

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

MELBOURNE – AREA 3

Meeting minutes – Thursday, February 4, 2021

Microsoft Teams

PRESENT: -

South Derbyshire District Council representatives

Councillor Jim Hewlett (Chair), Councillor Martin Fitzpatrick (Vice Chair), Councillor Daniel Corbin, Councillor Kevin Richards

Ardip Kaur – Head of Legal & Democratic Services
Chris Smith – Communities Team Manager
Claire Rawlins – Anti-social Behaviour Officer
Andy Coggins – 1st Line IT Support
Debbie Ward – Service Assistant (Taking notes)

Derbyshire County Council representatives

Councillor Neil Atkin, Councillor Linda Chilton
Aariana Sohal (Adult Social Care and Health)

Derbyshire Police representatives

PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite

Parish Council/ Meeting representatives

Councillor Jean Longley (Aston on Trent Parish Council), Councillor Catherine Blackmore, Alison Hicklin (Barrow on Trent Parish Council), Councillor Colin Bennett, Councillor Sarah Leuenberger (Elvaston Parish Council), Councillor Edward Hicklin, Councillor Sheila Hicklin (Melbourne Parish Council), Councillor Nancy Hawksworth (Shardlow & Great Wilne Parish Council)

Louise Scott – South Derbyshire CVS

Members of the public

Eddie Bisknell, Frank Hughes, Nici Scott-Moylan

MA/1 1. Open meeting

a) Introductions and housekeeping



b) Apologies

Councillor Peter Watson

c) Declarations of interest

None declared.

d) Chair's announcements

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 Hewlett 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

Councillor Hewlett queried how many people participated in the Digital MOT update.

ACTION: Chris Smith to make enquires regarding how many people responded to the Digital MOT and report back.

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

PCSO Kerry Wallington-Waite provided the following update: -

- Speed checks have been completed including joint operations with the Road Policing Unit (RPU). Numerous tickets were issued as a result.
- School patrols and socially distanced engagement with the community has been ongoing throughout all areas of the District.
- Elvaston Castle parking issues - meetings and liaisons were held with Derbyshire County Council (DCC) Highways around restrictions which has resulted in double yellow lines being put down in the vicinity. These restrictions will now be enforced by DCC Traffic Enforcement Officers.



- Traffic offences found by the SNT: -
Six vehicles seized for having no insurance or licence in Swarkestone, Barrow on Trent, Melbourne & Chellaston.
Three tickets were issued for breaching weight limit restrictions on Swarkestone Bridge.
Driver arrested at Staunton Harold for failing a drug swipe.
Two drink drivers arrested in Melbourne.
- Knife sweeps were conducted during Operation Sceptre, a national knife crime initiative.
- Joint traffic op day in November with Swadlincote and Melbourne SNT throughout the District which resulted in five vehicles being caught with no insurance, including one electric scooter and three speeding tickets were issued.
- Male arrested and remanded to court following issues with a neighbour. The male was using threatening words and behaviour.
- Alcohol seized and several youths returned home over Halloween.
- Male arrested and given a Police caution following neighbour issues in Stanton by Bridge whereby threatening language was used.
- 'Pop-up' outdoor Derbyshire Alert sign-up events have taken place in various locations across the District.
- Two cannabis grows were found, one in Weston on Trent & one in Melbourne.
- A wanted male was caught by the SNT following a motorbike being driven poorly through Melbourne.

Councillor Linda Chilton raised the matter of people parking obstructively on bends in Melbourne and asked for confirmation that the Police are still paying attention to these sorts of matters.

PCSO KWW confirmed that obstructive parking is continuing to be monitored by the Police.

Councillor Chilton asked whether the alleged assault that took place at Lowes Lane in Melbourne yesterday afternoon had been reported to the Police.

PCSO KWW advised that there had been no offence reported.

Councillor Sheila Hicklin of Melbourne Parish Council raised awareness about drug use/ possible dealing taking place around Melbourne Ind. Estate and the Turnbarrel.

Councillor Atkin raised awareness regarding increased traffic along the A5132 due to planned road closures in Stenson village during March 2021.

Alison Hicklin, Barrow on Trent Parish Council Clerk requested that speed checks take place on the A5132 through Barrow on Trent if the road from Repton to Willington is going to be closed due to concerns regarding increased traffic and speeding that could possibly take place.

PCSO KWW confirmed that a note would be made to conduct speed checks as requested but that if speeding is an ongoing issue that residents should also report via the CREST website.



A member of the public raised awareness about cars speeding through Melbourne village, along Derby Road and up towards Woodhouses in the early hours of the morning on a Friday and Saturday night and asked whether the Police had been made aware of the issue.

PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite advised that the Police had not been made aware of the issue previously and would pass on the information to the RPU.

ACTION: PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite to make the Road Policing Unit aware of the issue raised regarding speeding cars through Melbourne village.

Councillor Martin Fitzpatrick updated that the bridge causeway between Repton and Willington is now open again although there are several sets of traffic lights on there. Councillor Fitzpatrick concurred with PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite and urged residents to report speeding matters via the CREST website.

Councillor Neil Atkin added that the bridge causeway between Repton and Willington is now open in a temporary state but could be closed at very short notice and that people should expect delays.

Councillor Hicklin asked how Melbourne Parish Council can find out more about incidents that are happening in Melbourne.

PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite updated that most incidents are reported on the Melbourne SNT Facebook page.

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

Claire Rawlins 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 Councils Communities and Cultural Services Teams and the Councils Community Enforcement Officers and 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 Partnerships 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 were no new funding applications received to date during this financial year.

Funding is still available to local community groups, parish councils, clubs & 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

MA/4 **4. Local community and voluntary sector projects/ update**

Louise Scott provided the following update: -

SDCVS Since March 2020 lockdown: -

- Offices closed & all staff are working from home.
- Some services put on hold due to COVID-19 risk: face to face, befriending, active travel, social car and shop mobility.
- Other services – demand has soared and staff have been diverted to help with the food bank, befriending, shopping and collecting medication for the housebound.
- Huge increased need for volunteers – 180 recruited during March-May 2020. More are needed to support telephone befriending.

Launch of South Derbyshire Volunteer Force

We have recently launched our South Derbyshire Volunteer Force and hope to work with other local volunteer organisations to provide a joined-up volunteer service with many tasks & roles within the community, including shopping, foodbank, telephone befriending, collecting medications, driving, home DIY, gardening & many more.

The South Derbyshire Volunteer Force has been tasked with recruiting volunteers to help at vaccination clinics in Swadlincote - to help guide patients for parking & maintaining social distancing whilst attending for their vaccination.

We launched the recruitment drive on Friday 8th January & were amazed by the tremendous response with over 300 expressions of interest to date (20.01.21).

Since 8th January we have cleared over 70 new volunteers for referral to the NHS People Hub to cover vaccination clinics at Oakland Village in Swadlincote. Some are also covering clinics at the Derby Arena.



There are many volunteering roles available. However, we are hoping to recruit more volunteers for driving & also telephone befriending. For information email volunteer@sdvcs.org.uk

If you are an organisation with volunteer opportunities available you can contact us to help recruit your volunteers.

Launch of Winter Giving Campaign

Between March - October 2020, with the support of local people, we supplied 12,654 meals to 552 children and 854 adults.

Demand is growing, and that is why we are appealing for financial donations throughout the winter period to help feed families across South Derbyshire. There are people around us facing significant hardship due to redundancy, ill health, or changes to their personal circumstances.

We are asking people to make a financial donation so we can buy the right balance of food, and support those most in need this winter. £5 buys food for a child for 1 day £20 buys emergency food for a family for 3 days £50 buys food for a family for 1 week. To donate visit www.sdcvs.org.uk/donate

If you know someone who needs a food parcel, please call 07534 263268 or email projectsupport@sdvcs.org.uk

For all other information please visit our website - www.sdcvs.org.uk

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

Ardip Kaur 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 our 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 us 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.

Ardip Kaur 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 we are committed to ensuring that the services we provide 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

Two Community Protection Notice Warnings (CPNW) were issued for anti-social behaviour (ASB) and condition of gardens in the last six months.

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 or stephanie.thandi@southderbyshire.gov.uk



MA/6 **6. Summary of agreed actions**

Action	Person responsible
Chris Smith to make enquires regarding how many people responded to the Digital MOT and report back.	Chris Smith
PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite to make the Road Policing Unit aware of the issue raised regarding speeding cars through Melbourne village.	PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite

MA/7 **7. Close and date of next meeting**

TBC (May/ June 2021)

Councillor Jim Hewlett
CHAIR

The meeting terminated at 7:01pm

