

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

AREA 1 – ETWALL

Tuesday, January 23rd, 2018 at Hilton Village Hall

PRESENT:-

South Derbyshire District Council representatives

Councillor Mrs Lisa Brown (Chair), Councillor Andy Billings, Councillor Martyn Ford, Councillor David Muller, Councillor Mrs Julie Patten.

Kevin Stackhouse – Strategic Director.
Tom Sloan – Clerk.

Derbyshire County Council representatives

Councillor Martyn Ford, Councillor Mrs Julie Patten.

Parish Council / Meeting representatives

Ian Bennett (Etwall Parish Council), Steve Cooper (Hilton Parish Council), Norman Ireland (Etwall Parish Council), David Neal (Etwall Parish Council), Tanina Rushton (Egginton Parish Council).

Members of the public

Sue Bagley (South Derbyshire CVS), AR Creeth, Sue Creeth, Pat Laughlin (Ashbourne Community Transport), Graham Wale.

EA/20 **Apologies**

Councillor Mrs Amy Plenderleith, Councillor Andy Roberts.

EA/21 **Declarations of interest**

None.

EA/22 **Chair's announcements**

Councillor Mrs Lisa Brown introduced Pat Laughlin from Ashbourne Community Transport to give a presentation on the charity's bus operations around South Derbyshire. The organisation had been approached by a few Egginton residents who wanted to go to Burton for preference, following the removal of their bus service. Services are door-

to-door and free to gold card holders, with a £3.80 charge for return journeys for those who pay. Councillor Mrs Brown added that she felt it was a terrific service which needed better publicity to attract greater numbers of clients.

A resident said they felt that Ashbourne as a destination, and cited in its name, might give people the impression that it was for that area only. Councillor Mrs Julie Patten said that people automatically thought that the service was for people with disabilities – and this wasn't the case. It was getting that message across which was key, she felt. She also felt that most people would prefer to go to Burton rather than Ashbourne. Councillor Billings added that he would advertise the service in the village directory.

ACTION: Tom Sloan to circulate posters advertising the service to parish clerks

Councillor Mrs Brown asked for attendees to write to Mr Sloan at SDDC to suggest any changes they would like to see to improve the area meetings as part of a review taking place.

EA/23 **To note the minutes of the meeting held on October 3rd, 2017 (copy attached)**

The minutes were approved as a true and correct record with one change – the removal of Ian Bennett from the record as an attendee at that meeting.

EA/24 **Report back on issues raised at the last meeting**

Pavement request in Burnaston Lane, Etwall

Councillor Mrs Brown asked Councillor Martyn Ford to look into the request. Councillor Ford replied that a DCC Highways officer was soon to visit Etwall and would look at the issue. A resident added that the need for a pavement was more acute with growing traffic levels in the area. Another resident said that a property on the corner didn't keep their boundary clear of vegetation, so there was scope for improvement at that level. Councillor Ford said it would be reviewed and would give feedback.

Chestnut Gove, Etwall

Councillor Ford would investigate possible measures with the DCC Highways officer when he came to investigate Burnaston Lane (above).

ACTION: Councillor Martyn Ford to report back on above two issues after his meeting with DCC Highways

New House Farm site signage

Councillor David Muller reported that he had talked to agents regarding the signage in poor locations on the A516. There seemed to have been an improvement since and hopefully the situation was easing. Roadworks related to drainage were currently taking place but there had been reduced accidents at the location. A resident added that a car had gone over the island and crashed a week before the meeting. Councillor Muller said his understanding was the car involved had been speeding.

EA/25 **Public questions on issues raised by residents**

A resident complained about dog fouling in Scropton Road, Scropton. They asked if anti-fouling stencils could be used on the pavement as they had been in other parts of the district. Kevin Stackhouse replied that in other areas the prevention of dog fouling fell between SDDC and the relevant parish council. Councillor Andy Billings confirmed that spray-on warnings had been used in the past.

ACTION: Tom Sloan to report request to SDDC's Environmental Health department

EA/26 **County council issues**

Councillor Ford reported that DCC was currently setting its precept but there wasn't a great deal about it which he could report.

EA/27 **District council issues**

Mr Stackhouse reported that SDDC was looking to set its budget and Council Tax for the next financial year, 2018-19. The financial position continued to be a good one in the short to medium term with a budget surplus in 2017-18. More money was being generated from the New Homes Bonus and from the extra Council Tax being levied by the additional properties being built in the district. Extra services were having to be laid on, including a new refuse collection round, and work was being done to review grounds maintenance around South Derbyshire. With extra properties and associated facilities, there was more which needed maintaining. Extra revenue from new houses wasn't all being spent – some was being held in reserve to secure future services. There was the potential for a budget deficit in two-three years' time. One thing which could benefit the district was a Government pilot in Derbyshire to allow local authorities to keep 100% of their Business Rates, up from the current 50%.

The proposal was to raise SDDC's precept by 1.95%, a very similar rise to the previous two years. There was the option to put it up by more than that

but anything more than a 3% rise or an extra £5 on a Band D property would require a referendum.

Councillors had voted through an extra 2% funding for voluntary bodies and parish councils. A Community Partnership Scheme had also been proposed with additional funding of £250,000.

A resident reported a problem over the Christmas period with dog bins and rubbish bins not being emptied. Assurances were given by SDDC that collections would be made after issues over Christmas 2016. However, there was a repeat of the problem. The resident had been promised a review into the problems and requested information. Mr Stackhouse apologised and said SDDC would do better. Councillor Mrs Brown added that the issue was taken very seriously and a review into what had happened was under way. As soon as it was finalised, the outcome would be presented to residents. The specific issue was that in Hilton the collection day fell on Christmas Day. The review, though, would be all-encompassing and would be reported back. It was fundamental to get it right.

ACTION: Councillor Lisa Brown to provide a report back on the review of refuse collection and dog bin emptying

A member of the public complained about cardboard being dumped at Hatton recycling centre. Councillor Billings replied that address information had been recovered from the dumped waste and 13 people were due to receive Fixed Penalty Notices for fly-tipping.

A resident complained that a bin installed in a lay-by between the Seven Wells and Burnaston Garage on the A516 needed emptying more regularly.

ACTION: Tom Sloan to report overflowing bin to SDDC depot and provide a report back

EA/28 **Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting would be announced in due course.

**Councillor Lisa Brown
Chair**

The meeting terminated at 8.24pm.