

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

NEWHALL – AREA 5

Wednesday, January 22, 2020 at St. John's Church Newhall

PRESENT: -

South Derbyshire District Council representatives

Councillor Paul Dunn (Chair), Councillor Sean Bambrick (Vice Chair),
Councillor Linda Stuart

Kevin Stackhouse – Strategic Director, Service Delivery
Chris Smith – Communities Team Manager
Max Boyce – Community Safety Enforcement Officer
Debbie Ward – Service Assistant

Derbyshire County Council representatives

Councillor Sean Bambrick

Derbyshire Police representatives

PCSO Lee Walker

Parish Council/ Meeting representatives

Councillor Jim Seaton (Hartshorne Parish Council)

Elsbeth Frudd (South Derbyshire CVS)

Members of the public

A. Argent, Pat Bambrick, Eddie Bisknell, Rev. P. Douglas, Lucy Felthouse,
Pamela & Howard Foy, Linda Harris, Ian Haynes, Paul Hedges, Alan Hillier, Mr
& Mrs Hobson, Steve Hobster, Richard House, Don Hughes, David James, C.
Maddock, Richard Smith, Glenys Tagg, R. Trim, Andrew Wakeling, B. Woods,
J. Woods

NA/15 **Open meeting**

a. Introductions and apologies

Ian Bottrill, Graham Hall, Bill Parker, Councillor Robert Pearson, Councillor
Kevin Richards, Mary Richards

b. Declarations of interest

None.

c. Chair's announcements

Councillor Bambrick reminded attendees to sign the attendance register and to provide an email address where possible to cut down on the number of paper copies being printed and sent out by post.

Community Partnership Grants

The Community & Environment Partnership Scheme offers the chance for community groups, charities and volunteer organisations to apply to receive funding.

This is available for a wide variety of organisations and projects, from parish councils and sporting groups to arts, heritage and environmental schemes. In the past, the scheme has helped with the cost of new buildings and supported improvements to community spaces.

Grants of between £1,000 and £25,000 will be awarded as matched funding to support capital projects with a value of £4,000 and above. Those applying must demonstrate that being awarded the funding would improve the quality of life of residents in South Derbyshire.

For more information contact Ian Hey, Community Partnership Officer.

The Sunflower Scheme

Anyone with a hidden disability (or their carer) can wear a Sunflower lanyard or pin, and organisations that recognise the scheme train their staff to look out for the Sunflower sign and how to offer additional help to those who wear it.

At January's Council meeting Councillors voted unanimously in favour of adopting the Sunflower scheme. As a result, the Council will be rolling out training to staff and members this spring and the lanyards will be available to pick up from the Council's reception from February 2020.

Sign Live

Sign Live is a solution that offers customers British Sign Language (BSL) translation on the go. Users of British Sign Language can use a mobile device to access a BSL interpreter who will translate what they are saying to the service provider and sign back any responses.

At January's Council meeting Councillors voted unanimously in favour of trialling Sign Live with our customers to see if it is well used and easy to use, before rolling it out wider.

Job Opportunities Day

There is a Job Opportunities Day taking place in Burton on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 for those seeking jobs, training and other support for their

future career. The next one due to be held in Swadlincote will be on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 from 3pm until 6pm at Sharpe's Pottery Museum.

Thinking of Starting a Business

A 'Thinking of Starting a Business' session will be taking place on Wednesday, February 26, 2020, from 5.30pm at Sharpe's Pottery Museum for any budding entrepreneurs!

Swadlincote Pancake Races

The 2020 Swadlincote Pancake Races will take place on Shrove Tuesday, February 25, 2020 from 12pm until 2pm at The Delph Market Square in aid of Sport Relief. Teams of four people can enter the Pancake Relay Races for £4 per team with all proceeds going to Sport Relief. You can be from a business, organisation or just a group of friends.

Open Mic on The Delph

Up to thirty-minute slots are available on Saturday, January 25, 2020 and Saturday, February 29, 2020 for any musicians, singers, MCs, bands or buskers who would like to showcase their talents. To book a free slot contact John Beer on 07799 666522 or visit the Swadlincote Markets Facebook page.

d. To receive the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.

e. Matters arising from last minutes

A member of the public raised the area of land at the end of Oversetts Road, Newhall.

Councillor Paul Dunn updated that Gaynor Richards, Planning Enforcement Officer, has been in contact with the landowner and that the area of land in question is going to be cleared and security fenced in the coming weeks.

Councillor Paul Dunn provided a verbal report back in respect to the anti-social behaviour/ vandalism at Newhall Park raised at the last meeting and confirmed that he had spoken to both the Head of The William Allitt School and the Lead of Safeguarding and Behaviour who have both assured that any reports that go back to the school will be taken very seriously and dealt with accordingly. The message regarding bad behaviour not being tolerated outside of school has also been reiterated during morning assemblies.

NA/16 **Police Safer Neighbourhood report**

PCSO Lee Walker provided the following update: -

- Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) Sgt David Walker has now moved on to another position within the Police and has been replaced by Sgt Tarj Nizzer, covering areas 4, 5 and 6. A press release will be made in due course.
- PCSO Harriet Dunn left the SNT to join the regulars in November 2019.
- PCSO Reece Beattie is now covering the Newhall area having previously covered the Swadlincote area. There will also be an additional member of the team due to join mid-February time.
- There has been an increase in arrests made in relation to traffic offences, such as driving without insurance and drink driving.
- A Newhall male was arrested for drink driving at Swadlincote Lights and was issued with a ban. Two days later the same individual was arrested again (for drink driving) and is now in prison.
- Six disqualified drivers have been caught and will be facing a prison sentence as well as a further period of disqualification. PCSO Lee Walker reiterated that the Police rely on intelligence from the public regarding these matters and urged people to report if you know or suspect that someone is driving whilst disqualified.
- Three warrants to search premises in Newhall and Midway were conducted, although nothing was found it shows that the police are acting on intelligence received.
- Two County Lines drug dealers from Birmingham were arrested on Wellwood Road last week. PCSO Lee Walker gave a brief explanation as to what County Lines is and encouraged members of the public to report anything out of the ordinary to the Police.

A local resident asked whether the Police still patrol the area of land along Park Road, Newhall (by Swadlincote Rifle and Pistol Club) as nuisance off-road motorcycles are starting to cause issues again. The resident added that vans from outside of the area are also bringing bikes and parking in the layby nearby. The resident advised that the bikes are usually there on a Saturday and some evenings. Last Saturday, January 18, 2020, the bikes were there at around 2:30pm in the afternoon.

PCSO Lee Walker advised that if the matter is reported to the Police via the official channels then the Police can look at using drones to investigate further.

ACTION: Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) to increase patrols in the area around key times and consider drone deployment if persistent.

Councillor Jim Seaton raised speeding issues on Sandcliffe Road, Lower Midway and updated that Hartshorne Parish Council were now looking into purchasing their own speed gun. However, support from the Police by way of an occasional presence at peak times would be greatly appreciated. Councillor Seaton advised that the issue of speeding along Sandcliffe Road is an ongoing one that has been reported to CREST on numerous occasions.

ACTION: PCSO Lee Walker to arrange for some enforcement action to be taken on Sandcliffe Road, Lower Midway over coming weeks.

Councillor Seaton asked whether it would be possible to have a Police presence at a future Parish meeting.

PCSO Walker confirmed that this could be arranged outside of the meeting.

Councillor Paul Dunn extended thanks to PCSO Lee Walker for his helpful attitude.

A resident queried whether the Police were aware of residents with mental health issues living at Honeysuckle Court on Meadow Lane. The resident explained that there had been a recent incident where one of the residents became quite intimidating and threatening when another local resident pointed out they had dropped something on the floor.

PCSO Lee Walker advised that if neighbouring residents feel threatened or intimidated that they should get to a place of safety and report it to the Police. It was also suggested that the resident concerned may be able to find out more about the flats in question by contacting the relevant Housing Officer at South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC).

A resident of Willow Drive, Newhall asked what can be done about loud revving cars early in the morning.

ACTION: SNT to arrange a visit to the property reported by a resident on Willow Drive in respect to loud revving cars early in the morning.

NA/17 **Safer South Derbyshire Partnership update and Safer Neighbourhood grants**

Chris Smith provided the following update: -

Digital MOT

Safer Derbyshire have launched a campaign to ask members of the public to take a quick survey to see how secure their mobile devices and laptops are.

The Digital MOT is a cyber security assessment tool developed by the Community Safety Unit at Derbyshire County Council, in partnership with the Cybercrime Unit at Derbyshire Constabulary.

The assessment takes less than 5 minutes to complete and will identify how to be safer online.

To take the MOT please visit the website - www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/MOT

Criminal Behaviour Orders

We have been successful in extending and varying the existing Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) on Jordan Burgess, a Town centre shoplifter and street drinker. Due to him continuing to cause ASB in the town centre, including letting off fireworks in Swadlincote high street during the daytime the original two-year order has been extended until 2021 and now bans him completely from entering the Town centre.

On Tuesday 14th January we were back in court with Andrew Hogg who is one of our main Town Centre ASB perpetrators. Mr Hogg appeared for two breaches of the Town Centre Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) on the 30.08.19 and 14.10.19. Mr Hogg pleaded guilty to both offences. On the back of this we applied for a three-year CBO, which we have been successful in obtaining.

CBO prohibitions are as follows: -

1. Not to act in a manner that causes or is likely to cause a nuisance (harassment, alarm or distress) to one or more persons not of your household within DERBYSHIRE.

2. Not to carry or consume alcohol in an open vessel in any public place other than a licensed premise within DERBYSHIRE.

DJ Taff would not give us the Town Centre ban, but he has told Mr Hogg that if he breaches this CBO he is going to prison.

If Mr Hogg breaches this order we will go back to court and vary the application for a full Town Centre ban, which the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) believe we would get next time.

Additionally, Mr Hogg was given a two-year Conditional Discharge, £85 costs and a £21 Victim Surcharge.

Police Speeding Campaign

Over the next two weeks officers will be focusing on speeding drivers across the county as part of a national campaign.

One of the so called “Fatal Four” – collisions where speed was a factor killed 596 people, and seriously injured 2,686, across the UK in 2018.

Over the next two weeks officers from the Roads Policing Unit, the CREST team, Community Speed Watch, Specials and local policing units will be undertaking speed enforcement at various locations around the county.

If you are concerned about speeding in your area, then you can report this online here:

<https://www.crestderbyshire.org/about-us/report-a-speeding-concern/>

It is also possible for residents concerned about speeding in their area to set up, or participate in already active, Community Speed Watch groups. More information about the scheme can be found here:

<https://www.crestderbyshire.org/in-the-community/community-speed-watch/>

Safer Neighbourhoods and Community Funding

Area 5 - Newhall							
Project Name	Ref.	Project Lead	Organisation	Amount Applied for	Total Project Cost	Amount Granted	Date Offer Letter Issued
Tuesday Night Club	A5:01	Kalila Storey	People Express - Sharpe's Pottery Museum	£2,500.00	£5,500.00	£2,500.00	19/06/2019
Ball Stop Net	A5:02	Steve Davies	Friends of Newhall Park	£1,500.00	£2,135.00	£1,500.00	23/07/2019
Tuesday Night Club	A5:03	Kalila Storey	People Express - Sharpe's Pottery Museum	£500.00	TBC		
Total				£4,500.00	£7,635.00	£4,000.00	

Further money (£4000) will be available from April 2020. Applications can be received at any time as there is still an underspend on 2019-20 funding.

Public Space Protection Order on Maurice Lea Park

A period of consultation has recently closed which asked for opinions on the Council implementing a PSPO on Maurice Lea Park to combat anti-social behaviour (ASB) which became a regular issue during the summer holiday period.

Reports were received by both the Council and the Police regarding groups of youths drinking, being abusive to staff and members of the public, smashing glass, littering and causing damage to trees and play equipment.

The PSPO prohibitions will enable Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) for anyone caught dropping litter and will give additional powers to the Police and Council officers to remove individuals from the park for 24 hours and to confiscate alcohol.

The Consultation has received 100% support from those who responded, and a report will be submitted to Committee in March to ask for approval for the order.

A resident asked if a leaflet can be produced to give people advice on how not to be victims of telephone scams.

ACTION: Communities Team to look at what material is already in circulation in respect to scams and bring leaflets to the next meeting.

NA/18 **Local authority issues**

Kevin Stackhouse provided the following SDDC update: -

Keep Britain Tidy Campaign

Between March 20 and April 13 this year there will be a national Keep Britain Tidy campaign and we will be doing a lot of local work linking to this initiative, putting information on our website and encouraging communities to join in. Keen litter-pickers can get involved with an ever-growing list of clean-up events taking place across the District – two of these are Castleton Park, Church Gresley on the Sunday, March 24 and Swadlincote Town Centre on Monday, January 27, 2020.

Keep an eye on our usual communication channels for further information.

Green Spaces Plan

The Council is seeking to protect around 150 Local Green Spaces across the District through a Local Green Spaces Plan. Following the hearing in September the Council is preparing to consult on a number of modifications to the Plan, subject to Committee approval. After this consultation, the Inspector will write her report, which it is hoped will lead to the Plan's adoption by late spring.

Climate Emergency

Following the declaration of a Climate Emergency in June 2019, A Climate and Environment Strategy and Action Plan was approved by Full Council on 16th January 2020.

The aspiration of the Strategy is to strive to make all the Council's activities carbon neutral over the next 10 years. It also commits to working with others to tackle the estimated 800,000 tonnes of carbon emitted every year from all communities and businesses across South Derbyshire.

The Action Plan set out some of the early measures the Council will be taking, such as a carbon review of the Council's own housing stock, the implementation of a Staff Travel Plan and the phased reduction of plant and machinery with electric alternatives.

ISO14001

South Derbyshire District Council was awarded the prestigious ISO14001 standard for Environmental Management for the twelfth successive year in December following an extensive four-day audit.

The audit covered all the Council's five main operational centres – Civic Way offices, the depot on the Boardman Estate, Greenbank and Etwall Leisure centres and Rosliston Forestry Centre.

The auditors highlighted a handful of minor non-conformities which are being addressed as well as making over 20 additional observations to help the Council continue to improve its environmental performance.

Mention was made of the environmental, biodiversity, education and well-being programmes at Rosliston. Also, the approach of the Housing, Planning & Economic Development Services to ensure that existing and planned developments are managed with protection of the environment as one of the main pillars.

Tim Peake Space Sapling lands at Rosliston Forestry Centre

South Derbyshire District Council's Environmental Education Project at Rosliston Forestry Centre is very proud to be a recipient of one of eight young trees from the pips from Isaac Newton's apple tree that were blasted into space with British European Space Agency (ESA) Astronaut Tim Peake.

Apple pips from the iconic Newton tree were taken on the Principia mission in 2015 by British astronaut Tim Peake to the International Space Station. The pips then spent six months floating in micro gravity as part of the 'Pips in Space' project, before returning to Earth in 2016.

2020 Budget Briefing

The Council's Finance and Management Committee met a couple of weeks ago to put its proposals forward for next year's budget. The Council is in quite a good position financially, generating a lot of income, mainly from the development going on. The pressure for the Council is to keep its existing services going (and there are no proposals to reduce any services). In fact, there will be some services that will be expanded to recognise and go alongside the growth of the district. Some of the money being generated now will be put to one side to cover the additional waste collection and grounds maintenance required once all the new houses are fully occupied.

Beyond next year's budget there are two things on the horizon. There is a Bill going through Parliament that is going to put extra pressure on all local councils to increase the amount and type of waste being recycled, which in turn will cost the Council money to implement.

There is a lot of uncertainty for all councils about what the new central government will do regarding the funding that it supplies to all local councils from 2021-22. SDDC do not currently receive any general grant from central government. The money that SDDC gets to spend is generated through Council Tax and a 'New Homes Bonus' which is a grant available to authorities where there is a lot of development going on. This money will be taken away next year and replaced with something else which will be critical to this area and so we are trying to get into the government directly to find out what is going on and if we can, to try and influence some of the proposals that might be on the table so that we can continue to receive our fair share of funding in this area.

There is a Local Council Tax increase proposal due to be debated and agreed at a meeting with Full Council at the end of February. The Council has proposed an increase of 1.95% to keep pace with inflation which would equate to approximately £3 per year on a Band D property in South Derbyshire. The proposed increase is just the districts share of the Council Tax bill.

Councillor Sean Bambrick added that Derbyshire County Council (DCC) planned not to increase their share of the Council Tax bill this year but will use the Social Care increase which is up to 2%.

A member of the public asked what has happened to the Sinfin Incinerator.

Councillor Bambrick advised that there is an incentive between DCC and Derby City and would provide an update in due course.

A member of the public reported that the public footpath between Meadow Lane, Newhall, across the field to William Nadin Way, Swadlincote has been blocked off with fencing with no alternative route provided.

Councillor Bambrick advised that the fencing would have been erected for Health and Safety purposes but that an alternative route should have been provided.

ACTION: Kevin Stackhouse to report the blocked off footpath back to the Planning Development team for further investigation.

A resident queried whether there were any further planned developments for the rest of the land situated around the golf course.

Councillor Paul Dunn advised that to the best of his knowledge there are no further planned developments on the land in question apart from the development of 16 houses that will be built on the land situated opposite Garden King/ Buildbase.

A resident asked what happens if a council tenant abuses their property.

Chris Smith updated that Housing do have powers to serve notice but rely on neighbours and other tenants reporting issues.

A resident asked about the land ownership of the old railway line situated behind Garden King as he would like to look at opening it up as a public footpath.

Councillor Bambrick responded to say that in the first instance the landowner would need to be identified and contacted for permission, it would then fall to DCC to maintain if opened as an official footpath.

ACTION: Councillor Sean Bambrick to make enquires in respect to the land ownership of the old railway line situated behind Garden King and report back.

Chris Smith stated that Ian Hey may be able to assist with the project if permission is granted by the landowners.

Councillor Jim Seaton raised the response received from Simon Trantor, Principal Engineer - Traffic and Safety at DCC.

Councillor Paul Dunn suggested that Councillor Seaton email Councillor Linda Chilton and Gary Musson asking the same question as the issue raised would be a County Council matter to investigate.

A member of the public queried what the Council's policy is on verges being ripped up by cars. In particular, the verge near to the telephone box on South Drive, Newhall is in a particularly bad state.

Councillor Paul Dunn advised that verges would fall under the County Council's remit.

ACTION: Councillor Bambrick to report the issue raised in respect to verge situated on South Drive to DCC Highways.

A resident asked whether the council was still interested in properties that have been standing empty for a long period of time due to there being a property that has been stood empty for six years and is falling into disrepair.

ACTION: Kevin Stackhouse to make enquiries into the property raised which is understood to have stood empty for circa. six years.

A resident complained about drains all over Newhall being blocked by leaves in Autumn. The drains along Burton Road between the Chesterfield pub and Hillcrest Fish bar were highlighted as being particularly bad.

ACTION: Communities Team to establish how often the road sweepers are deployed over the Autumn period.

A resident stated that there was a build-up of moss and leaves on the Council owned land near to her property on Browning Road.

ACTION: Communities Team to raise the reported build-up of moss and leaves on Browning Road with Direct Services.

A resident stated that the verge by Newhall Wood used to be maintained by Lakes (and mowed fortnightly) but since Buildbase/ Garden King has been there it has just been left and now looks an unsightly, overgrown mess.

Chris Smith responded to say that concerns were raised at the last meeting regarding the verge along Park Road (outside of Garden King/ Newhall Woods) and explained that our Planning Enforcement Officer, Gaynor Richards visited the area in question and did not feel that the verge was overgrown to the detriment of the amenity of the area and that it is in fact better to encourage wildlife and ecology by not cutting it back on a regular basis.

However, whilst there was no breach of planning control, there was an element of littering that could be addressed. Gaynor has since been in touch with the Manager of Garden King who has agreed to have it litter picked.

NA/19 Local community and voluntary sector projects/ update

Elsbeth Frudd provided a brief introduction to South Derbyshire CVS and the vast range of services it offers.

Safer Homes – if you have been a victim of crime in South Derbyshire you can refer into this service and have your home assessed to see how safe it is and have measures put in place to make it safer. During 2019, 545 homes were assessed resulting in 1784 window locks and 154 door chains being fitted as part of the Safer Homes Derbyshire scheme.

Food Bank – help with food on a short-term basis. Food parcels covering 2-3 days are available. Food Bank opening hours have changed and are now Mon-Thurs, 10am-4pm and Friday, 10am-3:30pm. During 2019, a massive 1144 food parcels were given out.

Connect Befriending Service - this service is available for anyone over the age of 18. Volunteers are needed across all areas of the district to help tackle isolation and loneliness.

Social Car scheme – assistance is available to anyone who lives in South Derbyshire and is unable to use any other form of transport. Enquiries and bookings can be made Mon- Fri mornings (9:00am - 12:00pm) and transport is available seven days a week subject to the availability of drivers. The scheme is non profit-making. However, there is a charge made to the client of £1 per journey booked, plus 45p per mile (which is paid to the driver to cover their expenses). During 2019, 51,000 miles were covered which equated to 550 GP appointments and 1000 hospital visits.

Community Forums – a Volunteer Management forum is coming up at the end of February and an Environmental Community forum is scheduled to take place in March/ April (exact date to be confirmed).

Volunteering – if anyone is interested in volunteering please contact Annette Jennison for a volunteering pack which will enable volunteers to be matched up with a volunteering opportunity to suit.

Funding Surgeries – help is available to assist with funding applications. Future planned surgeries include Foundation Derbyshire on Friday, February 14, 2020 and the National Lottery Community Fund on Monday, March 16, 2020.

Free Training – is available to Community Groups. For example, Mental Health and ISLAND Community Champions training; covering topics such as Safeguarding and how to identify people that might be lonely across all ages and walks of life.

New Social Connectedness project called Social Connections South Derbyshire. Please get in touch if you would like to have an influence on what is happening and needed in your local area.

For more information regarding South Derbyshire CVS, you can get in touch by calling 01283 550163 or visit their website (sd cvs.org.uk).

A resident asked about usage at the Midway Community Centre (MCC) and if there was still a group looking at growing community involvement at the centre.

ACTION: CVS to provide feedback at the next meeting on MCC regarding when it used and the status of the Community Group.

Chris Smith updated that there is a meeting due to be held next week to discuss what is happening with MCC.

A member of the public raised awareness that Hill Street Baptist Church has a fantastic Clothing Bank.

Elsbeth Frudd added that the Hill Street Baptist Church is open on Friday afternoons and that they also provide a community meal that anyone can attend.

A resident asked how much the CVS Food Bank is being used and if a list of local food banks and drop-off points could be circulated.

ACTION: Communities Team to circulate list of local food banks and drop-off points.

Councillor Sean Bambrick added that members of the public can also provide monetary donations to the CVS in respect to the Food Bank as well as food and other groceries.

NA/20 Summary of agreed priorities/ actions

- Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) to increase patrols in the area around key times and consider drone deployment if persistent.
- PCSO Lee Walker to arrange for some enforcement action to be taken on Sandcliffe Road, Lower Midway over coming weeks.
- SNT to arrange a visit to the property reported by a resident on Willow Drive in respect to loud revving cars early in the morning.
- Communities Team to look at what material is already in circulation and bring leaflets to the next meeting.
- Kevin Stackhouse to report the blocked off footpath back to the Planning Development team for further investigation.
- Councillor Sean Bambrick to make enquires in respect to the land ownership of the old railway line situated behind Garden King and report back.
- Councillor Bambrick to report the issue raised in respect to verge situated on South Drive to DCC Highways.

- Kevin Stackhouse to make enquiries into the property raised which is understood to have stood empty for circa. six years.
- Communities Team to establish how often the road sweepers are deployed over the Autumn period.
- Communities Team to raise the reported build-up of moss and leaves on Browning Road with Direct Services.
- CVS to provide feedback at the next meeting on Midway Community Centre, in relation to when it is being used and the status of the Community Group.
- Communities Team to circulate a list of Food Banks.

NA/21 **Close and date of next meeting**

TBC

Councillor Paul Dunn
CHAIR

The meeting terminated at 8:00pm