

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

NEWHALL

Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at St John's Church, Newhall

PRESENT:-

South Derbyshire District Council representatives

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

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

Derbyshire County Council representatives

Councillor Sean Bambrick, Councillor Paul Dunn.

Paul Jameson (Area Forum Liaison Officer), Scott Clayton (Policy Unit).

Parish Council / Meeting representatives

None.

Members of the public

J Allsopp, John Appleby, Mick Chilver, Kerrie Fletcher (South Derbyshire CVS), Pamela Foy, Mr Hobson, Mrs Hobson, Richard House, Alan Jenner, Colin Maddock, Beryl Mulgrew, Mick Mulgrew, Councillor Pat Murray, M Richards, R Trim, Rev Kath Wood, Barry Woods.

NA/10 **Apologies for absence**

Alan Argent, Councillor John Wilkins.

NA/11 **Declarations of interest**

None.

NA/12 **Chairman's announcements**

Councillor Sean Bambrick had no announcements to make.

NA/13 **The minutes of the meeting held on June 29, 2016**

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

NA/14 **Report back on issues raised at the last meeting**

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

Paul Jameson reported that works to replace tactile paving at the location had been issued as a priority in August. He was surprised the work had still not been completed. A resident said he'd seen some council workers at the site looking at the paving the previous week. Councillor Bambrick added that it might be a good idea to install a concrete bollard at the site to stop trucks running over the delicate paving. Mr Jameson said he would ask the question back at DCC.

ACTION: Paul Jameson to report back on paving at Rose Tree Lane

NA/15 **Public questions on issues raised by residents**

A member of the public said the new community centre at Chestnut Avenue, Midway, was a brilliant facility. However, there were problems with the play area and it wasn't near what was promised. The multi-use gaming area (MUGA) discussed 18 months earlier hadn't materialised and as a result teenagers were using a play area meant for younger children. Councillor Bambrick replied that the best thing which could be done was to meet with SDDC Chief Executive Frank McArdle and review the options. Councillor Paul Dunn said he thought a temporary MUGA was going to be placed in the car park of the centre, but he wasn't sure it was the right solution. There were issues which needed resolving, including storage for cleaning equipment and football nets. There had also been talk of a storage container being installed on site but it wouldn't be in keeping with what had been built. A log cabin had been suggested which could work.

ACTION: Kevin Stackhouse to take the issue back to SDDC and see if a solution could be found

A resident of Newhall raised the issue of deprivation in the area. He said that people living in Newhall took exception to the 'deprived' classification. There were good schools, a good surgery, good shops, good community centres, good pubs and an improving park in the area. He felt that being classed as deprived was unfair on people who had their life invested in Newhall. Councillor Dunn replied that the resident was confused – indices of deprivation existed and certain areas met them. He agreed that it wasn't an ideal term to use but it was applied in order to get help for the area. Scott Clayton, who was involved in DCC's Thriving Communities project, said it was about looking at systems and procedures rather than just levels of poverty in the community.

The ethnographic research being undertaken by DCC would allow the authority to better understand people's interaction with the services it provided. There was no link between what was being done and house prices. Money spent in Newhall would be mapped and it would let DCC see if a different and more productive way of working could be identified. Councillor Kevin Richards cited the example of Gresley, which had previously been identified as having the highest mortality rate for young men in Derbyshire. It was not a nice label to have, but as a result of its services were introduced to help solve the problem.

A resident asked if the district councillors in the room felt deprived at the decision not to form a parish council in Newhall and Stanton. Councillor Bambrick replied that he didn't. Councillor Richards said the people had decided they didn't want a parish council in a referendum. Councillor Bambrick added that he and his fellow councillors sat in a meeting and had to vote on behalf of the people of Newhall and Stanton – and the majority of people felt they didn't want one. Councillors had stayed neutral in the process to ensure they could vote the way they wanted to. A resident said he was very confident a parish council would be formed after he helped to gather signatures for the original petition. He was taken aback by a letter sent out by district councillors which he felt was negative about the formation of a parish council. Councillor Bambrick replied that everything in the letter was a fact. Another resident added that the subject could be gone over and over – it was the remain and leave Brexit campaign all over again. Councillor Richards raised a point of order and said the council had voted unanimously against the formation of a parish council and a democratic decision had been made.

NA/16 **County council issues**

Councillor Pat Murray reported that kerb stones outside the Hillcrest Fish Bar in Midway were breaking up. The issue had been reported but they kept breaking and it was a trip hazard.

ACTION: Paul Jameson to report back on the broken kerb stones

NA/17 **District council issues**

No issues.

NA/18 **Date of next meeting**

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

Councillor Sean Bambrick
CHAIRMAN

The meeting terminated at 8.15pm.