

OPEN

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

NEWHALL

3rd May 2012

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Dunn (Vice-Chairman in the Chair) and Councillors Bambrick and Wilkins.

F. McArdle (Chief Executive) and D. Townsend (Democratic Services Officer).

In attendance

Councillor Mulgrew.

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

Councillors Lacey and Murray.

P. Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

Members of the Public

A. Argent, P. Bambrick, D. Bird, L. Carter, G. Chantry, P. Cox, H. Foy, P. Foy, G. Hall, Mrs. Hilton, C. Hodson-Walker, R. House, R. Hughes, M. Lunn, R. Maddock, Mrs. Tagg, S. Taylor, R. Trim and B. Woods.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillors Richards, Pearson and Mrs. Mead, and Mr. & Mrs. Dunn.

NA/29. **CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman reported that a South Derbyshire District Council recycling survey had been circulated, which gave residents an opportunity to have their say on recycling. The new recycling contract was due to begin in June 2013, and the aim was to make home recycling even easier. Residents were thanked for their continued commitment to recycling in South Derbyshire.

NA/30. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Newhall Area Forum held on 25th January 2012 were noted, subject to Councillors Mulgrew and Lacey being recorded as present.

NA/31. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Chairman reviewed those items raised at the last Meeting and reported the progress made in each case.

With regard to the Rainbow Waste Site, a resident commented that the smell from this site was still overbearing. Councillor Lacey responded that the County Council Waste Inspector had visited this site, and a spot check had been conducted. Results were currently awaited from this visit, however he would ensure that, if possible he would report back to the next Meeting.

With regard to lighting at the Newhall Amenity Site, it was acknowledged that efforts had been made to reduce the lighting pollution at this site. However, a resident stated that there was still a degree of light pollution entering his property and it was asked if any further adjustments could be made.

The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to forward the resident's details to the Head of Waste Management so that the matter could be considered further.

NA/32. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

It was asked if the District Council could make further investigations on who owned the land adjacent to the Lamb Inn, as it was felt that this site needed making safe and it was also thought that there were vermin in this area.

The Chief Executive agreed to look into this and report back to the next Meeting.

A resident reported that the local BBC transmitter transmitted BBC Midlands Today rather than East Midlands Today which covered the local area. It was pointed out that this was due to the siting of the aerials in the District, although it was available through Sky or FreeSat.

It was reported that dangerous parking was taking place at the junction of South Drive/Parliament Street, Newhall, and suggested that this area may need double yellow lines.

The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this and report to a future Meeting.

There was a general discussion on parking issues, surrounding Newhall, and the Forum Liaison Officer advised residents that if they needed to raise something urgently, they should ring Call Derbyshire.

A discussion took place on a proposed mini-roundabout on High Street/Union Road/Queens Drive, Newhall. It was felt that there had been very little consultation and local residents and Councillors had objected to its location. The Forum Liaison Officer responded that these were only proposals at present, and a report would be forwarded to Derbyshire County Council's Cabinet Member for a decision. It was suggested that a more suitable location would be either Beards Road or Westfield Road.

The Burton Mail had reported that a resident had been fined by Magistrates for dropping litter and it was asked why South Derbyshire District Council hadn't fined litter droppers. The Chief Executive responded that if this had proceeded to Magistrates Court, it had been a criminal offence which would be dealt with by the Police. He added that this was normally dealt with by the Community Support Officers who could issue an 'on-the-spot' fine.

Derbyshire County Council were thanked for changing the times of the Stanton traffic lights.

A resident raised concern regarding the failure of drivers travelling on the A511 towards Burton-upon-Trent to give way to drivers travelling in the opposite direction turning right into Wood Lane. It was requested that Derbyshire County Council consider making improvements to this roundabout and stop signs, rumble strips and additional signage were suggested. The Forum Liaison Officer responded that improvements were made to this roundabout a couple of years ago and it was suspected that there would be no justification in making further engineering improvements to the roundabout and that essentially the cause of the problem was due to poor driver behaviour.

The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this matter and report back to the next Meeting.

It was reported that there was a huge amount of litter in hedges approaching the Civic Community Site, Newhall. Residents saw the Clean Team attend, but this area appeared the same every day. It was asked if the site owner could employ a litter picker in this area. Councillor Lacey reported that Derbyshire County Council was currently considering this, amongst other issues at the site.

It was requested that this issue be forwarded to South Derbyshire District Council's Clean Team to see if any further improvements can be made in this area.

It was reported that the floodlights at the Springfield Road School were miss-aligned.

The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to follow this up and report back to the next Meeting.

It was asked if there were any developments with the Right of Way adjacent to the former Horse and Jockey Public House. The Forum Liaison Officer responded that this was still being pursued. The County Council had received one objection of a technical nature which had caused problems. This would therefore have to be forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate, and when any further developments were available they would be reported back to this Meeting.

It was reported that the Cadley Hill Road, Castle Gresley had numerous potholes and sunken iron works between the A444 roundabout and Bison's roundabout.

The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this and report back to the next Meeting.

NA/33. **DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES**

The Chief Executive reported that there would be a press day on 17th May 2012 at the new golf course site. He provided an update on the current position and advised that the site for the hotel was now up for sale. He added that the vehicles were bringing topsoil onto the site and works to the driving range and pavilion would soon be coming to an end,

The Chief Executive also gave an update on the current situation within the town centre and advised that the cinema was now open, Costa Coffee and Subway were currently onsite and Prezzo Italian Restaurant were also hoping to be open soon. He added that it was encouraging to see investment in both sides of the town, therefore encouraging more trade in the town centre. It was also hoped that within the next phase, a big leisure complex and a national clothing company chain would open.

The Chief Executive also advised that the Chestnut Avenue, Midway, playing fields needed improving and a proposal would be going to Committee that would improve this area, and hopefully attract additional funding and facilities.

It was asked if the old Tram Sheds were listed, and what was happening at this site, as they appeared to be being dismantled. Councillor Wilkins responded that they were not listed. The Chief Executive added that Trustees of the site had been asked if this could be used as a public car park, however they did not wish for this to happen as they wanted to clear the site and market it.

The Chief Executive also provided an update on the Somerfield site, and advised that a company had bought it, but it could not be disclosed who at present.

NA/34. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next Meeting would be confirmed in due course.

P.DUNN

VICE-CHAIRMAN IN THE CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 8.30 p.m.