

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

NEWHALL

19th October 2011

**PRESENT:-**

**District Council Representatives**

Councillor Richards (Chairman) and Councillors Bambrick, Dunn (Vice-Chairman), Mrs. Mead, Pearson and Wilkins.

F. McArdle (Chief Executive), D. Townsend (Democratic Services Officer) and C. Lukaszewicz (Helpdesk).

**Derbyshire County Council Representatives**

County Councillor M. Lacey.

P. Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

**In Attendance**

Councillor Mrs. Farrington.

**Derbyshire Constabulary**

Sergeant J. Thompson.

**Members of the Public**

P. Bambrick, M. Biddle, T. Biddle, D. Bird, C. Gillespie, G. Hall, M. Hilton, R. Hughes, R. House, P. Lowrie, C. Maddock, G. Myatt, J. Pallett, O. Pallett, B. Parker, M. Richards, R. Sexton and E. Tagg.

NA/11. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from B. & M. Dunn, M. Lunn, K. Dicken, Mr. & Mrs. Foy, C. Wright and B. Woods.

NA/12. **POLICE ISSUES**

Sergeant Thompson reported on current crime figures within the Newhall and Midway area. He gave a breakdown on those figures that had decreased, including assaults, robbery, dwelling burglaries, non-dwelling burglaries and criminal damage. Sergeant Thompson also confirmed that the overall the detection rate was just over 30%.

He advised that the new Safer Neighbourhood Beat Officer was P.C. Mark Holmes, and also gave an update on recent work that the Police had undertaken, including the seizing of a large amount of cannabis at Wood Lane. Warrants had also been issued at Windsor Close and four arrests had been made for handling stolen goods.

A copy of the new four-year Policing Plan had been distributed, and a consultation event would take place on 2nd November 2011.

A resident asked if the Police were dealing with drinking in Eureka Park, as, not only did it lead to anti-social behaviour, but it also gave a poor impression of the area. Sergeant Thompson responded that anti-social behaviour would be dealt with when reported.

NA/13. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman advised that following the recent consultation exercise, the Council had agreed revised area forum boundaries. Each ward was situated in only one area and details were given of the areas that would be included in the Newhall Area Forum from next year. These boundaries would also apply to the existing Safer Neighbourhood Meetings, enabling both meetings to be held on the same date at the same venue, with the Safer Neighbourhood Meeting first, to deal with any police issues. This would avoid duplication and achieve savings in cost and Officer time, as well as avoiding the need for residents to attend two meetings.

NA/14. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Newhall Area Forum held on 27th July 2011 were noted.

NA/15. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

With regard to the public right of way claim at the former Horse and Jockey Public House site, the Forum Liaison Officer reported that all correspondence relating to this case was to be sent to the Planning Inspectorate. However, as only one objection had been received, the Legal Officer was writing to the Planning Inspectorate to ask if they would accept a simplified case. If this was acceptable, it would be fast tracked and sent as soon as possible.

NA/16. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

It was reported that on the new gate at the bottom of Oversetts Road, reflective materials and signs had been vandalised, and it was asked if these could be replaced.

**It was agreed to look into this matter and report back to the next Meeting.**

It was pointed out that there were many youths congregating in cars outside the Boxing Club on Newhall Park and asked if the Police could be informed and requested that they observe this area.

It was reported that the car park/turning area outside the Scout Hut was not level, causing problems when it rained both on this area and also on Higgins Road.

**It was agreed that Derbyshire County Council look into this matter and report back to a future Meeting.**

It was asked if there was still any money available from the Safer Neighbourhood fund. It was reported that there was still money available, and

the resident was advised to contact either C. Smith or S. Dagley at the District Council.

Questions were raised with regards to the ensuing years council tax, and it was requested that, if possible, a presentation be done on the current financial position, at a future Area Forum.

**It was agreed this would be carried out when information was available.**

A resident understood that the Council proposed to put solar panels on roofs of the existing housing stock. He asked if solar panels should also be put onto the roof of the Council Offices. The Chief Executive responded that this had been considered, however the return was far better for residential rather than commercial purposes.

It was reported that timings of the traffic lights at Park Road were very quick and only allowed 8 seconds for traffic to go through.

**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to request that timings be checked in this area.**

It was reported that the spurs on the bridge at Nadins Way had been broken, and asked if these could be repaired or replaced.

**It was agreed to look into this matter and report back to a future Meeting.**

#### NA/17. DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES

The Chief Executive gave an update on the golf course. He reported that it was now two thirds complete, and the driving range would be completed by spring 2012. He added that he hoped to be able to invite residents to visit the site as soon as possible.

Questions were asked with regard to the tipping of fly ash, and it was understood that it should be sprayed with water after each movement in an attempt to try and stop it from blowing around.

The Chief Executive also gave an update on the opening of the Cinema on the new retail site.

In order to alleviate parking issues in Swadlincote, the District Council had applied to convert the Market Hall to a car park. This would be used by Council staff Monday to Friday between the hours 8.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. At all other times it would be available to all.

Residents discussed the statue of the mineworker and asked if there could be a clayworker. It was pointed out that the mineworker had been provided by the Mineworkers Union.

A resident asked if the area on Alexandra Road, adjacent to the old Kwiksave site was going to be cleaned up. The Chief Executive responded that it was hoped that it would be tidied up in the near future.

NA/18. **COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES**

Councillor Lacey advised that he had been approached regarding the footpaths and walkways in Newhall. He was now attempting to get funding for improvements to enhance the current walkways. He was also investigating reinstating footpaths between Newhall and Swadlincote.

It was reported that there were brambles on the footpath, coming from a private house onto Manor Road. Councillor Lacey responded that he was aware of this, and it was being looked into.

Councillor Bambrick asked why there was no crossing patrol at the Freehold Tavern.

**Councillor Lacey agreed to look into this and report back to the next Meeting.**

NA/19. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

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

K. RICHARDS

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8.15 p.m.