

NEWHALL AREA MEETING

2nd May 2006

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Richards (Chair), Councillor Mrs Mead (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Bambrick, Mulgrew and Wilkins.
F. McArdle (Chief Executive), N. Betteridge (Democratic Services Officer) and B. Jones (Helpdesk).

County Council Representatives

Councillors Bambrick and Jones.
D. Tysoe (County Secretary) and A. Bond (Democratic Services Officer).

Derbyshire Constabulary

Sergeant A. Wright.

Members of the Public

P. Bambrick, L.R. Carter, E.A. Foy, P. Foy, C. Gillespie, R. House, R. Hughes, C. Maddock, K.J. Parker, M. Perry, M. Richards, D.E. Tagg and B. Woods.

NA/24. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from District Councillor Dunn, M. Dunn, G. Hall and W. Parker.

NA/25. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Area Meeting held on 7th February 2006 were noted.

NA/26. **CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Meeting and introduced the Chief Executive, who reported on a document recently produced by the District Council entitled "Medium Term Financial Plan 2006-09". He summarised the document and advised the Meeting that copies were available from the Council Offices and it would also be placed on the South Derbyshire District Council website.

NA/27. **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Chair reviewed those items raised at the last Meeting and noted the progress made in each case.

With regard to the issue of the dangerous junction at Oversetts Road/Main Street, Newhall, a verbal update was given confirming that Derbyshire County Council felt that there was no justification for introducing any further parking restrictions at this location. However, the junction would continue to be monitored.

Parking on Orchard Street/High Street was discussed. R. House reported that illegal parking was still occurring regularly, which was reiterated by other residents. Sergeant Wright advised the Meeting that current resources dictated that parking was a comparatively low priority, although he confirmed that it would be enforced wherever possible. B. Woods considered that the local Beat Officer should attend future Meetings to contribute their local experiences.

A resident reported that there were still ongoing noise issues with Bison Concrete. Councillor Mrs. Mead confirmed that she was a member of the Liaison Committee and that the noise may not necessarily be emitting from the Bison site, as there were currently other businesses in the area undertaking steel construction works etc.

It was reported that there had been considerable success following reports of incidents with motor bikes and quad bikes. Councillor Bambrick confirmed that he had telephoned the police during the previous two weekends and provided car details. Section 59 Notices had been subsequently served.

Councillor Bambrick reported that the footpath on Oversetts Road would be inspected in the near future and hopefully any necessary works would be completed soon thereafter. It was also reported that the owner of the untidy property on Oversetts Road had been served with a Section 215 Untidy Site Notice and the compliance period would end later in the month.

With regard to the lack of litterbins on Sunnyside, it was reported that the current post-mounted litterbin would be replaced with a larger free-standing bin by the end of May.

In respect of highway drainage on South Drive, it was reported that the bus stop close to Alma Road had been examined. The area was very flat and required adjustment of kerb and carriageway levels. There was no easy drainage solution, but the query had been passed to the relevant Officer for consideration as an improvement scheme.

With regard to traffic calming measures in Newhall, B. Woods queried how the height of humps was determined within the Regulations.

David Tysoe of Derbyshire County Council agreed to investigate the matter and advise Mr. Woods accordingly.

The County Council had also provided responses to comments raised at the last Meeting and these were outlined to residents. An order had been placed to carry out patching works on the footpath outside the Lamb Inn on Main Street. The road markings between Brook Street and Main Street had been refurbished, along with those on Coronation Street.

NA/28. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE LOCAL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

M. Perry reported that the road surface at Orchard Street/Parliament Street/Robinsons Road was poor.

Derbyshire County Council agreed to inspect the surface with a view to either re-surfacing or patching.

B. Woods reported that following work completed by the Water Board on Alma Road, the re-surfacing/re-instatement works had still not been completed. Councillor Bambrick confirmed that it would be re-surfaced, but only following completion of residential development in that area, subject to the grant of planning permission.

D. Mansfield queried the District Council's policy on council house tenants found guilty of drug abuse. The Chief Executive responded that this was considered to be a breach of the tenancy agreement and appropriate action would be taken in these circumstances.

Mrs. D. Tagg advised the Meeting that residents had been campaigning for a children's play area in Stanton since the sale of the recreation ground. She also advised that the field at the rear of the White Horse public house was not currently used. Councillor Bambrick reported that funds were available within the Nadin's Trust. However, the agreement of UK Coal was required and it was important that a substantial lease was secured for this purpose.

D. Mansfield queried the future of the indoor market at Swadlincote. The Chief Executive confirmed that the Council had a current arrangement with a management company. The issue was under consideration and an appropriate balance between viability and demand was necessary.

A resident queried the District Council's policy of only advertising statutory notices relating to planning applications, rather than those which may be of interest. The Chief Executive responded by advising that as this was a fast growing district and many applications were received, there would be considerable cost implications involved. However, the authority had a detailed consultation policy on planning applications. Councillor Wilkins added that he believed a full list of applications received should be sent to the Burton Mail and he would pursue this issue.

A resident complimented the condition of Newhall Park. However, the large waste paper bin by the Scout Hut was full and needed emptying.

This would be pursued with the Clean Team.

The Chair paid tribute to those involved in the improvement works. Councillor Bambrick confirmed that OPRA had assumed responsibility for the park and would continue to progress improvement works. A Memorial Garden was planned as part of the future development.

A resident confirmed that the recycling area at Sainsbury's was now tidier. However fly tipping was still occurring at this site and some materials were not recyclable. Councillor Richards encouraged residents to take such items to Newhall tip.

B. Woods reported that litter in Oversetts Road, Newhall was still a problem and he added that the gulleys were not swept regularly. Councillor Wilkins advised that the number of sweeps in this area were to be increased and additional litter bins would also be provided. He added that soon, Community Wardens would be empowered to impose spot fines for litter offences. Councillor Mrs. Mead felt that cars parking on the road often prevented gully cleansing. Councillor Bambrick encouraged residents to ring the Clean Team to report any untidy areas. It was requested that any new bins should be provided with lids. The Chair also encouraged residents to report any gulleys requiring cleaning to the District Council.

Councillor Bambrick promoted the Derbyshire County Council's Gold Card scheme.

D. Mansfield reported that the football cabins on Oversetts Road had been broken into again.

It was agreed to pursue the issue of security with the District Council's Leisure Department.

A resident expressed concern at the filthy condition of the footpath between the Old Post Centre and Orchard Street, advising that it was often used for solvent abuse.

Sergeant Wright agreed to investigate this matter.

NA/29. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Residents would be advised of the date of the next Meeting in due course and hopefully, this would be held at Elmsleigh School.

K.J. RICHARDS

CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 7.55 p.m.