

ETWALL AREA MEETING

21st May 2008

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Lemmon (Chairman) and Councillors Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Hood, Mrs. Patten and Roberts.

F. McArdle (Chief Executive), P. Spencer (Democratic Services) and B. Jones (Helpdesk).

Derbyshire County Council Representative

Councillor Hood.

P. Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

Derbyshire Constabulary

Sergeant A. Wright.

Parish Council/Meeting Representatives

B. Cowley (Egginton Parish Council), I. Smith (Etwall Parish Council), S. Dunncliffe (Findern Parish Council), T. Beresford (Foston and Scropton Parish Council), C. Thurman (Hatton Parish Council) and L. Kolkman and B. Walton-Knight (Hilton Parish Council).

Members of the Public

F. Baston, K. Baston, M. Cramp, J. Dove, K. James, R. Mathews, T. O'Brien, J. Orme, G. Wale, T. Wherly,

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Mark Todd, M.P., District and County Councillor Ford, District Councillor Mrs. Plenderleith, T. Adams, S. Avery, R. Buxton, J. Clarke, H. Hague, N. Ireland, Mrs. Parkinson and B. Payton,

EA/16. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Etwall Area Meeting held on 21st January 2008 were noted.

EA/17. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman introduced Paul Jameson, the Forum Liaison Officer who would be representing Derbyshire County Council at future Area Meetings.

EA/18. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

Information had been circulated and a brief summary was given of the issues raised at the last Meeting and the follow-up action taken.

A resident sought an update about verge damage in Egginton and road surfacing, particularly on Ashgrove Lane. A local Councillor explained that a meeting had been held with Derbyshire County Council, which would result in repair works and a request for re-surfacing had also been submitted.

Reference was made to the recycling facilities in Hilton and the ongoing attempts to find suitable additional sites. Information had been provided to the parish council on sites with potential and those considered not suitable.

It was agreed to refer this matter to the Planning Department and a reply would be provided.

EA/19. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE LOCAL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

It was reported that a question had been submitted on behalf of Etwall Parish Council, relating to construction vehicles in the Village. It was explained that there had been a problem with vehicles parking in areas of Etwall overnight, which caused highway safety concerns. The contractor for the new leisure centre had since constructed a lay-by at the area in question, which seemed to have resolved that problem. Any further issues could be referred to the new centre project manager who was based at the John Port School.

There was some apprehension in the Village about the new leisure centre development and a further residential development. A parish council representative explained that a previous residential scheme within the Village caused difficulties, through inappropriate parking of contractor's vehicles. It was explained that when the current residential development scheme was approved by the planning authority, conditions were imposed regarding off-road parking and on-site storage. However, there were difficulties in enforcing such conditions in an area where there were no on-street parking restrictions. There was some discussion about this determined planning application and how it was subsequently re-visited with a review of the conditions. The representative questioned what could be done to change the process or whether planning approvals could include contingencies. The Chief Executive offered to pursue this matter with the Planning Department. A local District Councillor provided further information about the possible delay of the development in question and an undertaking from the contractor to comply with the spirit of the condition reported.

An update was given regarding improvements to a bus stop area within Etwall Village. A question was then submitted regarding Sutton Lane in Etwall, where vehicles were parking partially on pavements, causing difficulties for those using pushchairs and wheelchairs. It was noted that parking on pavements was not in itself an offence, provided it did not cause an obstruction.

An update was sought about the area's waste development plans. It was confirmed that these would be brought back to a public forum when the next stage of public consultation was undertaken. A local Member responded to a resident's question about an EMDA report on a rail head development, urging the resident to read the recent Etwall Express, which included an article on this subject.

Reference was then made to the consultation on reviewing Area Meeting boundaries. The resident referred particularly to the Willington and Findern area of the District, which was covered by two Area Meetings. It was confirmed that following the consultation, throughout the District as a whole, there was a consensus to retain the current arrangements. Residents were welcome to attend any Area Meeting.

A resident spoke about the Willington Marina and improvements to footways in the Willington and Findern area. It was requested that the County Council extend a section of new footway to complete the link between the two villages.

It was agreed to refer this matter to Derbyshire County Council and a report would be provided at the next Meeting.

In the Foston and Scropton area, there were concerns about the closure of a section of trunk road overnight and the associated diversionary route through this part of South Derbyshire. It was accepted there was no obvious alternative route, but the local resident did not feel this route was suitable for trunk road traffic. It would disturb residents and cause congestion. The diversionary route had been agreed by the police and Derbyshire County Council. It was requested that the Highways Agency be lobbied to consider a contra-flow scheme on the A50 trunk road, rather than using this diversionary route. This had been suggested at a recent meeting with the County Council's Highways Officers and an undertaking had been given to pursue this. The Council's Chief Executive also offered to pursue this at a meeting at the County Council's Offices the following day, at which the Highways Agency would be represented.

In the Hatton area, concerns were raised regarding heavy goods vehicles using Marston Lane to access the Nestlé factory. A warning sign had been erected, but vehicles were still using this route and it was understood that satellite navigation equipment might be responsible in part. Many vehicles were too large to access the Factory using this route and had difficulties in turning around.

It was agreed that Derbyshire County Council investigate the feasibility of advance signage at appropriate locations.

In Station Road, Hatton there were concerns about the lack of a dropped kerb at a road junction close to a hot food takeaway. This was causing difficulties for those in wheelchairs.

It was agreed that Derbyshire County Council be asked to provide a dropped kerb at the location in question.

Arising from this, a Hatton resident spoke about previous requests to have a pedestrian refuge or crossing on Station Road. He explained the responses received from the County Council and the reasons why these requests could not be implemented, but gave comparisons elsewhere of such pedestrian crossings or central refuges.

It was agreed to refer this matter back to Derbyshire County Council, for further consideration.

There was further discussion on the anticipated consultation period for the rail head planning application. It was noted that the District Council had no control over this matter. Finally, general advice was provided about the requirements to seek planning consent retrospectively for unauthorised buildings.

EA/20. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date and venue of the next Etwall Area Meeting would be confirmed in due course.

J. LEMMON

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated 7.40 p.m.