

REPTON AREA MEETING

24th August 2005

**PRESENT:-**

**District Council Representatives**

Councillor Taylor (Chair) and Councillors Bladen, Ford, Mrs. Hood and Jones.

Mr. M. Alflat (Director of Community Services), Mrs. D. Cook (Democratic Services Officer) and Mr. B. Jones (Helpdesk).

**Derbyshire County Council Representatives**

County Councillor A. Jones.

Mr. D. Tysoe (County Secretary), Ms K. McIntyre (Democratic Services Officer).

**Derbyshire Constabulary**

P.C. P. Martin.

**Parish Council/Meeting Representatives**

Ray Statham (Woodville Parish Council), Diane Oatley (Woodville Parish Council).

**Members of the Public**

Mr. and Mrs. J.R. Cownie, Mrs. A. Gillespie, Shirley Smith, C. Bailey, N.T. Cumming, M. Thornton, P. Yates.

**Member of Parliament**

M. Todd.

RA/1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

The Meeting noted the appointment of Councillor Taylor as Chair, made at the Council Meeting held on 30th June 2005.

RA/2. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from District Councillors Isham and Mrs. Wheeler, Peter Ricketts (Willington Parish Council), Alan Gifford (Willington), Mrs. Susan Ellis (Newton Solney Parish Council) and Joanna Stamford.

RA/3. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR**

District Councillor J. Bladen was appointed Vice-Chair of the Meeting.

RA/4. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 25th January 2005 were received.

The Democratic Services Officer advised that the above Minutes were to be amended to reflect that Mr. A. Gifford was not a member of Willington Parish Council.

RA/5. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Meeting was advised that Derbyshire County Council no longer produced its Greenwatch publication. County Councillor Alan Jones advised that those interested in the Greenwatch publication previously might be interested in the Derbyshire Bio-Diversity website.

With regard to the infrequent bus services travelling from Repton's outlying villages into Burton and Derby, County Councillor Ford advised that he was to raise this issue with the bus operator and report progress to the next meeting. Councillor Bladen advised that Repton Parish Council had recently asked if the bus service could travel through Repton but had received a reply stating that this "would delay buses" which had been an unsatisfactory response. Mr. Orme advised that it had taken residents approximately 25 years to succeed in getting a bus service to travel through Willington.

RA/6. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE LOCAL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A resident expressed concern that some members of the community tended to leave their wheeled bin out on the pavement during the week instead of taking it in after collection. He asked whether there was any action the District Council could take on this matter. The Director of Community Services advised that this would be an issue if the bin was causing an obstruction. The Chair reported that the Council's twin bin system aided its recycling targets but occasionally people did choose not to have a brown bin but only usually when they had a composter at home. Mark Todd M.P. advised that he recalled some byelaws which placed a restriction on members of the public to only place their bins out 24 hours prior to and after collection. He stated that this matter could be pursued further but referred to the obvious issue of enforcement. Di Oatley asked whether the District Council could issue a statement asking residents to take their bins in following collection and the Director of Community Services agreed to do this accordingly. Mrs Oatley referred to the recycling site at Sainsburys, Swadlincote which was often in an untidy state.

Mrs. Cownie queried whether the District Council had any plans to collect plastic. The Director of Community Services advised that the District Council did not have any plans to collect plastic as this operation was too costly. He referred to the delivery points throughout the District where plastic could be taken. He did state however, that the District Council soon hoped to introduce a scheme whereby residents could place cardboard into their brown bins.

Mr. Yates raised the issue of traffic problems on the A511. He stated that it had recently taken him 26 minutes to travel by car from Woodville to Blackfordby and envisaged that the situation would only worsen when the children returned to school. He also referred to a "river of mud" flowing through the middle of the A511 that day. He referred to recent housing developments in Woodville and stated that a real problem of consistent development between Granville School and Butt Lane existed. The Chair

advised that if housing developers within Woodville were causing a problem then certain issues could be enforced. He advised that with regard to traffic, the weight restriction on Moira Road (although initially temporary) should alleviate some problems. He referred to the volume of complaints he had made as a local Ward Member regarding traffic on the A511 and stated that he had a document from Derbyshire County Council indicating that the Tollgate island was now to capacity. He was aware of the proposed route around the back of Woodville as a result of planning gain which would be completed on the second phase of the Woodville Woodlands. He stated that Derbyshire County Council were now on board with this additional link. Mr. Yates asked why conditions could not be imposed when planning permission for development in Woodville had been granted. He stated that two lorries could not pass outside the Woodville Post Office. The Chair advised that planning permission had been granted in accordance with planning guidance and on advice received from the Highways Authority. He stated that there was nothing more he could have done as a District Councillor. Di Oatley referred to the excellent work on traffic issues in Woodville which had been undertaken by local District and Parish Councillors. She stated that the Woodville Parish Council were very disappointed at the recent development granted opposite the school. The Woodville Parish Council was to ask the County Council to install a school safety zone (including flashing signs) on the A511 as it had major safety concerns regarding the area outside of the school. The Chair advised that a request had not been received from Derbyshire County Council for 106 monies to alleviate safety issues when the development opposite the school was granted. A meeting between representatives of the school, the District and County Councils and Derbyshire County Council Safety Officers regarding the matter of a School Safety Zone was to take place however.

A resident queried whether any progress had been made in reinstating the post box which had been removed from outside of Butt Farm, Woodville. The Chair advised that the Parish Council had requested that the post box be reinstalled in a purpose built brick pillar but the Post Office had advised that this would not be approved. The Post Office was also not prepared to install another post box at this location. The Chair advised that the former post box was now preserved at the Sharpe's Pottery Heritage and Arts Museum. It was agreed to write to the Post Office again requesting that a further post box be installed near to the location of the previous post box which had been well used.

Mrs. Thornton referred to the link road coming out at Butt Lane, Woodville (and referred to a plan shown to her by Mark Todd, M.P.). She stated that if the link road was brought onto Butt Lane, this would be a "disaster" and her preference would be for the road to bypass the whole of Boundary. The Chair advised the Meeting that residents of Woodville and Councillors had to deal with issues that were achievable. He stated that the land referred to by Mrs. Thornton was not in the Council's ownership. Tapton Estates had identified in its plan the road coming out onto Butt Lane but this was not a firm proposal at the moment. Mr. Yates expressed concern that there was no "joined up thinking" on the issue of traffic problems in Woodville. The Chair suggested that an update be brought to the next meeting in terms of 106 Agreement monies, health/education improvements made available as a result of development in Woodville. Mark Todd, M.P. suggested inviting an officer of the County Council to attend the next Meeting to discuss traffic problems in Woodville. He advised that Derbyshire County Council could

present a case and seek Government funding to alleviate such traffic problems but, to date, no such case had been made.

Mr. Orme advised that traffic travelling from Toyota to NYK Associates, often being tractors and trailers, were sometimes carrying two different number plates. The Police representative agreed to action this matter accordingly.

Mr. Orme also advised that a group of travellers in Willington were parked at the bottom of Meadow Lane on land which in flood circumstances could be dangerous. He referred to PPG25 which inferred that travellers should not be camped on such land. The Police representative agreed to action this matter accordingly.

Mr. Statham asked for an update on Neighbourhood Wardens. He was advised by the Director of Community Services that a proposal had been received from the Police to enter into a Service Level Agreement to provide more PCSOs. A Meeting was to take place with the Police accordingly that week and these proposals would then be discussed at meetings of the Council thereafter.

Councillor Ford expressed concern regarding the use of jet skis on the River Trent and asked which body would pursue the enforcement of such issues. The Director of Community Services advised that the District Council's Environmental Health Unit would deal with noise issues. Officers of South Derbyshire District Council and Derbyshire County Council agreed to research the issue of the use of the jet skis on the River Trent and report back to the next Meeting.

Mr. Bailey expressed concern that residents were being turned away from the Civic Amenity Site at Newhall. The Chair advised that a change in contractor at the site had occurred and such concerns had been passed to Derbyshire County Council for action.

Mrs. Smith advised that she owned a shop on Station Road, Woodville and asked for the 40 minute waiting time directly outside the property to be enforced by traffic wardens and the Police. She was losing business as a result of her customers not being able to park. The Police representative agreed to raise this matter with the local traffic wardens.

Mr. Orme advised the Meeting that the Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire Primary Care Trust had issued proposals to build a Health care centre at Willington. A representative also advised that the Primary Care Trust had also reported its intention to build such a centre at Castle Gresley. Mr. Orme queried what consultation the PCT was likely to undertake on the proposal to build such a centre at Willington. Mark Todd, M.P. suggested inviting the PCT to attend the next meeting to discuss the proposals. Mr. Orme referred to the creation of an opportunity to improve public transport in the area if the Health centre was built. It was agreed to invite a representative of the PCT to attend the next Meeting to discuss the proposals.

RA/7. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Chair advised that the date and venue of the next Repton Area Meeting would be confirmed in due course.

**RA/8. FUTURE STRUCTURE OF AREA MEETINGS**

A report was circulated advising that since 1997 the District Council had had six area meetings based on the previous County Division boundaries. However, an Electoral Commission Boundary Review of the County had resulted in seven electoral divisions for South Derbyshire and these came into effect at the recent County Council elections held on 5th May 2005. This revision of the County Council's electoral divisions and the decision taken by the County Council to make use of the established Area Meeting structure at the District Council provided an opportunity for the Council to review the current boundaries of its Area Meetings.

It was proposed that South Derbyshire District Council would put forward a proposal for a revised structure of area meetings in the near future. The Council's constitution required that 'the Council will consult with relevant Parish and Town Councils and the Chairs of relevant Parish Meetings when considering whether and how to amend the operation of its existing area meetings'. It was reported that as well as using the forum of area meetings to undertake consultation, letters would also be sent to the relevant Parish Clerks in order that the matter could be discussed at Parish Council Meetings and comments fed back to the District Council. Those present were urged to contact the Council's Head of Legal and Democratic Services on this matter should they require further information.

**RA/9. CORPORATE PLAN**

A detailed report on the Council's corporate plan for 2005/2008 was circulated. The Deputy Chief Executive advised that the main purpose of this report was to outline the contents of the Council's latest Corporate Plan, which detailed its plans and priorities for delivering local services over the next three years. The secondary purpose was to provide a context for the consultation the Council would be undertaking shortly with local people and groups on the development of the next Corporate Plan. The key aims and underpinning themes together with a sample of the Council's milestones for 2005/2006 was circulated. The Deputy Chief Executive advised that the Council would be undertaking a consultation exercise to roll forward the Corporate Plan at the next meeting and would also be consulting on budget proposals.

S. TAYLOR

CHAIR

The Meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.