

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

MELBOURNE

11th July 2012

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Harrison (Chairman) and Councillors Hewlett, Mrs. Watson and Watson

M. Alflat (Director of Operations), M Holford (Environmental Services) and P. Spencer (Democratic Services).

County Council Representatives

Councillor Harrison.

P. Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

Parish Council/Meeting Representatives

D. Martin (Aston-on-Trent Parish Council), K. Atkin and C. Blackmore (Barrow-on-Trent Parish Council) and L. Collison, J. Irons, S. Higon and T. Scott (Shardlow and Great Wilne Parish Council).

In attendance

District and County Councillor P. Murray.

Members of the Public

D. Adams, D. Bellis, J. Grimley, P. Grimley, R. Knibb, S. Madeley, T. Mills and K. Whewell.

MA/1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

It was noted that Councillor Harrison had been appointed Chairman of the Melbourne Area Forum at the Annual Council Meeting.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from District Councillor Atkin, District and County Councillor Ford, N. Hawkesworth, Mrs. Mitchell and Mr. Sheening (Shardlow Parish Council), Mr. and Mrs. Dunn, B. Fletcher, Mrs. Jackson, W. Moulton and C. Wheldon.

MA/2. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

It was agreed that Councillor Watson be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Melbourne Area Forum for the ensuing year.

MA/3. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Melbourne Area Forum held on 18th April 2012 were noted, subject to an alteration to Minute No. MA/26 in the second paragraph of page 2 of the Minutes, to clarify that a matter related to Ashby Road, not Derby Road.

MA/4. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Chairman invited the Forum Liaison Officer to give an update on the issues referred to Derbyshire County Council at the previous Meeting. It was noted that since reflector posts had been installed on the canal bridge in Barrow-on-Trent, no further road traffic accidents had taken place.

A report was provided on the drainage issues at Woodshop Lane in Swarkestone. A verbal update was given on the jetting works undertaken to date and plans for a CCTV survey to seek a resolution to the problems being experienced. A further report back would be provided to the next Meeting. A report was also provided on the enforcement activity relating to heavy commercial vehicles using the Swarkestone Bridge and Causeway.

MA/5. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

Further to Minute No. MA/26 of 18th April 2012, a resident of Ashby Road in Melbourne expressed concerns about the development to provide sports pitches in this area. He referred to the planning application determined by the District Council, the design of the scheme and the actual works undertaken, particularly the resulting gradients and amounts of material imported. Reference was also made to drainage ditches included as part of the design and problems experienced following the significant rainfall recently. The resident also referred to a video clip which was available via 'Youtube'. It was noted that an engineers report referred to at the last Meeting had not yet been made public.

A response was provided by the Chairman of the Committee and the Director of Operations. The Chairman explained why the consultant's report had not yet been made available, due to further information being needed from the contractor regarding imported materials. The Director of Operations confirmed that he had responded to the resident on a number of occasions and clarified that the consultant had been asked to look at all of the data relating to materials imported to the site. As the Council's Emergency Planning Officer he also responded with regard to the impact of the recent adverse weather conditions and the flooding that had taken place elsewhere in the District in areas where such flooding problems had not previously been seen. He spoke about the design of the drainage scheme, which had been remarkably resilient. The information gained from the supplied video had been used to enable further works to be undertaken on site. The reported concerns about gradients had also been investigated by the independent consultant, who was happy with the scheme. It was confirmed that the final consultant's report would be available by the end of the following week. Once circulated, officers would arrange the proposed site meeting with interested parties.

Another aspect raised was the timescale for completion of the scheme. The Chairman explained the funding requirements, the resources secured to date and the likely phased programme for the completion of pitches, the clubhouse and other facilities. It was confirmed that some information would be available at the site meeting on the anticipated timescales for the submission of grant bids to achieve the various stages.

MA/6. **COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES**

The Chairman gave a verbal report on the Boundary Commission Review of Derbyshire. This gave a brief outline of the draft proposals and the likelihood of an increase in numbers of Members covering the South Derbyshire area to equalise electorate levels. The Chairman also publicised the County Council's 2013/14 budget round, on which further information would be included in the County Council's "First" magazine. A question was submitted regarding funding for social care relating to a recent white paper. The Chairman responded on the demographic shifts, the ageing population and increasing costs for elderly persons' care.

The Forum Liaison Officer spoke about the County Council's consultation on the Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Copies of the consultation document had been circulated and details were provided on how residents could obtain further copies and submit their views by the consultation deadline of 2nd September 2012. The Chairman explained the additional roles of the County Council relating to this area and the funding being received from Government as a successor to Primary Care Trusts.

MA/7. **DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES**

Matt Holford of the District Council's Environmental Services Department addressed the Meeting. He explained that the District Council had powers to designate Dog Control Orders for certain areas. This included the power to prohibit dogs, to require that they were kept on a lead or even to limit the number of dogs per dog walker. The Council had introduced Dog Control Orders in 2008 and had recently consulted with parish councils to review the areas requiring such orders. A wider consultation process was now underway and feedback was sought by 10th September 2012.

It was noted that there were no specific Dog Control Orders in force for the North Eastern parishes of the District. In response to questions, further information was provided about the general powers available to prosecute people who did not remove dog fouling, the enforcement activity undertaken by Safer Neighbourhood Wardens and with regard to the consultation process. In Aston-on-Trent, there was a parish bylaw requiring dogs to be kept on leads in certain areas. It was encouraged that the Parish Council request this be reinforced by a Dog Control Order.

MA/8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was confirmed that the next Melbourne Area Forum would be held on 3rd October 2012 at the Barrow-on-Trent Village Hall.

J. HARRISON

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8.30 p.m.