

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

AREA 1 – ETWALL

Tuesday, October 9th, 2018 at Sutton on the Hill Village Hall

PRESENT:-

South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC) representatives

Councillor Mrs Julie Patten (Chair), Councillor Andy Billings,
Councillor Martyn Ford.

Allison Thomas – Strategic Director (Service Delivery).
Chris Smith – Communities Manager.
Tom Sloan – Clerk.

Derbyshire County Council (DCC) representatives

Councillor Martyn Ford, Councillor Mrs Julie Patten.

Derbyshire Police representatives

PC Joe Pilgrim, PCSO Kerry Wallington-Waite.

Parish Council / Meeting representatives

Steve Cooper (Hilton Parish Council), Norman Ireland (Etwall Parish Council), David Neal (Etwall Parish Council), Jane Osborne (Hatton Parish Council).

Members of the public

Ben Taylor (SDDC Housing), Pam Wood (South Derbyshire CVS).

EA/8 **Open meeting**

a. Introductions and apologies

Councillor Mrs Lisa Brown, Councillor David Muller, Councillor Andy Roberts.

b. Declarations of interest

None.

c. Chair's announcements

Councillor Mrs Julie Patten updated the meeting that:

- Due to apologies from Councillors Mrs Brown, Muller and Roberts the Area Forum was not quorate and would go ahead as a community meeting only and not a constituted Council meeting.
- The funeral of former SDDC Leader Bob Wheeler had taken place in August.
- Councillor Mrs Amy Plenderleith had left the Council to take up a role with Staffordshire Police.
- SDDC was again running the Free Tree scheme, where residents could claim up to six free saplings for their garden.
- A consultation on the Local Green Spaces Development Plan Document was under way.

d. To receive the minutes of the last meeting

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

EA/9 **Safer Neighbourhood report**

PC Joe Pilgrim reported that:

- Multiple uninsured drivers had been detected in recent months. This had been as a result of the detention of suspicious vehicles along with the prosecution of disqualified drivers. Multiple illegal immigrants had been detained on the A38 and A50 and handed to immigration officials.
- Cannabis warnings had been issued in the area and a Community Protection Notice (CPN) was given by PCSO Jamie Gutberlet following a neighbour dispute in Etwall.
- A new PCSO was due to start in the middle of November.
- He could shed light on an incident reported at the previous Area Forum in June. A resident had complained about what they felt was a poor Police response to a report made by an off-duty officer regarding cannabis smoking in Sutton Lane, Etwall. No back-up had arrived for the officer after the incident was reported. PC Pilgrim said the officer involved was an inexperienced Special Constable and the call for back-up had been 'deprioritised' as the two smokers had been compliant and co-operative during their arrest. Therefore, on a busy night, no back-up arrived.
- Regarding parking at Etwall Leisure Centre, multiple attempts had been made by PCSO Gutberlet to ease the problem with parking around a busy junction – with little success. Instead,

tickets had now started to be issued and six drivers had been caught. The problem was now much reduced. Police had lost many of their highways enforcement powers, but parking on a solid white line was still one of the powers they had and potentially three penalty points could be added to a licence.

PCSO Kerry Wallington-Waite reported that:

- Scropton did not meet the criteria for a speed camera as there were not enough vehicles caught exceeding the limit in a survey – 85% of traffic did not exceed 42mph in a 40mph area.
ACTION: Kerry Wallington-Waite to set up Community Speed Watch in Scropton

Councillor Mrs Patten reported that there had been a spate of people trying doors in Hilton. PCSO Wallington-Waite replied that she would send out a Tweet telling residents to be alert.

A resident asked if PC Pilgrim or PCSO Wallington-Waite could attend Hilton Parish Council to introduce themselves and give some guidance on social media usage. They agreed they would attend a future meeting if it was at a convenient time vis-a-vis shifts and rest days.

Councillor Andy Billings confirmed that ticketing inappropriately parked cars in Etwall had proved effective. Education was still needed to get people to use the overflow car park at John Port School. He asked for clarification on what constituted anti-social parking which blocked a pavement. Mr Smith replied that if it was consistently the same person, the CPN route could be taken. Photos illustrating the problem over the course of a few weeks were needed. The offence needed to be persistent, unreasonable and causing a nuisance.

A resident asked if there were any plans to check the speed of vehicles at the A5132 crossroads where there had been several serious accidents. PCSO Wallington-Waite confirmed that such checks would fall to Derbyshire's CREST (speed cameras) team. PC Pilgrim confirmed that he had attended three accidents at the location and agreed that there was a case for it to be undertaken.

EA/10 **Communities update**

Mr Smith confirmed there had been a lot of issues in the urban core of South Derbyshire since the previous round of meetings. He reported that:

- An issue which affected everyone in the District was fraud, particularly online fraud. He explained the service offered by Action Fraud, an organisation set up to help people and urged people to be wary of anything which appeared to be a scam.

- Trick or Treat fliers to discourage youngsters from banging on doors were available at the meeting.
- Mr Smith confirmed that the Dove Valley Pub Watch meetings would no longer be held due to poor attendance. Help would still be available to landlords regarding any issues they had – but there appeared to be few problems for pubs in the area.
- Mr Smith reported that there had been no applications for Safer Neighbourhoods funding since the previous meeting. He urged any eligible projects to come forward as funding was available and would potentially go to another area in South Derbyshire if it went unspent.

Pam Wood (CVS) confirmed that:

- The CVS had funding available for various projects and could support the setting up of community groups.
- The Safer Homes Scheme was still operating for elderly and vulnerable residents, where the CVS would visit and install home security devices such as spy holes, door chains and window locks.
- Ashbourne Community Transport was still offering a shopping service to residents in need. Councillor Martyn Ford added that it was a service which needed promoting. Councillor Mrs Patten said she felt the service needed rebooting to help it thrive.

EA/11 **Local authority issues & public questions**

Allison Thomas updated the meeting on the Local Green Spaces Development Plan Document. The number of sites under consideration for protection from development had been whittled down to 86. A letter to Parish Councils set out the criteria. Concerns around sites rejected from the long list could readily be explained – in most cases, they had extant protections and did not need additional measures. Residents had until November to comment on the proposed green spaces.

A resident complained that it was unclear which types of plastics could be recycled. Mrs Thomas replied that the SDDC website had excellent details on the subject and efforts were made to make clear what could and could not be recycled. She agreed that the subject could be confusing. Ultimately, all local authorities were in the hands of recycling firms in terms of what could be recycled – for example, pizza boxes could not be reused as the cardboard used became contaminated with grease. A flier had been produced for those residents who had no internet access to explain the situation. Mrs Thomas added that there had also been several contamination incidents at the recycling centre in Main Street, Hilton, where incorrect items had been placed into the Tetra Pak carton recycling

bins. If the issue continued then the contractor would consider removing the facility.

A resident said that a dog waste bin in Hilton was emptied twice a week, on a Tuesday and a Friday. With three collections due to be missed over Christmas this year, it could prove an unpleasant situation. Mrs Thomas replied that she was in negotiations with relevant staff and unions to see if extra shifts could be laid on over the Christmas period.

A resident said they were unhappy that Hilton Parish Council had been criticised over closed rides in the play area near the village hall. Weekly checks were carried out by the Parish Council and monthly checks by SDDC. Parts had been ordered by the District Council but they had not arrived – yet the Parish Council had been blamed on social media. Mrs Thomas replied that there had been an issue with the supply of spare parts for what was bespoke play equipment. She would pursue the matter with the Cultural Services Manager at SDDC.

EA/12 **Presentation on local community initiative**

No presentation was given.

EA/13 **Summary of any agreed priorities / actions**

ACTION: Kerry Wallington-Waite to set up Community Speed Watch in Scropton

EA/14 **Close and date of next meeting**

The next meeting would be held on January 29 at Foston and Scropton Village Hall.

**Councillor Mrs Julie Patten
Chair**

The meeting terminated at 7.38pm.