

LINTON AREA MEETING

25th January 2006

**PRESENT:-**

**District Council Representatives**

Councillor Southern (Chair) and Councillors Mrs. Hall and Shaw.  
M. Alflat (Director of Community Services), F. Powell (Democratic Services Officer), M. Roylance (Policy and Regeneration), B. Jones (Helpdesk) and D. Fletcher (Community Partnership Assistant).

**Derbyshire County Council Representatives**

Councillor Bambrick, G. Roberts (Democratic Services).

**Parish Council/Meeting Representatives**

K. Bradford (Coton-in-the-Elms Parish Council), C. Knight (Overseal Parish Council), D. Eaton (Cauldwell Parish Meeting), S. Jackson (Castle Gresley Parish Council), V. Taylor (Walton-on-Trent Parish Council) and G. Knight (Overseal Parish Council).

**Derbyshire Constabulary**

Sergeant A. Wright.

**Members of the Public**

P. Bambrick, W. Taylor.

**Member of Parliament**

M. Todd.

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from District Councillor M. Lauro, County Councillor K. Lauro, P. Matkin (Rosliston Parish Council), Dr. T. Elson (Walton-on-Trent Parish Council) and D. Tysoe (Derbyshire County Council).

LA/17. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th November 2005 were received and noted.

LA/18. **CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair advised the Meeting that he proposed to bring forward consideration of agenda item No. 8 Budget 2007/07 Review and agenda item No. 9 Corporate Plan 2006/09:-

- Feedback on Consultation
- Consultation on 2006/07 Proposal

Immediately before agenda item 5, Public Question Time. The meeting agreed to this proposal.

LA/19. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Area Meeting considered a report back on issues raised at the last meeting.

Referring to item No. 1 relating to funds held in trust for the Band Room at Coton-in-the-Elms, the Director of Community Services advised that the Coton-in-the-Elms Parish Council did have information on the details of the Trust.

The Meeting was advised that in respect of item 2 in the report back, supplementary information had been received from Derbyshire County Council in respect of the request that the deregulated speed limit be removed from the A444 Castle Gresley Bypass. It was confirmed that the area in question was the northbound downhill approach to the Castle Road roundabout at Castle Gresley and that the County Council had confirmed previously that rumble strips could not be provided as they were within 200 metres of dwellings and thus prohibited. The Meeting was advised that County Council would be reviewing conditions at the roundabout to consider if there was scope to make adjustments to the signs/ carriageway markings and that a topographical survey was awaited before any decision was made on this matter.

Mrs. Sheila Jackson advised the Meeting that there had recently been a major accident on the road leading up to Mount Pleasant and requested again that the deregulated speed limit in respect of this section of the A444 bypass be removed so that traffic could not travel legally more than 40 mph.

In respect of item 3 on the report back, trees between Nos. 67 and 69 Bells End Road, Walton-on-Trent, the Chair advised that the tenant of No. 67 had agreed to the felling of the trees.

Referring to item 4, Consultation by the Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire PCT on the proposed surgery relocation from Midway to Castle Gresley, the Chair advised that the PCT Board at its meeting on 23rd November 2005 had reached a decision on the matter, a copy of which was attached as an appendix to the report.

The Chair referred to item No. 6 on the report back in respect of the request for the erection of signs at appropriate locations in Drakelow indicating a 'No through route for heavy goods vehicles' and advised that supplementary information from Derbyshire County Council had been provided which advised that Drakelow was already within a weight restricted zone and it was not clear where any extra signs could be provided that would make a difference. The supplementary report advised that Mr. Peter Lee (Traffic Engineer) at Derbyshire County Council would be available to discuss the matter and provide more information to residents.

The Chair advised the that a number of residents in Drakelow had expressed concern regarding the closeness of road humps to each other in Rosliston Road, Drakelow and requested that action be taken as this was causing an adverse effect on the traffic using the road.

**Following further discussion, it was agreed:-**

- (1) That it be noted that Coton-in-the-Elms Parish Council holds information on the funds held in Trust in respect of the Band Room at Coton-in-the-Elms.
- (2) That Derbyshire County Council provide further information on whether it is possible for the deregulated speed limit relating to the A444 Castle Gresley Bypass to be removed.
- (3) That the action of the tenant of No. 67 Bells End Road, Walton-on-Trent to fell the trees at that site be noted.
- (4) That the decision of the Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire PCT Board from its meeting on 23rd November 2005 following the consultation exercise on the proposed surgery relocation from Midway to Castle Gresley be noted.
- (5) That Derbyshire County Council be requested to investigate the positioning of speed ramps in Rosliston Road, Drakelow to establish whether they are located too close to each other and that a report back on this matter be submitted to the next Area Meeting.

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

The Director of Community Services provided details to the Area Meeting on the District Council's forecasted final financial position 2006-2009.

The Director of Community Services 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.

LA/21. **CORPORATE PLAN 2006-2009**

The Director of Community Services advised the Area Meeting that the purpose of this presentation was to provide feedback on the earlier consultation and to undertake consultation on the 2006/07 proposals. A

copy of a report entitled 'Draft Corporate Plan – Consultation and Next Step' which was considered at the Council's Special Meeting on 15th December 2005 was circulated to all Members of the Area Meeting together with members of the public present at the Meeting.

Mr. M. Roylance (Principal Policy Officer) said that the Council's Corporate Plan 2006/09 had six action theme areas:-

- Developing the capacity of the community and voluntary sector
- Preventing floods and other emergencies
- Providing more opportunities to take part in physical activity
- Work in partnership to promote healthier lifestyle
- Addressing environmental issues within rural communities
- Promoting citizenship

The Members of the public present were requested to choose three themes from the above six, which they considered to be most important and mark them accordingly. This would enable the Council to take a view on its Corporate Plan proposal and formed an important part of the consultation exercise.

The Chair thanked the members of the public for their participation in the consultation exercise on the Council's Draft Corporate Plan and confirmed that the information obtained would be used during the consideration of the Corporate Planning.

LA/22. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE LOCAL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Housing Provision, Coton-in-the-Elms

Mr. Karen Bradford of Coton-in-the-Elms Parish Council referred to a recent letter from Housing Services at the District Council in respect of housing provision in Coton-in-the-Elms. Mr. Bradford said that many residents found the contents of the letter intrusive and had not responded.

**It was agreed that the Director of Community Services feedback the comments from the member of the public on the content of letters received in respect of housing provision in Coton-in-the-Elms and that a report back on this matter be submitted to the next Area Meeting.**

Band Room Premises, Coton-in-the-Elms

Mrs. Karen Bradford requested that the Council investigate the condition of the area around the Band Room premises in Coton-in-the-Elms. She advised the Meeting that the car park at the site had become overgrown and the general outside of the building was dilapidated and there were possible problems relating to vermin at the site.

**It was agreed that Officers of the District Council investigate the comments of Mrs. Bradford relating to the condition of the area around the Band Room premises in Coton-in-the-Elms and that the matter be reported to the next Area Meeting.**

Land at the rear of Bass's Crescent, Castle Gresley

Mrs. Sheila Jackson referred to an area of Council owned land to the rear of Bass's Crescent. Mrs. Jackson expressed her concern at the condition of fences at the premises which were now in a poor condition and that dogs were forcing their way through into residents' gardens and also onto the highway. The Chair advised Mrs. Jackson that the matter was being considered by the District Council and that the Council's Asset Manager would write to her to advise of progress of the sale of land.

**It was agreed:**

- (1) That the District Council's Asset Manager write to Mrs. Jackson outlining the progress of work in respect of the sale of Council owned land at the rear of Bass's Crescent, Castle Gresley.**
- (2) That the District Council investigate the condition of fences at Council Properties at the rear of Bass's Crescent, Castle Gresley and write to Mrs. Jackson to advise her of any repair work proposed.**

Third River Crossing

Mrs. Taylor of Walton-on-Trent Parish Council asked whether there had been any progress on the provision of a third crossing over the River Trent. Mrs. Taylor asked whether there had been any pre-application discussions in respect of this matter.

The Area Meeting was reminded of the importance of not discussing planning applications as this could amount to pre-consideration and prevent District Council Members who were on the Development Control Committee from participating in the discussion and decision making process in respect of a particular planning application. A number of residents present at the Meeting expressed support for the provision of a third river crossing over the River Trent, but said that it would need careful consideration and planning to ensure that it would be of real benefit to the people of South Derbyshire. The meeting noted a new crossing could have significant highway infrastructure implications for South Derbyshire and that this was a significant factor in the formulation and consideration of any proposals.

The Chair advised that the provision of a third river crossing had been discussed at the last Area Meeting in November 2005 when a presentation was given by Mr. Seymour from Derbyshire County Council.

**It was agreed that Mr. Seymour from Derbyshire County Council be requested to attend the next Area Meeting to give a presentation if further information is available on proposals to provide a third river crossing over the River Trent.**

Council Recycling Facility: Woodville Road, Overseal

Mr. G. Knight expressed his concern regarding the Council's recycling facility at Woodville Road, Overseal, which he said was at present overflowing and needed emptying. Mr Knight requested that collection arrangements from the site be improved.

**It was agreed that the Director of Community Services investigate the frequency of collections from the Council's recycling facility in Woodville Road, Overseal and write to Mr. Graham Knight to advise him of the arrangements.**

Highway Condition, Station Lane, Walton-on-Trent

Mrs. Taylor expressed concern regarding ivy, which was growing down a bank into Station Road, opposite the church in Walton-on-Trent, which was causing the kerb to be obscured and thus causing a hazard to traffic in the area.

**It was agreed that the concerns of Mrs. Taylor in respect of the condition of the highway in the area of Station Lane opposite the church wall in Walton-on-Trent be investigated by Derbyshire County Council and that Mrs. Taylor receive a written response on the remedial action to be taken.**

Condition of Main Street, Cauldwell

Mr. Eaton expressed his concern regarding a deep furrow in the Main Street, Cauldwell in the area of Manor Farm opposite the Hall. Mr. Eaton requested that appropriate action be taken to remedy this problem.

**It was agreed that Derbyshire County Council be requested to investigate the concerns of Mr. Eaton regarding a deep furrow in Main Street in Cauldwell, in the area of Manor Farm, opposite the Hall and that Mr. Eaton receive a written response on the remedial action to be taken.**

Blocked Gulleys: Station Lane, Walton-on-Trent

Mr. Taylor informed the Meeting that rainwater and debris were flowing down Station Lane in Walton-on-Trent and blocking the gulleys in that area. Mr. Taylor expressed his concern that the gulleys were only cleared on a six monthly basis and asked that the matter be investigated by Derbyshire County Council and that any appropriate remedial action be taken.

**It was agreed that Derbyshire County Council be requested to investigate the concerns of Mr. Taylor regarding the cleaning of gulleys in Station Lane, Walton-on-Trent and that Mr Taylor be advised in writing of any remedial action to be taken.**

LA/23. **PRESENTATION: COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SCHEME**

The Area Meeting received a presentation from Miss Debbie Fletcher (Community Partnership Assistant) on the Community Partnership Scheme, which considers applications from community and voluntary organisations for Capital funding towards community projects.

The Area Meeting was advised that the key eligibility criteria for applications was as detailed below:-

- The fund will only support between 5% and 25% of the total project cost with a maximum limit of £25,000.

- The project must be a bona fide voluntary or community sector organisation
- Organisation must be based in South Derbyshire
- Demonstrate that the project is of community benefit
- It meets elements of the Council's Corporate Plan

**It was agreed that the content of the presentation on the Community Partnership Scheme be noted.**

LA/24. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Democratic Services Officer advised that the next Area Meeting would be held on Wednesday, 3rd May 2006 at 7.00 p.m. at the Walton-on-Trent Village Hall.

R. W. SOUTHERN

CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 8.05 p.m.