

REPTON AREA MEETING

1st February 2006

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Bladen (Vice-Chair in the Chair) and Councillors Bell, Ford, Mrs. Hood, Isham.

I. Reid (Deputy Chief Executive), P. Woolrich (Policy Officer), F. Powell (Democratic Services Officer) and Mr. B. Jones (Helpdesk).

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

County Councillor A. Jones.
G. Duckworth (Democratic Services Officer).

Derbyshire Constabulary

Sergeant A. Wright and PC Martin.

Parish Council/Meeting Representatives

D. Buchanan (Newton Solney Parish Council), D. Adams (Hartshorne Parish Council), D. Oatley (Woodville Parish Council), R. Paulson (Repton Parish Council), S. Smith [Woodville Parish Council]

Members of the Public

Mr and Mrs J. Cownie, A. Gillespie, R.S. Statham [Woodville Parish Council], M. Mitchel, S. Mitchel, J. Clamp, B. Higson, P. Yates

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from District Councillors Taylor, Southerd, Mr. Tysoe, Mr. A. Gifford, Sergeant Thandi and Mrs. Stamford.

RA/16. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th November 2005 were received and noted, subject to an amendment, it being noted that the location of the cars and hgv vehicles parked illegally was in the area between the antique shop and the War Memorial, High Street, Woodville.

RA/17. **CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councillor Bladen advised the Meeting that it was proposed to bring forward consideration of item No. 7 Budget 2006/07 Overview and Corporate Plan 2006/09 immediately before the public question time.

RA/18. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Meeting considered a report on issues raised at the last Meeting on 9th November 2005.

Item 1 – Use of Differing Number Plates by traffic travelling from Toyota to NYK Associates

It was noted there had been no further instances of traffic travelling from Toyota to NYK Associates with differing number plates since the last meeting.

It was agreed that the information set out in the report be noted.

Item 2 – Cars and HGV Vehicles parked illegally between the Antique Shop and the War Memorial, High Street, Woodville

Sergeant Wright confirmed that the Police would continue to monitor any cars and HGV vehicles parked illegally in the area between the antique shop and the War Memorial, High Street, Woodville.

It was agreed that the Police be requested to continue monitoring any cars and HGV vehicles parked illegally in the area between the Antique Shop and the War Memorial in High Street, Woodville and that a report on this matter be submitted to the next Area Meeting.

Item 3 – Vehicles parked illegally outside the Post Office in Repton (area known as the Cross). Sergeant Wright advised that this issue had been monitored and that if the problem of parking outside the Post Office in Repton reoccurs the Police would take appropriate action and report back to a future meeting.

It was agreed that the information set out in the report be noted and if the problem of illegal parking outside the post office in Repton, known as The Cross reoccurs, the police be requested to take appropriate action and report back to a future Area Meeting.

Item 4 – Parking of Lorries in Lay-bys

Sergeant Wright advised the Meeting that the police were monitoring the parking of lorries in lay-bys in the A50 area. He said that drivers had been advised about this matter and if the problem increased, Officers would pursue the matter. Councillor Ford said that it was appreciated that lorries did need to pull over so that drivers could have the appropriate degree of rest, but this had become a particular issue in the Findern and Littleover areas.

It was agreed that the information provided by the police and Councillor Ford on the reasons for the parking of lorries in lay-bys, particularly in the area of the A50 be noted and that Councillor Ford be requested to investigate the issue further and report back to the Area Meeting.

Item 5 – Details of the Results of Previous Traffic Speed Surveys in Newton Solney

Sergeant Wright advised the Meeting that a traffic speed survey was undertaken in Newton Solney in July 2004 and that at present, the issue of speeding traffic in Newton Solney did not merit additional work by police officers but the level of community concern on this matter was acknowledged.

Councillor Ford said there had been a longstanding problem of speeding traffic in Newton Solney and Derbyshire County Council would following a site visit be considering the issue of road surface and traffic calming measures in Newton Solney. The police were requested to monitor speeding traffic and undertake traffic speed checks in Newton Solney within the next month.

It was agreed:

- (1) That a written response be provided to Newton Solney Parish Council on any action proposed by Derbyshire County Council in respect of road surface and traffic calming measures in Newton Solney.**
- (2) That a report back be submitted to the next Area Meeting detailing the County Council's proposals for road surface/traffic calming measures and any action taken by the police in respect of speeding traffic in Newton Solney.**

Item 6 – Provision of Traffic Lights on the Toyota Island, Burnaston

The Meeting was advised that following discussions at the last Area Meeting, the Highways Agency had been requested to provide information on this matter. This was detailed at Appendix 1 of the report. The Meeting was advised that the Highways Agency had been contacted and had advised that as part of a continuing programme to improve safety and journey time reliability, a number of improvements and changes to traffic conditions at the A50/A38 junction at Willington, Derbyshire had been proposed. In summary, these proposals included:-

- Reducing the speed limit around the roundabout to 40 mph
- Constructing a new dedicated slip road from the Toyota car plant to the northbound A38 on-slip
- New lane markings to reduce uneven queuing during peak times and guide drivers around the gyratory
- Additional signing and safety works to better inform drivers and reduce the potential for accidents

Councillor Ford advised the Meeting that he recently attended a meeting at the Highways Agency and that the additional signage and road works at the site would be undertaken in April 2006.

A number of residents said that traffic lights should be introduced at the island immediately and that the narrowing of traffic lanes would not improve the problems at the site and asked that the County Council pursue this matter with the Highways Agency.

It was agreed that the Highways Agency Proposals to improve traffic conditions at the A50/A38 junction at Willington be noted and that if traffic problems at this site persist, the matter be considered at a future Area Meeting.

Item 7 – Disabled Access at Willington Railway Station

The Meeting was advised that the question of the provision of central government funding for disabled access at Willington Railway Station had been raised with Central Trains and that their response was detailed at Appendix 2 of the report.

The Meeting was advised that the DfT was currently prioritising those stations for investment in the next three years and that the prioritisation process would focus on the usage of a station and the number of disabled individuals living in that region. It would also take into account special circumstances such as disabled schools located locally and the lack of accessible stations in the area.

It was confirmed that the DfT had indicated that because Willington railway station had less than ten people use it per day it was not currently included in the list of sites identified for investment.

Residents expressed the view that the passenger usage of the station was greater than that indicated by the DfT.

It was agreed that the Area Meeting note that Willington Railway Station is not on the current Department for Transport's list of sites identified for funding for disabled access.

Items 8 and 9 – Construction of a Highway Route from Ashby Road to Moira Road continuing to Swadlincote and remove parking conditions in the area of Woodville Infants and Junior School, Woodville

Mr. Ian Reid said that the proposed construction of a highway route from Ashby Road to Moira Road was an idea which was currently being progressed.

A number of residents expressed their concerns relating to traffic congestion problems in the Woodville area and that these had been a serious issue for many years. The following issues of concern were raised by residents:-

- The amount of traffic travelling through Woodville
- Traffic safety problems in Woodville for drivers and pedestrians
- A lack of Traffic Wardens in the Woodville area to enforce traffic and parking regulations
- A lack of support from the County Council and Local Members of Parliament in addressing the traffic/ highway problems in Woodville
- The need for a traffic survey before any addition level of traffic was allowed into Woodville
- Poor traffic/highway conditions in Woodville High Street
- Traffic congestion in and around the Clock Garage Roundabout

The Deputy Chief Executive said that the District Council was in discussion with the County Council regarding funding for the highway proposed, but given the size and financial implications of the proposal this matter was still ongoing.

A resident expressed her concern regarding problems of road safety and traffic signage around the Woodville Infants and Junior School. Following the

detailed concerns expressed by residents in respect of traffic congestion, road safety problems and highway signage and parking regulation enforcement issues in Woodville

It was agreed:

(1) That a public meeting be held at an appropriate venue in Woodville to consider the following issues:-

- **Traffic congestion and road safety in and around Woodville**
- **Traffic signage and enforcement of traffic regulations and parking conditions in and around Woodville**

(2) That the following organisations representatives be invited to participate in the public meeting referred to above.

- **Residents of Woodville**
- **Woodville Parish Council**
- **District and County Councillors for the Woodville area, including the relevant County Council Cabinet portfolio holder with responsibility for transport/environmental issues**
- **Highway/Transportation Officers from Derbyshire County Council**
- **The local Member of Parliament**
- **The local traffic police**

RA/19. **PRESENTATION BY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE DERBYSHIRE DALES AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE PRIMARY CARE TRUST ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF PRIMARY CARE SERVICES IN THE HILTON, WILLINGTON, ETWALL AND REPTON AREAS**

The Area Meeting was advised that a copy of the report to the Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire PCT Board Meeting on 23rd November 2005 on the development of primary care services in the Hilton, Willington, Etwall and Repton areas together with a minute extract regarding the decision of the Board from its Meeting was attached as Appendix 3 to the report.

It was agreed that the Area Meeting note the decision of the Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire Primary Care Trust from its meeting on 23rd November 2005 in respect of the development of primary care services in the Hilton, Willington, Etwall and Repton areas.

RA/20. **BUDGET 2006/07 OVERVIEW AND CORPORATE PLAN 2006/09 FEEDBACK ON CONSULTATION AND CONSULTATION ON 2006/07 PROPOSALS**

The Deputy Chief Executive provided details to the Area Meeting on the District Council's forecasted final financial position 2006-2009.

The Deputy Chief Executive detailed the Council's budget overview and forecasted financial position for 2006 - 2009. In terms of revenue, the overall position was forecasted to remain relatively healthy for the period to 2009. The Government had provided information on the financial settlement for South Derbyshire for the next two years. For 2006/07 the settlement was 7% or £400,000 in cash terms. For 2007/08, a 6% settlement had been

awarded, which was a further £375,000 in cash terms. The Meeting was informed that money would be provided to introduce a free travel scheme for people over 60 years of age within the District. It was confirmed that within the revenue funding detailed above, it should be possible to maintain a sufficient level of general reserves as a contingency and that £1.4m of additional revenue resources could be available over the next three-years.

The Meeting was informed that the position on capital was tighter, and there could be a need to review the current 5-year planned programme and there was a forecast shortfall in resources of approximately £350,000. With regard to the Council Tax levels, the current financial plans had been based on assumed increases of 4.5% for the next three years. This was under review and would be determined by the Council at its meeting on 2nd March 2006, together with the final budget for 2006/07.

The Area Meeting was advised that the community's feedback was sought on priorities, to determine where Council resources were spent. The Deputy Chief Executive gave a presentation, on the Draft Corporate Plan for the period 2006 to 2009. An outline was given of the consultation undertaken as part of that process. The Council's top three priorities were reported as:-

- reducing crime and the fear of crime
- tackling the causes and effects of anti-social behaviour.
- providing efficient and effective customer services

There were a number of action areas, ranked under various themes. The details of additional action areas were reported as:-

- developing the capacity of the community and voluntary sector
- preventing floods and other emergencies
- providing opportunities to take part in physical activity.
- working in partnership to promote healthy lifestyles
- addressing environmental issues within rural communities
- promoting citizenship.

The Meeting was provide with further information on the proposed way forward in developing the Corporate Plan and residents were requested to participate in an exercise to highlight their three top priorities on a series of charts displayed around the meeting venue. The meeting was advised that the information obtained would be used during the consideration of the Corporate Plan.

Responding to a question from a resident, the Deputy Chief Executive confirmed that the Government's financial settlement to the Council was a real increase in cash terms but noted that if the formula was applied strictly, the Council should receive a larger amount of grant.

Responding to a question in respect of free travel for the over 60's, the Deputy Chief Executive advised that there was free travel for people over 60 years of age within the district and that discussions were ongoing to see if this could be extended beyond the district area.

A resident said that his wife, because of a disability had trouble using a bus. The Deputy Chief Executive confirmed that the Community Transport Service

did provide transport facilities for disabled people but this was not always convenient for users.

RA/21. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE LOCAL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Anti-social Behaviour – Youths on Mopeds

A resident expressed concern at the lack of action taken by the police to deal with the problems of anti social behaviour and nuisance caused by youths riding on mopeds in the Hartshorne area . He said that and that youths did not have crash helmets or appear to have road tax for the vehicles. Mrs. Cownie advised the Meeting that similar problems were experienced by residents in Mount Pleasant Road, Repton.

It was agreed that Mr. Adams and Mrs. Cownie contact Sergeant Wright after the meeting to discuss the detail of their concerns about anti-social behaviour by youths on mopeds in the Hartshorne and Repton areas so that the police could take any appropriate action.

Environmental Concerns – Woodville

A number of residents expressed concerns at the environmental problems experienced in Woodville, some of which they attributed to over development.. Reference was made to the adverse impact caused by the number of additional properties built in the Woodville area over the last five years.

Concern was expressed at the amount of debris left on roads and pavements in the area by passing traffic, particularly lorries, information was requested on how often the Council swept the roads, pavements and verges in the Woodville area .A resident requested that action be taken to improve and clean up Woodville so that it became a more pleasant area for local residents. Councillor Isham said that the concerns of residents were understood, but that a number of positive actions, including the use of Section 106 monies for environmental improvements in the Woodville area had taken place.

The Deputy Chief Executive advised the Meeting that the District Council was proposing to increase the level of channel cleaning and litter collection in the Woodville area and that an Area Action Plan for Woodville was in progress. He suggested that Planning Officers give a representation to the Woodville Parish Council on the Area Action Plan for Woodville.

It was agreed that Planning Officers from the District Council be requested to give a presentation to the Woodville Parish Council on the Area Action Plan for Woodville.

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust

A resident asked if the District Council would be providing any financial support to the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust for its Willington Gravel Pit's Nature Reserve. Councillor Mrs. Wheeler advised the Meeting that a grant application on this matter would be considered by the Council's and Community Services Committee at its Meeting on 9th February 2006.

It was agreed that it be noted that a grant application by the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust in respect of the Willington Gravel Pits Nature Reserve will be considered by the Council's Housing and Community Services Committee at its Meeting on 9th February 2006.

Police Vehicles – Repton

A resident of Repton expressed concern at the speed of police vehicles travelling through Repton when responding to emergency as this in his opinion created a number of safety issues for local residents. Sergeant Wright advised the Meeting that since November 2005 there had been eight emergency calls which required police cars to travel through Repton.

It was agreed that Sergeant Wright contact Repton Parish Council to discuss their concerns relating to the speed of police vehicles when travelling through Repton when responding to emergencies.

Traffic Monitoring/Speeding Repton

A resident that the Police and County Council undertakes speed checks/traffic monitoring in Repton in order to reduce problems of speeding traffic. Sergeant Wright advised that speeding traffic monitoring had been undertaken between 24th and 29th August 2005 and confirmed that appropriate sections of information obtained could be disclosed to Repton Parish Council.

Following further discussions it was requested that appropriate sections of recent road traffic speed surveys be disclosed to all parish councils within the boundary of the Area Meeting.

It was agreed that the Police be requested to disclose the appropriate sections of results from recent traffic speed surveys to all Parish Councils within the boundary of the Area Meeting.

RA/22 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was confirmed that the date of the next Repton Area Meeting would be Wednesday, 10th May 2006 at 7.00 p.m. at the Newton Solney Village Hall.

J .BLADEN

CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 9.00 p.m.