

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

REPTON

3rd July 2013

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillors Ford, Shepherd and Stanton.

K. Stackhouse (Director of Finance and Corporate Services) and D. Townsend (Democratic Services Officer).

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

Councillors Mrs. Chilton, Davison and Ford.

P. Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

Parish Council/Meeting Representatives

R.A. Lisewska (Stenson Fields Parish Council), P. Ricketts (Willington Parish Council and C.W. Fellows (Foston and Scropton Parish Council).

Members of the Public

D. Eastman, T. J. Orme, S.P. Pearson Truscott, S. Toon and G. Varty,

RA/1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

It was noted that Councillor Smith had been appointed Chairman of Repton Area Forum at the Annual Council Meeting.

RA/2. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillor Smith (Chairman).

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

It was agreed that Councillor Shepherd be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Repton Area Forum for the ensuing year.

RA/4. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Repton Area Forum held on 14th February 2013, were noted.

RA/5. **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.

It was reported that there were further pothole and patch repairs required on Beech Avenue in Willington. The Forum Liaison Officer reported that these were in hand.

In regard to the review of bridle paths in Findern, it was reported that some signage still needed considering.

In regard to the riverbank footpath at Willington, the Forum Liaison Officer reported that he had spoken with Legal Services at Derbyshire County Council, and they aimed to send a file to the Inspectorate by the end of the month. Residents responded that this was unacceptable, and was taking too long. The Forum Liaison Officer replied that Derbyshire County Council was currently dealing with over 300 cases. Councillor Ford reported that the Member of Parliament had also written to the Cabinet Member at Derbyshire County Council in an attempt to escalate this matter.

RA/6. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS.**

It was requested if an area known as Anchor Church in Ingleby, could have signage installed.

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

A resident reported that South Derbyshire District Council had recently sent out a letter to all of its parish councils concerning parish precept, which gave clear advice of the effect of changes and who should be liable to pay parish precept in 2013/14. In December 2012, Willington Parish Council had resolved to maintain the parish precept unchanged. However, the reduced number of households left liable to precept charge meant that each individual bill had risen by about 9%. He also commented on the Central Government Compensatory Grant which was to be dispersed to parish councils. He felt that this was unfair and asked how residents could get their money back. The Director of Finance and Corporate Services responded that it was up to each individual parish council to set their own precept. Once this was set, the only person who could change it was the Secretary of State. He pointed out that even though the Government had allocated money to be distributed to parish councils, some parish councils had chosen to keep the precept the same and take the grant as extra income.

Concern was again raised again with regard to drainage in Bretby Lane. This was an ongoing matter, and the resident reported that it was very frustrating, as there had been many visits by Derbyshire County Council and Severn Trent, but no resolution over a period of 20 years.

The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into this matter again and liaise directly with the residents concerned. It was also requested that Councillor Mrs. Chilton be copied in on all correspondence, and a copy of the recent Derbyshire County Council report be sent to the residents.

It was asked if consideration had been given to drainage at the proposed development site at Egginton Common, as pipes from this site currently emitted in Willington, into the Trent. Concern was raised that if this was not considered at an early stage problems could be encountered in the future.

It was agreed that South Derbyshire District Council provide a response to this matter at the next Meeting.

A discussion ensued with regard to Stenson Road, and a request for a reduction in the speed limit. It was reported that access to schools were across this road from the new estate, and it was important that it be made safe for pedestrians. The Forum Liaison Officer reported that this had been considered, and officers had previously declined to do take any action.

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

It was reported that recent road works that had been done by developers at the junction of Pilgrims Way and Stenson Road, were not considered acceptable.

The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to look into these.

Questions were raised with regard to the proposals of turning off street lights at night time. The Forum Liaison Officer gave an update, but assured residents that there would be local consultation before this happened in any specific area.

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

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

D. SHEPHERD

VICE-CHAIRMAN (IN THE CHAIR)

The Meeting terminated at 8.35 p.m.