

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

REPTON – AREA 2

Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at Findern Village Hall

PRESENT: -

South Derbyshire District Council representatives

Councillor Andrew MacPherson (Chair), Councillor Neil Atkin, Councillor Andrew Churchill, Councillor David Shepherd

Allison Thomas – Strategic Director of Service Delivery
Claire Rawlins – Anti-Social Behaviour Officer
Debbie Ward – Service Assistant

Derbyshire County Council representatives

Councillor Neil Atkin, Councillor Linda Chilton

Derbyshire Police representatives

PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite

Parish Council/ Meeting representatives

Councillor Steve Toone (Bretby Parish Council), Councillor Tammy Brown, Councillor Mike Ratcliffe (Findern Parish Council), Councillor David Dickson, Councillor Mel Thomas (Repton Parish Council), Councillor Christina Oppenheimer (Ticknall Parish Council)

Liz Gumbley – South Derbyshire CVS

Members of the public

David Barker, Tony Bates, Mary Goodall, Heather Hall, Fred Hill, John Orme, Fred Spencer, Joan Tidy

RA/15 **Open meeting**

• **Introductions and apologies**

Councillor Martyn Ford (Vice Chair), Councillor Kerry Haines, Sue Carter, Mrs Griffiths

• **Declarations of interest**

None.

- **Chair's announcements**

Community Partnership Grants

The Community & Environment Partnership Scheme offers the chance for community groups, charities and volunteer organisations to apply to receive funding.

This is available for a wide variety of organisations and projects, from parish councils and sporting groups to arts, heritage and environmental schemes. In the past, the scheme has helped with the cost of new buildings and supported improvements to community spaces.

Grants of between £1,000 and £25,000 will be awarded as matched funding to support capital projects with a value of £4,000 and above. Those applying must demonstrate that being awarded the funding would improve the quality of life of residents in South Derbyshire.

For more information contact Ian Hey, Community Partnership Officer.

The Sunflower Scheme

Anyone with a hidden disability (or their carer) can wear a Sunflower lanyard or pin, and organisations that recognise the scheme train their staff to look out for the Sunflower sign and how to offer additional help to those who wear it.

At January's Council meeting Councillors voted unanimously in favour of adopting the Sunflower scheme. As a result, the Council will be rolling out training to staff and members this spring and the lanyards will be available to pick up from the Council's reception from February 2020.

Sign Live

Sign Live is a solution that offers customers British Sign Language (BSL) translation on the go. Users of BSL can use a mobile device to access a BSL interpreter who will translate what they are saying to the service provider and sign back any responses.

At January's Council meeting Councillors voted unanimously in favour of trialling Sign Live with our customers to see if it is well used and easy to use, before rolling it out wider.

Job Opportunities Day

There is a Job Opportunities Day taking place in Swadlincote on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 from 3-6pm at Sharpe's Pottery Museum for those seeking jobs, training and other support for their future career.

Thinking of Starting a Business

A 'Thinking of Starting a Business' session will be taking place on Wednesday, February 26, 2020, from 5.30pm at Sharpe's Pottery Museum for any budding entrepreneurs!

- **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**

A member of the public raised a response received from DCC re. High Street flooding outside Brook House which highlights a problem between the handover of responsibility between DCC and Severn Trent Water (STW).

AT responded to say that any problems related to STW should be raised directly with them using their hotline number as discussed in the recent Flood Liaison meeting held on Thursday, February 6, 2020.

A member of the public raised that the minutes of the previous meeting stated that Cliff Warner was a member of Willington Parish Council and that the SDDC website also shows this incorrect information.

ACTION: Debbie Ward to amend the minutes from the previous meeting in respect to Cliff Warner who is no longer a Parish Councillor and for Mr Warner's details to be removed from the Council's website.

RA/16 Police Safer Neighbourhood report

PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite updated that the team have been busy with patrols and engagements throughout all areas and provided the following report: -

- Street Meet, Derbyshire Alert surveys/ sign-ups and 'Cuppa with a Copper' events have been held in Repton and Willington.
- A 'Brew with the Crew' event (to be held in conjunction with the Fire Service) is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 between 10am and 12 noon at Willow Tree Tea Rooms, Mercia Marina, Willington.
- Tool marking event held in Willington.
- Bike marking event held at Willington Primary school.
- Engagement with schools in Repton, Willington and Stenson.
- Parking patrols in Repton, Newton Solney and Stenson.
- Dedicated patrols took place for Halloween and Bonfire night, Remembrance parades, Polling station patrols/ visits, Christmas crime prevention and shop lifting and also for the Repton Christmas light switch on.

- Numerous crime prevention messages have been communicated via Social Media channels, Derbyshire Alert, and the Police Media Team as well as a leaflet drop in Hilton targeting van owners.
- Safeguarding of vulnerable people throughout the area completed.
- Numerous flood related incidents and road closures were attended, and assistance provided.
- Two Community Protection Notice Warnings (CPNW's) were issued in Littleover for the use of off-road bikes in the Hopton Drive area.
- Two CPNW's were issued on Lowes lane for possession of Cannabis.
- Two new PCSO's will be joining the Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) on Monday, February 17, 2020.

Vehicles have been seized at various locations in and around the Repton area as follows: -

- A50 Slip Road - no insurance or MOT.
- B5008 Willington - no insurance.
- Twyford Road, Willington - no insurance.
- Castle Way, Willington - no license/ insurance/ keeper.
- Stenson - no license or insurance.
- Ticknall – stolen car found.

The Road Policing Unit (RPU) have also been busy dealing with traffic offences in the Repton Police area, examples of which include the following: -

- Willington – A vehicle was pulled for having no insurance and a bald tyre.
- Stenson – A male was arrested for having false plates.
- Findern – A HGV driver was arrested for driving without due care and attention following a road traffic collision (RTC) on the A38.
- Ticknall – A vehicle was pulled for having no licence or insurance.

A member of the public asked whether the speed limits around schools in Repton could be reduced to 20mph.

Allison Thomas advised that it would be DCC Highways that would be responsible for reviewing/ amending speed limits.

ACTION: Communities Team to feedback concerns raised regarding the speed limit around schools in Repton to DCC Highways for further investigation.

A member of the public queried what the British Transport Police's (BTP) specific concerns were regarding the Willington Level Crossing.

AT responded to say that there has been a recent notification regarding a change in timings from 30 seconds to 3 minutes which could be why there is an increased Police presence in the area around certain times of the day.

ACTION: Claire Rawlins to liaise with Richard Groves at SDDC/ BTP for further advice on why the Willington railway crossing has had the barrier timings extended from 30 seconds to 3 minutes.

A Newton Solney resident queried whether crime is on the rise in the area due to the number of alert messages received via Derbyshire Alert.

PCSO Kerry Wallington-Waite replied to say that crime is not on the up in the area and explained that the alerts that come through from Derbyshire Alert (DA) cover the whole of Derbyshire. Residents were reminded that if they are receiving too many messages or messages that are not relevant or of interest that the message settings within their DA profile can be amended as required.

A Findern resident raised concerns over a white van that has been parked close to a bend on Findern Lane for the last 12 months.

ACTION: PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite to check the vehicle details in respect to the white van parked on Findern Lane and report back.

Councillor Andrew MacPherson relayed thanks to the Police and Fire Service for their efforts throughout the recent flooding.

RA/17 **Safer South Derbyshire Partnership update and Safer Neighbourhood grants**

Digital MOT

Safer Derbyshire have launched a campaign to ask members of the public to take a quick survey to see how secure their mobile devices and laptops are.

The Digital MOT is a cyber security assessment tool developed by the Community Safety Unit at Derbyshire County Council, in partnership with the Cybercrime Unit at Derbyshire Constabulary.

The assessment takes less than 5 minutes to complete and will identify how to be safer online.

To take the MOT please visit the website - www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/MOT

Age UK – Scam advice

We have lots of people telling us they have been on the receiving end of a scam phone call or know a friend or relative who has. Fortunately, many people are now getting wise to them and just put the phone down as soon as they ask for personal details, however there are still some people who are very trusting and unfortunately still get scammed.

The Age UK webpage on Scam phone calls is certainly worth a read as it provides information on the most common types of phone scams, what to look out for and how to avoid becoming a victim. Remember never give your bank details or PIN out over the phone!

For more information visit the Age UK website www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/money-legal/scams-fraud/#

John Port Bike Marking and High Vis Operation

In October, the Police Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) held a Bike marking registration and safety event at John Port School after a Councillor raised concerns about pupils riding bicycles in the dark with no lights. 40 pupils who ride their bikes to school received high-vis items and had their bikes security marked and registered.

John Port School Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) visits

Claire Rawlins (SDDC ASB Officer) and PCSO Andrea Thompson visited John Port School back in December to talk to a group of six young people who had been identified by the Police and the School as causing ASB in the local area. One of the individuals concerned received a CPNW and the others were all given a verbal warning and had it explained what would happen if their behaviour didn't change.

SNT Funding

There have been no successful applications to date for funding in the Repton Area (also known as Police area 2) this financial year. £4000 will be available again from April 2020 however in the meantime applications for this year's underspend can still be received up until the end of February.

Please contact Chris Smith or Ian Hey for further details.

RA/18 Local authority update

Allison Thomas updated: -

Keep Britain Tidy Campaign

Between March 20 and April 13 this year there will be a national Keep Britain Tidy campaign and we will be doing a lot of local work linking to this initiative, putting information on our website, and encouraging communities to join in.

Keen litter-pickers can get involved with an ever-growing list of clean-up events taking place across the District – one of which will be held at Castleton Park, Church Gresley on the Sunday, March 24, 2020.

Keep an eye on our usual communication channels for further information.

Green Spaces Plan

The Council is seeking to protect around 150 Local Green Spaces across the District through a Local Green Spaces Plan. Following the hearing in September the Council is preparing to consult on a number of modifications to the Plan, subject to Committee approval. After this consultation, the Inspector will write her report, which it is hoped will lead to the Plan's adoption by late spring.

Climate Emergency

Following the declaration of a Climate Emergency in June 2019, A Climate and Environment Strategy and Action Plan was approved by Full Council on Thursday, January 16, 2020.

The aspiration of the strategy is to strive to make all the Council's activities carbon neutral over the next 10 years. It also commits to working with others to tackle the estimated 800,000 tonnes of carbon emitted every year from all communities and businesses across South Derbyshire.

The Action Plan set out some of the early measures the Council will be taking; such as a carbon review of the Council's own housing stock, the implementation of a Staff Travel Plan and the phased reduction of plant and machinery with electric alternatives.

ISO14001

South Derbyshire District Council was awarded the prestigious ISO14001 standard for Environmental Management for the twelfth successive year in December following an extensive four-day audit.

The audit covered all the Council's five main operational centres – Civic Way offices, the depot on the Boardman Estate, Greenbank and Etwall Leisure centres and Rosliston Forestry Centre.

The auditors highlighted a handful of minor non-conformities which are being addressed as well as making over 20 additional observations to help the Council continue to improve its environmental performance.

Mention was made to the environmental, biodiversity, education and well-being programmes at Rosliston. Also, the approach of the Housing, Planning & Economic Development Services to ensure that existing and planned developments are managed with protection of the environment as one of the main pillars.

Tim Peake Space Sapling lands at Rosliston Forestry Centre

South Derbyshire District Council's Environmental Education Project at Rosliston Forestry Centre is very proud to be a recipient of one of eight young trees grown from pips taken from Isaac Newton's apple tree that were blasted

into space with the British European Space Agency (ESA) astronaut Tim Peake.

Apple pips from the iconic Newton tree were taken on the Principia mission in 2015 by the British astronaut to the International Space Station. The pips then spent six months floating in micro gravity as part of the 'Pips in Space' project, before returning to Earth in 2016.

Budget update

The Council's income base continues to benefit from increasing numbers of properties and business development. Any extra income generated is now being set aside to meet increased costs of services such as waste collection, street cleansing and grounds maintenance. There are no proposed cuts in services. Overall spending is due to increase by at least inflation. Additional funding has been approved for parishes through concurrent functions to recognise growth.

The coming years Council Tax increase is proposed at 1.95% (adding £3.17 per year to a band D property). All proposals are still subject to Council ratification on Wednesday, February 26, 2020.

There will be no capping for parishes, the government were considering this but are keeping their options open.

Generally, the local authorities budget position is good, but we are not complacent and are mindful of future budget pressures including our commitment to climate change. In the near future waste collection and recycling may also put pressure on budgets for 2021-22.

The main concern for many Councils is around the uncertainty regarding government funding beyond 2021. The government is intending to review the distribution system and the amount of money divided between different types of authority and we are keeping a close eye on that. In the meantime, the Councils overall financial position remains sound with a good level of general reserves.

Councillor Christina Oppenheimer of Ticknall Parish Council made a plea, following the recent precept increase, that consideration is given for parishes where the community is not necessarily increasing, such as Ticknall, but where the usage of facilities is considerable due to the number of visitors to the area.

Councillor Andrew MacPherson responded to say that the precept is determined by the parish itself and that concurrent functions is an element of proportion given to wards over and above what the district offers.

AT added that no parish is going to lose out and that the concurrent functions fund is to recognise growth in areas and that an extremely detailed report has been completed by the Finance team to ensure that both parished and unparished areas throughout the district are treated fairly.

A member of the public raised awareness of the Severn Trent Water (STW) Community Fund which aims to support projects linked to three key elements of community wellbeing: -

People: Projects that help people to lead a healthier life and gain new skills

Places: Projects that help to create better places to live in and use

Environment: Projects that will help look after our natural environment, give people greater access to that environment, or help look after water

There are three sizes of grants available, ranging from £2k up to £200k.

For more information visit the STW website at www.stwater.co.uk/about-us/severn-trent-community-fund/

Councillor David Shepherd raised concerns over school provision in the Stenson area and urged DCC to apply for the 14th wave of central government funding at the earliest opportunity to ensure that the relevant financing is there to support the additional circa. 3000 houses planned to be built in the area.

Councillor Linda Chilton provided the following response/ update provided by Jane Cressey, Members Secretary, DCC.

“The new secondary school is in response to the additional pupils likely to be generated by the significant housing growth in the area. To date, three major developments have received planning permission, namely Highfields Farm, Boulton Moor and New House Farm and a total of £9,511,957 has been secured in Section 106 developer funding towards the necessary education infrastructure. The Wragley Way planning application is under consideration at present and a further £10,092,000 has been requested which, if successful, will provide a total fund of £19,603,957. New secondary schools normally cost in excess of £20M therefore there may be a shortfall and that is likely to be funded from either the Department for Education (DfE) Basic Need grant or borrowings, subject to Cabinet approval. The timing of the school, balancing the demand against the receipt of Section 106 funding, will be challenging but the expectation is that the majority of the funds will have been secured from the developers.

In addition, there is a DfE Wave 14 Free School application under consideration at the moment whereby a multi-academy trust has applied directly to the DfE to open the school. If that were to be successful, the decision on the timing of the school and the shortfall in capital funding would be handled directly by the Government. The outcome of that application is due to be received in the summer of 2020.

The information on the Section 106 funding is public knowledge as it is recorded on the South Derbyshire District Council planning portal.”

Councillor David Shepherd raised concerns regarding the lack of medical provision within the Stenson Fields locality and urged DCC to follow this up with the Derbyshire NHS Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to identify suitable sites within walking distance of Stenson and Sinfin Wards as a matter of high priority.

ACTION: Communities Team to feedback the comments made re. school and medical provision in Stenson Fields/ Sinfin wards to DCC for further investigation.

A member of the public raised parking issues outside of Newton Solney Village Hall and near to the bus shelter on Doles Lane, Findern.

ACTION: Communities Team to report the parking issues raised outside of Newton Solney Village Hall and on Doles Lane, Findern back to DCC Highways for further investigation.

RA/19 Local community and voluntary sector projects/ update

Liz Gumbley gave an overview of the work that the South Derbyshire CVS (SDCVS) does and provided an update on the following new initiatives: -

Children & Young Peoples Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing Network – funded through Futures in Mind. There will be four forums up to September 2020 which will provide a platform for voluntary and community organisations who work with children and young people and local schools to start working together and linking in with each other. There may also be an opportunity to secure further funding for the initiative depending on the success of the first four forums.

Isolation and Loneliness Action Network Derbyshire (ISLAND) project – three years funding has been secured from the National Lottery to provide a befriending network to reach people across Derbyshire who are lonely and isolated.

A large piece of work has been done in Stenson Fields and volunteers are needed to help with a new mother and toddler and youth groups.

Funding – the CVS are now working more closely with funders and have been running various funding surgeries to help voluntary community groups successfully apply for available funding.

South Derbyshire Awards – in partnership with SDDC an awards evening was held at Toyota on Friday, February 7, 2020 whereby around 120 people were in attendance. Awards were given to recognise and celebrate both sporting achievements and people who work hard for their communities across the district.

For more information about the support that South Derbyshire CVS can offer call 01283 550163 or visit their website (sdcv.org.uk).

RA/20 Summary of actions

- Debbie Ward to amend the minutes from the previous meeting in respect to Cliff Warner who is no longer a Parish Councillor and for Mr Warner's details to be removed from the Council's website.
- Communities Team to feedback concerns raised regarding the speed limit around schools in Repton to DCC Highways for further investigation.
- Claire Rawlins to liaise with Richard Groves at SDDC/ BTP for further advice on why the Willington railway crossing has had the barrier timings extended from 30 seconds to 3 minutes.
- PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite to check the vehicle details in respect to the white van parked on Findern Lane and report back.
- Communities Team to feedback the comments made re. school and medical provision in Stenson Fields/ Sinfin wards to DCC for further investigation.
- Communities Team to report the parking issues raised outside of Newton Solney Village Hall and on Doles Lane, Findern back to DCC Highways for further investigation.

RA/21 Close and date of next meeting

TBC

Councillor Andrew MacPherson
CHAIR

The meeting terminated at 8:00pm