

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

LINTON

28th May 2014 at Rosliston Village Hall

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Wheeler (Chairman) and Councillors Jones; Frost and Mrs Hall.

S Batchelor (Director of Community and Planning); S Winfield (Service Assistant); K Allies (Environmental Development Manager)

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

P Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

County Council Representatives

Councillor K Lauro

Parish Council/Meeting Representatives

K Bradford (Coton in the Elms Parish Council); P Marbrow (Rosliston Parish Council); M Horne (Walton on Trent Parish Council); P McGibbon (Netherseal Parish Council); C Wright (Castle Gresley Parish Council) S Jones, C Knight (Overseal Parish Council); J Powell (Linton Parish Council)

LA/1 **TO NOTE THE APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Wheeler was appointed Chairman by Annual Council for Linton Area Forum

LA/2 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from J Pallett and S Jackson

LA/3 **APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Mrs Hall was appointed Vice Chairman of the Linton Area Forum.

LA/4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

LA/5 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cllr Wheeler confirmed the consultation on Part 1 of the Local Plan finished on 22nd April and officers are currently working through the comments. This will be submitted to the Secretary of State on 11th July, to be examined in the autumn, with adoption in 2015. Part 2 of the Local Plan has commenced and the first consultation will take part this autumn. The detail of Part 1 and Part 2 will go to the Environmental and Development Services Committee on 5th June, before being submitted to the

Secretary of State

LA/6 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Linton Area Forum held on 29th January 2014 were noted.

LA/7 **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Chairman reviewed those items raised at the last Meeting and the Forum Liaison Officer reported the progress made in each case.

Acresford Road, Netherseal – Carriageway flooding

Forum Liaison Officer reported that a further letter had been sent to the landowner but not reply received. The maintenance section had also been approached regarding the legal right of entry to the land. This is a surface water issue with a suspected broken pipe in the field. Cllr Mrs Hall raised that water draining into the Mease needs attention as this is a protected river.

Action: Forum Liaison Officer to make enquires and report back at a future meeting.

LA/8 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

Walton resident reported that a vehicle was mounting the pavement and crossing a grass verge to park in Bells End Road.

Action: Forum Liaison Officer to make enquiries and report back at a future meeting.

Coton in the Elms Parish Council questioned if all dropped kerb applications should be brought to the attention of the Parish Council as there had been an increase in kerbs dropped but the Parish Council hadn't seen the applications. It was advised that any unauthorised or substandard works should be brought to the attention of DCC for investigation.

Action: Director of Community and Planning to make enquiries and report back at a future meeting.

Rosliston Parish Council raised that certain planning applications were not posted on lamp posts in the village. Two addresses were passed onto the Director of Community and Planning.

Action: Director of Community and Planning to make enquiries and report back at a future meeting.

The road surface at the traffic lights in Overseal was raised and whether funding was available to address this. Forum Liaison Officer confirmed that a scheme list of winter damage repairs would soon go to Committee. Once approved then the works can be programmed.

It was raised that a large pothole had appeared on the Cadley Island.

Forum Liaison Officer advised that the worst section (left-turn towards Castle Gresley)

had received a carriageway patch shortly after the last forum. He was unaware of any further plans to carry out works at this time. Cllr Lauro confirmed that she had enquired into this and been advised that there are no works planned at this time.

Coton Parish Council raised that many speed limit signs were obscured by overgrown verges. Director of Community and Planning confirmed that a grass cutting programme was in place.

It was raised that roadworks at Drakelow were still ongoing. Forum Liaison Officer confirmed the bridge replacement works had been delayed but were due to be complete by 6th June. DCC will be repairing a culvert adjacent to Gate B at Drakelow Power Station, which is due to commence in early June for 14 weeks. It is estimated that the works will need two one-week closures – possibly in August and October – with temporary signals and a 30mph speed limit in place for the remainder of the works.

Cllr Lauro raised that a site meeting had been arranged to discuss the Rosliston crossroads towards Cadley Hill and Police have been invited.

It was raised that there are plans to stagger the crossroads at Drakelow / Rosliston Road.

It was raised that a green wheelie bin had been abandoned near the bus shelter on The Green in Rosliston.

Action – Director of Community and Planning to arrange to have it collected.

Linton Parish Council raised that several drain covers had been stolen and cones have been put out in Coton Park

LA/9

UPDATE ON ENVIRONMENTAL VOLUNTEERING

This project aims to help local groups like Parish Councils and Footpath/Wildlife Groups find volunteers to do environmental tasks on their land, or land they manage. It will also provide suitable tasks for businesses and other groups (e.g. Derby University students) wishing to volunteer for ½ day (or more) on an environmental task.

South Derbyshire Partnership and South Derbyshire District Council have been approached by groups needing tasks doing and groups looking for tasks and aim to match them up.

The aims are to: -

- provide support & training to voluntary community environmental groups, Parish Councils and individuals
- improve biodiversity and the visual attractiveness of South Derbyshire by supporting community environmental tasks/ projects
- support businesses in their community investment and 'business in the community' work
- enable more environmental volunteering to take place in South Derbyshire

This project will not replace other means of getting environmental tasks done - it is for tasks that are difficult to achieve through existing methods either for financial or practical reasons. Templates for organisations with an environmental task that they need help with are downloadable from the web link (www.south-derbys.gov.uk/environmentalforum - then click on the Environmental Volunteering link). The completed project templates will be used to create a list of tasks for businesses (and other volunteer groups) to choose from. The templates should then make it quick and easy for businesses to book their volunteer day with the voluntary organisation, forest site, park or parish that needs the job doing. A charge to cover basic costs and any extras like risk assessments will be made to the business groups. The 'matching' service will be free for groups needing tasks doing unless they need extra support (at £30 hr). Charges are clear on the templates and notes.

LA/10 **COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES**

Forum Liaison Officer gave the following update: -

DCC are facing massive budget pressures and need to save £157m by 2018 to meet Government spending targets. DCC will look at how they offer children's centre services so they are offered in the best possible way to support children and families within the limited and reducing budgets. There are 54 centres currently operated across the county, which cost £8m per year to run. A saving of £1.1m is needed to meet targets. A consultation is being carried out on the way these services are offered. The consultation commenced on Wednesday 14th May and runs until Tuesday 17th June. There are several ways residents can take part, either via the website: www.derbyshire.gov.uk/ccreview (free internet access in libraries and some children's centres); pick up a paper copy at a children's centre or request one via Call Derbyshire on 01629 533190.

A number of options are being considered, which include: -

- Charging parents for using children's centres;
- Charging organisations for using the buildings;
- Reduction in staffing levels;
- Closing some centres;
- Only offering services which are not already available elsewhere through the voluntary, community and independent sector.

Feedback from the review will be used for a follow-up report to Cabinet this autumn. If any centres were to be subsequently earmarked for possible closure, a further consultation would take place before any final decision was made. Children's centres in South Derbyshire are located at Castle Gresley (Mount Pleasant Road), Coton-in-the-Elms (Elmslea Avenue), Etwall (Hilton Road), Newhall (Elmsleigh Drive, Midway) and Woodville (Blacksmith's Lane).

Castle Gresley Parish Council raised that the 60 mph limit along the bypass changes to 30 mph too close to the island. Cllr Lauro confirmed that the accident injury rate was being considered. It was raised that St Modwen's development would also attract accidents. Cllr Lauro confirmed that this issue would be incorporated with the Rosliston crossroads meeting. Forum Liaison Officer confirmed that DCC are bound by the Department of Transport regarding speed limits but once areas are developed then this may be a case for a change of speed.

It was suggested that Cadley Hill Road (A514) should be reduced to 30mph, particularly in the vicinity of the Ryder Close junction. It was claimed there have been 3 collisions near the junction within the last 12 months. Ryder Close Industrial Estate is now largely occupied and the recently opened Chesapeake unit (opposite) has in the region of 20 HGV's parked there at any one time.

Action: Forum Liaison Officer to make enquiries and report back to a future meeting.

LA/11

DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES

Environmental Development Manager discussed the Swadlincote Townscape Heritage Scheme. The District Council applied for a lottery grant to upgrade buildings and was issued £8,000 to carry out interim work. A public consultation will take place to upgrade the Lady Diana Memorial garden.

It was raised that Ernest Hall Way in Swadlincote was untidy with rubbish and overgrown with weeds.

Action – Environmental Development Manager to report to the District Council.

Director of Community and Planning informed the group of a briefing to be held on 9th July on trees and open space management at the Civic Offices and on 17th September - planning, development management and planning policy. This information will be going out to Parish Councils. After Christmas there will be briefings on neighbourhood planning and in March a briefing on building standards and planning enforcement

Director of Community and Planning discussed the Last Night at the Proms production scheduled to take place at The Glade at Rosliston Forestry Centre on 6th September. The theme is the remembrance of World War I and there will be lighting of the beacon. An event will take part during the day in Swadlincote.

LA/12

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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

R WHEELER

CHAIRMAN

The meeting terminated at 8.15 pm