

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

AREA 1 – ETWALL

Monday, January 30th, 2017 at Hatton Jubilee Hall

PRESENT:-

South Derbyshire District Council representatives

Councillor Mrs Lisa Brown (Chair), Councillor Andy Billings, Councillor Martyn Ford, Councillor David Muller, Councillor Mrs Julie Patten, Councillor Mrs Amy Plenderleith, Councillor Andy Roberts.

Stuart Batchelor – Director of Community and Planning.
Tom Sloan – Clerk.

Derbyshire County Council representatives

Councillor Martyn Ford, Councillor Mrs Julie Patten.

Parish Council / Meeting representatives

Steve Cooper (Hilton Parish Council).

Members of the public

Jo Bagley (South Derbyshire CVS), Chris Hall (Burnaston Neighbourhood Watch), Sue Jolly, Bryan Myring (Etwall Neighbourhood Watch), Emma Simpson (Rural Action Derbyshire).

EA/19 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Paul Jameson.

EA/20 **Declarations of interest**

None.

EA/21 **Chair's announcements**

Councillor Mrs Lisa Brown announced that Part II of the South Derbyshire Local Plan had been submitted to the Government Planning Inspectorate. Stuart Batchelor added that SDDC had been notified of the inspector appointed but dates were awaited. March was the earliest an inspection of the plan was expected. It would be adopted in May or June.

EA/22 **To note the minutes of the meeting held on October 11th, 2016 (copy attached)**

The minutes were approved as a true and correct record of the previous meeting.

EA/23 **Report back on issues raised at the last meeting**

Councillor Mrs Brown reported that Derbyshire County Council Area Forum Liaison Officer Paul Jameson would no longer be appearing at the meetings and there would be no replacement. However, any issues for DCC would be reported back through the meeting. If bigger issues arose, attempts would be made to secure the attendance of a relevant officer.

Councillor Martyn Ford said he felt all the Area Forums should write to DCC to complain about the situation. Mr Jameson had only found out about the decision a week earlier.

Councillor Mrs Amy Plenderleith asked if the meeting's thanks could be passed onto Mr Jameson.

Councillor Mrs Brown added that Mr Jameson was a reliable attendee whose answers were always well-researched. A suitably worded letter would be written to the county council to thank him for his efforts.

ACTION: Tom Sloan and Stuart Batchelor to draft a letter to DCC

EA/24 **Public questions on issues raised by residents**

Councillor Andy Roberts asked why DCC wasn't fixing street lights like it had in the past. He had reported six or seven lights and they hadn't been repaired.

ACTION: Councillor Andy Roberts to compile a list of lights in need of repair

Councillor David Muller reported that a speeding sign in Egginton Road, Etwall was flashing but no longer indicating a speed. Councillor Ford said a new sign was going to be fitted and information had been sent through to Etwall Parish Council the previous week.

Councillor Roberts reported a large pothole in the footpath between Station Road and Heath Way, Hatton. It was causing pedestrians to trip over and needed repairing.

ACTION: Issue to be reported to Derbyshire County Council

A resident said that Burnaston Parish Council had arranged to get a black wheelie bin at the top of Green Lane as the area was covered in litter most of the time. It had been installed in the summer but had only been emptied once. Councillor Muller replied that the bin was supposed to be on the round for SDDC's bin lorry and would be added in future.

ACTION: Issue to be reported back to South Derbyshire District Council

Councillor Ford highlighted irresponsible parking at Etwall Leisure Centre. Footways were being blocked and double yellow lines ignored. Mr Batchelor said there was an ongoing parking capacity problem at Etwall. John Port School had opened up an overflow car park but the issue was that the public weren't using it and instead parking on verges. SDDC was looking at the situation but resurfacing the overflow car park would help.

A resident reported that coaches bringing children to Etwall Leisure Centre were parking right in front of a bus shelter. Mr Batchelor replied that schools had been told this was unacceptable and that leisure centre staff could challenge a bus driver over their parking.

EA/25 **County council issues**

None.

EA/26 **District council issues**

Mr Batchelor updated the meeting on the budget status of SDDC. Reserves were healthy and a balanced budget was predicted for the next two years. Reserves were forecast to remain above the minimum statutory level for the next five years. However, the Government's Rate Support Grant was going to be reduced from £1.2 million a year to zero by 2019-20 – a 15% cut in funding. Government funding was being shifted to help fund adult social care. SDDC would need to rely on Council Tax, Business Rates and the New Homes Bonus to balance its books. However, the New Homes Bonus was being 'top sliced' to help fund adult social care. By 2018-19 the projected deficit was £800,000 a year so there were two years to tackle it. Funding the deficit meant either using reserves which would not be replaced or developing a savings plan over the next two years.

A Council Tax rise of 1.9% was planned and would be discussed at Full Council on March 1. DCC was looking to raise Council Tax by 3.95%, with an extra 2% allowed by Government to help fund adult social care.

EA/27 **Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting would be announced in due course.

Councillor Mrs Lisa Brown
Chair

The meeting terminated at 7.56pm.