



Derbyshire Constabulary



Neighbourhoods



**South  
Derbyshire**  
District Council

**teamwork**

*Keeping our Community Safe*

Safer South Derbyshire Partnership

**DERBYSHIRE**  
County Council  
Improving life for local people

**Safer Neighbourhood  
Area 2 - Mercia  
(6.15 - 7.15pm)**

**Interval with light  
refreshments 7.15 - 7.30pm**

**and**

**Repton Area Forum  
(7.30 - 8.30pm)**

**Tuesday, February 16,  
2016**

**Stenson Fields Primary  
School, Goathland Road,  
Derby  
DE24 3BW**

**South Derbyshire changing for the better**

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ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੂਸਰੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੈ, ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ  
ਦੀਆਂ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰਨ ਦੀ ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰੋ ਜੀ

ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਮੰਗ ਕਰਨ ਤੇ ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ, ਬ੍ਰੇਅਲ ਜਾਂ ਆਡਿਉ ਦੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ  
ਉਪਲੱਬਧ ਕਰਵਾਈ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ।

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درخواست کرنے پر یہ معلومات بڑے پرنٹ، بریل یا آڈیو فارمیٹ میں بھی دستیاب ہیں۔

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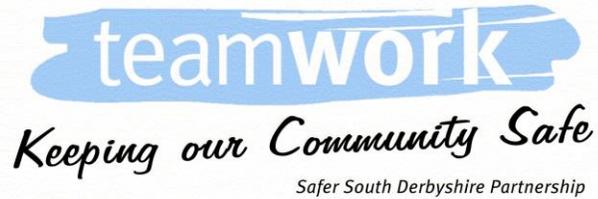
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## COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL MEETINGS 2015/2016

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Audit Sub	Wednesday 17.02.16
Finance & Management	Thursday 18.02.16
<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>Monday 29.02.16</b>
Planning	Tuesday 01.03.16
Environmental & Development Services	Thursday 03.03.16
Housing & Community Services	Thursday 10.03.16
Finance & Management	Thursday 17.03.16
Planning	Tuesday 22.03.16
Overview & Scrutiny	Wednesday 23.03.16
Audit Sub	Wednesday 30.03.16
<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>Thursday 07.04.16</b>
Etwell JMC	Monday 11.04.16
Planning	Tuesday 12.04.16
Environmental & Development Services	Thursday 14.04.16
Housing & Community Services	Thursday 21.04.16
Finance & Management	Thursday 28.04.16
<b>ANNUAL COUNCIL</b>	<b>Thursday 19.05.16</b>
<b>CIVIC COUNCIL</b>	<b>Thursday 26.05.16</b>



## **AGENDA**

### **SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP - AREA 2**

**Tuesday, February 16, 2016, 6.15 to 7.15pm**  
**at Stenson Fields Primary School**

**(Light refreshments will be served between 7.15 and 7.30pm)**

1. Chair's introduction. Apologies.
2. Minutes of last meeting (to be agreed) and update on actions.
3. Safer Neighbourhoods Sergeant's Overview / Priorities Update.
4. Partnership Update / Funding / New project ideas.
5. Local issues – open forum (20 minutes).
6. Agreed priorities.
7. Date of next meeting.

Meeting close (7.15pm)

**AREA 2 – MERCIA SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP**

Present	Date of Meeting	Venue
<p>Councillor Peter Smith (Chair), Sgt G Summers, PCSO K Waite, P Marriott (Neighbourhood Safety Officer); Councillors N Atkin, L Chilton, A MacPherson, D Shepherd; D Bateman (SDDC Senior Safety Neighbourhood Warden), P Colleyshaw, M Costa, A Evans, D Gowler, H Hall, F Hill, AD Lomas, B McArdle, IP Newstead, S Newstead, J Orme, T Skeith, Phil Smith, S Toone.</p> <p>Also present: Tom Sloan (Clerk)</p>	<p>Tuesday October 13, 2015</p>	<p>Milton Village Hall</p>

1	Chair's Introduction. Apologies	Action
	<p>Councillor Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the panel.</p> <p>Apologies were received from Councillors Chahal, Davison, Ford and Stanton; Insp K Bateman, D Barker, R Cunningham, S Dunncliffe and R Lisewski.</p>	
2	Minutes of last meeting (to be agreed) and update on actions	
	<p>The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record.</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on February 3, 2015, referred to a complaint made by Councillor Shepherd regarding anti-social behaviour in the Asda car park. In the meeting held on July 21, 2015, Sgt Summers updated on further incidents in the vicinity. Councillor Shepherd reported that no further complaints have been received regarding the issue.</p>	
3	Safer Neighbourhoods Sergeant's Overview / Priorities Update	
	<p>Sgt Summers reported no dramatic change in crime trends in the Mercia area. His team has continued to monitor Fox Close but there have been very few calls regarding ASB in Stenson Fields. PCSO Waite reported that there have been 11 ASB complaints since the last area forum, with three relating to Fox Close and no issues on the nearby park. Sgt Summers confirmed the police had put a mobile camera up in the area to record ASB, with no results</p> <p>Councillor Shepherd confirmed there are still issues in the Fox Close area regarding addicts injecting drugs in public and leaving used needles lying on the ground. He wants the police clean team to respond. Councillor Shepherd also believes there to be a dead letter box in Glenmore Drive being used to drop drugs off, namely cannabis, and the community is concerned. PCSO Waite responded by saying residents are putting incidents on the Spotted Stenson website instead of reporting them to police.</p> <p>Sgt Summers told the meeting that PC Vicky Centro was taking up a new position within Derbyshire Police after six months off sick from beat duty with a hip injury. Her replacement, PC Jessica Cafferty, was going to a more prominent position in</p>	

Swadlincote and was being replaced by PC Gemma Thursfield. Sgt Summers hoped the change would bring some continuity to policing in Area 2.

Councillor Atkin asked why theft from motor vehicles was dominating in Stenson Fields. Sgt Summers said the crimes were all over the area and a lot related to the theft of number plates, with a previous spate in Willington and Hilton. He confirmed the police react to patterns in reported incidents but have not got enough officers to be everywhere all of the time.

### Crime Statistics for Area 2

#### Latest Year to Date – April 1 to September 20, 2015

<b>Violent Crime</b>	<b>This Year</b>	<b>Last Year</b>
Assault	35	37 down
Robbery	1	0 up
Sexual offences	7	6 up
<b>Theft related</b>		
Dwelling burglary	11	10 up
Non dwell burglary	25	30 down
Theft of motor vehicle	5	2 up
Theft from motor vehicle	49	45 up
Shoplifting	5	3 up
All theft (incl. other)	150	139 up
<b>Damage</b> (incl. arson)	32	36 down
<b>Drug offences</b>	6	11 down
<b>All crime (incl. misc.)</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>230 up by 9</b>
<b>ASB</b>	140	153 down

#### **4 Partnership update / funding / new project ideas incl. Dennis Bateman**

Phil Marriott updated the meeting on the Safer Homes Scheme, reminding those present that over 60s can be referred for improved security to their home, for example for better window and door locks.

Mr Marriott offered stickers warning off trick or treaters as well as stickers discouraging doorstep callers. He cited the example of Linton (Area 6) where a no cold calling zone had been set up. Signs are available from the partnership for people wishing to follow suit in their area.

Newsletters were produced for the forum by Mr Marriott with information relating to the last quarter, in particular theft of church roofs, a major problem not only in South Derbyshire but nationwide.

Mr Marriott reported a funding application – the first of the year from Area 2 – had been received by the partnership. The application had come from the Den in Repton which had suffered ASB issues for a few years. The funding of £1,125 requested (out of a total spend of £1,500) was to improve an aging CCTV system and external lighting. Applicant Trevor Skeith is concerned the area of the Den could become a hang-out for young people and believes the improvements could prevent this. Mr Marriott told the meeting the application meets the partnership's criteria as it will reduce crime around a community asset. Chairman Councillor

	<p>Smith added that he thought it a great idea. No objections were raised from those at the meeting.</p> <p>Dennis Bateman introduced himself to the meeting as SDDC’s new Senior Safety Neighbourhood Warden after 33 years’ service with Derbyshire Police. One of the biggest complaints he had received so far related to dog owners failing to clean up after their pet. He hopes to address the issue with continued promotion of the Green Dog Walkers Scheme, which one member of the public said was about to be introduced in Findern. Mr Bateman told residents he would have no problem visiting a problem site at 6am or 7am to catch unruly dog owners and issue them with a ticket. A member of the public asked why there were no dog bins along the length of the canal near Stenson. Mr Bateman said he would investigate. Councillor Chilton asked how often bins were emptied and Mr Bateman said he would report back. Councillor Chilton also stated that fouling was suddenly on the rise in Melbourne, which Mr Bateman put down to the darkening nights and mornings of autumn. Councillor Shepherd asked if a full dog bin in Stenson could be emptied and Mr Bateman asked for it to be reported.</p> <p>Mr Bateman confirmed that fines for dog fouling are £75 and £50 if the fine is paid within 14 days. He also reminded the meeting that the old “Flick with a Stick” campaign was outdated and should not be followed.</p> <p>Councillor Smith, a dog owner himself, added he thought the Green Dog Walkers Scheme a great initiative. He wants the minority of dog owners responsible to be educated as they give all owners a bad name for creating a disgusting health hazard.</p>	<p>Dennis Bateman to report back on dog fouling issues</p>
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Local issues – open forum (20 minutes)</b></p> <p>A member of the public reported that a lorry in Heath Lane, Willington – reported at the last meeting – was still there and causing a problem. A member of the public had brought a collection of drug paraphernalia (namely bags for the sale of cannabis) and also stated that sexual intercourse was taking place in the back of cars, with condoms being thrown out and left on the ground. Sgt Summers asked if the lorry was parked illegally and when told it was not stated there was little the police could do to get it removed. Sgt Summers said the Clean Team would attend the scene and see if there was anything which could be removed. He also told residents not to ignore anti-social acts at the location and report them to police, even if it was 2am.</p> <p>Councillor Atkin asked if it was worth reporting someone smoking cannabis. Sgt Summers responded by stating it is the most prevalent illegal drug and for a first offence is a cannabis street warning as the police are not looking to criminalise 16 and 17-year-olds for “smoking a bit of weed”. Class A drugs, he said, were a different story and carried a potential five-year sentence for possession.</p> <p>A member of the public – the landlady of the Stenson Fields pub – says she believes a member of the Christian Fellowship had been collecting needles in the area and disposing of them. Sgt Summers asked for a photo of the needles. He pointed out that heroin users are now ubiquitous and that at least Stenson wasn’t experiencing the problems of Derby city. The landlady says there are complaints in the area about a lack of proactive policing. Sgt Summers responded by saying work was going on behind the scenes.</p> <p>Councillor Shepherd reported speeding on Wragley Way in Stenson where the road changes from a 40mph limit to 30mph. One resident reckons that motorists are even exceeding 60mph. Councillor Shepherd asked if it was possible to reduce the speed limit to 30mph in the area of Arleston Lane. Sgt Summers will pass the</p>	<p>Sgt Summers to brief traffic police on issue.</p>

	<p>complaint onto traffic police.</p> <p>Councillor Shepherd reported excessive speeding on Stenson Road, citing an article in the Derby Telegraph. The current limit is 40mph but Councillor Shepherd feels this is not appropriate for a now urban road.</p>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Agreed priorities</b>	
	<p>Drug issues at Fox Close, Stenson Fields.</p> <p>Councillor MacPherson asked if improved CCTV could be added as an agreed priority but it was not accepted as it wasn't really feasible.</p>	

## **SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD – MERCIA AREA 2 - Useful Contacts**

### **Safer Communities Officer**

Phil Marriott 01283 595787 [phil.marriott@south-derbys.gov.uk](mailto:phil.marriott@south-derbys.gov.uk)

### **Chair of Safer Neighbourhood Group**

Peter Smith

### **Vice Chair of Safer Neighbourhood Group**

Martin Ford 01283 701627 [martyn.ford@south-derbys.gov.uk](mailto:martyn.ford@south-derbys.gov.uk)

### **District Council**

South Derbyshire District Council 01283 221000 [www.south-derbys.gov.uk](http://www.south-derbys.gov.uk)  
Clean Team 0800 587 2349  
ASB Hotline 01283 595795

### **District Councillors**

Cllr Martyn Ford (Willington & Findern) 01283 701627 [martyn.ford@south-derbys.gov.uk](mailto:martyn.ford@south-derbys.gov.uk)  
Cllr Andrew MacPherson (Willington & Findern) 01283 701037 [andrew.macpherson@south-derbys.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.macpherson@south-derbys.gov.uk)  
Cllr Michael Stanton (Repton) 01332 862044 [michael.stanton@south-derbys.gov.uk](mailto:michael.stanton@south-derbys.gov.uk)  
Cllr Peter Smith (Repton) 07894 338129 [peter.smith@south-derbys.gov.uk](mailto:peter.smith@south-derbys.gov.uk)  
Cllr David Shepherd (Stenson) 01332 864788 [david.shepherd@south-derbys.gov.uk](mailto:david.shepherd@south-derbys.gov.uk)  
Cllr Manjit Chahal (Stenson) 01332 600668 [manjit.chahal@south-derbys.gov.uk](mailto:manjit.chahal@south-derbys.gov.uk)

### **County Councillor**

Cllr Martyn Ford (Repton, Willington & Findern) 01283 701627 [martyn.ford@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:martyn.ford@derbyshire.gov.uk)  
Cllr Rob Davison (Stenson Fields) 07969 144574 [rob.davison@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:rob.davison@derbyshire.gov.uk)  
Linda Chilton (Ticknall, Bretby, Newton Solney & Smisby) 01332 695112 [linda.chilton@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:linda.chilton@derbyshire.gov.uk)

County Council parking enforcement [parking@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:parking@derbyshire.gov.uk)

### **Safer Neighbourhood Wardens**

Gareth Evans: Tel: 01283 595968 [neighbourhood.wardens@south-derbys.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhood.wardens@south-derbys.gov.uk)

### **Police**

Inspector Kate Bateman [south.neighbourhoods@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:south.neighbourhoods@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk)  
Sgt Graham Summers [graham.summers.735@Derbyshire.PNN.Police.UK](mailto:graham.summers.735@Derbyshire.PNN.Police.UK)  
PCSO Kerry Waite [kerry.waite.4469@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:kerry.waite.4469@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk)  
PC Gemma Thursfield

Non – Emergency: 101  
Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111  
Emergency: 999

### **Websites/Social Media**

Derbyshire Police [www.derbyshire.police.uk](http://www.derbyshire.police.uk)  
Police Area 2 SNT Twitter [www.twitter.com/MerciaSNT](https://www.twitter.com/MerciaSNT)  
Crime Statistics for your area [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk)  
Safer South Derbyshire Partnership [www.south-derbys.gov.uk/ssdp](http://www.south-derbys.gov.uk/ssdp)  
Safer SDP Facebook Page [www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) search - Safer South Derbyshire Partnership  
SDDC Environmental Health Facebook [www.facebook.com/southderbys](https://www.facebook.com/southderbys)

# SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

## **SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM REPTON**

(Covering Bretby, Calke, Findern, Foremark, Ingleby, Milton, Newton Solney, Repton, Smisby, Stenson Fields, Ticknall, Twyford & Stenson and Willington).

**Meeting to be held at:**

**Stenson Fields Primary School  
Goathland Road  
Derby  
DE24 3BW**

**on Tuesday, February 16, 2016  
at 7.30pm**

### Members:

District Councillors: Councillor Peter Smith (Chair) and Councillors Manjit Chahal, Martyn Ford, Andrew MacPherson, David Shepherd and Michael Stanton.

County Councillors: Councillors Mrs Linda Chilton, Rob Davison and Martyn Ford.

South Derbyshire District Council, Civic Offices, Civic Way, Swadlincote, Derbyshire DE11 0AH  
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## **AGENDA**

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Declarations of interest.
3. Chairman's announcements.
4. To note the minutes of the meeting held on October 13, 2015 (copy attached).
5. Report back on issues raised at the last meeting.
6. Public questions on issues raised by residents.
7. County Council issues.
8. District Council issues. Including budget 2016-17 and medium-term financial position to 2020.
9. Date of next meeting.

**SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM**

**REPTON**

**October 13, 2015 at Milton Village Hall**

**PRESENT:-**

**District Council Representatives**

Councillor M Stanton (Chair), Councillor N Atkin, Councillor D Shepherd, Councillor A MacPherson, Councillor P Smith.

F McArdle (Chief Executive), T Sloan (Clerk).

**Derbyshire County Council Representatives**

Councillor Mrs L Chilton, P Jameson (Area Forum Liaison Officer).

**Parish Council/Meeting Representatives**

P Colleyshaw (Ticknall Parish Council), M Goodall (Findern Parish Council), F Hill (Newton Solney Parish Council), T Skeith (Repton Parish Council), S Toone (Bretby Parish Council).

**Members of the Public**

A Evans, H Hall, R Mumford, J Orme.

RA/10 **Apologies for absence**

Councillor Chahal, Councillor Ford, Councillor Davison, R Lisewski.

RA/11 **Declarations of Interest**

None.

RA/12 **Chairman's Announcements**

None.

RA/13 **To note the minutes of the meeting held on July 21, 2015**

The minutes were noted as a true and accurate record by Councillor Stanton.

RA/14 **Report back on issues raised at the last meeting**

Paul Jameson, Derbyshire County Council Area Forum Liaison Officer (AFLO), reported back on issues raised at last meeting as follows:

- **The Green, Willington: Withdrawal of School Crossing Patrol**

A resident had argued for the retention of a School Crossing Patrol (SCP) at a zebra crossing at the Green, in Willington, due to the complexity of traffic flow and street furniture at the B5008/A5132 junction, with its two mini islands. The SCP was removed in July by Derbyshire County Council, with the decision informed by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA).

AFLO stated there would need to be a clearly identifiable concern, in terms of road safety, with regard to the existing arrangements to justify the expenditure of substantial funds to upgrade one or all of the crossings to light-controlled operation. There have been 2 pedestrian-related injury collisions in the vicinity of The Green in the last 3 years (this being the standard test period for assessment). Both occurred under unusual circumstances and there is nothing within the Police reports to suggest that there was an issue with the existing crossing facilities, or that light-controlled facilities would have prevented either collision from occurring. The resident replied by saying statistics used in the decision related to a traffic flow of 600 vehicles per hour whereas, he claims, the junction sees a figure of 770.

- **Newton Road, Newton Solney: Overgrown Footway**

A resident reported on overgrown hedgerows that were obstructing the footway from opposite Bladon House School back towards Newton Solney.

**AFLO reported that the obstruction has since been removed.**

- **Frizam's Lane junction with Heath Lane, Findern: Overgrown Vegetation**

A resident raised a concern that vegetation was obstructing visibility. Councillor Ford advised that he had already reported the issue at the location on the bridge at Hells Brook.

**AFLO reported that the vegetation has been cut back.**

- **Heath Lane junction with Main Street, Findern: Request for Chevrons**

It had been asked whether chevron boards could be erected at the bend in the road. The boundary wall of the property on the bend has been struck on more than one occasion and it was felt that the chevron boards would highlight the

bend in the road better.

**AFLO is still awaiting a response on the issue.**

- **Bretby Lane, Bretby: Drainage Issues**

Cllr Chilton previously raised the ongoing issue of drainage problems on Bretby Lane and requested an update.

AFLO reported that a drainage remedial scheme had been draw up and the first element – consisting of works to reconstruct the outfall and headwall – were completed late last year. The larger, on-street element, would require significantly more funds (estimated around £28,000), which would need to come from the Area Maintenance Manager’s budget. AFLO had been awaiting confirmation as to whether they could fund the works or not. He had spoken with the Maintenance Manager who advised that they were in negotiations with Severn Trent Water with a view to one of two outcomes; either STW disconnect their asset from the highway system, or they adopt the highway system (and carry out the necessary upgrades). AFLO had stressed to the Maintenance Manager that negotiations with STW 2-3 years ago had come to nothing, however, the Manager is of the opinion that STW may now be more willing to accommodate our request; he has been speaking with the Derby rep for STW but is now in the process of making contact with the Staffs rep (as their asset is across the county boundary).

A member of the public stated he felt the issue was going round and round in circles with Derbyshire County Council and Severn Trent Water. He asked if someone with “more clout” could get involved and press Severn Trent Water. AFLO said all he could do was refer the matter onto the relevant officers. Councillor Smith reported his frustration with the long-running issue, while Councillor Chilton stated the county council could afford the works and should get them done.

**Councillor Smith and Councillor Mrs Chilton agreed to press Severn Trent Water together.**

- **Canal Bridge, Willington: Signal Damage**

A resident had reported that one of the signal poles was struck and was leaning slightly, with the signal itself still working.

**AFLO told the meeting that the matter had been reported to Traffic Signals officers who were already aware of the damage. The pole has since been repaired.**

- **Footpath by Trent Avenue, Willington: part-time lighting at night**

A resident had asked if anything further had been done about lighting at this location. AFLO reported that the matter had been reviewed but the street lighting team at Derbyshire County Council believe the footpath is not used enough to keep the lights on all night.

A resident reported that there was a street light on Beech Avenue (outside the shops) which was burning throughout the day.

**AFLO took a number of the remaining faulty light (80230) for repair.**

- **Stretch of road on eastern side facing Stenson Road**

Area of temporary fencing has been erected by a consortium of housebuilders after SDDC Chief Executive Frank McArdle intervened on behalf of residents. Councillor Shepherd thanked Mr McArdle for his work in getting the job done.

RA/15 **Public questions on issues raised by residents**

**Speeding in Stenson Road**

Councillor Shepherd raised the need for a pedestrian crossing in Stenson Road giving easier access for the new developments to the pub, hairdressers, newsagent, church and café on Pilgrim Way. A light controlled crossing he requested was turned down. He reported that a similar problem in the Kirkland Way / Glenmore Drive area was solved with a pedestrian refuge when an application for a crossing was rejected. Councillor Shepherd cited a report in the Derby Telegraph which drew attention to the issue of safe crossing of the road, with one resident wondering who would be “wiped out first, herself or her child”. There are 500 homes planned for the development, with 300 of them now built and occupied. Councillor Shepherd wants Derbyshire County Council to take action and get a crossing installed.

**Junction of Repton Road and Nether Hall Road, Midway**

Councillor Atkin reported that a pothole had been repaired at the junction, but further work was needed after the repair failed. He reported that a few near misses on the road had occurred as drivers tried to avoid the hole and asked for the repair team to revisit the site.

**Bridge over the River Trent in Willington Road**

Councillor MacPherson reported that there is no kerb between the carriageway and pavement across the bridge, with motorists encroaching on the area used by pedestrians. AFLO responded that the bridge is a listed structure and introducing

kerbing could be an issue. Councillor MacPherson also stated that the bridge has a 40mph limit and could that be reduced? AFLO advised that the speed limit has to be consistent with DfT criteria which would dictate that 40mph is appropriate for the environment. PJ further stressed that the speed limit is a maximum a route can be travelled and speed should be moderated appropriately when drivers are faced with hazards (such as bends in the road or a narrowing of the carriageway). Councillor Smith asked if a narrowing sign would be appropriate while a resident said that regrading the road would not be possible as a raised pavement area would make the bridge parapet too low. AFLO pointed to issues with Heritage England to change the bridge. Frank McArdle suggested that paint could be used to demarcate the pavement and alleviate the issue.

### **Village Street, Stenson**

A member of the public reported a damaged wall in Village Street, Stenson, saying it has been in a state of disrepair for two years. Councillor Shepherd said the responsibility lies with Derby City Council.

### **Speed limit, Milton Road, Repton**

Councillor Smith reported that a new development on the edge of Repton falls on the border of a 30mph limit and a section of national speed limit (NSL). He asked if the 30mph zone could be extended and the NSL sign moved to take account of the new housing. AFLO said a speed limit extension had been proposed and would shortly be going through a 3-week Public Notice period – with notices displayed on site and in the press – as part of the legal process involved.

### **Himalayan Balsam**

Councillor MacPherson asked what Derbyshire County Council's view was on Himalayan Balsam. Councillor Stanton replied that it was a growing problem in the area. AFLO said he would check the policy. A member of the public reported it was bad on the Trent and Mersey Canal in a section from Hicklin's Bridge.

### RA/16 **County Council issues**

No issues.

### RA/17 **District Council issues**

Frank McArdle reported that SDDC is preparing to present its medium-term financial plan, which covers the next four years. He believes it will be well-received in the current financial climate, a time in which the council has taken steps to counteract cuts in its central government funding by reducing costs of services without affecting their delivery.

Mr McArdle also reported on a new corporate plan which will be completed after consultation with members and the public.

The chief executive also recorded some successes for the council of late:

- International Food Fair – it was a rip-roaring success with everything from ostrich burgers to penguin pie. Charles Hanson from the Antiques Roadshow attended. Mr McArdle would like to take the idea around the district to places like Hilton and Melbourne.
- Unemployment. The rate in South Derbyshire is now only 0.6 per cent of a working population of more than 40,000 people. There are 432 people claiming unemployment benefit, the second best figure in Derbyshire after the rural Derbyshire Dales district. The figures, however, are a double-edged sword as there is not a large pool of unemployed labour to tempt companies into the area. It presents a case for upskilling the workforce to attract hi-tech companies. Burton and South Derbyshire College does a superb job of getting young people ready for work. The South Derbyshire economy is also diverse, with most companies employing fewer than 10 people.

Mr McArdle vowed to continue fighting inequality in the area, citing the example that people in Newhall are expected to live 10 years less than people in Newton Solney. He is also targeting the unemployed who are aged 18 to 24. South Derbyshire is below the national average for youth unemployment.

Councillor MacPherson asked about the new climbing wall in Swadlincote. Mr McArdle said the new facility looks highly impressive and will be a niche offering for the whole district, with badminton facilities on a par with the best on offer in any Olympic hall.

RA/18 **Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at Stenson Fields Primary School.

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8.25pm.

**SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**REPTON AREA FORUM**

(Covering Bretby, Calke, Findern, Foremark, Ingleby, Milton, Newton Solney, Repton, Smisby, Stenson Fields, Ticknall, Twyford & Stenson and Willington)

**Tuesday, February 16, 2016**

**REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

At the last Repton Area Forum held on October 13, 2015, at Milton Village Hall, the following issues were raised and a progress report is provided.

**Derbyshire County Council issues:**

**1. Bretby Lane, Bretby – drainage issues**

The Area Forum Liaison Officer (AFLO) summarised the progress made so far. A drainage remedial scheme had been drawn up and the first element – consisting of works to reconstruct the outfall and headwall – were completed late last year. The larger, on-road element would require significantly more funds which would need to come from the Area Maintenance Manager's budget. The AFLO had been awaiting confirmation as to whether the manager could fund these works or not.

The AFLO had spoken with the manager earlier in the day who advised that he was in negotiations with Severn Trent Water (STW) with a view to one of two outcomes. Those being either that STW disconnect their asset from the highway system, or that STW adopt the highway system (and make the necessary upgrades). The AFLO had stressed that negotiations with STW two to three years ago had come to nothing.

However, the Area Maintenance Manager was of the opinion that STW may now be more willing to accommodate our request. He had been speaking with the Derby rep for STW but was now in the process of making contact with the Staffs rep (due to the asset in question being over the county boundary).

Residents and councillors voiced their dissatisfaction at the length of time this matter is taking to resolve and that it appeared to be going round in circles between Derbyshire County Council (DCC) and STW. A request was made for this matter to be escalated to a more senior officer within DCC to progress.

**AFLO is still awaiting a response on the issue.**

**2. Beech Avenue, Willington – defective streetlight**

A resident reported that a lighting column (no 80230 located outside the shops) was burning throughout the day. It had been reported to DCC but no

action had been taken.

**The matter was referred to DCC's Street Lighting Team and the necessary repair works were ordered on October 14, 2015.**

### **3. Repton Road, Willington – pedestrian safety on river bridge**

A parish councillor raised concern in regard to pedestrian safety on the river bridge at Willington. The footway as it crosses the bridge is narrow and there is little delineation between this and the carriageway as the sandstone kerbs are almost flush with the carriageway surface.

A resident informed the meeting that the footway/kerbs cannot be raised as it would result in the bridge parapets being too low on this Grade II listed structure.

The bridge is within the 40mph speed restriction and it was reported that traffic crosses the bridge at speed. It was questioned whether the 30mph speed limit could be extended to include the river bridge. The AFLO advised that the speed limit has to be consistent with Department for Transport criteria which dictate that 40mph is appropriate on the edge of built-up areas, with sparse fronting development. The AFLO further stressed that the speed limit is a maximum a route can be travelled and speed should be moderated appropriately when drivers are faced with hazards (such as bends in the road or a narrowing of the carriageway).

It was questioned whether the kerb edge could be painted white, to highlight the edge of the footway. A further suggestion was for a 'carriageway narrows' sign to be placed on approach to the bridge, to encourage lower speeds across it.

**The carriageway width does not appear to reduce significantly over the bridge, to a degree that would warrant warning signs.**

**There are already white edge of carriageway markings on approach and across the bridge which highlights to drivers both the alignment of the carriageway and demarcates the carriageway from the footway.**

**The forward visibility on the northbound approach (towards Willington) is reasonably good and drivers should have a view of any pedestrians, giving them opportunity to reduce speed and negotiate the bridge with appropriate caution.**

**A check of the police database – which records all collisions resulting in personal injury – reveals that there have been none on the bridge over the last three years (this being the standard test period for assessment).**

**As with all highways authorities, we must allocate our limited resources through a system of prioritisation, which uses pertinent information, such as the number and severity of collisions which may have occurred at any given location.**

**This helps to ensure that the resources available are firstly used in locations where there is the greatest need and where most benefits can be achieved in terms of road safety.**

**Given the good road safety record here, the location is unlikely to receive a high priority for the allocation of funding for additional measures at this time.**

#### **4. Repton Road junction, Nether Hall Road, Hartshorne**

Concerns were raised in regard to a pothole on Repton Road, at its junction with Nether Hall Road. Drivers were avoiding the pothole by driving into the opposite lane.

**Location attended on October 14 and the necessary repair work has subsequently been ordered.**

#### **5. Himalayan Balsam**

It was questioned whether DCC has a policy on the management of Himalayan Balsam.

**The Noxious Weeds Act 1959 places a responsibility on DCC to take action to inhibit the growth and spread of injurious weeds growing within the highway.**

**The county council will take appropriate action to remove noxious weeds from the highway upon written confirmation from the adjoining landowner that all such noxious weeds have been or will be eradicated from the adjoining non-highway land.**

**Himalayan Balsam is not regarded as a noxious weed. Government guidance, as detailed in the attached link, places Himalayan Balsam in the 'invasive non-native' category and there is no legal obligation for the authority to remove or control these plants.**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/prevent-the-spread-of-harmful-invasive-and-non-native-plants>

**Paul Jameson**  
Area Forum Liaison Officer  
Derbyshire County Council