

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

LINTON

Wednesday, January 30th, 2019 at Walton on Trent Village Hall

PRESENT:-

South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC) representatives

Councillor John Grant (Chair), Councillor Dan Pegg

Allison Thomas – Strategic Director - Service Delivery

Claire Rawlins – ASB Officer

Kate Beer – Clerk

Derbyshire County Council (DCC) representatives

None

Derbyshire Police representatives

PC Paul Russell, PCSO Dave McMillan.

Parish Council / Meeting representatives

Sheila Jackson (Castle Gresley Parish Council), Stephanie Marbrow (Rosliston Parish Council), John Powell (Linton Parish Council), Rob Talbot (Walton on Trent Parish Council), Kevin Tizzard (Linton Parish Council)

Members of the public

Karen Crowston, Katy Fieldhouse, Jane Grant, Rob Goodwin, Rob Hodson-Walker, Mandy Hodson-Walker, Mary Horne, Paul Marbrow, Rob Talbot

LA/15 **Open meeting**

a. Introductions and apologies

Emma Robey, Carol Talbot, Tony Stone, Mary Rhodes, Janice Pallett and Oliver Pallett (both Castle Gresley Parish Council), Karen Bradford and Claire Bradford (both Coton on the Elms Parish Council), Cllr Pat Murray

b. Declarations of interest

None.

c. Chair's announcements

Councillor John Grant informed the meeting that Tom Sloan, who was formerly the Clerk to these meetings, has left the Council. A permanent replacement will be appointed in due course. Sgt Graham Summers, who has previously supported the area as Safer Neighbourhoods Team (SNT) Sergeant, has also moved on to another role and has been replaced by Sgt Matt Haslam. Meeting attendees wished to extend their thanks to both individuals for their hard work and support over the years.

d. To receive the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting. Allison Thomas gave an update on the Drakelow funding gap; Drakelow Developments Ltd is seeking funding and will keep the Council updated. Allison Thomas also informed the meeting that discussions had taken place with The Forestry Commission, the land manager for Rosliston Forestry Centre, regarding horse riding on the site. Its position is that horse riding on site would result in too much erosion to paths owing to the clay soil, so it will not be permitted. Councillor Pegg is supporting Mrs Fieldhouse in exploring further sites in the District where horse riding may be permitted.

LA/16 **Safer Neighbourhood report**

PC Paul Russell reported that:

- There has been no change in overall crime rates compared to last year
- Recent vehicle thefts (seven vehicles during December and January) have been keyless – i.e. vehicles taken have not involved theft of the keys from properties.
- There is a commitment to tackle rural crime with staffing and resources being boosted in the area.
- The 'Derbyshire Alert' community messaging system has been relaunched by Derbyshire's Police and Crime Commissioner: <https://www.derbyshirealert.co.uk>. A new Facebook page for Swadlincote Safer Neighbourhood Team is also shortly to be set up. Local residents are encouraged to sign up to these services to receive updates on local incidents.

Several local residents raised concerns about parking near schools causing dangerous obstructions to roads, particularly in Linton, Walton and Rosliston. The issues of families travelling further to schools and limited parking near to schools occur throughout the District. PCSO McMillan

reported that it is not a police enforcement matter, and that when they attend schools to advise parents about parking it only resolves the issue for a short while. Allison Thomas agreed to refer this matter to the Derbyshire County Council Sustainable Travel Team, who work with schools to help promote alternative methods of travelling to school.

ACTION: Communities Team to refer school parking issues to the DCC Sustainable Travel Team

There are also local concerns about drivers exceeding the speed limit and cutting off the corner at the junction of Station Lane. Policing this issue is challenging, since Police cannot enforce without witnessing the action and camera installation and monitoring is very resource intensive. The issue will, however, be logged.

LA/17 **Communities update**

Claire Rawlins reported that:

- Rates of Anti-Social Behaviour have been low since the last meeting. Two Community Protection Notice Warnings have been served and have resolved issues that were occurring in Swadlincote town centre.
- The Council is supporting Safer Internet Day on 5th February by providing online schools packages to all local schools. William Allitt School is holding a 'drop down' day and the Cyber PCSO will visit the school. A local resident asked where to report fraudulent emails to; Claire Rawlins replied that cyber-crime issues can be reported to Safer Neighbourhood Teams, or forwarded to Action Fraud <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk>
- A new leaflet has been published by the Sport and Health team to promote activities taking place across the District, with several taking place at Rosliston Forestry Centre.
- No applications have been made from this area to the Safer and Stronger funding stream during 2018/9. There is money available for projects to tackle crime and disorder or anti-social behaviour, from £500 to £2,500 per project. Any groups with suggestions for projects are encouraged to speak to Chris Smith.

CVS Updated:

- CVS elections for voluntary and community sector representatives on the South Derbyshire Partnership Board have been held and five representatives have been appointed.
- Health and Wellbeing Small Grants of up to £1,000 are available for groups to support people or carers with long-term conditions, improve health or well-being or reduce health inequalities.

LA/18 **Local authority issues & public questions**

Allison Thomas reported that:

- The budget position for South Derbyshire District Council is healthy for 2019/20, with new house building in the District resulting in more council tax receipts and the New Homes Bonus, some of which is retained locally, being held in reserve for future investment in services. No cuts to services are planned for 2019/20, however some fees and charges will rise in line with inflation.
- The proposed rise in the SDDC portion of the council tax payment is below inflation. Police, Fire and County Council will set the increase for their portion of the payment. It is also proposed that council tax on properties that have been empty for more than two years is increased.
- There is a strategy to build or acquire new council housing.
- The Green Spaces Strategy, which protects green spaces that are not afforded other environmental protections, will be subject to consultation from 5th February until 19th March and will be available on the Council's website.
- The Council is participating in the national Keep Britain Tidy campaign to encourage dog walkers to pick up after their dogs. 40 large signs are available and will be moved around different sites in the District. Parish councils and other residents are encouraged to contact the Council with their suggestions as to where these signs should be sited.
- The Council spends £500,000 per year on clearing up litter and has recently written to 1400 local businesses to seek support with reducing the problem of litter. Equipment, such as high-vis vests, bags and litter pickers, is available from the Council for community groups that wish to organise their own litter picks.

**ACTION Parish councils to submit their suggestions of locations for dog fouling signs to neighbourhood.wardens@southderbyshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01283 595943**

A resident asked whether the Council could provide financial support for the construction of the Walton bypass, since it would enable the construction of more housing and provide additional council tax income. Allison Thomas explained that the Council's position was to support investment in business growth, but that infrastructure investments such as this should be funded by the private companies that will profit from additional house building.

Rosliston Parish Council has written to the Council to lodge its concern that Section 106 money, which is provided by housing developers to fund local services and projects, has not been seen within the parish following the construction of new houses in the village.

A member of the public reported a build-up of litter and debris from traffic collisions at the Drakelow crossroads. Allison Thomas encouraged local residents to report litter or fly tipping to the Clean Team through the council website or by emailing waste.cleansing@southderbyshire.gov.uk or calling 01283 595795. Following a question from a member of the public, Allison Thomas confirmed that litter collected is not currently recycled, as this would require sorting by hand, but that consideration is being given as to how this can be achieved.

A resident reported that the refuse collectors who operate the recycling scheme should be complimented on the service they provide, since they will always collect extra recycling left next bins if they are full, and will help residents who cannot put out their bins themselves.

LA/19 **Summary of any agreed priorities / actions**

ACTION: Communities Team to refer school parking issues to the DCC Sustainable Travel Team

ACTION: Parish councils to submit their suggestions of locations for dog fouling signs to the Council's Environmental Health team

LA/20 **Close and date of next meeting**

TBC

**Councillor John Grant
Chair**

The meeting terminated at 7.45pm.