

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

MELBOURNE

13th November 2013

PRESENT:-

District Council Representatives

Councillor Harrison (Chairman) and Councillors Hewlett, & Mrs. Watson.

F. McArdle (Chief Executive Officer and C. Smith (Community and Planning).

Derbyshire County Council Representatives

Councillors Davison and Mrs. Chiltern.

P. Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

Parish Council/Meeting Representatives

C. Blackmore & K. Atkin (Barrow on Trent Parish Council), J. Carroll & G. Hudson (Melbourne Parish Council), T. Scott (Shardlow and Great Wilne Parish Council) and P. Bickerton Elvaston Parish Council.

Members of the Public

T. Mills and C. Pidgeon.

MA/9 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Watson and Atkin.

MA/10 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman announced the Council are moving to 'paperlite'. As part of this Councillors will now have i-pads rather than paper copies of minutes for all council meetings. This results in a saving of £20k per year.

Draft Local Plan - the Chairman gave an update from the Planning Policy Manager on the local plan consultation events and the concerns raised by the local public:

Elvaston

- The majority of those who attended the event had concerns over the proposed dwellings at Boulton Moor

- Existing Road capacity was a concern, including strategic and local network including the roundabout off the A6
- Concern over school capacity
- Concern over flooding in the area
- There was interest in development proposed at Aston Hall Hospital site.

Melbourne

- There was significant concern expressed about the growth on the edge of Derby City, particularly around Chellaston and how this could impact on Chellaston Academy if growth were to be accommodated by the School
- A number of attendees raised concerns regarding the adequacy of Swarkestone Bridge and were worried that development in close proximity to the bridge could increase traffic locally which would result in congestion and additional impacts on the causeway.
- A small number of attendees expressed concern that any level of growth in the village could affect the Village centre which they considered significantly constrained and unable to accommodate additional growth
- A single attendee highlighted the need to protect the distinct identities of Melbourne and Kings Newton and avoid the further coalescence of the two villages
- A need for further homes in the village to meet the needs of older people, and those wishing to downsize were expressed by one resident
- One attendee was interested in HS2 and the potential of this proposal to affect Melbourne and South Derbyshire.

Aston

- Comments mainly on the former Aston hospital site allocation: the majority were pleased that something was going to happen to prevent the anti-social behaviour and would welcome an application ahead of the Plan. Also interest in the care village element. Concerns were raised about access to the site both during the construction phase and long term. Concern too about primary school capacity.
- Interest in Boulton Moor; how it would affect traffic and schools. Interest too in the proposed green belt swap.

The consultation period doesn't close until this Friday 15th November so you can still make comments by contacting the Planning policy team at SDDC on: 01283 595 983.

Lots of compliments received on the new recycling bins that have been rolled out across the district, only a few concerns about the times of collections. The Chairman stated that he had read there had been a significant reduction in the amount of rubbish taken to landfill since the recycling scheme started.

The Chairman announced that Fire Service were currently in a period of consultation and that major changes are planned for the Fire Service in light of decreased calls for service and proposed funding cuts. The consultation will run until 23rd of December, All information is available at www.derbyshire-fire.gov.uk.

The proposals will have an impact on Melbourne as plans are to shut Melbourne Fire Station and provide a new one in Hilton. There are allegedly plans in the pipeline to build a new station just over the border in North West Leics which would also service Melbourne.

There is a consultation day at the Fire Station at Swadlincote this Friday 15th November between 9.00am and 16:00pm.

Melbourne Parish Council have arranged a meeting at 7:30pm on Thursday 28th November at Melbourne Assembly rooms for residents to raise their concerns. The fire service had not confirmed if they would be attending.

The Fire Service will be holding a consultation event at Melbourne Fire Station on Thursday 12th December from 2pm -7pm.

M.A/11 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Melbourne Area Forum held on 30th July 2013, were noted.

MA/12 **REPORT BACK ON ISSUES RAISED AT THE LAST MEETING**

The Chairman referred those present to the report circulated with the Agenda. The Chairman stated the large fines issued on Swarkestone Causeway should act as a deterrent. The Forum Liaison Officer stated that the engineers report for the damage to Swarkeston Causeway was not yet available for release but did confirm there was no major structural damage.

Following a query raised at the last meeting, the Forum Liaison Officer confirmed that a bypass for Swarkestone remains in the LTP (Local Transport Plan) and is included on a long list of major schemes. The Chairman queried what route a proposed bypass would follow.

The Forum Liaison Officer recalled that the feasibility study, carried out 2-3yrs ago, explored a number of options but only a few were considered viable. A possibility would be for a bypass to commence from, or near to, the A50 roundabout in the north, continue south and terminate on the A514, beyond Stanton-by-Bridge village (junction with B587). It was believed that cost estimates at the time were in the region of £20m.

The Chairman commented that any proposed route would ideally bypass Kings Newton and Melbourne by commencing from the A50 roundabout and connecting to the A453 in the south. It was acknowledged however that, even if feasible, the cost of such a proposal would be much greater.

County Councillor Davison asked if any other gullies had been cleaned after the flooding. The Forum Liaison Officer did not have this information.

MA/13 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS**

A resident stated that Ambaston Lane shouldn't be the national speed limit. The Chairman stated that without sufficient evidence it would be very difficult to get this reduced.

It was raised that there was flooding on both sides of Cuttle Bridge Swarkestone and there was concern that the drainage wasn't working.

The Forum Liaison Officer to arrange an inspection

A Parish Councillor enquired as to why a local resident was refused a 3rd recycling bin without a good reason. **Senior Waste Manager Gillian Coates to be passed the complainants details**

A Parish Councillor stated that at B587 Woodhouses in Melbourne the footway and drain cover had fallen below the surface of the carriageway and water was collecting which could turn to black ice and be a hazard now the weather is getting colder. **The Forum Liaison Officer to arrange inspection.**

County Councillor Chiltern thanked the Forum Liaison Officer for the 5 year report on the Swarkeston Causeway that he provided.

A Parish Councillor encouraged all other local Parish Councils to respond to the Fire Service consultation as the proposals to close the Melbourne Fire station will also affect the response times to the other nearby villages. The Chairman stated that the proposals are flawed as the proposals fail to take into consideration that District is the fastest growing area in the County. The District Council will be making a submission to the consultation as will Melbourne Parish Council.

MA/14 **COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES**

Forum Liaison Officer provided brief update on the Drainage Improvement scheme at Woodshop Lane.

County Councillor Davison provided the following update:

The Fire Service proposals were initially drawn up by the Chief Fire Officer and that it was likely that there would be substantial modifications to the proposals by the end of the consultation.

There had been a full council meeting at Derbyshire County Council on 2nd October which highlighted that they were having to find £157 Million of cuts over the next 5 years which equates to almost 1/3 of their spending. A programme of consultation is about to start

There is a consultation meeting with Voluntary sector agencies taking place on 18th November at Belper Football Club

Local Area Committee meetings have started up which are open to the public to attend. The 8 County Councillors are present and the recent meeting focused on Local Area Plans. The County Councillor thanked officers from SDDC for attending that meeting.

MA/15 **DISTRICT COUNCIL ISSUES**

It was queried if the Area forum meetings were publicised enough. The Chief Executive Officer stated that they were always promoted in the local press and every attendee received a copy of the agenda and papers.

MA/16 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next Meeting would be confirmed in due course.

J. HARRISON

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8:30pm