OPEN

# SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

## SWADLINCOTE

## 20th October 2009

**PRESENT:-**

**District Council Representatives**
Councillor Taylor (Chairman) and Councillors Mrs. Lane, Southerd and Tilley.

M. Alflat (Director of Community Services), D. Townsend (Democratic Services) and C. Lukaszewicz (Helpdesk).

**Derbyshire County Council Representative**
P. Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

**Derbyshire Constabulary**
P.C. D. Oliver.

**Members of the Public**
M.G. Brotherhood, M. Causer, R.Causer, M. Edwards, J. Grew, C.R. Horridge, S.E. Horridge, K. Hough, M. Lunn, C. Rose, M. Rose, J. McCarthy, J.A. Williams, C.M. Wright, P. Yates,

SA/11. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillors Mrs. Gillespie and Lane (South Derbyshire District Council), Councillors Mrs. Farrington and Jones (Derbyshire County Council), Mr. & Mrs. Pallett and P. Wood (CVS).

SA/12. **POLICE ISSUES**

P.C David Oliver provided an update on police vehicles parked on the pavement outside the Police Station in Swadlincote, which was raised at the last Meeting. He reported that additional resources had been utilised in Swadlincote for drug raids, and due to a shortage of parking provision, they had used the grass verge to park an additional vehicle. The vehicle had not provided an obstruction to pedestrians.

P.C. Oliver also reported that there was an increase of 2.8% within the crime statistics, due to auto crime. Burglary had decreased by 24.1%, and the crime statistics for the area had been graded as average.

A new CCTV system was to be installed in Swadlincote High Street. The Director of Community Services added that there would be a number of cameras, which would not only record incidents, but would also be monitored

during times when unsociable behaviour was expected. In addition the system had vehicle number plate recognition, and recorded high quality images.

A resident asked what support the police were proposing to provide for the Gresley Remembrance Parade. P.C. Oliver agreed to contact the resident direct with a response.

P.C. Oliver reported that there was a core of nuisance youths in the town centre, which were currently being targeted by the police. Anti-social Behaviour Orders were being sought.

A resident asked what was the policy for dealing with young scooter riders, who were perceived to be causing a nuisance. P.C. Oliver responded that he had spent a lot of time working with young people, advising them on the correct use of scooters.

SA/13. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Swadlincote Area Forum held on 16th July 2009, were noted.

SA/14. **PRESENTATION BY MONEY SPIDER CREDIT UNION**

Jane Swindall (Development Officer for Money Spider Credit Union Limited) gave a presentation. She confirmed that the Money Spider Credit Union was a 'not for profit' community based financial co-operative which operated across South Derbyshire and Burton-on-Trent. It was run by and for its own members and provided a safe way to save, low cost loans and other services. They currently had approximately 350 members, including junior savers, and this membership was increasing on a weekly basis. The Board was made up entirely of volunteers from the Community and the aim was to help those within the Community who could not access mainstream financial services and were quite often forced to go to door-step lenders for high interest loans.

Further information was left and contact details for the Money Spider Credit Union Limited were; **jswindall@southderbyshirecab.org.uk** or 07960 322104.

SA/15. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT LAST MEETING**

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

With regard to parking on Coppice Side, Councillor Southerd believed that Derbyshire County Council had visited this area outside of the busy period. He added that if the proposed new development took place, congestion would be unbearable. The Forum Liaison Officer responded that officers had visited this site during peak hours and did not identify a problem at present. This area would continue to be monitored. The Chairman added that this response was not acceptable, and that an officer from Derbyshire County Council be invited to attend the next Meeting.

**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to request that an Officer from Highways attend the next Meeting.**

With regard to a flooding outside the Memorial Club, Councillor Southerd responded that flooding took place in this area all year round, and was not due to leaf fall. He requested that this be investigated further.
**The Forum Liaison Officer responded that he would provide a further response to the next Meeting.**

With regard to a tree blocking motorists' view at Blackshed Island, it was reported that this had not yet been removed.
**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this and report back to the next Meeting.**

SA/16. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

A resident asked if there was a contact point where they could speak to someone regarding noise nuisance, specifically where it was a one-off event, e.g. a late night party. The Director of Community Services responded that the District Council did not offer a 24-hour response, as this service did not have a big enough demand in South Derbyshire, and was not affordable. He added that this could only be dealt with if it could be considered a breach of the peace. It was suggested that there should be dialogue between the District Council and the Police to establish a route for people to get an adequate response when this situation arose.

A resident pointed out that the Railway Inn Public House periodically had very loud music for long periods of time, and asked if they were licensed for this activity.
**The Director of Community Services agreed to follow this up directly with the resident concerned.**

It was pointed out that a petition had been sent to Derbyshire County Council regarding traffic issues in the vicinity of Belmont Street School, and there had been no response.
**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this and respond to the next Meeting.**

A resident registered his disappointment in the response from Derbyshire County Council with regard to Church Street, Church Gresley. He thanked the Councillors for their attempts to solve this problem, but added that this had been unsuccessful and hoped there was not a serious accident in the future.

A resident thanked South Derbyshire District Council for cutting the grass on Thorpe Downs Road.

It was pointed out that the area surrounding the recycling site outside the Tesco store, Church Gresley and the site at the corner of New Street was very untidy.
**The Director of Community Services agreed to look into this and report back to the next Meeting.**

Various questions were asked with regard to travellers. The Director of Community Services confirmed that checks were made on travellers and they were prosecuted when infringements occurred which could be supported by evidence.
**The Director of Community Services agreed to look at the width of the gate on land near to the Ski Centre, with a view to reducing this in size.**

It was reported that security companies were driving down High Street, Swadlincote between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m., which should only be accessible by pedestrians during these times. It was suggested that residents note the vehicle details. However it might be difficult to follow this up as security vehicles may be exempt from restrictions due to the need to load money into the vehicle.

It was requested that a review of signage on Swadlincote High Street take place, as they were considered very confusing and contradictory. The Forum Liaison Officer responded that there was a revision order currently being completed to simplify these signs.

SA/17. **DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES – THE ELECTORAL REVIEW OF SOUTH DERBYSHIRE**

A presentation was provided by Mark Alflat, Director of Community Services on behalf of the Boundary Committee for England. Copies of presentation slides had been circulated and residents were encouraged to consider and respond to this consultation process. The presentation slides explained why South Derbyshire had been selected for an Electoral Review and the purpose of the review. It gave details of the issues that could be considered by the Boundary Committee, those that were outside the review's scope and the review processes, leading to final recommendations.

SA/18. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next Meeting was confirmed as 26th January 2010 at 7.00 p.m. at The Civic Offices, Civic Way, Swadlincote.

S. TAYLOR

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8.25 p.m.