

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

NEWHALL

Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at Newhall Old Post Centre

PRESENT:-

South Derbyshire District Council representatives

Councillor Paul Dunn (Chair), Councillor Sean Bambrick, Councillor Kevin Richards, Councillor Mrs Linda Stuart, Councillor John Wilkins.

Kevin Stackhouse (Director of Finance and Corporate Services), Tom Sloan (Clerk).

Derbyshire County Council representatives

Councillor Sean Bambrick.

Parish Council / Meeting representatives

None.

Members of the public

Richard House, Alan Jones, Helen Kreft (Burton Mail), Colin Maddock, Mick Mulgrew, M Richards, M Ross, Barry Woods.

NA/1 **Apologies for absence**

Mr Hall, Councillor Robert Pearson.

NA/2 **Declarations of interest**

None.

NA/3 **Chairman's announcements**

Councillor Paul Dunn reported that a new Physical Activity, Sport and Recreation Strategy had been adopted by South Derbyshire District Council. Councillor Dunn added that a lot of work had gone into the new strategy in an effort to get people in the district more active.

SDDC was also consulting on three planning documents which would form part of future planning policy – local green spaces, affordable housing and a design guide. Feedback was being sought from residents.

NA/4 **The minutes of the meeting held on February 1, 2017**

The minutes were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

NA/5 **Report back on issues raised at the last meeting**

Rose Tree Lane junction, Bretby Road, Newhall: damaged tactile paving

Derbyshire County Council turned down requests for a no parking sign at the location.

Leaking drain in the Fairway, Newhall

Severn Trent was carrying out further investigation at the site to see if the water was coming from a piped water source.

NA/6 **Public questions on issues raised by residents**

A resident said that at a previous area forum he and others had been promised a public meeting by SDDC to discuss a multi-use games area (MUGA) for older children at Midway Community Centre. The current situation saw younger and older children having to share one play area, which was proving problematic. He had been asked to attend with three officers from SDDC. Councillor Dunn said he had received an email two weeks after the meeting had taken place and he had asked why the meeting was with three officers and only one resident. The resident in question said he and others wanted a public meeting with SDDC Chief Executive Frank McArdle. Councillor Dunn said the MUGA was promised in initial plans for the centre and he wanted the issue reporting back verbatim to Mr McArdle and Director of Community and Planning Services Stuart Batchelor. Councillor Kevin Richards asked why an alarm had gone off for three days at the centre when it was supposed to have a caretaker. A resident replied that the caretaker had been off with a broken ankle at the time. Councillor Richards asked why there was no relief.

ACTION: Issues to be reported back to SDDC and clarity sought on what could be improved at Midway Community Centre

A resident reported that their son had left home at Christmas, 2015 and SDDC's Elections team was informed of his departure. However, he had recently been sent a poll card for the General Election. They had rung Elections and been asked to bring the card back to the Civic Offices as well as being told that any move should be reported to SDDC in writing – twice.

Councillor Dunn said he and another councillor had a meeting with Mr McArdle about issues around voting and he would raise the issue.

A resident asked if activities taking place for children during the summer holidays would be publicised. They felt that information came out too late after schools had broken up. Could it please come out earlier?

NA/7 **County council issues**

A member of the public complained about a lack of a crossing at Belmont School opposite Wideshaft. Could it be investigated by DCC for a potential crossing?

ACTION: Tom Sloan to report request to Derbyshire County Council

Councillor Mrs Linda Stuart reported that four cottages in Orchard Street, Newhall, opposite the bottom of Appleton Close, had an issue. The pavement had been built up because of flooding, solving the problem, but it made residents exiting their front doors vulnerable to passing traffic as there was a dropped kerb. One bollard was all that was needed. Councillor Richards said he'd encountered a similar problem in Stanton and DCC installed a bollard.

ACTION: Tom Sloan to report request to Derbyshire County Council

A resident asked what the situation was with a plot of land waiting to be developed by DCC in Plummer Road, Newhall. Councillor Dunn replied that DCC had been creating a development company which would have dealt with it but the cabinet member in charge of the project had lost their seat. The resident said the site had been derelict for 15 years. Councillor Sean Bambrick said the formation of a development company now sat with the new administration at DCC.

NA/8 **District council issues**

A member of the public asked if anything had been done about a recreation area for Stanton. One was due to be installed opposite the chapel. Councillor Bambrick replied that the land in question had been sold more than 20 years previously. Councillor Richards added that a play area was contained within the development plan.

Kevin Stackhouse reported that SDDC had recently produced its accounts for 2016-17 and they were now subject to audit. Full accounts were on the SDDC website and all residents had the chance to talk to external auditors independent of the council between July 3 and August 4.

SDDC's revamped website was due to be launched. Residents should notice a difference from the current site, which wasn't as user friendly as the new version.

NA/9 **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting would be held on a date to be announced.

Councillor Paul Dunn
CHAIRMAN

The meeting terminated at 8.15pm.