

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

MELBOURNE – AREA 3

Thursday, February 6, 2020 at Melbourne Assembly Rooms

PRESENT: -

South Derbyshire District Council representatives

Councillor Jim Hewlett (Chair), Councillor Martin Fitzpatrick (Vice Chair),
Councillor Neil Atkin, Councillor Peter Watson

Kevin Stackhouse – Strategic Director of Corporate Resources
Claire Rawlins – Anti-Social Behaviour Officer
Debbie Ward – Service Assistant

Derbyshire County Council representatives

Councillor Neil Atkin, Councillor Linda Chilton

Derbyshire Police representatives

Sergeant Matt Ladd

Parish Council/ Meeting representatives

Councillor Jean Longley (Aston on Trent Parish Council), Catherine Blackmore
(Barrow on Trent Parish Council), Councillor Sheila Hicklin, Councillor David
Smith, Councillor Terry Summerlin (Melbourne Parish Council), Councillor Avril
Record (Weston on Trent Parish Council),

Helen Frudd – South Derbyshire CVS

Members of the public

Heather Bainbrigge, Eddie Bisknell, Andy Heafield, Frank Hughes, Paul
Sturges, Gayle Summerlin

MA/15 **Open meeting**

• **Introductions and apologies**

Councillor Nancy Hawksworth (Shardlow and Great Wilne Parish Council)

• **Declarations of interest**

None.

- **Chair's announcements**

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 BSL 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 Swadlincote on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 from 3-6pm at Sharpe's Pottery Museum for those seeking jobs, training and other support for their future career.

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!

MA/16 **Police Safer Neighbourhood report**

Sgt Matt Ladd provided the following update: -

There has been an increase in Police numbers since the last meeting with the addition of two new PCSO's to cover Police Areas one (Etwell), two (Repton) and three (Melbourne).

One Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) camera has been moved from Swadlincote to Melbourne.

A 'Cuppa with a Coppa' event was hosted in Melbourne at the Assembly Rooms on Tuesday, February 4, 2020. Residents were encouraged to sign up to Derbyshire Alert and Derbyshire Talking to receive crime alerts, appeals, news bulletins and to provide feedback regarding any issues in the local area.

Sgt Ladd confirmed that South Derbyshire is a safe place to live and that crime is low in the area.

There have been increased patrols around Melbourne Cemetery in response to drug intelligence provided by the public.

Speeding issues should continue to be reported to CREST Derbyshire via their website (www.crestderbyshire.org).

The Police now have a Proactive Team consisting of four plain clothes officers covering the whole of South Derbyshire.

Several stop and search warrants have been issued since the last meeting and during December there were six recorded offences as a result in the Melbourne area.

In response to a query raised by a local resident Sgt Ladd advised that the direct messaging facility had been removed from the Melbourne and Mercia Police SNT Facebook page due to concerns over the type of crimes being reported and went on to say that if someone is in danger that people should continue to call 999 for emergencies and 101 for non-urgent matters.

Following a discussion around parking issues, i.e., parking on bends and over the pavement, Sgt Ladd confirmed that officers are encouraged to pay attention to these kinds of matters.

Councillor Peter Watson extended thanks to PCSO Emma Guest for all her efforts and asked whether she would remain in the area following the addition of two more PCSO's.

Sgt Ladd confirmed that PCSO Emma Guest would continue to cover Area 3.

Councillor David Smith raised a matter on behalf of a Melbourne parishioner who had reported aggressive behaviour and feeling threatened to the Police and had heard nothing since.

Sgt Ladd responded that the victim in question should be encouraged to come forward to the station to discuss the matter further.

Concerns were raised over an individual causing a nuisance on a push bike in Melbourne.

ACTION: Police to contact Melbourne Parish Council to obtain the CCTV footage of the individual concerned.

Councillor Linda Chilton raised concerns regarding an increase in the number of people reporting drug issues in the Melbourne area. Dangerous parking in the evening was also raised i.e., parking on bends and across the pavement on Potter Street, Melbourne.

Sgt Ladd responded to say that residents must report suspicious activity to the police by calling 101 or alternatively information can be given anonymously by contacting Crime Stoppers. Regarding dangerous parking, Sgt Ladd explained that officers are encouraged to pay attention to such matters but if the issue is ongoing then it would be advisable to call it in via 101.

Councillor Terry Summerlin raised concerns regarding County Lines and suggested that the Police should be present at key times around schools. Sgt Ladd responded to say the need to cover all times of day are recognised and shifts are worked accordingly with the resources available.

Councillor Martin Fitzpatrick extended thanks to PCSO Kerry Wallington-Waite and Chris Smith for their assistance with setting up the Melbourne Community Speed Watch (CSW) group.

Councillor Neil Atkin raised awareness that he recently attended a presentation given by the Chief Superintendent regarding crime types in Derbyshire and suggested that it might be useful to arrange two public meetings to share the presentation with members of the public.

ACTION: Chris Smith to investigate arranging two public meetings, one in the North and one in the South of the district so that the Chief Superintendent can deliver his presentation on Crime types within Derbyshire to members of the public.

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

Claire Rawlins provided the following update: -

Digital MOT

Safer Derbyshire have launched a campaign to invite members of the public to take a quick survey (less than 5 minutes) to see how secure their mobile devices and laptops are and find out how to be safer online.

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

Phones, computers and tablets are now part of everyday life - online banking, shopping, email and social media. But the longer you spend online, the more risks you are exposed to. So, it is more important than ever to take steps to protect your accounts, data and devices from cyber criminals.

To take the MOT please visit the website:
<https://www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/MOT>

Age UK Scams Advice

We have lots of people telling us they have been on the receiving end of a scam phone call or know a friend or relative who has. Fortunately, many people are now getting wise to them and just put the phone down as soon as they ask for personal details, however there are still some people who are very trusting and unfortunately still get scammed.

The Age UK webpage on Scams phone calls is certainly worth a read as it provides information on the most common types of phone scams, what to look out for and how to avoid becoming a victim. Remember never give your bank details or PIN out over the phone!! Just Google Age UK Scams.

SNT Funding

Three applications have been received from the 'Big Pot'.

£500 has been granted to Melbourne Parish Council towards a new Town Centre CCTV Hard drive.

We have also received a further application from Melbourne Parish Council for £1000 towards the cost of a Speed Watch Camera and Electric sign for the Melbourne CSW group. This application has been supported in principle, although we are currently liaising with the Speed Watch Co-Ordinator in respect to the recommended equipment.

A third application has been submitted for £500 towards a total cost of £1200 for a new Security Gate with Digital Lock at Kings Newton Bowls Club. This project will increase the security of the site and discourage Anti-social behaviour (ASB), discourage criminal damage, and promote the Club as a good neighbour.

Projects for WIFI at Aston Heritage Centre and a Youth Club at Barrow are currently at the planning stage.

- Safer Neighbourhoods Funding – Projects funded to date 2019-20: -

Project Name	Ref.	Project Lead	Organisation	Amount Applied for	Total Project Cost	Amount Granted
Lighting at MAR	A3:01	Andy Heathfield	Melbourne Assembly Rooms	£529.00	£705.60	£529.00
Melbourne speed Watch Camera	A3:02	Jacqui Storer	Melbourne Parish Council	£1,000.00	£2,013.00	£500.00
Melbourne CCTV	A3:03	Jacqui Storer	Melbourne Parish Council	£695.00	£695.00	£500.00
Kings Newton Bowls Club Gate	A3:04	Gayle Summerlin	Kings Newton Bowls Club	£500.00	£1,200.00	£500.00
St. Wilfred's Youth Project	A3:05	Allison Hicklin	Barrow on Trent Parish Council	£1,250.00	£1,700.00	£1,250.00

Please contact Chris Smith or Debbie Ward with any ideas for future projects.

MA/18 Local authority update

Kevin Stackhouse updated: -

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.

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.

Affordable Housing

SDDC have built seven new houses located at Elmlands Close, Aston on Trent comprising: -

One x Two bed bungalow
Two x One bed houses
Two x Two bed houses
Two x Three bed houses

The properties have all now been offered and accepted by new tenants.

Budget update

The Council's income base continues to benefit from increasing numbers of properties and business development. Any extra income generated is now being set aside to meet increased costs of services such as waste collection, street cleansing and grounds maintenance. There are no proposed cuts in services. Overall spending is due to increase by at least inflation. Additional funding has been approved for parishes through concurrent functions to recognise growth.

The coming years Council Tax increase is proposed at 1.95% (adding £3.17 per year to a band D property). All proposals are still subject to Council ratification on Wednesday, February 26, 2020.

There will be no capping for parishes, the government were considering this but are keeping their options open.

Generally, the local authorities budget position is good, but we are not complacent and are mindful of future budget pressures including our commitment to climate change. In the near future waste collection and recycling may also put pressure on budgets for 2021-22.

The main concern for many Councils is around the uncertainty regarding government funding beyond 2021. The government is intending to review the distribution system and the amount of money divided between different types of authority and we are keeping a close eye on that.

In the meantime, the Councils overall financial position remains sound with a good level of general reserves.

A member of the Melbourne Footpaths Group (MFG) asked whether it would be possible for a public footpath to be created to link Swarkstone and Stanton by Bridge.

Councillor Neil Atkin advised that such a request would need to be made directly to Derbyshire County Council (DCC) and that following a recent re-organisation at County Hall, Richard Lovell is now in charge of Footpaths and Greenways.

Councillor Chilton stated that the land in question was owned by the Church Commissioners.

Councillor Peter Watson added that he would be in favour of a new public footpath and concurred that DCC are responsible for such matters.

Councillor Peter Watson provided the following update in relation to flooding in Melbourne and surrounding areas: -

Following the annual Flood Liaison meeting (FLM) held today, the Environment Agency (EA) advised that the flooding in Melbourne/ Sewage was a result of the Burton on Trent Pumping Station being inundated and foul sewage was subsequently pumped onto the land.

Also, the flood bank around Ambaston is at a critical level at one point. The EA plan to lift the flood bank during Summer 2020.

Councillor Avril Record of Weston Parish Council queried whether an invite to the FLM had been sent to the Weston on Trent Parish Council Clerk.

ACTION: Debbie Ward to double check whether Weston on Trent Parish Council were invited to the Flood Liaison meeting held on Thursday, February 6, 2020.

MA/19 Local community and voluntary sector projects/ update

Helen Frudd provided a brief introduction to South Derbyshire CVS and the vast range of services it offers: -

Safer Homes – 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 – a massive 1144 food parcels were given out during 2019.

Social Car – 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 Monday - Friday 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.

Travelling Lunch Club – The Travelling Lunch Club offers a chance to socialise with friends old and new by providing a trip out and lunch at a different venue each month. The club is open to any person over the age of 65, living in South Derbyshire who may feel lonely or isolated.

Practical Help - An NHS funded scheme which supports people who need a little help to stay healthy and at home in their local community. It aims to help reduce the number of hospital admissions, get patients home quicker and help them stay at home. Short term practical help can be provided for example:

- Giving someone a lift home from hospital
- Making sure they have basic food supplies
- Visiting to check they are ok for the first few days after they come home
- Taking someone shopping or doing the shopping for them

A referral will be required from a Health or Social Care professional for hospital discharge short term support.

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

Connect Befriending Service - volunteers are needed across all areas of the district to help tackle isolation and loneliness.

Free Training – E.g., Mental Health, ISLAND Community Champions; covering topics such as Safeguarding and how to identify people that might be lonely across all ages and walks of life.

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

For more information regarding South Derbyshire CVS, call 01283 550163 or visit their website (sdcvs.org.uk).

Barry Summers of MFG praised the CVS for the valuable work that they do and relayed thanks for the grant that was made available to help get their group up and running.

MA/20 Summary of agreed priorities/ actions

- Police to contact Melbourne Parish Council to obtain the CCTV footage of the individual concerned.
- Chris Smith to investigate arranging two public meetings, one in the North and one in the South of the district so that the Chief Superintendent can deliver his presentation on Crime types within Derbyshire to members of the public.
- Debbie Ward to double check whether Weston on Trent Parish Council were invited to the Flood Liaison meeting held on Thursday, February 6, 2020.

MA/21 Close and date of next meeting

TBC

Councillor Jim Hewlett
CHAIR

The meeting terminated at 8pm