

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA FORUM

MELBOURNE

27th October 2011

**PRESENT:-**

**District Council Representatives**

Councillor Harrison (Chairman), Councillor Watson (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors Atkin, Shepherd, Smith and Mrs. Watson.

M. Alflat (Director of Operations), P. Spencer (Democratic Services) and K. Ward (Helpdesk).

**County Council Representatives**

Councillor Harrison.

P. Jameson (Forum Liaison Officer).

**Derbyshire Constabulary**

Sergeant S. Todd.

**Parish Council/Meeting Representatives**

D. Martin (Aston-on-Trent Parish Council), M. Sharp (Melbourne Parish Council), N. Jenkinson (Smisby Parish Council), R. Parke (Ticknall Parish Council) and R. Wheat (Stanton-by-Bridge Parish Meeting).

**Members of the Public**

K. Atkin, D. Bayliss, D. Calvert, E. Hardy, G. Pollard, R. Saxby.

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from District Councillors Chahal, Hewlett and Stanton, County Councillor Ford, J. Tibbett (Ticknall Parish Council) and A. Thompson.

MA/9. **POLICE ISSUES**

Sergeant Todd gave an update on crime statistics for the area for the period 1st April to 30th September 2011. Overall there had been a slight reduction when compared to the same period for the previous year and detailed reports were given for a number of specific crime areas. The Officer displayed leaflets that were distributed in areas where there was known to be theft from vehicles. He spoke of a police operation to deter scrap yards from receiving stolen metals and a further operation to address anti-social behaviour in certain areas. The Officer displayed notices provided to local shops and posters for

residents to discourage people from visiting properties for “trick or treat” during Halloween. Sergeant Todd referred to a police engagement event, which would be held at the Council’s Civic Offices on 2nd November 2011, together with a new National non-emergency telephone number for the police. In future, residents could simply dial 101 to report non-emergency incidents.

The Sergeant then gave an update on the matters raised at the previous Meeting, referring to the fatal traffic collision on the A5132, near to Swarkestone and investigations were ongoing. The Officer also reported on a recent Meeting between the Constabulary and Highways Officers on safety issues. Further dialogue had taken place regarding the provision of a footway in the Swarkestone area and he read a report on this.

The Chairman referred to the route that children were having to take when walking to the Chellaston School. A “safe walk” was to be organised and would take place at 8.00a.m. to demonstrate the route involved, which included 8 road crossings, some of which were major roads. He added that there were no planned changes to bus services until at least April 2012.

A Kings Newton resident was concerned about speeding traffic through the village and requested that a speed activated warning sign be installed. The community speed watch initiative was referred to and Sergeant Todd explained how this scheme operated. Training could be provided to local individuals to monitor the speed of traffic through an area. Residents wishing to participate were asked to contact Sergeant Todd outside the Meeting. With regard to speed activated warning signs, these tended to be provided by Derbyshire County Council in areas where there were known accident problems. The Forum Liaison Officer was asked to research accident statistics in the Kings Newton area and report this back to a future Meeting. If the County Council was unable to fund the provision of a sign, local funding sources could be used and examples were given. A comparison was provided with the scheme being introduced in Aston-on-Trent, where three posts and a moveable camera would be installed. This was a locally funded initiative and a parish councillor offered to give advice on how this had been pursued.

**Sergeant Todd agreed to liaise with Melbourne Parish Council regarding the community speed watch initiative and the Forum Liaison Officer would provide accident statistics for the Kings Newton area to the next meeting.**

MA/10. **CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman advised that following the recent consultation exercise, the Council had agreed revised area forum boundaries. These would provide that each ward was situated in only one area and details were given of the areas that would be included in the Melbourne Area Forum from next year. These boundaries would also apply to the existing Safer Neighbourhood Meetings, enabling both meetings to be held on the same date at the same venue, with the Safer Neighbourhood Meeting first, to deal with any police issues. This would avoid duplication and achieve savings in cost and Officer time, as well as avoiding the need for residents to attend two meetings.

The Chairman also reminded of the circulated information from the Constabulary regarding the non-emergency contact number and consultation event.

MA/11. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Melbourne Area Forum held on 19th July 2011 were noted.

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

A report had been circulated with the agenda. The Chairman reminded those present of the issues raised, the action taken to date and verbal updates were provided where appropriate. With regard to the canal bridge at Sinfin Lane, Barrow-on-Trent, details were given of a recent site meeting and the proposed works by Derbyshire County Council to patch and reinstate road markings as well as introduce kerbing and reflector posts at this location. It was anticipated that British Waterways would carry out repairs to the structure in the next financial year. The Forum Liaison Officer was asked to seek these works being completed at the earliest possible date. Clarification was provided about the previous location of some road markings, which affected visibility and there was a need to ensure that the replacement lining was in the right location.

It was confirmed that the Kilomathon Road Race would not take place in 2012. With regard to Deepdale Lane at Sinfin, it was reported that another vehicle had gone off the road, into the canal. There were concerns about speeding traffic in this area. It was suggested that central carriageway road markings might assist. This would need to be investigated, and was dependant upon the carriageway width.

**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to pursue the issues reported above.**

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

It was reported that the Melbourne Civic Society, in conjunction with the District Council had surveyed the litter-bins in Melbourne and refurbishment works were planned.

A question was submitted about cardboard recycling, following the recent changes to the composting scheme. It was questioned why it would take until 2013 to implement revised arrangements and the Director of Operations responded. A change in legislation meant that printed cardboard and sellotape affixed to cardboard could no longer be included in the compost bins. This would have an impact on recycling. However, once introduced, the revised scheme would be more comprehensive, further increasing the rates of recycling in South Derbyshire. Details were also given of extra cardboard recycling bank facilities in the interim.

MA/14. **COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES**

The Chairman reminded of consultations publicised in the Derbyshire First newspaper about changes to the winter gritting service and switching off street

lighting in certain areas overnight. He urged responses to these consultation exercises.

Reference was made to the installation of signage on the A50 trunk road, to deter heavy goods vehicles from travelling through the Swarkestone area. This matter had been raised some 6 months previously, but the signage was still awaited. It was confirmed that this matter was still being pursued with the Highways Agency.

**The Forum Liaison Officer agreed to pursue this matter again and to provide a report back to the next Area Forum.**

MA/15. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date and venue for the next Melbourne Area Forum would be confirmed in due course.

J. HARRISON

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 8.05 p.m.