

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

NEWHALL

17th July 2014 at the Newhall Centre, Newhall

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Mr Richards (Chairman) and Councillors Mulgrew, Wilkins, Dunn and Mrs Mead

F McArdle (Chief Executive) and Alan Bates (Environmental Educational Project) J Marson (Service Assistant).

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

P Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

Members of the Public

C Maddock; R House; G Hall; R Trim; Mr & Mrs Foster; N Cockayne, J Cockayne, C Fox, G Fox, J Scalon, J P Cantrill, B & S Harris; M Richards; S Kaur

NA/1 **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Kevin Richards

NA/2 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence for the meeting was received from Councillors Bambrick, Pearson and A Argent, C. Gillespie

NA/3 **APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Mick Mulgrew

NA/4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

NA/5 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

NA/6 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Newhall Area Forum held on 5th February 2014 were agreed.

NA/7 **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

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

Traffic lights on A444 at Stanton. Residents raised that the lights are not giving enough time and contested they were correct as they give only 8 seconds to pull out of Park Road and then the A444 traffic is on green.

Signal Engineers looked into this and the 8 seconds is within the Department for Transport guidelines. The public do not agree with the Signal Engineers and invite them to come and see on a Sunday.

Resident raised that County Council clean the rubbish from a culvert adjacent to the village hall. Rubbish was left on the bank and ended up back in the water. Culvert needs cleaning out again and the rubbish removed from site.

The brook that passes beneath the culvert is classed as a main watercourse; the flood risk is managed by the EA and concerns have been passed onto them.

It was raised that new public styles are not very wide and it is difficult for people to pass through. A resident had torn clothing when trying to pass through. One in particular is near to the Manor House.

It has been assumed that this query relates to footpath no.99. On investigation it was observed that there is only one stile on the route. It is acknowledged that the style is narrow, but made of metal, and not something you would easily tear clothing on. There is a further stile at the side of the route – giving access into an adjacent field – but this is not an official Right of Way. It would be useful if the resident could clarify whether the route investigated is the correct one.

NA/8 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

The redevelopment in Midway, the play area to be repositioned. Mr Foster contacted the offices and has received no response or seen the plans. Cllr Wilkins said that amended plans had been put forward but he had not received consultation and the amendments have been passed.

Action: Frank McArdle to look into.

New Flats off Oversetts Road, where local residents were sent letters informing them that the residents would be Ex Offenders and Drug Offenders. Some residents attended a local meeting where they were told that 4 flats were for people needing homes and the other 4 are for people with Special Needs and there will be a warden on site.

Resident reported that 25 occasions had been logged with times and dates of problems with the noise from the Gun Club. John Mills – Environmental Officer is liaising with the resident and club and is doing an excellent job. They are looking into opening times Councillor Richards said this could be done through Enforcement law.

There was a meeting held regarding 600 houses being built near Golf Course this was with the developers. Asked what Leisure facilities in Newhall and Swadlincote.

East Staffordshire has received a growth fund will South Derbyshire be getting any. There is a meeting to be held with Derbyshire County Council but we have put forward Woodville Development and Drakelow Park.

A resident asked about what to do if you want your area to have a Parish Council – this can be done under the Localism Bill. There are 6,500 residents in Stanton and Newhall area 10% need to sign a petition wanting a Parish Council; they are trying to reduce the % to 7.5%. Funding has been granted for this through Mrs Orme. A meeting is to be held at Old Post Centre on Thursday 24th July 2014 Clare Orme is pushing for a Newhall and Stanton Parish Council.

Amenity Site in Newhall is planting Samplings is this area going to be part of the National Forest?

NA/9 **UPDATE ON ENVIRONMENTAL VOLUNTEERING – ALAN BATES**

This project aims to help local groups like Parish Councils and Footpath/Wildlife Groups find volunteers to do environmental tasks on their land, or land they manage. It will also provide suitable tasks for businesses and other groups (e.g. Derby University students, Rolls Royce, Bison and Toyota) wishing to volunteer for ½ day (or more) on an environmental task.

South Derbyshire Partnership and South Derbyshire District Council have been approached by groups needing tasks doing and groups looking for tasks and aim to match them up.

The aims are to: -

- provide support & training to voluntary community environmental groups, Parish Councils and individuals
- improve biodiversity and the visual attractiveness of South Derbyshire by supporting community environmental tasks/ projects
- support businesses in their community investment and 'business in the community' work
- enable more environmental volunteering to take place in South Derbyshire

This project will not replace other means of getting environmental tasks done - it is for tasks that are difficult to achieve through existing methods either for financial or practical reasons. Templates for organisations with an environmental task that they need help with are downloadable from the web link. (www.south-derbys.gov.uk/environmentalforum - then click on the Environmental Volunteering link). The completed project templates will be used to create a list of tasks for businesses (and other volunteer groups) to choose from. The templates should then make it quick and easy for businesses to book their volunteer day with the voluntary organisation, forest site, park or parish that needs the job doing. A charge to cover basic costs and any extras like risk assessments will be made to the business groups. The 'matching' service will be free for groups needing tasks doing unless they need extra support (at £30 hr). Charges are clear on the templates and notes.

SWADLINCOTE TOWNSCAPE SCHEME

SDDC has received a grant from Heritage Lottery of £8,200 to **prepare a plan** for repairing and restoring some buildings in Swadlincote Town Centre's Conservation Area (following on from previous schemes) SDDC will also be working with Derbyshire County Council.

More information will follow – but over the next 6-8 months we will be consulting schools and the public about activities and about certain parts of the project to make sure everyone is informed and has a chance to take part eg through an events programme (talks, walks, 'have a go' activities?).

The first part of the consultation is about the Diana Memorial Garden in Swadlincote and we are asking people how they would like to see the garden developed and how they would like to use it.

Info will follow via:

- letters to Clerks to Parish Councils
- consultation in Swadlincote eg at Festival of Leisure, Markets
- website and social media information

Can show people summary with more information at the end of the meeting if they want it?

Any questions please contact:

(general project info) 01283 228764

@south-derbys.gov.uk (Diana Garden consultation) 01283 595936

Kate.allies@south-derbys.gov.uk or ellen.hill@south-derbys.gov.uk (events and activities) 01283 535039.

For further information on the above please see attached links:-



Env Forum
programme 2014-201



Env Forum Env
Volunteering 2014.pd

NA/10 **COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES**

There was a press conference held on Tuesday to inform people how the cuts of 157 million will be implemented. They are going to delay cuts and dig into reserves and are encouraging people to be able to stay at home instead of being hospitalised.

School Governor of Fairfield Crescent Junior School – Said every senior school in the area are under special measurements so there is a need for a new school.

Councillor Mulgrew said that Granville is not in special measures. Councillor Mrs Mead said most schools are in special measures but they are all working hard to get out of them and believes this will be in near future.

Pingle School last 3 interim reports are improving at a good rate and are coming out of special measures by next year.

There is no funding for a new school – but County Council are still looking into this. 14,000 houses are to be built by 2030 under the Government.

NA/11 **DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES**

Frank McArdle started by outlining what has been achieved and what is the vision for Swadlincote within open spaces and recreational sites there has been £4,400 million brought into Swadlincote through the regeneration of the town and his will continue into the future.

The Golf course is nearing completion for a 18 hole and pitch and put course the Council is working in partnership with the Golf Company to get the balance right between the course and open space. The proposed application is up to 600 houses and the money will go into regeneration of the golf course and Grove Hall. With Grove Hall the council are looking into modern facilities for the younger generation e.g. climbing Walls and other extreme sports. The application is believed to be submitted mid September.

Council Depot – This will be moving to a new facility on Nadins Way next to Bison where a new road is being built. The new depot will be a multipurpose facility net receipt of a million pounds. The old depot site on Darklands Road is desirable for development.

The development at Chestnut Avenue was praised.

The piece of land between Stanton Chapel and Lakes is under offer. The scheme is for open space and greenbelt and this land is protected and cannot be developed for housing.

The old depot site will not be a DIY Store but proposed development will be more family orientated. We have the new Massey's store and we should support local businesses.

There was talk about a theatre opening up in Swadlincote and Frank McArdle is trying for a link between Sharpes, Amp theatre and the Town Hall with the Quad in Derby. There will hopefully be a Travelling Theatre in early spring coming to Swadlincote. We do have at present Sharpes and the Glade at Rosliston and Calke Abbey that do all kinds of plays, concerts and many more entertainment for the area. All details can be found on the websites and they are advertised in the Tourist Information centre at Sharpes.

NA/12 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next Meeting is 30th September 2014 at Rowland Memorial Hall, Midway

Councillor Kevin Richards

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8.31 pm