

# South Derbyshire Area Forum

# Melbourne

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2010

Melbourne Leisure Centre High Street Melbourne Derby DE73 8GF

7pm



South
Derbyshire
District Council



South Derbyshire Changing for the better

#### Leisure Centre High Street Melbourne





### South Derbyshire District Council Policy and Economic Regeneration

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Date Plotted 13/9/2005

## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL

Unless stated otherwise, all meetings will be held at the Council's Civic Offices and will start at 6.00 p.m.

Etwall Area Forum, Frank Wickham Hall Portland Street, Etwall DE65 6JE at 7.00 p.m.	Thursday 28.10.10
Repton Area Forum, Newton Solney Village Hall, Newton Solney DE15 0SJ at 7.00 p.m.	Monday 1.11.10
Planning	Tuesday 2.11.10
Newhall Area Forum, Old Post Centre, High Street, Newhall DE11 0HX at 7.00 p.m.	Wednesday 3.11.10
Linton Area Forum, Netherseal Village Hall, Main Street, Netherseal DE12 8BZ at 7.00 p.m.	Wednesday 10.11.10
COUNCIL	Thursday 11.11.10
Swadlincote Area Forum, Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Civic Way, Swadlincote DE11 0AH	Wednesday 17.11.10
Environmental & Development Services	Thursday 18.11.10
Planning	Tuesday 23.11.10
Housing & Community Services	Thursday 25.11.10
Finance & Management	Thursday 2.12.10
Overview & Scrutiny	Wednesday 8.12.10
Planning	Tuesday 14.12.10
Audit Sub at 4.00 p.m.	Wednesday 15.12.10
2011	
Environmental & Development Services (Special - Budget)	Tuesday 4.1.11
Housing & Community Services (Special – Budget)	Thursday 6.1.11
Standards	Tuesday 11.1.11
Finance & Management (Special – Budget)	Thursday 13.1.11
Etwall Leisure Centre JMC 5.00 p.m. at Etwall	Monday 17.1.11
Leisure Centre	
Planning	Tuesday 18.1.11
Overview & Scrutiny	Wednesday 19.1.11
COUNCIL	Thursday 20.1.11

#### SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

# SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM MELBOURNE

(Covering Aston-on-Trent, Barrow-on-Trent, Calke, Elvaston, Foremark, Ingleby, Melbourne, Shardlow & Great Wilne, Smisby, Stanton-by-Bridge, Stenson Fields, Swarkestone, Ticknall, Twyford & Stenson and Weston-on-Trent)

Meeting to be held at the Bill Shone Leisure Centre High Street Melbourne DE73 8GF on Tuesday, 9th November 2010 at 7.00 p.m.

(Light Refreshments will be available at 6.30 p.m.)

Members:

**District Councillors:** 

Councillor Harrison (Chairman), Councillor Watson (Vice-

Chairman) and Councillors Atkin, Bladen, Mrs. Coyle, Hewlett,

Murray, Pabla, Shepherd, Stanton, and Mrs. Wheeler M.P.

County Councillors:

Councillors Ford, Harrison and Murray.

South Derbyshire District Council, Civic Offices, Civic Way, Swadlincote,
Derbyshire DE11 0AH
Minicom: (01283) 228149, DX 23912 Swadlincote.
Please ask for Paul Spencer, Tel: (01283) 221000 Ext. 5722, DDI (01283) 595722
E.mail: paul.spencer@south-derbys.gov.uk

#### **BUSINESS**

- 1. Apologies for absence.
- 2. Declarations of Interest.
- 3. Police issues.
- 4. Chairman's Announcements.
- 5. To note the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st July 2010 (copy attached).
- 6. Report back on issues raised at the last Meeting.
- 7. Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service Service Plan Consultation.
- 8. Census Presentation.
- 9. Public questions on issues raised by residents.
- 10. County Council issues Childrens' Centre Presentation.
- 11. District Council issues.
- 12. Date of Next Meeting.

#### **SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM**

#### **MELBOURNE**

#### 21st July 2010

#### **PRESENT:-**

#### **District Council Representatives**

Councillor Harrison (Chairman) and Councillors Ford, Hewlett, Murray, Shepherd and Stanton.

F. McArdle (Chief Executive), P. Spencer (Democratic Services), C. Payne (Communications) and K. Ward (Helpdesk).

#### **County Council Representatives**

Councillors Ford, Harrison and Murray.

P. Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

#### **Derbyshire Constabulary**

Sergeant A. Sutherland.

#### Parish Council/Meeting Representatives

D. Martin (Aston-on-Trent Parish Council) and J. Barnes (Smisby Parish Council).

#### **South Derbyshire CVS**

J. Smith.

#### **Members of the Public**

D. Bayliss, S. Blatch, P. Burns, R. Knibb, A. Madeley, T. Mills, G. Pollard, R. Saxby, K. Whewell.

#### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from District Councillors Atkin, Mrs. Coyle, Pabla, Watson and Wheeler and representatives of Barrow-on-Trent Parish Council.

#### MA/1. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was agreed that Councillor Watson be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Melbourne Area Forum for the ensuing year.

#### MA/2. POLICE ISSUES

Sergeant Sutherland gave an update on crime statistics for the area for the last three months. Overall, levels of reported crime had reduced by about a third when compared to the statistics for the previous year. The Officer gave specific reports on burglary, robbery, vehicle crime and violent crime. He also referred to anti-social behaviour and outlined plans to increase cover in Astonon-Trent. There was a discussion about the Aston Well Dressings held the previous weekend and the problems with anti-social behaviour experienced between midnight and 3.00 a.m. A parish representative confirmed that there had been damage to one of the well dressings and CCTV footage was available. Sergeant Sutherland agreed to pursue this matter with the Parish Council.

The Officer confirmed that the Safer Neighbourhood priorities for the area were targeting anti-social behaviour at Aston, Elvaston Castle and Thulston and targeting both anti-social behaviour and car crime in the Boulton Moor area. He publicised a police initiative "Have your say", which would be held at the Sainsbury's Supermarket in Swadlincote on 14th August 2010 and was an opportunity for people to raise concerns on policing. The next Safer Neighbourhood Meeting for the area would take place on 14th September 2010 at 6.30 p.m. at the Melbourne Leisure Centre.

Following the discussion at the last meeting, the Officer gave clarification about pedlars' licences, which were issued by the Police. Where individuals were trying to sell items door-to-door, they had to have their licence with them and display it when requested. Such a licence was not needed when individuals were selling at fairs or if they were selling a service. In response to a resident's question, it was confirmed there was no time restriction on when they could sell, but if there was a persistent problem, the Constabulary could be called.

Problems were being experienced in the Stenson Fields area, with the use of mini motorcycles. The Constabulary had been provided with the registration numbers of some vehicles. The Officer responded, confirming the difficulty in catching those using mini motorcycles. It was agreed that this matter would be referred to local police officers and the traffic police. Any further information or problems should also be reported to the Constabulary.

A resident thanked the police for catching an offender who was damaging fencing. A question was then submitted about a circus located in Willington on Etwall Road, close to the Canal Bridge. There had been no consultation and it was questioned who the landowner was. It was agreed that this matter be referred to the District and County Councils to investigate.

In response to a question, further information was provided on the burglary problems in Melbourne between May and June. These now seemed to have ceased, but the Officer was not aware of a conviction yet being made. A further issue discussed, was the difference between actual and grievous bodily harm.

A District Councillor referred to the unauthorised occupation of land in Swarkestone and the rubbish left on the site after the travellers had been moved on. A particular concern was the violent threats that had been made to the landowner. Arising from this, there was discussion about the recent meeting on traveller issues, the powers available to the Constabulary and ensuring these were used effectively to move travellers on. Reference was made to a particular piece of land, which was currently occupied by travellers. The County Council was the landowner, but was unable to move these travellers presently, on welfare grounds. The need for hard evidence to secure convictions was a further aspect discussed.

#### MA/3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made an announcement on behalf of the Chairman of Council, who had hoped to be at the Area Forum and was looking forward to visiting all parts of the District during his year in office. If he could be of assistance to local groups, they were asked to contact the Civic Office either by telephone (01283 595721) or via the Council's website (www.south-derbys.gov.uk).

#### MA/4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Melbourne Area Forum held on 17th March 2010 were noted.

#### MA/5. REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING

Information had been circulated with the agenda to provide an update on the issues raised at the last Meeting. A Swarkestone resident referred to the proposed footway scheme at Woodshop Lane and was perplexed by the difficulties in identifying land ownership. He repeated concerns made previously about the volume of heavy traffic using nearby roads and flooding problems. It was agreed that the Chairman would speak with the resident after the Meeting to confirm details of the landowner, in order that this could be referred to Derbyshire County Council. Thanks were recorded for the provision of a new litterbin in the Stenson Fields area.

#### MA/6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS

A District Councillor for the Stenson Ward had referred a number of issues to the Forum Liaison Officer prior to the meeting. These concerned a footway between Gairloch Close and Holderness Close, where residents had complained about people using motorcycles on this footway. There was a request for hedge maintenance on Stenson Road. Further issues concerned the reinstatement of a footway at Padstow Close and a residents only parking scheme for Heather Close to address current anti-social parking and health and safety issues. It was agreed that the Forum Liaison Officer would refer these matters to the County Council and provide a report back to the next meeting.

There was a discussion about road works undertaken along the A6 between Derby and Shardlow. These works had been commissioned on safety grounds due to there being five similar reportable traffic incidents, with vehicle collisions

at the Thulston Lane junction. It appeared that the road improvement scheme had solved the previous problems, but it was noted that advanced notice should have been given to the local parish council and residents.

#### MA/7. COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES

The Chairman reported on potential budget cuts from the Coalition Government and the likely impact for Derbyshire County Council. He also referred to the Comprehensive Spending Review, which would take place in October 2010. He felt that the cuts imposed to date could be met without the need for redundancies due to the efficiency savings achieved previously. He also spoke about endeavours to keep the cost of school meals low within the County.

#### MA/8. DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES

It was confirmed that the Mercian Regiment had accepted the offer of the Freedom of the District of South Derbyshire. This would give the Regiment the right to parade through Swadlincote. A scroll would be presented to the Regiment at an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council on 11th November 2010.

#### MA/9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next Melbourne Area Forum would be confirmed in due course.

J. HARRISON

**CHAIRMAN** 

The Meeting terminated at 7.55 p.m.

# SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

#### MELBOURNE AREA FORUM

(Covering Aston-on-Trent, Barrow-on-Trent, Calke, Elvaston, Foremark, Ingleby, Melbourne, Shardlow & Great Wilne, Smisby, Stanton-by-Bridge, Stenson Fields, Swarkestone, Ticknall, Twyford & Stenson and Weston-on-Trent)

9th November 2010

#### REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING

At the last Melbourne Area Forum held on 21st July 2010 at the Ticknall Village Hall, a number of issues were raised. These issues are listed below, together with progress made to date:-

#### **Derbyshire County Council Issues**

#### 1. WOODSHOP LANE, SWARKESTONE: DRAINAGE PROBLEMS

A resident reported on a long-standing problem with drainage on Woodshop Lane. The drainage becomes overwhelmed during heavy rainfall, causing the carriageway to flood. Could DCC please look at this issue again?

A drainage improvement scheme has been designed for Woodshop Lane, which was put forward for consideration for this financial year (2010/11), but was unsuccessful in securing funding. The scheme will be put forward as a proposal for funding consideration for the 2011/12 financial year with a 'high priority' status (although it cannot be guaranteed whether funding will be secured).

A local district councillor submitted the following issues for investigation, which had also been submitted to DCC's Traffic & Safety Manager via e-mail:

# 2. GAIRLOCH CLOSE-HOLDERNESS CLOSE, STENSON FIELDS: MOTORCYCLES USING THE FOOTPATH

Residents have complained about the hazard to pedestrians from motorcycles using the footway. This complaint was accompanied by a 15-signature petition. A practical solution is sought.

The petition was submitted to the Cabinet Member for Highways & Transport (Cllr Chris Jackson) at his Cabinet Member meeting on 12 August 2010. It was decided to forward the petition on to the Stategic Director – Environmental Services for further investigation and report back. The district councillor and lead petitioner will be advised of the recommendations of the report and Cabinet Member's decision in due course.

#### 3. STENSON ROAD, STENSON FIELDS: OVERGROWN HEDGES

Residents have queried when the hedges here are next due to be cut back? This request was passed to the Area Maintenance Care Manager who has reported that an order has been placed to carry out hedge cutting to all DCC hedges here, although at this time the work is not considered urgent. Hedge cutting will only be carried out on the roadside.

# 4. PADSTOW CLOSE, STENSON FIELDS: REQUEST FOR FOOTPATH REINSTATEMENT

Residents have asked if the footway to the north of Padstow Close may be reinstated. Residents with prams have to walk on the road with obvious health & safety implications.

Following inspection it has been reported that there are no dangerous defects here and therefore no immediate action is required. Padstow Close is on a list of proposed streets for slurry sealing to be submitted for consideration in the next financial year (2011/12), subject to funding availability and competing priorities. In the meantime, any dangerous defects will be dealt with during routine inspections. Alternatively, residents can report any potholes, etc, via Call Derbyshire on 08456 058 058.