OPEN

LINTON AREA MEETING

5th August 2004

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives
Councillor Lauro (Chair) and Councillor Southern.
Mr. M. Alflat (Director of Community Services), Mrs. M. Collins (Community Safety Officer), Mrs. D. Cook (Democratic Services Officer) and Mr. B. Jones (Helpdesk).

Derbyshire County Council Representative
Councillor Mrs. K.Lauro and representative of the Trading Standards Department.

Derbyshire Constabulary
Acting Inspector Andy Wright.

Parish Council/Meeting Representatives
K. Folwell (Linton Parish Council), R. Palmer (Linton Parish Council), S. Jackson (Castle Gresley Parish Council), Dr. T. Elson (Walton-on-Trent Parish Council), Mrs. W. Wadsworth, T. Morris (Coton-in-the-Elms Parish Council) and Dr D. A. Eaton (Cauldwell Parish Meeting).

Members of the Public
J. Blythe (Linton Parish Council), L. Johnson, C. D. Birch, Mr. and Mrs. Shuttleworth, R. Wasley and Mr. and Mrs. Dolman.

LA/1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

The Meeting noted the appointment of Councillor Lauro as Chair made at the Annual Council Meeting held on 20th May 2004.

LA/2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Mr. B. Matkin (Rosliston Parish Council), R. Pritchard, V. Taylor (Walton-on-Trent Parish Council) and G. Edwards (Overseal Parish Council).

LA/3. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

County Councillor Mrs. K. Lauro was appointed Vice-Chair of the Meeting for the ensuing year.

LA/4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th May 2004 were received.

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

With regard to HGV traffic using Rosliston Road South, Drakelow, County Councillor Mrs. Lauro introduced a representative of Derbyshire County Council's Trading Standards Department who advised that a number of

people had been prosecuted by the Trading Standards in the area. Checks had been carried out at Woodville Road, Overseal, Church Gresley and at Catton Hall and five lorries were found to be over the weight restriction. The Trading Standards Officers were to be working with the Police to issue fixed penalty notices and complaints were not being ignored. Mr. Dolman expressed concern that Drakelow had not been checked and that the Officer did not seem to be aware of the problems raised on numerous occasions at the Linton Area Meeting. Specific details were passed to the Officer accordingly who agreed to check the situation at Rosliston Road South. Mr. Dolman advised that he was concerned that this was part of an ongoing problem. Traffic calming measures had been promised but rumble strips not introduced and only some of the signs promised had been erected.

Acting Inspector Andy Wright advised that all 13 Beat Officers were now using equipment to detect speeding. A resident of Coton-in-the Elms expressed concern that one of the speed cameras used to detect speeding in the Village of Coton-in-the-Elms had been erected in a place where drivers automatically slowed down. She had heard a rumour that another camera had been stolen and therefore proper monitoring within Coton had not take place. S. Jackson reported that speeding was a problem at the A444 Cadley Island and at the bottom of the Castle Gresley by-pass. County Councillor Mrs. Lauro advised that she had asked Mr. P. Leigh of Derbyshire County Council to attend the Meeting to address such issues but he had been unable to due to other commitments. The Chair expressed concern that there were not enough Police in place to combat speeding. J. Blythe stated that the Chair should ensure that County Council Officers and Police Representatives were present but was advised that the District Council was not able to make such demands. J. Blyth requested that an action plan be submitted to the next Meeting outlining work undertaken on highway matters between Meetings.

The Democratic Services Officer advised the Meeting that Derbyshire County Council had its own local area committees which members of the public could attend. A representative of the Highways Department would be available at all such meetings to answer queries on highway matters. Future meetings were to be held on 20th October 2004 and 5th January and 9th March 2005, venues to be confirmed. The Democratic Services Officer advised the Meeting that should anyone wish to attend the County Council Local Area Committees to raise highway matters they could contact her and she would advise of venues as soon as the County Council had confirmed them.

The Director of Community Services gave a progress report on the usage of Gate No. 2 at Roger Bullivant's, Drakelow. He stated that in 2000 a planning application was permitted under application reference 9/2000/1120 for the erection of a new manufacturing facility with alterations to Gate No. 2 access and a traffic impact assessment detailing the core movements. This included details of approved vehicle movements in connection with sundry work on the site. The use of the existing access which had been assessed as sub-standard would be unauthorised but the site had been inspected recently on several occasions and the gates were found to be closed and padlocked with no tyre tracks or other evidence of regular use observed. Mr. Dolman expressed concern regarding the possible chopping down of trees in the locality and it was agreed to investigate this matter and respond accordingly. The Chair stated that his recollection was that the planning application had stated that any felled trees would have to be replaced. A resident queried

whether the planning application for felling was made in retrospect and it was agreed to confirm this matter at the next Meeting. Mr. Dolman expressed concern regarding traffic on the bend and traffic coming in and out of the gate. Councillor Southern advised that Derbyshire County Council had been concerned in the past about the drop in the road on that bend and this would need to be addressed before the gates could be opened.

LA/6. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE LOCAL DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A discussion took place regarding anti-social behaviour in Coton-in-the-Elms. A meeting had been held in the Village where representatives of the Police were present in June 2004. Concern was expressed that no follow-up support to provide activities for young people had been made. Michelle Collins advised of the Youth Engagement through Sport Officer based at the District Council who had contacts to employ mobile youth facilities. He also had direct contact with the Youth Service. It was agreed to ask Ian to attend a future Meeting and talk about his role.

A resident of a sheltered housing accommodation expressed concern about grass being cut by the District Council and cuttings left which could prove dangerous, as slippy when wet. He also referred to receiving a letter from the District Council in April stating that the hedge between the Linton sheltered housing accommodation and the Vicarage would be cut within 28 days but this had still not been done. The Director of Community Services apologised and agreed to action the matter immediately.

Mr. T. Morris of Greenacre Park, Coton-in-the-Elms referred to a visit by the refuse collection vehicle which collected brown bins recently and stated that the wagon had left so much waste on the site that the smell had been horrendous. The road sweeper had been sent out but this had not been effective. Concern was expressed that the wrong type of vehicle was being used. Mr. Morris stated that District Council Officers had attended following complaints he had made who had confirmed that the wrong type of vehicle was being used for the purpose and suggesting that he should approach his Councillors to ask the District Council to provide a proper vehicle fit for the purpose. The Director of Community Services advised that Mr. Morris had been advised incorrectly and stated that such vehicles were only designed to take a certain amount of liquid. He agreed to respond to Mr. Morris following an investigation of this particular complaint. Councillor Southern expressed his disappointment at the incident.

Mrs. Palmer asked for more Police presence at the Linton Village Hall. She advised of a recent incident whereby white paint had been used to graffiti the area and the alleged culprits names painted on the walls. She asked for appropriate action from the Police accordingly. The Director of Community Services advised that Meetings were planned to look at the security of the Village Hall and that Debbie Charlton, the Local Beat Officer was taking positive action on this matter. S. Jackson advised that Debbie Charlton had patrolled Castle Gresley in 'plain clothes' recently, having much success.

A resident queried whether Coton-in-the-Elms Community Centre would be eligible for a grant for car parking resurfacing and was advised to apply to the Community Partnership Scheme.

LA/7. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was reported that the next Linton Area Meeting would be held on Wednesday, 3rd November 2004, the venue to be confirmed.

LA/8. **CRIME AND DISORDER UPDATE**

Michelle Collins, the Community Safety Officer gave a presentation to the Meeting. She advised that the Crime and Disorder Partnership was a local partnership between the Police, Local Authorities, Health, Probation, Voluntary Services and the Fire Services etc. The Partnerships' priorities contained within the 2002/05 Strategy were house burglary, auto crime, fear of crime, anti social behaviour, substance misuse and violent crime (domestic abuse). The Partnership was resourced by a Police Liaison Officer, an Anti Social Behaviour Officer, a Community Safety Officer, a Community Drugs Officer and a part-time Community Engagement Officer. Michelle gave an overview of projects currently being run by the Partnership which included a Safer Homes for South Derbyshire Scheme (Man in a Van), skateboard parks at Swadlincote and Hilton, a Youth Needs Survey (involving liaison with 4,000+ young people), Burglar Alarm Installation Scheme, Environmental Improvements (involving the cleaning-up at Goseley Estate, Hartshorne), a Domestic Abuse Campaign and a project to support parents of drug users. Michelle also advised the Meeting that the Partnership was undertaking new work in the areas of Anti Social Behaviour Orders, starting a mediation service, an abandoned vehicle scheme and sports and arts development opportunities. A Liberation Day had been held during May 2004 and a School Safety Day involving 300+ children including a theatre production on anti social behaviour was being organised. The Meeting was advised that of the statistics relating to crime for the District and the successful work of the Partnership in that there had been no repeat victims of house burglary. It was reported that the Partnership's proposals for 2004/05 included a Domestic Abuse Drop In Centre, a Neighbourhood Watch Support Scheme, an Anti Social Behaviour Response Team, environmental improvements and new facilities and activities. The timetable for the launch of the Crime and Disorder Strategy for 2005/08 was outlined.

A general discussion took place regarding anti-social behaviour problems in the Castle Gresley and Linton areas. It was reported that an Anti-social Behaviour Officer had been recruited to work with the Probation, Police, Youth Service and education establishments to tackle anti-social behaviour and would be taking on much work on the problems reported. A Safer Derbyshire Anti-social Behaviour Co-ordinator would also be working to co-ordinate work within the County. A resident stated that there was a need to ensure that authorities did not spend too much time asking what was needed. The Chair advised that the District Council had been criticised in its CPA Inspection that it was not consulting enough with younger people.

LA/9. **BEAT 625**

S. Jackson of Castle Gresley advised that P.C. Debbie Charlton covered Beat 625. She was looking to set up a group of parish councils, meeting on a monthly basis, so that she could attend this one Meeting and have contact with all parish councils rather than attend all of the parish council meetings. Those involved were also looking for the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils (DALC) to come to this particular meeting. Andy Wright advised that a letter was going to the parish councils in this regard and the first

meeting was to be held on 4th October 2004 at the Coton-in-the-Elms Community Centre. These arrangements would be undertaken initially on a trial basis. A discussion took place and it was confirmed that Drakelow would be invited to attend.

LA/10. **RECYCLING NEWS (2003/04)**

The Meeting was advised that South Derbyshire's residents had beaten the Council's recycling target for the financial year 2003/04. During the year 40,000 tonnes of waste was collected in the District out of which 6.5 tonnes were recycled (17%). The Council's target for the year was 14%, so it was well on its way of meeting the statutory target set by the Government – 21% in 2005/06. The Meeting was advised that the main recycling developments during the previous year were in the areas of the extension of the composting scheme by a further 6,000 households in the District, a fortnightly collection of the kerbside paper and the launch of a new scheme in January of this year for the kerbside collection of glass, cans, foils and textiles as well as paper from 12,000 households in the District.

J. Blythe advised that the recycling bins accommodating tin cans needed emptying more regularly as they tended to fill every two days. He suggested that a survey be undertaken regarding usage of recycling sites to avoid such problems.

M. R. LAURO

CHAIR

The Meeting terminated at 8.35 p.m.