

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

REPTON

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2014 at Stenson Fields Primary School

**PRESENT:-**

**District Council Representatives**

Councillor Smith (Chairman); Councillor Stanton; Councillor Shepherd and Councillor Ford

B Ledger (Director of Housing and Environmental Services); M McKeon (Clerk).

**Derbyshire County Council Representatives**

County Councillor Mrs Chilton

P Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

**Parish Council/Meeting Representatives**

A Badger (Bretby Parish Council); R Lisewski (Stenson Fields Parish Council);

C Fellows (Stenson Fields Parish Council); L Nash (Findern Parish Council);

**Members of the Public**

S Toone; P Mashiana; H Hall; A Evans; P Pearson; G Varty; C Pidgeon PPC; F Hill; J Orme.

RA/13 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor Davison, Councillor Chahal and Councillor Mrs Hood.

RA/14 **Declarations of Interest.**

None.

RA/15 **Chairman's Announcements.**

There is a briefing programme open to district/parish councillors in four subject areas:

1. Anti-social behaviour and changes to legislation, Wednesday 12 November at 6.30pm, Civic Offices.

2. Planning and development management/planning policy, Wednesday 3 December at 6.30pm, Civic Offices (pushed back from its original date of September).
3. Neighbourhood planning, an update on national planning and the local picture, Wednesday 28 January, 6.30pm at Civic Offices.
4. Building standards and planning enforcement, Wednesday 11 March 2015, 6.30pm at Civic Offices.

More details will be sent to Parish Clerks in the near future.

RA/16 **To note the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2014**

An amendment to the minutes was made (page 4, paragraph 3) where reference to the word 'road' was replaced with the word 'footpath'. Otherwise the minutes were noted as a true and accurate record.

RA/17 **Report back on issues raised at the last Meeting**

Lower Green, Findern. A resident requested that a CCTV sign be put up down the lane as there are cameras in place.

Forum Liaison Officer commented on items 2 to 5:

Newton Lane, Newton Solney

Update on collapsed wall. Works to commence next week. There will be some road closures in place until 15 December to pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles for safety purposes. Details of the diversion route were given.

The Chairman thanked members of the parish council, Cllr Chilton and the Forum Liaison Officer for their hard work and effort in this matter.

A member from Newton Solney Parish Council requested information for pedestrian access for those residents affected by the road closures.

**Action: Forum Liaison Officer to make enquiries and report back directly.**

Newton Road, Newton Solney – overgrown vegetation

Vast majority of the work has been done.

Deep Dale Lane, Barrow on Trent - overgrown vegetation

A request was made to Canal & River Trust to cut back the vegetation and they did this fairly quickly. They have also been asked to add this work to their routine maintenance schedule.

VAS Policy

There is a sign on Cockshut Lane, Melbourne which was put in place a few years ago, prior to the policy being adopted in May 2012.

Forum Liaison Officer was asked for an up update on drainage issue at Bretby Lane; He gave an update saying the maintenance department issued design documents for the repair of the outfall and reconstruction of the headwall to the Manager for his approval and as soon as it is done the details will be sent to contractors to schedule works into the programme. Awaiting a date from contractors

**Action: Forum Liaison Officer to ensure it goes on agenda for next time.**

Cllr Shepherd highlighted that there have been four personal injury collisions on Grampian Way over the last three years. He asked if DCC could remove a VAS from Cockshut Lane, as collisions have reduced in this area, and relocate it at Grampian way. Cllr Shepherd asked for if the VAS signs to be rotated from area to area where it is needed more.

Forum Liaison Officer explained that the Policy was first adopted by Cabinet back in 2012 there were no proposals to review all of the existing VAS sites – to establish whether they met the new criteria – or to remove those that didn't.

Forum Liaison Officer said the VAS sites were introduced prior to the policy, although perhaps not meeting the criteria should they be considered today, would still have been introduced to address a road safety problem. VAS are an effective way of improving road safety and where they were introduced, achieved a reduction in injury collisions. If we were to remove VAS from sites because the number of injury collisions have reduced, we could possibly see a deterioration in the safety record. DCC would not spend time and money reviewing and removing VAS when such action could lead to a deterioration in the road safety record.

Cllr Shepherd acknowledged this, but requested a review of the VAS policy/criteria in regard to the relocation of existing VAS from improved sites to help prevent and reduce the number of collisions at requested sites.

**Action: Forum Liaison Officer to take back these comments and report back.**

A resident raised the ongoing issue to reduce the speed limit down to 30 miles an hour from 40, on the Stenson Road, due to a new development. No further information has been received yet. Forum Liaison Officer confirmed that representation has been made to Heather Wheeler and a response has been drafted.

**Action: Forum Liaison Officer to make enquiries and report back**

A resident of Willington raised concerns regarding the footpath by Trent Avenue has part-time lighting at night she feels could be dangerous. Cllr Ford said he would take the matter to the Parish Council to report back.

**Action: Cllr Ford to liaise with Parish Council**

A resident of Willington raised concerns regarding difficulties encountered when trying to turn right out of Hall Lane (on to Repton Road). The resident was travelling to the doctor's surgery but visibility of vehicles travelling south is severely restricted, making it very difficult for exiting traffic (particularly right-turners). It was felt that a mirror or sign is required. The Forum Liaison Officer said the Department for Transport no longer permits the placement of mirrors in the highway other than in exceptional circumstances.

The resident raised the fact that there if mirrors are no longer permitted to be used by the Department for Transport, then they shouldn't be on the highway as you enter Repton (from Willington).

A resident representing Neighbourhood Watch around Stenson Fields reported cars being parked right up to the junction with Grampian Way, creating difficulties for traffic. Vehicles entering Pilgrims Way have to enter in the middle of the carriageway (due to the parked cars) which causes conflict with exiting traffic. The resident queried whether double yellow lines could be introduced to keep the junction clear. The Forum Liaison Officer stated that the policy has to be prioritised by areas where there has been a history of road collisions caused by parked vehicles or causes severe congestion.

**Action: Forum Liaison Officer to look at the road safety aspect and report back.**

A resident reported that about three weeks ago a British Transport Police vehicle was parked near the level crossing at Willington which had what appeared to be a traffic monitoring camera on it, which made lots of vehicles slow down. Why do we need British Transport Police to do an assessment? Cllr Ford responded to say that he had been on to British Transport Police for further information and to date he had not heard anything.

**Action: Cllr Ford to inform the resident if British Transport Police reply to him.**

RA/19 **County Council issues.**

None.

RA/20 **District Council issues.**

None

RA/21 **Date of Next Meeting.**

The date of the next Meeting is Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015, venue to be confirmed in due course.

P SMITH

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8.15 pm