

## SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

### LINTON – AREA 6

Meeting minutes – Tuesday, January 26, 2021

#### Microsoft Teams

#### PRESENT: -

##### South Derbyshire District Council representatives

Councillor Amy Wheelton (Chair), Councillor Melanie Bridgen (Vice Chair), Councillor Dan Pegg, Councillor Kevin Richards

Allison Thomas – Strategic Director - Service Delivery  
Chris Smith – Communities Team Manager  
Debbie Ward – Service Assistant (Taking notes)

##### Derbyshire County Council representatives

Councillor Pat Murray, Aariana Sohal (Adult Social Care and Health), Councillor Stuart Swann

##### Derbyshire Police representatives

PC Joanna Saddington, PC Simpkin, PC Smethurst

##### Parish Council/ Meeting representatives

Councillor Claire Bradford, Councillor Karen Bradford (Coton in the Elms Parish Council), Councillor Paul Marbrow, Councillor Stephanie Marbrow (Rosliston Parish Council)

Julia Marshall – South Derbyshire CVS

##### Members of the public

Eddie Bisknell, Kate Brady, Sharon Cole, Mac Cummings, Jane Grant, Simon Hartland, Mervyn John

#### LA/1 1. Open meeting

##### **a) Introductions and housekeeping**

##### **b) Apologies**

None received.



**c) Declarations of interest**

None declared.

**d) Chair's announcements**

Councillor Amy Wheelton proposed Councillor Melanie Bridgen as Vice Chair, all were in favour.

Thanks were extended to all staff, volunteers and workers from all public sector organisations and the community and voluntary sector for the tremendous work they have done and are continuing to do throughout the pandemic.

Councillor Wheelton raised awareness that changes are soon taking place with regards to the three COVID-19 Community Testing Centres that have been operating in the Swadlincote Area. The three centres have been open since December and over 18,000 people have been tested. However, the Grove Hall centre will close on Friday, January 29 and Gresley Old Hall will close on Friday, February 5. The decision to close the centres comes from Central Government.

The Midway Community Centre will remain open each day from 9am until 7pm on weekdays (last admission 6.15pm) and from 9am until 4pm at the weekend (last admission 3.15pm) until further notice. Please encourage friends and family to make use of the testing facility whilst it remains open.

**e) To receive the minutes of the last meeting**

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

**f) Matters arising from the last minutes**

None.

**LA/2 2. Police Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) report and police Q&A**

PC Joanna Saddington provided the following update: -

Following concerns raised by the public, the Police have been conducting speed operations throughout the area. PC Saddington explained that the information obtained from the operations gets collated and sent over to CREST so that they can build a bigger picture of a particular area, in relation to speeding. People caught speeding will be sent warning letters to alert them to the fact that they were caught.

Overt and covert anti-social behaviour (ASB) patrols have been taking place, following reports about groups of youths breaching COVID-19 guidelines.

Drugs patrols have continued as normal, as have school patrols.

The Police are also continuing to safeguard vulnerable people as much as possible which can be a challenge due to COVID-19 and limited face to face visits.



Councillor Dan Pegg asked whether the Police are still doing Community Speed Watch (CSW) Training for volunteers.

**ACTION: PC Saddington to liaise with PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite and PCSO Karen Coldicott in respect to Councillor Dan Pegg's query regarding CSW Training and provide a response directly.**

Councillor Paul Marbrow of Rosliston Parish Council asked what the Police's opinion would be if Rosliston Parish Council were to purchase and erect mobile illuminated 'Watch Your Speed' signs in the village.

PC Saddington confirmed that the Police would be in full support of the signs but would not be able to assist in obtaining the signs.

Allison Thomas suggested that Councillor Marbrow contact Simon Tranter, Traffic & Safety Manager at DCC in the first instance.

**ACTION: Councillor Pat Murray to take back the request for illuminated 'Watch Your Speed' signs to DCC.**

Councillor Wheelton extended thanks to the Police for their attendance and for everything they do to keep our communities safe.

Councillor Wheelton raised awareness that a booklet on rural crime prevention has been released this week by Derbyshire Police and urged people to read it. A link to the information can be found by visiting the following weblink: [www.derbyshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rc/rural-crime/](http://www.derbyshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rc/rural-crime/)

### LA/3 **3. South Derbyshire Community Safety Partnership/ Safer Neighbourhood grants update**

Chris Smith provided the following update: -

After a short period of uncertainty during the first lockdown many of the Local Partnership meetings quickly resumed using Microsoft Teams, including Police and Partners ASB Meetings, Pub Watch meetings, Child Exploitation meetings and the Violence Alcohol and Licensing meetings.

During the first lockdown there was an increase in calls to Police service for Domestic related incidents and as a result a new South Derbyshire Domestic Abuse Action Group was set up to ensure key partners and support services are working closely together to raise awareness of domestic abuse and promote what local support services are available.

The easing of the first lockdown also saw a large increase in ASB both in terms of neighbour issues, parking issues at Tourist sites and large groups of young people gathering and causing a nuisance in parks and open spaces across the District.

Over the Summer, local police SNT Officers were in daily communication with the Council's Communities and Cultural Services Teams and the Council's Community



Safety Enforcement Officers (CSEO's). Multi-agency meetings were introduced to deal with specific issues at Foremark Reservoir and Newhall Park. New CCTV cameras have also been installed at Maurice Lea Park.

The Partnership's Safer Homes scheme which is delivered by South Derbyshire CVS was temporarily suspended when lock down commenced in April and through to July the Safer Homes worker was redeployed and delivered over 160 essential medical and food parcels to vulnerable individuals who were unable to leave their property.

### **Safer and Stronger Neighbourhoods Funding**

There has been one funding application this financial year which has been approved and awarded and that was for a sum of £1644 which went to Overseal Parish Council and contributed to a new CCTV system to provide clearer images to identify the individuals responsible for causing anti-social behaviour around Overseal Village Hall.

Funding is still available to local community groups, parish councils, clubs and associations and not for profit organisations to make their community feel safer and stronger and to enhance the local community.

For more details, please visit the Council Website or contact Chris Smith or Debbie Ward in the Communities Team on [community.safety@southderbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:community.safety@southderbyshire.gov.uk)

#### LA/4 **4. Local community and voluntary sector projects/ update**

Julia Marshall provided the following update: -

South Derbyshire CVS (SDCVS) offices remain closed but are very much open for business and have never been busier.

Following the first lockdown back in March 2020, the befriending service had to quickly change to be telephone based and a further 180 additional volunteers were recruited to assist with supporting the community by collecting shopping and prescriptions.

Active Travel scheme – this service was put on hold for a short while but SDCVS is now looking to gradually re-open.

Following an appeal for volunteers to help support the roll out of the COVID-19 vaccinations, over 300 applications were received. 70 of those volunteers have since been successfully engaged and have supported the roll out of vaccinations at both Oakland Village and Derby Arena.

If people are interested in becoming a volunteer with SDCVS please visit [www.sd cvs.org.uk/volunteering](http://www.sd cvs.org.uk/volunteering) to register your interest.

Home from Hospital scheme - supports people coming out of hospital or who are in danger of being admitted to hospital.

Social Prescribing – support for people who are lonely and isolated.



Online Community Forum – these forums are now being run monthly online. The next forum is around walking for health and how community groups can encourage that and how to set up safe walking programmes.

Winter Giving Campaign – the pandemic has put huge pressures on the food bank. Between March and October 2020, with the support of local people 12,654 meals were supplied to 552 children and 854 adults and the demand continues to grow.

If people would like to help with the campaign, donations can be made directly to SDCVS by visiting [www.sdcvs.org.uk/donate](http://www.sdcvs.org.uk/donate)

Funding pots – if people have ideas for community projects, please get in touch. There is plenty of funding available at present but unfortunately there is a shortage of people coming forward with ideas for projects.

Councillor Wheelton, Councillor Pegg and Councillor Bridgen extended their personal thanks to all the staff at SDCVS for the invaluable work that they do and the volunteers that have come forward to help during these extremely difficult times.

Councillor Bridgen asked whether the numbers are now met in respect to volunteers the COVID-19 vaccination centres.

Julia Marshall responded to say that although they are now able to respond in respect to community testing/ vaccination roll out it is still important to continue to recruit volunteers so that if a new crisis arrives, or demand increases there is a bank of volunteers in place that are ready to assist.

#### LA/5 **5. Local authority update and public Q&A**

Allison Thomas provided the following update: -

##### COVID-19 Pandemic update

South Derbyshire's response to the COVID-19 pandemic has been co-ordinated by the County Local Resilience Forum, the forum that guides efforts in dealing with all local emergencies. All the work on the pandemic is overseen by a Strategic Coordinating Group, chaired by Derbyshire Police, this comprises senior representatives for health, social care, police, fire, military, local authorities, ministry of housing, communities and local government. South Derbyshire District Council's Chief Executive sits on this group. Under this sits a range of sub-groups all dealing with specific areas of action from:

Maintaining Front Line Services – in particular, essential services and maintaining customer access to those. All organisations have had to adapt the way they do things.

Capacity in the Health and Social Care system – dealing with pressure on hospitals, care homes and supporting people in their own homes.

Community Response and Coordination – this has been a big area for partners locally. Whether that be in ensuring the delivery of food parcels to vulnerable people



who were shielding, providing prescription deliveries, supporting people being discharged from hospital, co-ordinating volunteers for services such as befriending, supporting the local food bank and providing local testing facilities. A huge amount of effort has gone into this strand of work and partners should be rightly proud of the support they have provided to the local community at what has been and continues to be a very challenging time.

Allison Thomas reported that South Derbyshire continues to be well placed to respond to the pandemic. Unlike other areas across the County, South Derbyshire retained its Local Strategic Partnership in the form of the South Derbyshire Partnership meaning there were already structures in place to act quickly.

South Derbyshire is being held up as best practice in the County in this regard and other areas have been very complimentary about the strength and depth of the District's partnership arrangements.

### Draft Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy

South Derbyshire District Council is currently inviting residents to comment on the Council's draft Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy 2021-25. Equality, diversity, and inclusion are an integral part of everyday life for South Derbyshire District Council and the Council is committed to ensuring that the services it provides are accessible to our residents, businesses, and visitors.

The Strategy and Action Plan for 2021-2025 sets out the Council's equality objectives for the next four years. In developing this strategy, the Council has consulted with Elected Members, Council Officers, Trade Unions, residents, community and faith-based groups through events held in partnership with SDCVS.

The Council is proud of the progress being made but before the final version of the Strategy is approved, any comments and feedback the Forum has is welcomed.

The Strategy and Action Plan are available on the Council's website and can be viewed in the following link <https://www.southderbyshire.gov.uk/equality-diversity-and-inclusion> The deadline for comments is Thursday, 4 February 2021.

### Christmas Waste Service Disruptions

Unfortunately, the brief spell of snow over the period between Christmas and New Year had a significant impact on all waste collection services and in particular recycling collections.

The recycling collections have been impacted by the increased amount of waste being generated at home due to the COVID-19 restrictions on households with tonnages presented for collection at times 30% above normal levels.

In normal times the Christmas week and the first two weeks of the new year see the highest volumes of waste presented for collection, these volumes are even higher than normal.



The three issues combined, tonnages due to COVID-19, increased tonnages due to Christmas and the loss of collection days due to Christmas/ weather have made it extremely difficult to catch up with collections.

The Council and its contractor have made every effort to get collections back to normal in as short a time as possible including additional resources and additional working days.

As of January 12, 2021, black and brown bin collections are back to normal. However, green bin collections are approximately one day behind. These collections are only delayed and not cancelled, therefore, residents should be advised to leave their bins out and they should be collected no later than the following working day.

### Housing Services Update

#### Neighbourhood and Estate Management

Letters were sent to all Linton Road (Castle Gresley) residents following reports of incidents at the local shops. No further reports have been received.

Coton Croft, Linton – a neighbour dispute was investigated alongside the Police. No further reports have been received.

#### Community Engagement

The 2020-23 Housing Customer Engagement Strategy Action Plan has been consulted on with Council tenants, Council employees and other social housing landlords. 185 tenants responded, with 82% saying that they found the Action Plan easy to read and understand. More information about the strategy is available by contacting Community Engagement Officer, Laurie Coombs on 07891 071980.

#### Helping vulnerable residents stay warm and well at home in South Derbyshire.

Householders living with cold sensitive health conditions who are unable to achieve affordable warmth are at high risk of needing extra support from the NHS and Adult Care.

The Council can provide support services at short notice and will work with referral partners to provide appropriate and cost-effective solutions for the NHS and Adult Care.

- Privately own or privately rent their house ✓
- Have a health condition made worse by the cold ✓
- Struggle to afford to keep their home warm ✓

People can self-refer/ contact us for advice through our generic email [environmental.health@southderbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:environmental.health@southderbyshire.gov.uk) or [stephanie.thandi@southderbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:stephanie.thandi@southderbyshire.gov.uk)



Councillor Paul Marbrow raised an ongoing issue with flooding in Rosliston in respect to an old Victorian culvert that runs down the centre of the village whereby a 12m section of the culvert remains three quarters blocked with tree roots, mud and brick ends.

Allison Thomas updated that the Rosliston flooding issue raised was discussed at the Flood Liaison Meeting held back in February 2020 and explained that whilst the culvert in question has been cleaned out since that meeting there are not sufficient manholes to allow a thorough clean. The County Council has plans for a project in the forthcoming financial year's capital programme which will provide additional manholes to enable DCC to carry out a full clean of the culvert. In addition, DCC has a project that they have secured funding for from the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) for some flood attenuation works further up steam, this is also programmed in for the coming year.

Allison Thomas also updated that following a conversation with Councillor Pegg regarding the work the County did on clearing the ditches with the riparian landowners the County Council has managed to get the collaboration and cooperation from all but one landowner to clear their ditches (DCC is to confirm whether enforcement action will be taken against the landowner who is not willing to cooperate).

AT has also been in touch with Cultural Community Services Team as there is some outstanding work to clear a ditch next to the Rosliston Forestry Centre, however, it is too wet currently to complete this work.

Councillor Paul Marbrow replied to say that they are not getting the feedback to give back to residents who are understandably anxious following previous flooding.

Councillor Pegg echoed Councillor Paul and Stephanie Marbrow's concerns and stated that there was a huge lack of communication between DCC and residents of Rosliston and asked what could be done to improve this.

Allison Thomas replied to say that she would pass on the comments raised about a lack of communication to DCC.

**ACTION: Allison Thomas to copy in Councillor Pat Murray on communications with DCC regarding flooding in Rosliston so that he can provide updates and feedback to the residents of Rosliston via Rosliston Parish Council.**

Councillor Pegg asked what is being done by DCC Highways regarding the ongoing Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) weight limit issue on Linton Road and speeding on the A444. Councillor Pegg also queried whether it would be possible for a crossing to be sited on the A444 to assist school children crossing the road.

Councillor Pat Murray responded to say that DCC Highways has already responded with an answer to Linton Parish Council in respect to the request to put in a crossing on the A444 following a visit to the site in question together with the previous Chairman of Linton Parish Council to assess whether it was viable or whether it came into the road construction.



Regarding the weight limit issue raised in respect to HGVs on Linton Road, Councillor Murray advised that DCC has provided several reports to Linton Parish Council advising that based on its assessments there is not a current need for a restriction and DCC is happy with the signage already in situ.

Councillor Murray raised awareness that on any emails that he raises with DCC, he always copies in SDDC and District Councillors to keep all parties in the loop and suggested that it would be useful in future if SDDC and District Councillors could do the same so that Councillor Murray can provide assistance and support with some of the things that are being raised by SDDC and District Councillors with DCC.

Councillor Murray updated that financing is now in place in respect to Walton Bridge and that it would be closed for repairs and maintenance from Monday, February 1, 2021 and thanked Councillor Wheelton and Walton Parish Council for their support.

In Overseal there has been works done at both sets of traffic lights and last week it was confirmed that the roads there have all been dealt with in terms of flooding.

Works have now been agreed in respect to road repairs on Hall Croft Avenue, Overseal and work is scheduled to start at the end of February 2021.

Willshees Recycling Centre is now up and running. There have been some issues and complaints raised by residents which are in the process of being addressed. A further update will be provided at the next meeting.

#### LA/6 **6. Summary of agreed actions**

Action	Person responsible
PC Saddington to liaise with PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite and PCSO Karen Coldicott and report back with an update.	PC Joanna Saddington
Councillor Pat Murray to take back the request for illuminated 'Watch Your Speed' signs to DCC.	Councillor Pat Murray
Allison Thomas to copy in Councillor Pat Murray on communications with DCC regarding flooding in Rosliston so that he can provide updates and feedback to the residents of Rosliston via Rosliston Parish Council.	Allison Thomas

#### LA/7 **7. Close and date of next meeting**

TBC (May/ June 2021)

**Councillor Amy Wheelton**  
CHAIR

The meeting terminated at 6:59pm



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[www.southderbyshire.gov.uk](http://www.southderbyshire.gov.uk)