

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

NEWHALL

30th June 2009

**PRESENT:-**

**District Council Representatives**

Councillor Mrs. Farrington (Chairman) and Councillors Bambrick and Mrs. Mead.

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

**Derbyshire County Council Representatives**

Councillors Lacey and Murray.

P. Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

**Derbyshire Constabulary**

Sergeant N. Pitt.

**Homestart**

T. Harris and B. Curry.

**Members of the Public**

P. Bambrick, M. Biddle, T. Biddle, D. Budworth, H. Foy, P. Foy, C. Hall, R. House, R. Hughes, L. Hunt, C. Maddock, C. Paling, J. Pallett, O. Pallett, K. Parker, M. Perry, B. Woods, C. Wright.

NA/1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

It was noted that Councillor Mrs. Farrington had been appointed Chairman of the Newhall Area Forum at the Annual Council Meeting.

NA/2. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from District Councillors Dunn, Richards, and Wilkins and C. Dolman, K. Wedgeworth, T. Poyner and B. Parker.

NA/3. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

It was agreed that Councillor Mrs. Mead be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Newhall Area Forum for the ensuing year.

NA/4. **POLICE ISSUES**

Sergeant Nick Pitt addressed the Meeting, giving a brief update on current crime issues. He advised that current figures for the local area were average, although burglary had decreased by approximately 40%. He added that locally, anti-social behaviour was the main concern.

Further to a question, he advised that the police were being proactive when dealing with anti-social behaviour, for example, by visiting local schools to get positive messages to young people. It was pointed out that there were still problems of anti-social behaviour in Newhall Park.

A discussion also ensued on PCSO's and Sergeant Pitt confirmed that there were currently two within the Newhall/Midway area, although there might be a proposal in the future for additional resources.

NA/5. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Newhall Area Forum held on 26th March 2009, were noted.

NA/6. **HOME-START**

A presentation was delivered by Tracey Harris, (Scheme Manager) and Beverley Curry (Trustee) on the work carried out by Home-start. It was confirmed that they were part of Home-start UK, and operated in the South Derbyshire area. They currently supported 4 families in Newhall.

Home-start South Derbyshire was recruiting and training local parents to be home visiting volunteers, supporting local families with at least 1 child under 5 years, who were encountering stress. The criteria for becoming a volunteer were given.

Home-start offered 2 types of support – minimum support, where social activities were organised every half term, in the summer holidays and at Christmas, and home visiting, where a volunteer visited the family in their home. A personal example of the work carried out by the organisation was also provided. Details were given on Home-start's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and a gala evening.

The Chairman thanked Home-start for an informative and interesting presentation.

NA/7. **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.

In relation to the footpath adjacent to Rosetree Lane, it was requested that further investigations be made into any developments between the Footpaths Officer and the Landowner.

**It was agreed that the Footpaths Officer be requested to provide an update at the next Meeting.**

With regard to the footpath adjacent to the former Horse and Jockey public house, it was requested that an update be provided at the next meeting.

**It was agreed that the Forum Liaison Officer provide a further update at the next meeting.**

NA/8. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

A resident referred to the speed calming measures in Repton, near The Square, and asked if the height of these could be checked, as it was felt that they were above the maximum level.

**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to request that the profile of these humps were checked and report back to the next meeting.**

Reference was made to the roads within the area that were having maintenance work completed, and it was reported that many chippings were coming off the road onto the pavement, and consequently being trodden into local properties. Footpaths were also becoming slippery and difficult to navigate because of this situation. Specific mention was made of Plummer Road, and Park Road, Newhall, on the bend adjacent to 'Lakes'. It was asked if the pavements could be swept and cleared of these chippings.

**The Director of Corporate Services agreed to look into this matter.**

It was also requested if, before the County Council was due to complete this maintenance work, they could notify residents, as this had not been done. Residents referred to Meadow View Road and Meadow Lane. The Forum Liaison Officer responded that it was common practice for a leaflet drop to be completed in advance of this work. A Councillor added that when leaflets had been put on car windscreens, he had seen teenagers taking them off.

**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to report back to the next meeting.**

A resident reported that he had recently been interviewed for a position as an independent member for the District Council's Standards Committee. Further to this interview, he had felt the need to complain to the Ombudsman, and considered that the process had not been followed correctly.

**The Director of Corporate Services advised that although she could not comment on this particular case, she would request that a report back be made to the Area Forum at the next meeting.**

A resident reported that the bowling green on Newhall Park had recently been fenced off, which had been of great benefit to the users of this facility. He thanked Councillor Bambrick for his assistance in this matter.

It was asked if there was an update on the development of a proposed golf course, at Nadins Way. The Director of Corporate Services responded that she understood that an outcome might be getting closer.

A resident spoke about footpaths in Newhall, and added that there were no cycle tracks in the area. He pointed out that the old railway line would make

an excellent footpath/cycle path. However it was very overgrown, and would require a lot of work.

**The Director of Corporate Services responded that the District Council would look into this matter.**

It was pointed out that there was a lot of litter on the footpath known locally as Mucky Alley (behind the Old Post Centre).

**It was agreed that the District Council ask the Clean Team to visit this area.**

It was requested that the Footpaths Officer attend the next meeting of the Area Forum.

**It was agreed to ask the Footpaths Officer to attend the next meeting of the Area Forum.**

It was suggested that the pavement on the Old Marketplace, outside the Horse and Jockey public house was very high and not very accessible. A resident had raised this with Derbyshire County Council, but had received no response.

**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to raise this with the County Council and report back to the next meeting.**

It was asked if the hedges/grass on the B5353 (Park Road) could be cut back, as it was becoming difficult for mobility scooters to navigate this area.

**The Director of Corporate Services agreed that this matter be considered.**

The Secretary of the local Allotment Association asked if there was any additional land available that could be developed into allotments, as demand was so high in the local vicinity. He also suggested that use could be made of a corner of Newhall Park.

**The Director of Corporate Services agreed to look into this matter and report back to the next meeting.**

#### NA/9. COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES

The Forum Liaison Officer reported that Derbyshire County Council and Derby City Council had jointly begun preparing new plans, which would set out where and when new minerals and waste development would take place over the next 20 years. Further information was circulated to all those present, which explained more about the plans. The County Council was carrying out further consultation, and asked if any residents had any opinions about what the minerals and/or waste plans should contain, that they express their views. In addition, they would also include any person or organisation that wished to be consulted regularly in their list of consultees. It was pointed out that residents could get involved at any stage, but it was important to register interest early in the process if they wished to influence the plans from the start.

To express a view or register, it was requested that people email: [wasteminsldf@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:wasteminsldf@derbyshire.gov.uk) or write to Andrew Hollyer, Development Plans Team, Environmental Services Department, Derbyshire County Council, Shand House, Dale Road South, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3RY.

NA/10. **DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES – FEEDBACK ON VISION AND PRIORITIES**

The Director of Corporate Services advised that a booklet had been circulated entitled “Local Priorities Consultation – Summary of Key Findings”. She reported that during 2008 and early 2009, the District Council had consulted key stakeholders on priorities for the District. A wide range of consultation methods were used and the results had informed two key documents, the Council’s Corporate Plan and South Derbyshire’s Sustainable Community Strategy. The booklet gave a summary of key findings following this consultation. She thanked residents for giving their views.

It was asked why the District Council had attempted to mow a lawn, which had already been cut two days before. In addition, it was queried why an area surrounding the flats on St. John’s Drive had been cut on one day, followed by an adjacent area outside the football club a few days later. It was felt that these were examples of the District Council wasting resources. The Director of Corporate Services agreed to raise these issues with Officers.

It was asked if the bungalow at the top of Plummer Road could be looked at, as it was in a very poor state. It was understood that this was owned by Derbyshire County Council and had been used by Social Services.

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

Councillor Lacey thanked Councillor Bambrick for the work he had done over previous years as a member of Derbyshire County Council.

NA/11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next Meeting was to be confirmed.

MRS. G. FARRINGTON

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8.00 p.m.