext. 5709  
DDI (01283) 595709  
Fax (01283) 595854  
Minicom: (01283) 228149  
DX 23912 Swadlincote  
E.mail: debbie.cook@south-derbys.gov.uk

## SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

### LINTON AREA MEETING

(Covering Castle Gresley, Cauldwell, Coton-in-the-Elms, Drakelow, Linton,  
Lullington, Netherseal, Overseal, Rosliston and Walton-on-Trent)

Meeting to be held at  
Rosliston Village Hall  
Main Street  
Rosliston  
on Tuesday, 16th August 2005  
at 7.00 p.m.

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

#### Members:

District Councillors: Councillor Southern (Chair) and Councillors Mrs. Hall, Lauro and Shaw.

County Councillor: Councillor Mrs. Lauro.



## BUSINESS

1. To note the appointment of Councillor Southern as Chair made at the Council Meeting held on 30th June 2005.
2. Apologies.
3. Appointment of Vice-Chair.
4. To note the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st February 2005 (copy herewith).
5. Chair's Announcements (if any).
6. Report back on issues raised at the last Meeting.
7. Public Question time and suggestions for future local discussion items.
8. Date of Next Meeting.

### Community Items

9. Future Structure of Area Meetings.
10. Corporate Plan.

LINTON AREA MEETING

1st February 2005

**PRESENT:-**

**District Council Representatives**

Councillor Lauro (Chair) and Councillor Mrs. Hall.  
M. Alflat (Director of Community Services), K. Stackhouse (Head of Finance and Property Services), P. Spencer (Democratic Services) and B. Jones (Helpdesk).

**Derbyshire County Council Representative**

Councillor Mrs. Lauro (Vice-Chair).

**Derbyshire Constabulary**

Inspector Fairbrother.

**Parish Council/Meeting Representatives**

Mrs. S. Jackson (Castle Gresley Parish Council), N. Wadsworth (Coton-in-the-Elms Parish Council), J. Blythe and A. Hasell (Linton Parish Council), A. Wing and T. Nicklin (Netherseal Parish Council), G. Edwards (Overseal Parish Council), V. Taylor (Walton-on-Trent Parish Council) and D. Eaton (Cauldwell Parish Meeting).

**Members of the Public**

C. Birch, K. Bradford, R. Bull, A. Ensor, L. Johnson, M. Lintin, G. Palmer, R. Palmer, S. Shelton and D. Woolley.

LA/19. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from B. Matkin (Rosliston Parish Council), T. Elson (Walton-on-Trent Parish Council), J. Dolman and I. Chester.

LA/20. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd November 2004 were noted. Mrs. V. Taylor referred to Minute No. LA/15, clarified her comments and asked that the Minutes be amended accordingly.

LA/21. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Chair reviewed those items raised at the last Meeting and gave an update on progress. A report was provided about the felling of trees in the Drakelow area. It was confirmed that the trees in question were not part of a Preservation Order and consent was not required before they were felled. However, plans for a manufacturing facility on this site included a requirement for some new tree planting.

County Councillor Mrs. Lauro provided an update on the various highway issues raised at the last Meeting. She had met with Brian Lucas, the Cabinet Member for Highways at the County Council to discuss better heavy goods



vehicles signage and improvements were planned for the following financial year. She referred to the recent prosecutions by Trading Standards with regard to heavy goods vehicles travelling through the area, in contravention of weight limit restrictions. Reference was also made to the traffic survey discussed at the previous meeting.

A report had been provided by the Council's Development Control Manager on consultation by neighbouring local authorities for planning applications close to the South Derbyshire boundary. Mrs. Taylor explained her concerns over developments adjacent to the A38 trunk road which would impact on South Derbyshire villages, through increased traffic accessing these sites. She referred to planned developments for the Argos site and the disregard for residents in Barton who were also concerned about increased volumes of traffic. It was questioned whether the Council could make representations because of increased pollution. The Director of Community Services confirmed that pollution was taken into account. If it rose above a certain threshold an "action area" could be declared. The pollution levels related to those at dwellings and dispersion rates meant that they were unlikely to be affected. Traffic volumes were also taken into account through the planning process and County Councils could make representations on highways grounds. Mrs. Taylor added that she had been in contact with the Highways Agency, which seemed unconcerned on this issue. The Director of Community Services noted that traffic volumes were increasing generally.

A report was provided about elections to the South Derbyshire Local Strategic Partnership Board. A question was submitted on the publicity arrangements and details were provided. It was noted that the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils (DALC) represented South Derbyshire Parish Councils on this body. There was a discussion about the role of DALC in notifying member Parish Councils of issues such as the recent LSP Forum Meeting, which parishes had not been made aware of. The Director of Community Services agreed to look into this matter.

LA/22. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE LOCAL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A resident explained the problems experienced during the previous year with the Council's composting scheme. It was hoped that these had been addressed, but the Council would respond to any concerns from residents when the scheme recommenced. Mrs. Wadsworth explained the problems caused by large bulk carrying vehicles along lanes between Lads Grave and Walton-on-Trent. It was understood that the vehicles were visiting Borough Fields Farm and if they had a right of access, the vehicles would not be in contravention of any local weight restrictions.

Mr. Dolman, a resident of Drakelow was unable to attend the Meeting, but had requested that a number of issues be raised. He was concerned about traffic speed and heavy goods vehicles on Rosliston Road South. Mr. Dolman appreciated that specific planning matters could not be discussed, but he set out his concerns regarding the "dumping" of asbestos on the Bullivant site at Drakelow. He had hoped that District Council representatives would have consulted the electorate on such a contentious subject.

Inspector Fairbrother noted that the traffic concerns on Rosliston Road South had been raised the previous year. He confirmed the Constabulary's



approach, including periodic monitoring by Beat Officers with speed detection equipment. The concerns about heavy goods vehicles were raised at other Area Meetings and efforts had been made to monitor abuse of weight limits, particularly in the Hilton area. Despite public perception, many of the vehicles stopped were actually below the 7.5 tonne weight limit. Mrs. Taylor explained that on several occasions very large heavy commercial vehicles had tried to cross the Bailey Bridge in Walton-on-Trent. From speaking to drivers, they were often provided with a map showing the preferred route between the A42 and A38 trunk roads, through South Derbyshire villages. Inspector Fairbrother encouraged residents to take details of such vehicles and to pass these to the local Beat Officer, so that it could be pursued. The Director of Community Services agreed that direct action might provide a deterrent. Residents discussed the measures employed elsewhere to identify where vehicles were either too wide or too high for known restricted areas. It was questioned whether the Council could write to Argos to seek the company's co-operation. Inspector Fairbrother felt that if evidence was obtained then the Police could take action and monitor the routes being used. A question was submitted about the provision of a third crossing for the river Trent, but there was no further knowledge of developments on this matter.

The Director of Community Services responded to the points raised by Mr. Dolman about asbestos on the Bullivant site in Drakelow. He confirmed that the discussion of specific planning applications was outside the remit of area meetings. However, with regard to this determined application, the Council received expert opinion, which confirmed it was better to bury the asbestos on site rather than to transport it away. The Chair added that the asbestos had been on site for many years and he spoke of the potential risk of transporting it away. With regard to consulting the electorate, Members took representations from residents and yet there had been no feedback on this matter at the time of the application. The Director of Community Services reiterated that Development Control Members could not predetermine any planning matter.

A question was submitted about parcels of land owned by the District Council in the Linton Division that were not presently being used and proposals for their future use. The Director of Community Services explained that the Council had just appointed a Corporate Property Officer, who would be responsible for looking at such issues. It would be possible to bring a report to the next Area Meeting on underused land within the Linton Division.

Mr. Bull complained about dog fouling on routes to schools in the Gresley area. He suggested contacting local schools to seek their assistance in informing parents and questioned whether some parents were walking dogs whilst taking the children to school, which contributed to the problem. He also reported dog fouling in a specific area of Linton Heath, near to Rickman's Corner. The Director of Community Services would refer this matter to the Dog Warden, so that it could be investigated. The issue was raised at the last Linton Parish Council Meeting and the Dog Warden had been informed. Another resident explained a local school's efforts to raise awareness of such issues through an environmental project for years 5 and 6. The Director of Community Services added that dog waste could now be wrapped and placed in any litter bin. Mr. Blythe noted that Parish Councils were charged £500 each year for the emptying of dog waste bins. He

questioned how the District Council would respond if the Parish Council chose to remove the dog waste bins to save this cost. The Director of Community Services confirmed that the District Council provided a limited number of litter bins for each area. Whether the parish wished to continue to pay for collection was a matter for them. They needed to assess the impact on fouling incidents.

A number of problems were reported on Hillside Road in Linton. Following the Autumn leaf fall there was detritus along a section of Hillside Road, near to the Coton Park junction and this would be reported to the Clean Team. Further along Hillside Road, towards the Church the footpath width had been reduced, as the adjacent bank had crept over the footpath. This was a matter for Derbyshire County Council's Highways Section. Similarly, an overgrown hedge along Hillside Road could also be referred to the County Council for attention. There were problems with mud along a section of Hillside Road and it was understood this was caused by a tractor emerging from an adjacent field. Concerns were also raised over the difficulties for people in wheelchairs or those with pushchairs caused by vehicles parking on the footpath along a section this road. Inspector Fairbrother agreed to pursue this.

Mr. Blythe reported the difficulties for motorists when farmers cut hedges and did not clear the sharp residue left in the roadway. Inspector Fairbrother considered that if this left the road in a dangerous condition, action could be taken.

Following the comment about parking on footways, guidance was sought on the practice of people advertising cars for sale, by placing them on a highway verge in Overseal. The Chair added that this practice also took place in the Cadley Hill area. Inspector Fairbrother explained the definition of a highway and dependent on their location, such vehicles would need to be taxed, have an MOT and be insured. He was not aware if there were also planning requirements, but suggested that this matter be reported to the local Beat Officer. Mrs. Jackson explained a similar problem in the Castle Gresley area.

Mrs. Taylor reported that there was a deep drain cover in the vicinity of 'C' Station at Drakelow on the apex of a road bend. County Councillor Mrs. Lauro agreed to pursue this matter, together with concerns about overgrown lime trees in Main Street, Walton-on-Trent. Mr. Blythe reported an untidy site at Cauldwell Road, Linton and this would be pursued by the District Council's Planning Division.

LA/23. **CONSULTATION ON THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET**

The Area Meeting received a presentation from Kevin Stackhouse, the Council's Finance and Property Services Manager. The aims of the presentation were to raise awareness of the Council's finances and to seek views on the Council's budget proposals. An outline was given of the topics to be covered and initially slides showed the total cost of revenue services. This comprised Environmental Services, Community Services and Corporate/Management Services. Capital spending was also explained. The slides showed the services provided by the County Council, the Police Authority and the Fire Authority.

In terms of managing the Council's finances, there was a focus on the longer term, with revenue estimates based over a three year period and capital estimates over a five year period. Government grant funding met around 55% of Council spending and another 10% of funding came in the form of specific grants. The general Government grant for 2005/06 for South Derbyshire had increased by 8%, when compared to the previous year. This recognised the growing population of the area and new spending pressures to be faced. Reference was made to the Government's grant funding formula and the Council received just under £400,000 less than that identified in the formula. However, this position had improved from the previous year.

A chart showed the breakdown of the Council Tax bill in terms of the funding required by the County Council, the Police Authority, the Fire Authority and the District Council. Future Council Tax projections allowed for an increase of 4.5% each year for District Council services. The level of Council Tax increase for 2005/06 was still to be determined, but the Government guideline was for increases of less than 5%. The Government had warned councils about excessive increases and it had powers to "cap" increases if necessary.

The Council's projected financial position was explained. It had a good financial base, with improving levels of reserves. An outline was given of financial issues, comprising new spending pressures and the Council's plans to meet these pressures. The financial position was summarised and a further slide explained the Council's budget process. Money was available for service improvements, for both revenue and capital schemes. The presentation concluded with an outline of proposed areas for new spending and feedback was sought from the Area Meeting.

Questions were submitted on the Council's recycling initiatives. In response to a question from Mr. Blythe, it was confirmed that the Council received recycling credits and the £10,000 generated was reinvested in other schemes. The Director of Community Services confirmed that the Council had recycling targets. He gave an update on recycling activity including the requirement to move to "in vessel" composting. There was a discussion about the recycling of plastic materials. Officers explained the cost of plastics recycling due to the volumes involved. A resident commented on the vast amount of packaging materials. It was questioned whether the Council could invest in a machine to crush plastic bottles and it was explained that the Council had such a facility previously, but there were still difficulties in finding a contractor to collect the crushed plastic. Mrs. Taylor commented that the Morrisons Supermarket made a charitable donation from income from its recycling centres. It was suggested that this issue could be discussed in further detail at a future Area Meeting.

Questions were submitted about play schemes. Officers explained service developments to extend the holiday play scheme and to provide funds for skateboard parks. Reference was also made to the Street Warden initiative and the Director of Community Services gave further information on the roles it was envisaged these wardens would perform. Via the Parish Forum, Parish Councils would be kept informed on the development of this project.

Tourism was discussed and a resident questioned the decision to fund a Tourist Information Centre. The Chair explained the economic regeneration benefits for the area resulting from tourism. The Director of Community

Services gave further information on the potential for tourism income and this was a relatively low level of expenditure, which equated to funding one full-time person, who would be based at the Sharpe's Pottery Centre.

A question was submitted regarding the Crime and Disorder initiatives to reduce burglary. The Director of Community Services explained that the Council operated a subsidised scheme to provide alarms to victims of house burglary. The scheme had proved highly successful, as there had been no repeat burglary victims where statistically there was a 30% chance of a further burglary within 6 months. The Council operated a "man and van" scheme to look at security issues for victims of crime. The Director also referred to the Liberation Day and work with Neighbourhood Watch Groups. Statistically, South Derbyshire was one of the safest places to live.

Following the discussion about recycling, a resident commented on the success of the facility in Overseal. However, when the bins were full, recyclable materials were left by their side which caused litter and the need for the Clean Team to visit. Also, there was no place within the facility for people to place unwanted carrier bags.

It was questioned whether there were any plans for a cinema or similar facilities in the South Derbyshire area. The Chair explained that land had been reserved for leisure facilities at Cadley Hill. Private sector investment had been sought, but as there was a multiplex cinema in Burton-on-Trent, providing another cinema at this location was not considered to be commercially viable. Reference was made to the Youth Engagement Project, which had identified the provision of skateboard parks. It was hoped to establish such a facility in the Castle Gresley area.

Following a recent press article, Officers were asked to comment on the prediction that South Derbyshire would be amongst the top 40 Council Tax rises nationally. Mr. Stackhouse was unsure of the source of this article but thought it referred to the re-banding of Council Tax in future years. The Government had not yet come forward with firm proposals, but the re-banding might have more impact in areas where house price rises had been significant. This was about the national revaluation of Council Tax levels and would be a matter which the Government would lead on.

LA/24. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date and venue of the next Linton Area Meeting would be confirmed in due course.

M. R. LAURO

CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 8.55 p.m.

**SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL****LINTON AREA MEETING**

(Covering Castle Gresley, Cauldwell, Coton-in-the-Elms, Drakelow, Linton,  
Lullington, Netherseal, Overseal, Rosliston and Waiton-on-Trent)

Tuesday, 16th August 2005

**REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

At the last meeting of this Committee held on 1st February 2005 at Linton Village Hall, a number of issues were raised. These issues are listed below, together with progress made to date:-

<b>ISSUES</b>	<b>PROGRESS</b>	<b>ACTIONED BY</b>
1. Parcels of land in District Council ownership.	Report in the early stages of preparation to identify pieces of land throughout the District. Further report to be submitted to next Meeting.	Sarah Hirst Corporate Asset Manager (01283) 595965
2. Vehicles parking on particular section of Hillside Road, Linton	To be pursued by local police.	Inspector S. Fairbrother Swadlincote Police
3. Deep drain cover, 'C' Station, Drakelow.	To be pursued by County Councillor.	Councillor Mrs. K. Lauro
4. Overgrown Lime trees, Main Street, Walton.	To be pursued by County Councillor.	Councillor Mrs. K. Lauro
5. Untidy Site, Cauldwell Road, Linton.	Progress report to be made at the Meeting.	Rafe Shirley Senior Enforcement Officer (01283) 595750

