

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

ETWALL – AREA 1

Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at Sutton on the Hill Village Hall

PRESENT: -

South Derbyshire District Council representatives

Councillor Lisa Brown (Chair), Councillor David Muller (Vice Chair), Councillor Andy Billings

Frank McArdle – Chief Executive Officer
Ian Hey – Community Partnership Officer
Debbie Ward – Service Assistant

Derbyshire County Council representatives

Councillor Martyn Ford, Councillor Julie Patten

Derbyshire Police representatives

PCSO Andrea Thompson

Parish Council/ Meeting representatives

Councillor Viv Alexander, Councillor Jim Archer, Councillor Steve Trowbridge (Dalbury Lees Parish Council), Councillor Anne du Celliee Muller, (Etwall Parish Council), Councillor Robert Brooks (Hatton Parish Council), Councillor Sandra Stanton (Hilton Parish Council)

Annette Jennison (South Derbyshire CVS)

Members of the public

Eddie Bisknell, Nigel Lee, Jean Parkinson

EA/15 **Open meeting**

• **Introductions and apologies**

Councillor Sir Henry Every Bt., Councillor Miles Nesbitt (Egginton Parish Council), Councillor Andy Roberts, PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite

• **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.

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 British Sign Language 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 3pm until 6pm at Sharpe's Pottery 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, at 5.30pm at Sharpe's Pottery Museum for any budding entrepreneurs!

- **To receive the minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.

- **Matters arising from last minutes/ comments from report back**

Councillor Lisa Brown raised the issue previously raised by Councillor Sir Henry Every Bt. in respect to Etwall/ Egginton crossroads. It was agreed that a copy of the email forwarded by Miles Nesbitt on behalf of Councillor Sir Henry Bt. On Tuesday, January 28, 2020 should be followed up on and included within the report back.

ACTION: Debbie Ward to forward on Councillor Sir Henry Every Bt.'s email to DCC and report back with their response.

SA/16 Police Safer Neighbourhood report

PCSO Andrea Thompson introduced herself as a new PCSO to the area and provided the following update on behalf of the Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT): -

Two incidents were dealt with by the SNT on Christmas Eve in relation to possession with the intent to supply cannabis and possession of cannabis in the Hilton area. PCSO Andrea Thompson went on to say that unfortunately the problem of cannabis use/ supply is a widespread issue throughout the South Derbyshire District and encouraged residents to report any drug related intelligence to the Police by calling 101 (or 999 if an emergency).

Councillor Anne Muller reported that the Linesman at King George V Playing Field, Etwall found 3-4 small plastic bags with sealed tops during a litter pick on Saturday morning, then on the following Monday morning a further 6-7 bags were found. It is also believed that there may drug dealing taking place outside of Etwall Primary School by lads on scooters with 'L' plates and money belts.

The Clerk of Etwall Parish Council has subsequently contacted Etwall Primary School to set up a liaison meeting. The school secretary has also allegedly asked groups of youths believed to be smoking drugs outside of the public toilets by the school to move due to concerns about the affects this may have on the children that attend the school.

PCSO Andrea Thompson reiterated that people need to report issues such as those raised so that there is a record of it and so that a bigger picture can be built to determine just how big or small a problem such as drugs is in a particular

area and so that it can be investigated accordingly with the appropriate resources.

The team carried out a Derbyshire Alert survey, signing up residents at a 'Cuppa with a Coppa' event held at Witham Close, Hilton on Tuesday, January 21, 2020. PCSO Andrea Thompson went on to further promote the Derbyshire Alert service and explained that by registering (for free), you can receive news and appeals, local crime information, and prevention advice direct to your email address.

There has also been a tool marking event at Hilton and a bike marking event held at John Port Spencer Academy School, Etwall. The bike marking event was particularly popular with circa. 40 bikes being security marked, following a recent spate of bike thefts in the area.

Any future events will be promoted via the Derbyshire Police Facebook page.

Talks were held at the 155th Etwall Scout Group, John Port Spencer Academy and Longdon Park Autism School covering general topics such as keeping safe, raising awareness amongst young people about the role of the SNT and covering more specific issues around bullying and how mediation can help to resolve issues.

The team have been busy completing Halloween/ Bonfire Night/ Remembrance Day Parade/ Polling Station/ Shop Lifting patrols together with giving advice in respect Christmas crime prevention and helping with the floods during November.

Tool thefts from vans has been on the increase throughout the district and subsequently the Police have distributed leaflets across the most affected areas to raise awareness and provide security advice.

Three separate vehicles were seized for not having car insurance with the use of a Police vehicle equipped with an ANPR camera.

Etwall Leisure Centre – two cars were ticketed w/c 20.01.20 for inappropriate parking. PCSO Andrea Thompson acknowledged that there continues to be a problem with vehicles parking dangerously and confirmed that the area will continue to be monitored closely and tickets issued accordingly. Going forward there will need to be liaison between the Police and Etwall Leisure Centre so that the issues raised around parking can be addressed jointly.

Councillor Brown raised issues on behalf of a local resident regarding the nuisance parking of cars and other vehicles which recently prevented access by emergency vehicles on Beech Drive, Etwall.

ACTION: Debbie Ward to pass on contact details provided by Councillor Brown to PCSO Andrea Thompson for further investigation.

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

Ian Hey provided the following update: -

Digital MOT

Safer Derbyshire have launched a campaign to ask members of the public to take a quick survey to see how secure their mobile devices and laptops are.

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

The assessment takes less than 5 minutes to complete and will identify how to be safer online.

To take the MOT please visit the website - www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/MOT

John Port School – Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) visit

Claire Rawlins (SDDC ASB Officer) and PCSO Andrea Thompson visited John Port Spencer Academy in December to talk to a group of six young people who had been identified by the police and school as causing ASB in the local area. One of the six received a Community Protection Notice Warning (CPNW) and the others were all given a verbal warning and had it explained what would happen if their behaviour did not change.

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 - there have been no applications to date received from the Repton Area (Police Area 2) for this financial year 2019/2020. £4000 funding will be available again from April 2020 but applications for this year's underspend can be received up until the end of the February 2020.

EA/18 **Local authority update**

Frank McArdle updated: -

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.

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 – one of these will be held at Castleton Park, Church Gresley on the Sunday, March 24, 2020.

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 several 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 January 16, 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.

A member of the public queried whether any consideration has been given to asking the public to contribute more than the proposed 1.95% increase given the declared Climate Emergency.

Frank McArdle replied to say that to further increase Council Tax would be a last resort and that instead the Council is looking at better, more efficient ways of working.

A member of the public asked whether there is a list of small initiatives available for the public to view on the Council website.

Frank McArdle advised that the Environmental Sustainability Group have itemised all the initiatives that they are working on which can be accessed via the SDDC website.

EA/19 Local community and voluntary sector projects/ update

Annette Jennison 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, you can get in touch by calling 01283 550163 or visit their website (sd cvs.org.uk).

Ian Hey added that there will also be an opportunity to attend funding workshops in relation to the Community and Environmental Partnership scheme, which covers capital projects across a wide range of funders and encouraged anyone that was interested to sign up with the CVS for email updates to keep abreast of any new opportunities as they arise.

EA/20 Summary of agreed priorities/ actions

- Debbie Ward to forward on Councillor Sir Henry Every Bt.’s email to DCC and report back with their response.
- Debbie Ward to pass on contact details provided by Councillor Brown to PCSO Andrea Thompson for further investigation.

EA/21 Close and date of next meeting

TBC

Councillor Lisa Brown
CHAIR

The meeting terminated at 7:53pm