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NORTHERN AREA COMMUNITY FORUM

Notes of the Northern Area Community Forum held on 14 February 2018 at 7.00pm at the Agricultural Business Centre, Bakewell

PRESENT

Derbyshire Dales - District Council Councillors Helen Froggatt (In the Chair), Alyson Hill, Susan Hobson, Jean Monks, Lewis Rose, OBE, John Tibenham and Jo Wild

Karen Henriksen (Head of Resources), Karen Cooper (Crime and Disorder Reduction Officer) and Ros Hession (Community Engagement Officer)

Derbyshire Constabulary PCSO Ian Phipps

Peak District National Park Authority Sarah Fowler – Chief Executive

Members of the Public Bakewell Town Council – Bill Storey
Foolow resident – Simon Wills
Mary Chaplin, Richard Chaplin, Steve Edwards, Henry Folkard, Kath Potter, Richard Torr
8 in total

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Councillor Froggatt welcomed everyone to the Forum, introduced participating Councillors and officers then outlined the plan for the evening.

DERBYSHIRE DALES DISTRICT COUNCIL – GOOD NEWS

Karen Henriksen talked about some of the District Council's recent successes which included:-

parkrun: Bakewell parkrun is now up and running and is reliant on local volunteers. Sports development was involved in the initial start-up of this weekly 5km run. The first Bakewell parkrun had over 250 runners, a huge success!

Community Safety: We co-ordinated an Intergenerational event in Ashbourne and Darley Dale - offering safety support and advice and trying to reduce isolation and loneliness before Christmas.

The CCTV system has performed well in its first few months, with a number of individuals and incidents being identified and passed on to the authorities for action.

Community Engagement: Good one for the whole district is that the Built Sport Facilities, Playing Pitch and Open Space Strategy has been adopted.

This will help clubs, groups and town/parish Councils when they are bidding for external funding to improve sports and recreation facilities

Great British Spring Clean: 2 – 4 March 2018 – *‘a campaign with a simple aim : to bring people across the country together to clear up the litter that blights our towns, villages, countryside and beaches. Together we can make a difference and clean up the environment on our doorstep’*. The District Council will once again be supporting this event by providing local groups with equipment, bags and arranging to pick up the rubbish collected.

Agricultural Business Centre (ABC) Lease: The Council’s Legal Services successfully assisted with the negotiation and drafting of a new 25 year lease for the Agricultural Business Centre. The Council’s Corporate Director led on this initiative supported also by our Estates Team. The new deal provides significant operational savings for the District Council each year, whilst securing the long term tenancy of the livestock market within Bakewell.

Website: Visits to our www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk website are at an all-time high, with 2.42 million page views in the year to January, generated by 821,447 visits - an increase of 13.4% on the previous year.

Housing: Shortlisted for the UK Housing Awards – Strategic Local Authority of the Year.

Business Advice: So far this year our Derbyshire Dales Business Advice Service has **supported 58 existing firms** in the Dales, including many with plans to grow

Businesses recently assisted to secure grants (now totalling over **£1m** for the Dales) include:

- Parkgate Nursery, Ashbourne
- Mount Cook Activity Centre, Middleton by Wirksworth
- New Close Farm Ltd. (butchery), Over Haddon

Our ‘**Launchpad**’ business start-up programme has now worked with **62 clients** in the Derbyshire Dales

Both projects are being delivered with EU funding support

DERBYSHIRE DALES DISTRICT COUNCIL – SPENDING PROPOSALS FOR 2018/19

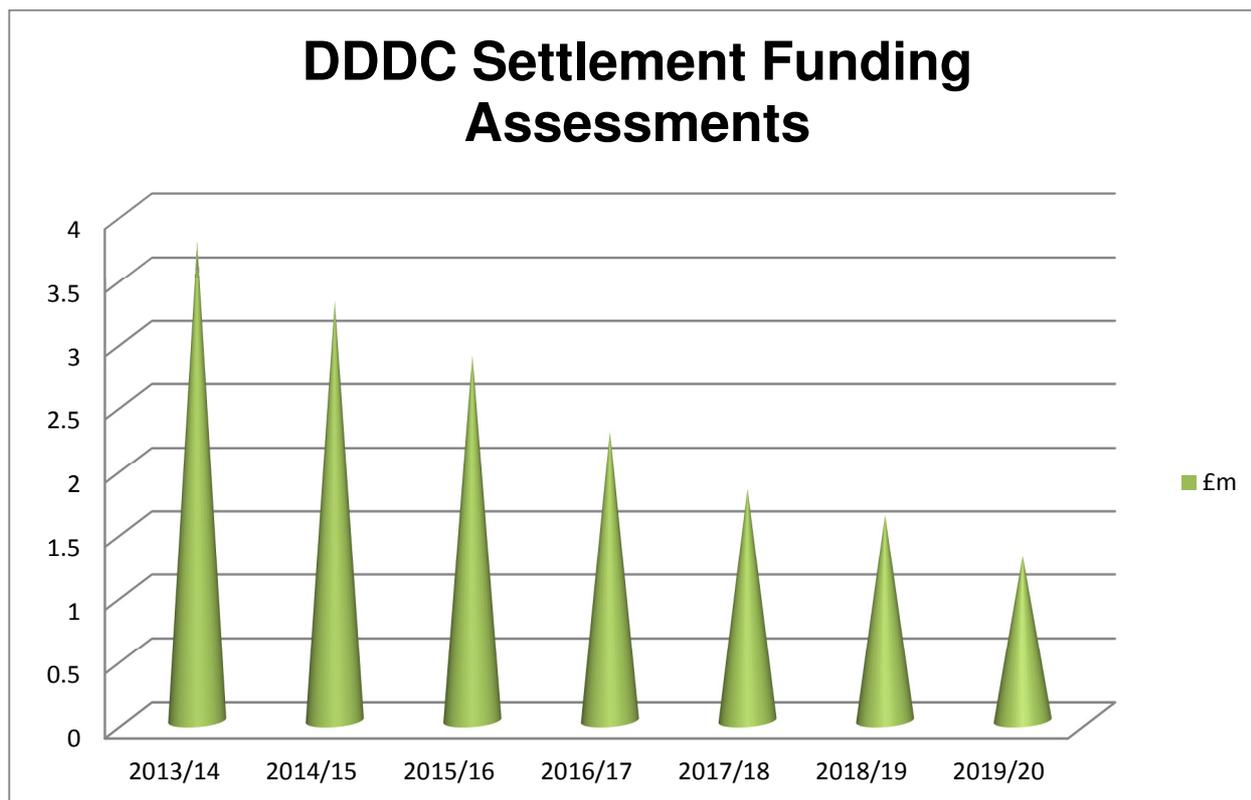
Karen Henriksen made a presentation on the District Council’s spending proposals for 2018/19.

Local Government Finance Settlement (provisional)

	2017/18	2018/19	Change
Settlement Funding Assessment	£1,816,000	£1,611,000	-11%
Spending Power	£8,680,000	£8,313,000	-4.2%

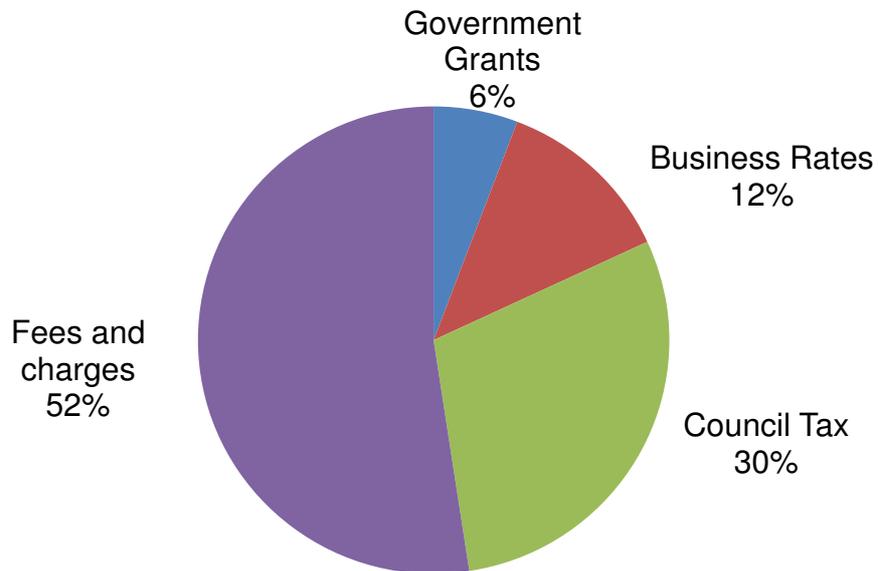
It should be noted that the Government's spending power figure assumes that the council tax for DDDC will be increased by 2.99% in 2018/19.

A graph of DDDC Settlement Funding Assessments showed cuts year on year.



Percentage of Spending Power funded by Council Tax over the four-year settlement period					
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Mainly Rural	58%	62%	66%	69%	71%
Mainly Urban	45%	49%	53%	55%	57%
DDDC	58%	59%	65%	71%	75%

**Derbyshire Dales District Council Sources of finance:
Draft Revenue budget 2018/19
(excl. benefits) Total £20 million**

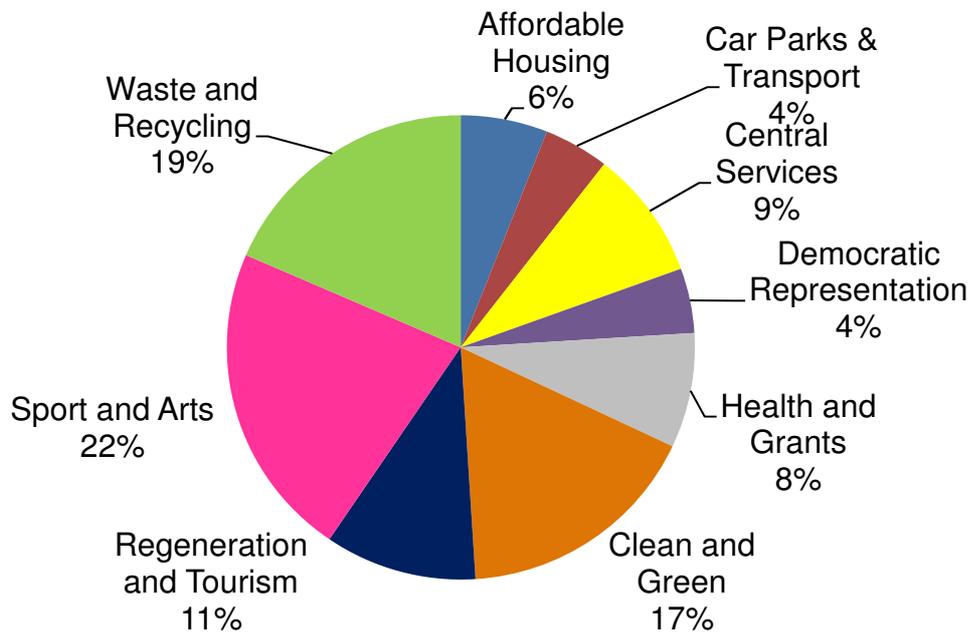


Where your money goes....

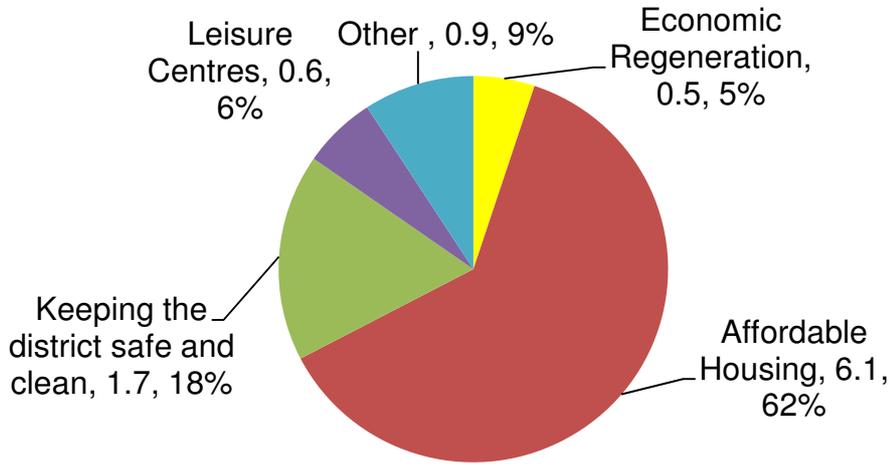
- Waste and recycling collections
- Four leisure centres
- More than 30 parks and gardens
- Keeping your streets clean
- Helping local business
- Providing affordable homes
 - + much more!

Annual Spending

**Derbyshire Dales District Council Budgeted
Proposed Gross Revenue Spending 2018/19
Total £20 million (excl. Benefits)**



**Proposed 5 year capital spending
2017/18 to 2021/22
Total £9.8m**



- We are working hard to make efficiency savings and to provide the services that you need, but to do this.....
- We propose an increase of 2.99% in the District Council’s share of the Council Tax for 2018/19 for a band D property, which equates to around 11p a week for a band D property.

What does the proposed increase mean for you?

	Council Tax 2017/18	Proposed Council Tax for 2018/19	Increase on previous year	Increase per week
Band A	£132.23	£136.18	£3.95	£0.08
Band B	£154.26	£158.87	£4.61	£0.09
Band C	£176.30	£181.57	£5.27	£0.10
Band D	£198.34	£204.27	£5.93	£0.11
Band E	£242.42	£249.67	£7.25	£0.14
Band F	£286.49	£295.06	£8.57	£0.16
Band G	£330.57	£340.45	£9.88	£0.19
Band H	£396.68	£408.54	£11.86	£0.23

Savings

- To achieve a balanced budget over the coming years, the Council has a Corporate Savings Target to achieve £1m savings over the next three years.
- We are updating our Efficiency Plan to show how we plan to achieve these savings.
- We have been told that we will be part of a business rates pilot in 2018/19 and are hopeful that will bring in some additional funding.

Consultation

- This presentation will be placed on the Council's website www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk
- Councillors will meet on 5th March to consider the proposed increase
- Please use the feedback forms to let us know your views or email finance@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

Questions and comments were then invited from the floor and issues were raised as follows:-

- Kath Potter asked if the District Council had written to the government in isolation or with others about funding cuts.
- Karen noted this as a good question and advised that the District Council is a member of several organisations lobbying for rural councils. In January, a Rural Services Network template had been used and also the District Council's network will also issue draft responses.
- Councillor Tibenham asked about the financial effect of the outsourcing of the District Council's leisure services.
- Karen replied that leisure tenders were currently being evaluated and would be reported to a Special Council meeting on 15 March with a start date of 1 June. Some savings had already been built in.

SAFER DERBYSHIRE DALES - COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Karen Cooper began by providing some background information:-

- Crime and Disorder Act 1998 stated that the Police cannot be expected to prevent and solve crime on their own and Community Safety Partnership were born
- 20 years on, a lot has changed, but: We are still working in partnership to try and reduce Crime and Disorder including Anti-Social Behaviour
- Funding from the District Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner – although other pots of money to apply to and to help signpost people to
- ASB Crime and Policing Act 2014 introduced new powers
- Derbyshire Dales – Lowest Crime Rate and ASB Calls for service compared with other areas of Derbyshire.
- Both Crime and ASB in Derbyshire Dales lower than this time last year, although that is not the case across the County

Karen went on to talk about a Cyber Safety & Online Safety training session which had recently taken place with over 50 attending.

PCSO Phipps talked about older persons projects, which as well as providing a social event, also sought to raise awareness of community safety for older people and encouraged common sense to keep safe.

Other recent initiatives included Behind Closed Doors – raising awareness around domestic violence and domestic abuse.

School projects sought to highlight road safety, 'stranger danger' and internet safety.

'Intoxicated' an initiative to raise awareness around alcohol, had initially launched in the Peaks & Dales, but now, thanks to the support of the Police Crime Commissioner, was being rolled out countywide.

Community Speed Watch Schemes had been set up around the district in response to vehicle speeds through villages.

Karen went on to talk about the new CCTV system which comprised of 20 new state of the art digital cameras:

- Ashbourne = 4 Camera Locations
- Bakewell = 3 Camera Locations
- Matlock = 6 Camera Locations
- Matlock Bath = 3 Camera Locations
- Wirksworth = 4 Camera Locations
- Some Cameras contain more than 1 camera,
- 360 Cameras = 8 Cameras knitted together to get a full 360 overview and moveable Pan, tilt and Zoom Camera as well

Comparative images from the 2007 and the current system were shown. The new system had some cameras which could provide either 180 or 360 degree image and zoom in on images.

CCTV Results and Good News Stories

To the Council

- Enforcement around the Pedlars at Matlock Bath Illuminations:
- Damage to Bollard in Wirksworth (just under £1000)
- Damage to Bus station and doors in Matlock, still under investigation

To the Public

- Requests from members of the public – One to prove location as it appeared someone had cloned their car number plates and used them in a crime

To the Police

- Requests from the Police :
- Shoplifters, Bag/ Purse Thieves
- Burglaries, Road Traffic Collisions, Boy Racers
- Ongoing requests and picture is changing on an almost daily basis
- Requests to: cctv@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

Safer Derbyshire Dales - follow us on Facebook @saferderbyshiredales

QUESTION TIME

Questions and comments were then invited from the floor and issues were raised as follows:-

Bakewell Splashpad

Bill Storey had submitted a question in advance:-

- 1) 'A neighbour of mine has just asked if I can find out how much it is costing to clean the splash pad in Bakewell Recreation Ground. He says there have been two men with a pressure washer there for a few days now, and were there before Christmas as well.

- The call out before Christmas was a result of a slippery surface being reported.
 - The second visit was as part of routine maintenance which is carried out across all wet & dry play facilities across the district as part of the winter maintenance programme. This includes jet spraying all the rubber matting and the splash pad areas on all parks to stop it from getting covered in algae and also to reduce the chance of slipping.
- 2) I would like to raise the question of how much per year it now costs to run and maintain that splash pad. Could I have a full breakdown please, for the last 12 months, and in these days of cuts, has it been considered if it is still viable to keep it open.

Post Meeting Note - Sally Rose, Environmental Services, has provided the following information in addition:-

- The total running cost for a year for Bakewell Splash pad is £6,530.40 per annum, breakdown as follows:
 - Water - £5,244
 - Commissioning/Decommissioning - £625
 - Staff costs - £451.40
 - Fuel - £210.00
 - This is a valuable resource to the District and is well used; not only by residents but also by visitors to the area who benefit Bakewell economically

Public Conveniences, Matlock

- Mr Laurence Knighton had submitted a question about the toilets at Matlock Bus Station being closed at 4 pm.
- The main toilets are closed by 5 pm in the winter and by 6 pm in the summer. This coincides with all our other District Council's public toilets. The bus station toilets are closed first, before the main ones in Hall Leys Park, so the times may be earlier than these times. The decision was made to coincide with the other toilets due to a high amount of vandalism. This included graffiti and damage of the facilities.

Raves

- In response to a question from Henry Folkard about the approach to raves in rural areas, Karen Cooper advised that the police tend to take the lead and best efforts are made to work in partnership with the authorities and landowner.
- PCSO Phipps added that the police do try to monitor social media streams and act on observations, but it can be difficult, although the police had had some success.
- Mr Folkard agreed that these situations are difficult.

Bakewell Recreation Ground

- Mrs Chaplin thanked the District Council for the works carried out to the Recreation Ground path and cited an example of an elderly lady in a mobility aid alongside a young boy riding a bike enjoying the park.

Purse / handbag thefts

- Mrs Chaplin urged for people to highlight the risks of hanging a bag on the back of a wheelchair or mobility aid as these can be easily targeted by thieves.
- Karen Cooper noted that there have been recent purse thefts and a project is currently being look at to raise awareness.

Safety of Lees Cross Quarry

- Kath Potter spoke of a recent suicide at Lees Cross Quarry and whilst appreciating that this building is of archaeological importance, she urged that discussions take place with the Peak District National Park Authority and the landowner, Lord Edward Manners, to make as safe as possible.
- Karen Cooper would take this forward.

Community Speedwatch

- Councillor Hobson appreciated that the Community Speedwatch scheme generated a letter to speeding offenders, but asked what could be done if the problem continued or got worse.
- PCSO Phipps advised that speeding hotspots dictate prioritisation of the cameras and that there are other ways of monitoring.
- Karen Cooper advised to contact CREST.

Post Meeting note - contact CREST and request camera monitoring or more information <https://www.crestderbyshire.org/about-us/report-a-speeding-concern/> There is lots of information and an automated form to request consideration of a particular area.

Fire Authority

- Steve Edwards raised concerns about the proposed changes at Matlock Fire Station which he believed would have an impact on response times for Bakewell and Hathersage and asked if this had been taken into account.
- Karen Cooper reported that at the presentation given at the Central Forum in Matlock, a manned station would operate 9 am – 5 pm with a retained service in the evenings. Several models had been considered and this arrived at taking the best from various options.
- Steve Edwards continued that he had concerns that there would be times when only the retained service is on duty.
- Councillor Rose added that the Fire Authority's presentation stressed that the '5 minute rule' would remain.

Street Cleansing / grass cutting

- Kath Potter 'I regularly see the DDDC cleansing vehicle on the A6, but this Autumn/Winter I have yet to see it sweeping country lanes in the DDDC area. Whether we live in a town, village or hamlet we all have to pay our council tax and should receive the same commensurate cleaning service treatment. Much of the Derbyshire Dales is in the National Park, 65 parishes I believe, and what does this neglect say to our millions of visitors? Given the years of neglect on some country lanes these are becoming narrower and indeed grass can be seen growing on some of the lanes. Does the DDDC possess an attachment, readily available, to a vehicle which moves along the verge of a lane and turns the mud bad onto the grass because if it does why isn't it seen to be in use? Potholes are another story and the responsibility of DCC highways. Need I say more about the deplorable state of some roads and lanes due to potholes not being addressed? If we are not Goggin to get the basic service why should our Council Tax be increased which we are surmising will be the case in April?'

Post Meeting Note - Sally Rose, Environmental Services - The sweeping frequency for the A6 is one guaranteed sweep per quarter; the sweeping frequency for villages and B roads is one guaranteed sweep per year. The last sweep in Stanton was completed on the 10.01.18. In 2017 we did also do one other sweep in Stanton relating to a complaint,

but this was additional to the rota. The street cleansing frequencies are set by DCC not DDDC.

- The leaf collection schedule for the A6 is every 3-4 weeks during fall with the villages done in between this on rotation; the last leaf collection in Stanton was 24/10/17. The leaf collection rota was devised by DDDC based on operational resources available and DCC priority areas.

CONCLUSION AND THANKS

Councillor Froggatt thanked everyone for their participation.

Meeting closed at 7.50 pm