

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

ETWALL

24th June 2009

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Lemmon (Chairman) and Councillors Bale, Ford, Mrs. Hood and Mrs. Plenderleith.

M. Alflat (Director of Community Services) P. White (Democratic Services) and K. Ward (Helpdesk).

Derbyshire County Council Representative

Councillor Ford.

Derbyshire Constabulary

Sergeant M. Sisman.

Parish Council/Meeting Representatives

P. Coultas (Dalbury Lees Parish Council), B. Cowley and C. Gerrard (Egginton Parish Council), D. Milner and I. Smith (Etwall Parish Council), L. Nash (Findern Parish Council) and T. Beresford (Foston and Scropton Parish Council).

Members of the Public

J. Bilbie, M. Cramp, G. Green, M. Nesbitt, S. Nesbitt and G. Wale.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from District and County Councillor Mrs. Patten, District Councillor Mrs. Brown, P. Jameson (Derbyshire County Council), A. Mitchell (Egginton Parish Council), B. Payton and N. Ireland (Etwall Parish Council), C. Thurman (Hatton Parish Council), G. Banton, J. Bates, L. Kolkman and D. Wooliscroft (Hilton Parish Council), representatives of South Derbyshire Council for Voluntary Services, S. Avery, H. Hague, R. Mathews, V. Stuart and P. Woolrich.

EA/1. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

It was agreed that District Councillor Mrs. Plenderleith be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Etwall Area Forum for the ensuing year.

EA/2. **POLICE ISSUES**

Sergeant M. Sisman reported that he had recently taken over from Sergeant A. Wright as the seconded police officer working with the Safer South Derbyshire

Partnership. He gave an update on police staffing for the area and spoke of the priorities agreed at a recent Safer Neighbourhood Meeting, particularly relating to anti-social behaviour. There had been a slight rise in crime statistics in recent months and a number of examples were provided. The Sergeant publicised the next Safer Neighbourhood Meeting, which would be held at the Hatton Centre on 9th September 2009 at 6.30 p.m. The Officer also responded to concerns raised at the previous meeting about vehicles with number plates that did not comply with the required standards.

Questions were invited and a Hatton resident was concerned about tractors being driven in the area that had two occupants, when these vehicles only had one seat and one seatbelt. **Sergeant Sisman agreed to investigate this matter.** There was also a discussion about anti-social behaviour, the approach taken by the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership, whether penalties could be levied and the diversionary activities offered. Sergeant Sisman was congratulated on his recent appointment and the Area Forum's best wishes were sent to the former Safer Neighbourhood Sergeant, Andy Wright.

EA/3. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Coultas of Dalbury Lees Parish Council was invited to speak about the new Dalbury Lees Village Hall. He explained that the project had taken fifteen years to come to fruition and half of the money required for the Hall had been raised by local residents.

The Chairman explained that the planned presentation by Homestart would now be made to a future meeting. He also referred to a new Children's Centre at Etwall and spoke about the Etwall Primary School's fundraising activities. Finally, the Chairman referred to the Festival of Leisure, organised by the District Council.

EA/4. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Etwall Area Forum held on 1st April 2009 were noted.

EA/5. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

Further to Minute Nos. EA/19 and EA/20 of the Area Forum held on 1st April 2009, the Chairman updated on these outstanding issues for the County Council, on which a further report would be provided at the next Meeting. A member of the public repeated concerns about the condition of pavements and highways in Egginton. Particular reference was made to potholes in Duck Street, Dove Grove and Elmhurst. These had not been considered by the County Council to be a high priority, but local residents felt they should be. Further issues raised concerned flooding in Fishpond Lane and correspondence and meetings with the District and County Councils. **The local County Councillor agreed to pursue the issues reported.**

EA/6. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

A District Councillor spoke of the potential traffic hazards caused by overgrown hedges in the Willington area, particularly at Longlands Lane and Twyford

Road. Similar concerns were raised about verge maintenance in the Foston and Scropton area, bordering Hatton. **It was agreed that these matters be referred to Derbyshire County Council and that a report be provided to the next meeting.**

A request was submitted on behalf of Dalbury Lees residents for allotments in the Village and several potential areas of land had been identified for this purpose. A further concern was maintenance of the Village Green, which seemed to be somewhat irregular. It was explained that a car boot sale was held on the third Saturday of each month and the grass had recently been cut out of sequence. **The Director of Community Services agreed to research this with Officers at the District Council and would report back to a future meeting.**

EA/7. **DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES – FEEDBACK ON VISION AND PRIORITIES**

The Director of Community Services advised that a booklet had been circulated entitled “Local Priorities Consultation – Summary of Key Findings”. During 2008 and early 2009, the District Council had consulted key stakeholders on priorities for South Derbyshire. A wide range of consultation methods were used and the results had informed two key documents, being the Council’s Corporate Plan and South Derbyshire’s Sustainable Community Strategy. The booklet gave a summary of key findings following this consultation and residents were thanked for their feedback.

A number of questions and comments were submitted in response to this presentation. There was discussion about infill development generally and maintaining green areas between villages. Flooding concerns were raised and particularly the restriction of development near to water courses like the Rivers Trent and Dove. A specific example was in Hatton where significant flooding had occurred previously. Reference was made to liaison with the Environment Agency and the stricter controls on assessing flooding issues. Also related to this, there was discussion about the Local Development Framework process and the provision of starter homes in rural areas.

A further issue raised under this item was the recycling of cardboard and plastic materials. The discussion included the available recycling centres, the inclusion of cardboard in the brown compost bin, the difficulty in recycling some types of cardboard and the costs of introducing household collection of plastic materials for recycling. Finally, there was discussion about plastic bags, which were not recycled. **It was suggested that the Recycling Officer give a presentation at the next Biffa Liaison Meeting, due to be held in September.**

An update was sought about the new Etwall Leisure Centre and details were provided of the official opening, together with when the Centre would be open to the public. Further issues related to the Centre were concessions, the computerised booking system, the availability of free swimming for certain sectors of the community, a raffle and use of the facilities by sports clubs.

EA/8. **DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

It was reported that Etwall Area Forum Meetings would be held on:-

10th November 2009 at Findern Village Hall

3rd February 2010 at Hatton Centre

10th March 2010 at Egginton Memorial Hall

J. LEMMON

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8:10 p.m.