

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

SWADLINCOTE – AREA 4

Tuesday 18th June 2019 at Woodville Methodist Church

PRESENT: -

South Derbyshire District Council representatives

Councillor Gordon Rhind (Chair), Councillor Malcolm Gee, Councillor Jane Perry, Councillor Trevor Southard, Councillor Steve Taylor, Councillor Neil Tilley

Kevin Stackhouse – Strategic Director of Corporate Resources

Claire Rawlins – Anti-Social Behaviour Officer

Max Boyce – Community Support Enforcement Officer (Town Centre)

Debbie Ward – Service Assistant

Derbyshire County Council representatives

Councillor Linda Chilton, Councillor Gary Musson

Derbyshire Police representatives

PC Stuart Kelly, PCSO Harriet Dunn, PCSO Claire Robbins

Parish Council/ Meeting representatives

Jenny Burley (Hartshorne Parish Council), Maureen Mycock (Hartshorne Parish Council), Eric Parker (Woodville Parish Council)

Greg Stenson (Citizens Advice)

Liz Gumbley (South Derbyshire CVS)

Members of the public

Christine Allen, Eddie Bisknell, Ron Causer, Alan Clarke, Colin Dobson, M. Hine, P. Pollard, Yvonne Pollard, Rhea Turner

SA/1 **Open meeting**

• **Introductions and apologies**

Councillor Mike Dawson, Councillor Vonnie Heath, Councillor Mick Mulgrew

- **Declarations of interest**

None.

- **Chair's announcements**

Councillor Gordon Rhind proposed Councillor Steve Taylor as Vice Chair, all were in favour.

Festival of Leisure 2019 takes place on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th June at Maurice Lea Park.

The new Summer Activities leaflet has been launched to promote Active South Derbyshire District Council Derbyshire's summer holiday programme.

The Council has just submitted its Local Green Spaces Plan for examination by the Planning Inspectorate. Local Green Spaces are areas of land that are of value to the local community; they can be located in rural or built up areas. Once allocated, a local green space would have a policy designation similar to that of green belt, and therefore would restrict future development. The examination is expected to take place in the late summer or autumn.

Heritage Trail pavement plaques – we're still awaiting the permit from DCC but have been advised informally that the plaques have been approved in principle.

If people have any other ideas about celebrating their local heritage we are happy to put them together to make further funding applications.

- **To receive the minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.

- **Matters arising from last minutes**

None.

SA/2 **Police Safer Neighbourhood report**

PC Stuart Kelly provided the following report: -

- The new Safer Neighbourhoods Team Sargent, Matt Haslam is now in post.

- There have been big changes within the force and as a result the Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) have lost a few officers to other units within Derbyshire which currently leaves two SNT police officers to cover the whole of South Derbyshire plus a number of PCSO's. However, as of Monday 24th June 2019 there will be new police officers and additional PCSO's starting to come through which should bring the SNT back to full strength by the end of the summer.
- There has been a lot of drugs intelligence received from the public which has led to 70+ cannabis plants being recovered from a farm in Hilton. Although not specifically in Swadlincote, it was still a major success for the District.
- 24 Cannabis plants were recovered from an address in Church Gresley.
- Equipment and a bag of Cannabis worth approx. £100 was recovered from another address in Church Gresley.
- A number of stop searches have been carried out in Swadlincote based on local intelligence and there have been some positive results with persons being found in possession of controlled substances.
- County lines is still an issue in the area – please be vigilant and keep an eye out for vulnerable people in the community and continue to report any suspicious behaviour.
- Shoplifting has been reduced. Most shops have CCTV which is brilliant evidence and an excellent deterrent.
- There has been a slight increase in thefts from and of motor vehicles in the area. Please ensure that valuables are not left in vehicles overnight and ensure that your vehicles are secured.
- Fire in Church Gresley – Scott's Pallets went up in smoke and since then there have been a number of deliberate small fires set in the woodlands. PCSO's and the Fire Service are working together to educate schools in regard to the dangers of setting deliberate fires.

PCSO Claire Robbins provided the following report: -

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) calls to service have increased since the last meeting. Any calls that have been received have been attended and details have been taken and dealt with through the use of Community Protection Notice Warning's (CPNW's). There have been a number of designated ASB patrols that have been set up to tackle these issues which will continue throughout the summer.
- There have been two Bike Marking and Van Alarm events held at Sainsbury's Swadlincote during April and June.

- Nuisance motorbikes have been an issue throughout the district. Operation BRESCO has now been set up in order to try and tackle the problem. Members of the Public are encouraged to get in touch with Crime Stoppers and a £1000 reward is on offer for information which leads to a successful conviction. The campaign also invites motorists to upload dash-cam footage of nuisance motorbikes to the Derbyshire capture website (<https://snap.derbyshire.police.uk/>).
- Derbyshire Alert is a community messaging system that covers the whole of Derbyshire where you can receive news, appeals, local crime information and crime prevention advice directly to your email. Registering with the site is completely free.
- Social Media is being used to engage with the local community. Please however do not use this to report crime.
- There is a Safer Together event planned for Thursday 27th June 2019 between 10:00am and 1:00pm to be held at The Delph in Swadlincote.

A member of the public asked PC Stuart Kelly to quantify what is meant by 'up to strength'. PC Stuart Kelly advised that there will be one SNT Police Constable per area, so in total there will be six SNT PC's covering the whole of South Derbyshire plus a number of PCSO's.

Councillor Steve Taylor welcomed new Community Safety Enforcement Officer (CSEO) Max Boyce and went on to explain that the issue with problematic youths around Woodville Recreation Ground and the Goseley area continues to be a problem. There has been an installation of new play equipment at Woodville Recreation Ground and since then consistent vandalism and damage to the new equipment has occurred. Despite some good quality CCTV footage being passed to the Police the individuals in question remain a problem in the area.

PC Stuart Kelly advised that the incident in question was investigated by their reactive section and not the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Councillor Malcolm Gee added that a small group raised £165k for the park and SDDC have provided funding for CCTV cameras yet kids dare not go on to play.

Claire Rawlins added that if Councillor Malcolm Gee has the names and images of the offenders in question that we can work with the Police and circulate the images to schools in order to identify the individuals concerned.

Councillor Steve Taylor responded to say that Woodville Parish Council has subsequently identified the individuals concerned yet is still waiting for those

individuals to be dealt with. The school is also keen to identify the individuals responsible.

ACTION: Communities Team to raise with Sargent Matt Haslam the issue of why the individuals responsible for the ASB around Woodville Recreation Ground have not been dealt with despite being provided with good quality CCTV evidence and report back.

A resident of Goseley added that she reported 10-12 youngsters racing around the car park during half-term as people were afraid that their cars were going to be damaged and that there was one individual that was particularly abusive, confrontational and frightening.

Councillor Malcolm Gee went on to say that parents are calling up to say that they will not allow their young children to go and play at the Woodville Recreation Ground in fear of the yob culture and that urgent action from the Police is needed.

A member of the public asked if there have been any instances of properties being entered for the sole purpose of taking car keys. PC Stuart Kelly responded to say that they have had a few in the area but not many.

A resident of Wilmot Road raised an ongoing issue regarding HGV's using the road as a cut-through and excessive speeding.

PCSO Harriet Dunn advised that speeding issues should be reported directly to CREST.

PC Stuart Kelly asked if there is a 7.5 tonne limit on Wilmot Road which the resident in question confirmed there was and suggested that if registrations can be obtained that the Police would try and take a look into it and would also try and conduct some speed checks if and when resource allows.

Claire Rawlins advised that signage issues should be reported directly to DCC Highways Department.

ACTION: PC Stuart Kelly to conduct speed checks on Wilmot Road.

Councillor Steve Taylor raised complaints of speeding outside of Hartshorne School.

A resident of New Road raised concerns about the LED street lighting as the light is now concentrated to the middle of the road rather than lighting up the

whole road and within one week of the new lights going up there was an attempted break in to a neighbour's car.

ACTION: Councillor Gary Musson to feedback issue raised in regard to LED street lighting to DCC and report back.

SA/3 **Safer South Derbyshire Partnership update and Safer Neighbourhood grants**

Claire Rawlins provided the following update: -

- The Swadlincote Town Centre Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) that was put in place three years ago is due to expire in September this year. Since the PSPO was put in place ASB numbers in the Town Centre have dropped and the Police are in full support of it. In order to get the PSPO renewed for a further three years a consultation process has to be followed. Consultation letters and forms can be found at the front of the room if people could please take one and return by post/ email or by dropping it off at the Council offices.
- 'Your Choice' events have been taking place in secondary schools across the district, coordinated by Derbyshire Police. Talks around gangs and knife crime are given by experts. These events have gone down extremely well with the schools involved and pupils have been completely engrossed.
- Flyer drops have taken place in regard to nuisance motorbikes around the main problematic areas to encourage people to report and successful enforcement action has been taken against one of the many people that have been causing issues.
- Safer Neighbourhood Grants – there is currently £4,000 available for the community to spend on projects which help to reduce crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the area. Gresley Old Hall have submitted an application for two Mosquito alarms to discourage youths under the age of 21 from loitering around the building out of hours. The total amount requested is £950 towards a total cost of £1275. All were in favour of approving this application.

ACTION: Communities Team to provide feedback in regard to the impact of the Mosquito alarms on ASB at Gresley Old Hall.

SA/4 **Local authority issues**

Kevin Stackhouse updated that Rink Drive has now been resurfaced.

Councillor Steve Taylor raised concerns around the recent presentation made by Howarth in regard to the Swadlincote Regeneration bid. The proposals put forward by Howarth were for significantly more houses than originally discussed and the feedback from residents following the presentation is that they want to see the original intent of the regeneration delivered.

In respect to the Heritage of the Town, a member of the public asked whether something could be done about the clock on Dinnis's? According to a gentleman who has spoken to Mr Dinnis some of the internal parts of the clock would cost a fortune to replace. However, the inside workings of the clock could be electrified so that the clock could be set and controlled by a separate clock located either inside of the shop or in a locked box outside of the shop.

ACTION: Kevin Stackhouse to look into whether there is any funding available to restore Dinnis's clock in the Town Centre and report back.

A member of the public raised an issue of two large hanging branches located between the Ski Centre and Morrisons.

ACTION: Communities Team to look into concerns that were raised about large overhanging branches between the Ski Centre and Morrisons and report back.

A member of the public raised that there is no signage in respect to the cycle path to the rear of the Fire Station along Midland Road.

Councillor Neil Tilley raised concerns regarding overhanging trees in Springfield Road. The branches are dangerously obstructing the view of people coming out of their drives and also junctions.

ACTION: County Councillors to take back issues regarding missing cycle path signage on Midland Road and overhanging trees along Springfield Road to DCC and report back.

A member of the public raised concerns over vehicle pollution on Swadlincote High Street.

Councillor Steve Taylor added that the pollution level is monitored by the Environmental Health Team and requested a report be provided at the next Area Forum meeting.

ACTION: Councillor Gordon Rhind to liaise with Environmental Health in regard to concerns over vehicle pollution in High Street and Civic Way and report back.

SA/5 **Local community and voluntary sector projects/ update**

Citizens Advice Presentation

Greg Stenson gave a short presentation in respect to the Gambling Support Service offered by the CAB followed by a brief question and answer session.

In brief, the project aims to help minimise the impacts of gambling-related harm across the East Midlands. The service will involve face-to-face appointments with clients who suffer from harmful gambling, as well as promoting a public- health approach in order to help other organisations identify and intervene at an early stage.

Councillor Linda Chilton queried whether there is a specific type of gambling that is particularly prevalent amongst young people.

ACTION: Greg Stenson to look into whether there is a specific type of gambling that is particularly prevalent amongst young people and report back.

CVS update

Liz Gumbley provided a brief introduction to South Derbyshire CVS and the services it offers.

Support services currently offered by CVS include the following: -

- Provide support to help develop/ fund community projects and ideas.
- Volunteer services.
- Advice on how to stay safe.
- Signposting.
- Food bank and Community fridge.
- Training – for groups and organisations that work in the charitable and voluntary sectors and want to gain some further skills.
- Active travel – Community transport.
- Befriending champions.

SA/6 **Summary of any agreed priorities / actions**

- Communities Team to raise with Sargent Matt Haslam the issue of why the individuals responsible for the ASB around Woodville Recreation Ground have not been dealt with despite being provided with good quality CCTV evidence and report back.
- PC Stuart Kelly to conduct speed checks on Wilmot Road.
- Councillor Gary Musson to feedback issue raised in regard to LED street lighting to DCC and report back.
- Communities Team to provide feedback in regard to the impact of the Mosquito alarms on ASB at Gresley Old Hall.
- Kevin Stackhouse to look into whether there is any funding available to restore Dinnis's clock in the Town Centre and report back.
- Communities Team to look into concerns that were raised about large overhanging branches between the Ski Centre and Morrisons and report back.
- County Councillors to take back issues regarding missing cycle path signage on Midland Road and overhanging trees along Springfield Road to DCC and report back.
- Councillor Gordon Rhind to liaise with Environmental Health in regard to concerns over vehicle pollution in High Street and Civic Way and report back.
- Greg Stenson to look into whether there is a specific type of gambling that is particularly prevalent amongst young people and report back.

SA/7 Close and date of next meeting

Tuesday 8th October 2019.

Councillor Gordon Rhind

CHAIR

The meeting terminated at 7:40pm