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SOUTHERN AREA COMMUNITY FORUM

Notes of the Southern Area Community Forum held on 7 February 2018 at 7.00pm at the Henmore Suite, McMurtry & Harding Veterinary Practice, Ashbourne

PRESENT

Derbyshire Dales - District Council Councillors Sue Bull (In the Chair), Richard Bright, Tom Donnelly, Tony Morley, Dermott Murphy and Lewis Rose, OBE.

Dorcas Bunton (Chief Executive), Paul Wilson (Corporate Director & Deputy Chief Executive), Karen Henriksen (Head of Resources), Karen Cooper (Crime and Disorder Reduction Officer) and Ros Hession (Community Engagement Officer)

Derbyshire Constabulary PC Rachel Baggaley and PCSO Jo Dales

Members of the Public Clifton Parish Council – Paul Siddall
Marston Montgomery – Elizabeth Archer
Osmaston and Yeldersley – John Hall, John Naylor
Shirley – Paul Puplett, Tony Taylor
Stephen Gibbons, Michael Snaith
8 in total

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

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

DERBYSHIRE DALES DISTRICT COUNCIL – GOOD NEWS

Dorcas Bunton 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

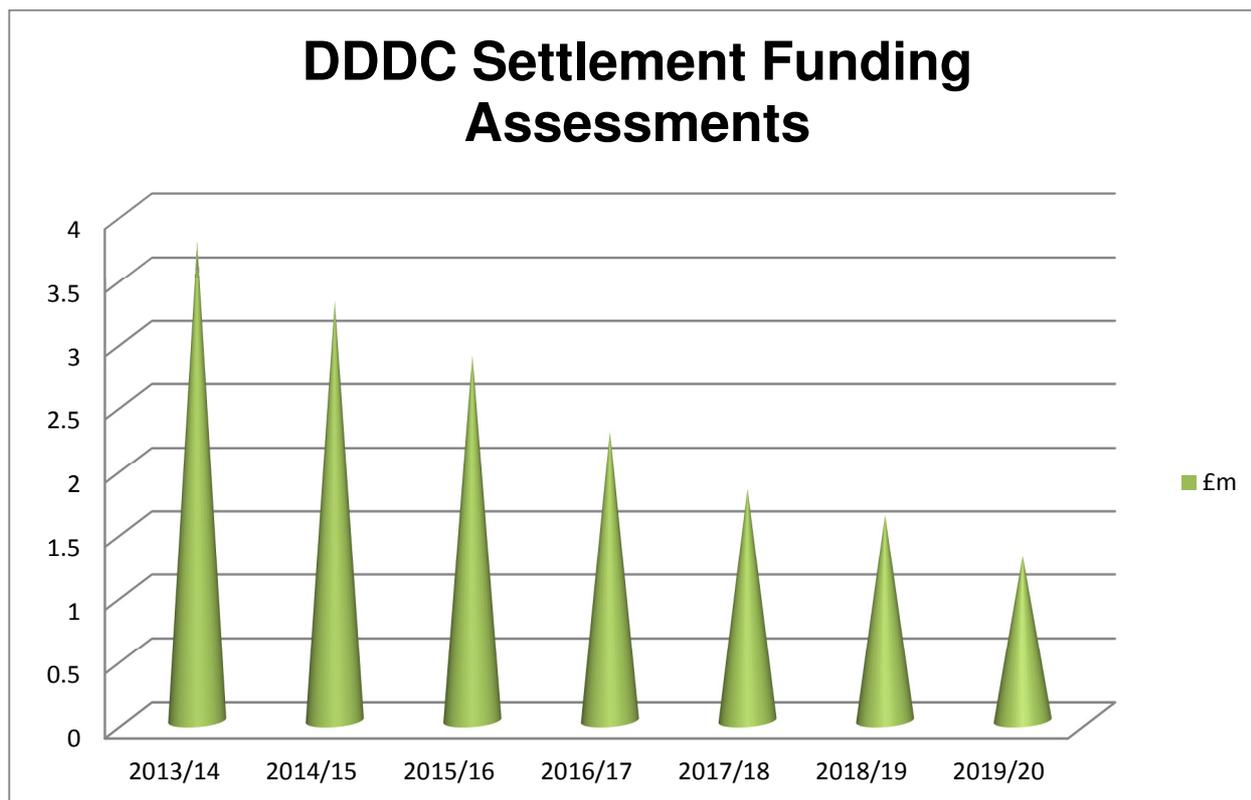
Karen Henriksen made a presentation on the District Council’s spending proposals for 2018/19.

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%

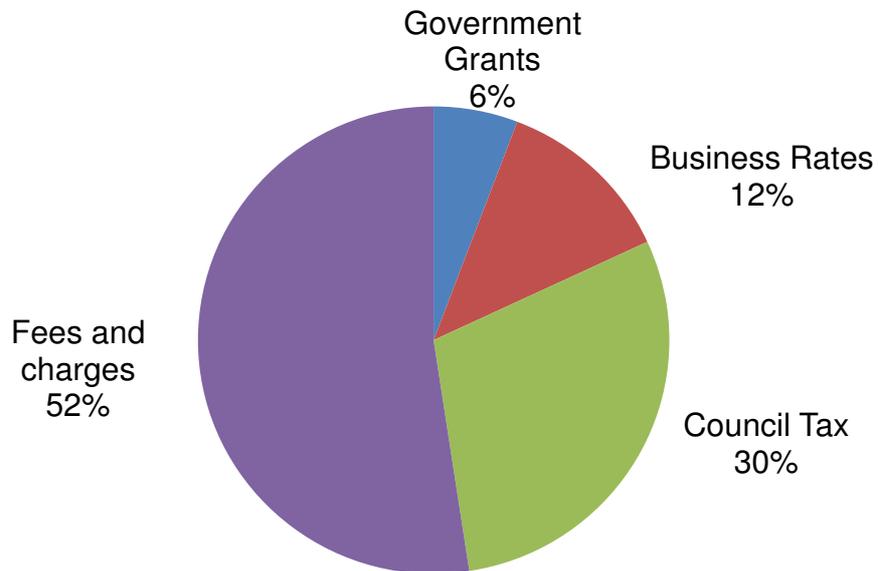
It should be noted that the Government's spending power figure assumes that the council tax for DDDC will be increased by 2.99% in 2018/19.

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**

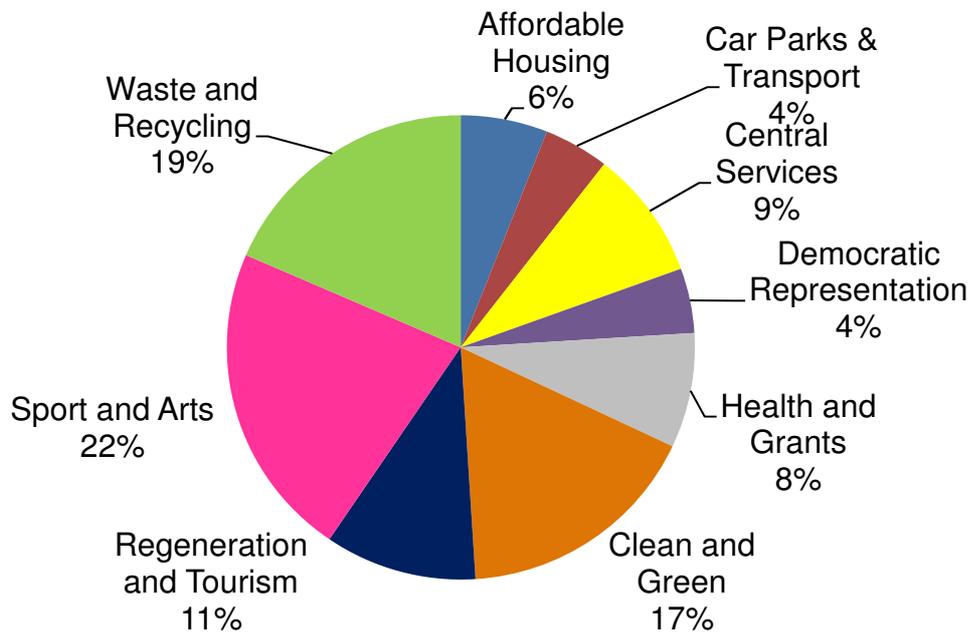


Where your money goes....

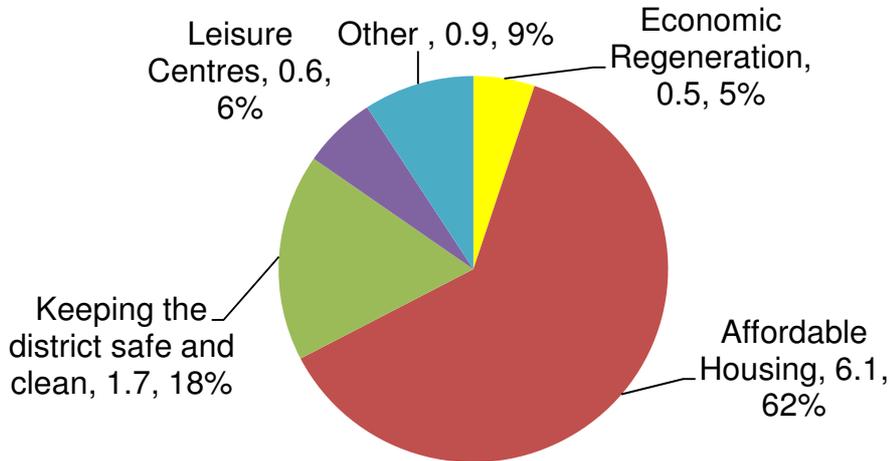
- Waste and recycling collections
- Four leisure centres
- More than 30 parks and gardens
- Keeping your streets clean
- Helping local business
- Providing affordable homes
 - + much more!

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:-

- A member of the public appreciated the strategy for car parking charges, but noted the competition between towns eg Uttoxeter charges are cheaper.
- Paul Wilson reported that the last car park increase had been in 2013 at which time benchmarking with other councils had taken place. The District Council subsidises the popular residents' permit. Many tourists visit the Derbyshire Dales – maybe some areas do not attract so many tourists as they are less attractive.
- Recent increases have not produced any significant downturn in car park usage.
- The annual £2 million revenue helps keep down Council Tax charges.
- Because people need to understand this, the member of the public suggested that this be explained on the car park charges board.
- Dorcas had seen this in other areas and it was noted as an idea worth exploring.

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.

PC Rachel Baggaley talked about the Christmas Cracker event which brought together older residents who were entertained by school children and also enjoyed a hot meal.

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

School projects sought to highlight road safety, seat belt safety and Speedwatch. Work had also taken place with local primary school children around Good Citizens in the Community.

'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.

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

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

- In response to an enquiry about advice on the new Data Protection regulations for clubs and societies, Karen Henriksen suggested that clubs look at the Information Commissioner's Office website for guidance. The District Council is making its own preparations and providing sessions for businesses.
- PC Baggaley highlighted that there is still a police presence in Ashbourne. She urged that for anything requiring a quick response, to ring 999. Otherwise the Safer Neighbourhood Team could be emailed or contacted at Ashbourne Fire Station between 9 am and 10 pm. There was usually a patrol car or two in the town also.

QUESTION TIME

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

Recycled Waste

- A member of the public asked about recycling and if it was taken to landfill.
- Paul reported that the waste is recycled at a number of different outlets including Vital Earth in Ashbourne where food and garden waste is taken.
- The District Council is proud of its recycling achievements with 57% of waste being recycled – one of the highest rates in the country.

- A member of the public noted that the Ashbourne Civic Amenity site does not recycle hard plastics.
- Paul replied that this may well be the case as this was run by Derbyshire County Council.

Planning

- In response to a member of the public raising an issue about a recent planning application, Paul advised that the Decision Notice had not yet been issued and assured that all representations and opinions expressed at the meeting, along with the report, were taken into account in reaching the decision.

CONCLUSION AND THANKS

Councillor Bull thanked everyone for their participation.

Meeting closed at 7.45 pm