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20 May 2014

To: All Councillors

As a Member of the **Council**, please treat this as your summons to attend the **Annual Meeting of the Council on Thursday 29th May 2014 at 6.00pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Matlock.**

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sandra Lamb', written in a cursive style.

Sandra Lamb
Head of Corporate Services

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

Please advise Democratic Services on 01629 761133 or e-mail committee@derbyshiredales.gov.uk of any apologies for absence.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2014/2015

Proposal that a Member of the Council be elected Chairman.

3. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2014/2015

Proposal that a Member of the Council be appointed Vice-Chairman.

4. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT OF DERBYSHIRE DALES 2014/2015

- a) Proposal that a Member of the Council be appointed to the position of Chairman of the District of Derbyshire Dales, with seconding and supporting speeches.
- b) Newly appointed Chairman of the District of Derbyshire Dales to take Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

- c) The retiring Chairman will invest the newly appointed Chairman of the District of Derbyshire Dales with the Chain of Office.
- d) Speech in reply by the newly appointed Chairman of the District of Derbyshire Dales.
- e) The Chairman of the District of Derbyshire Dales will propose a vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman.
- f) Retiring Chairman to reply.
- g) Speech by Chairman of the District of Derbyshire Dales on plans for the year ahead.

5. APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT OF DERBYSHIRE DALES 2014/2015

- a) Proposal that a Member of the Council be appointed Deputy Chairman of the District of Derbyshire Dales, with seconding and supporting speeches.
- b) Newly appointed Deputy Chairman to take Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- c) The Chairman of the District of Derbyshire Dales will invest the newly appointed Deputy Chairman with the Chain of Office.

6. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive the announcements of the Leader of the Council.

7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

8th May 2014

8. INTERESTS

Members are required to declare the existence and nature of any interests they may have in subsequent agenda items in accordance with the District Council's Code of Conduct. Those interests are matters that relate to money or that which can be valued in money, affecting the Member her/his partner, extended family and close friends.

Interests that become apparent at a later stage in the proceedings may be declared at that time.

- 9. RESPONSIBILITY FOR FUNCTIONS AND REVISIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION** **4 - 8**
- To seek approval of amendments to the Council's Constitution in terms of its decision-making structure and delegation to officers; Contract Standing Orders; Financial Regulations and Rule of Procedure to accommodate a mandatory Standing Order.
- 10. APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES** **9 - 18**
- To appoint Members to serve on Committees of the Council in accordance with the wishes of the political groups as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.
- 11. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN TO COMMITTEES** **19**
- To appoint Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen to Committees.
- 12. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES** **20 - 24**
- To review the Council's affiliations with outside bodies and significant partnerships, and consider nominations to act as the Council's representatives.
- 13. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AREA COMMUNITY FORUMS** **25 - 29**
- To receive the Annual report of the Area Community Forums.
- 14. SEALING OF DOCUMENTS**
- To authorise that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to those documents, if any, required to complete transactions undertaken by Committees or by way of delegated authority to others, since the last meeting of the Council.

NOTE

Members of the public requiring further information about this agenda are requested to contact Democratic Services on 01629 761133 or e-mail committee@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

Distribution: All Members of the Council.

COUNCIL
29 MAY 2014

Report of the Chief Executive

RESPONSIBILITY FOR FUNCTIONS AND REVISIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

SUMMARY

This report seeks approval of amendments to the Council's Constitution in terms of its decision-making structure and delegation to officers; Contract Standing Orders; Financial Regulations and Rule of Procedure to accommodate a mandatory Standing Order.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the decision making structure as set out in paragraph 2.1 be approved.
2. That Council discharges functions to Committees within that revised structure and delegates decision making to Officers as set out in Part 3 of the Constitution.
3. That Rule of Procedure 19 be amended to incorporate the mandatory standing order which requires a recorded vote to be taken on all decisions relating to the calculation of the level of Council Tax.
4. That the update to Contract Standing Orders as described in paragraph 2.4 of the report be approved.
5. That the update to Financial Regulations be approved.
6. That the programme of meetings for the 2014/15 civic year be approved.

WARDS AFFECTED

Not applicable.

STRATEGIC LINK

The effective operation of the Council's democratic processes underpins all the Council's aims and objectives. The Constitution is also an important tool in setting and monitoring the Council's governance framework.

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 As part of the annual processes of the Council, the Annual Meeting must decide upon its decision making structure for the forthcoming year and which of the

Council's functions it chooses to discharge to its Committees and delegate to its officers. Those arrangements are underpinned by the Local Government Act 1972 and are published by way of the Constitution.

1.2 Since its last Annual Meeting, Council has approved a new management structure and many of the revisions proposed by way of this report seek to reflect new job titles and improvements in decision making.

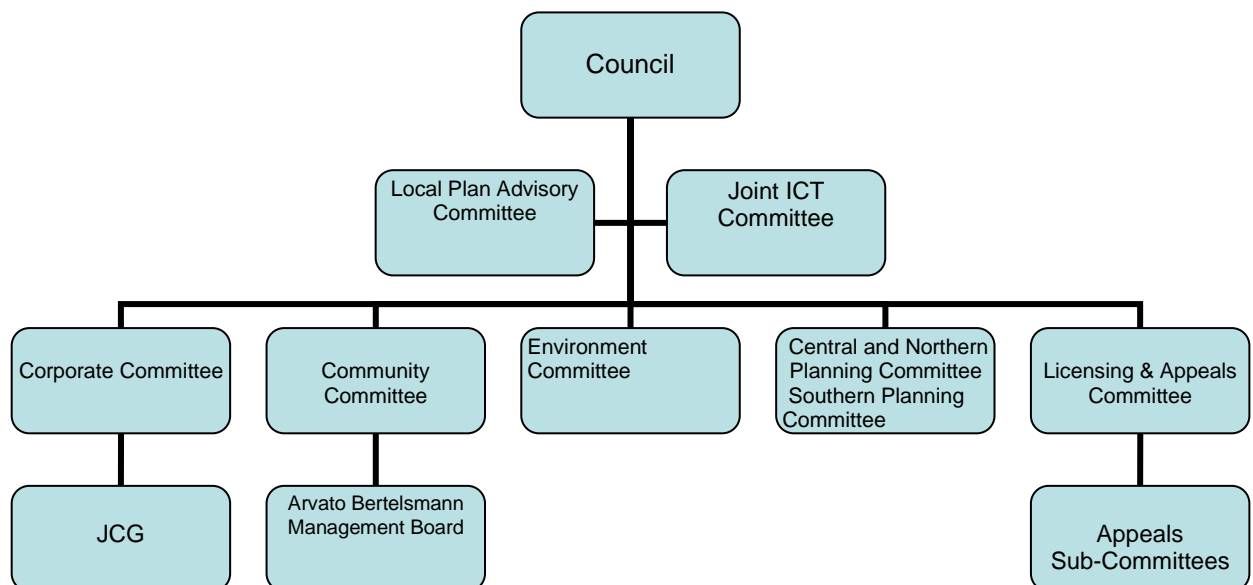
1.3 In the interests of efficiency, the appendices to this report have not been reproduced in paper form but are available to view by Councillors on the Members Portal and to public and Councillors on the District Council's web site. The statutory right of the public and press to view a paper copy of the Agenda and reports on request is unaffected.

2 REVIEW OF CONSTITUTION AND DECISION MAKING STRUCTURE

2.1 The Constitution is a comprehensive document which sets out how the Council operates, how the decisions are made and the procedures which are followed to ensure that these are efficient, transparent and accountable to local people. Some of these processes are required by law, and others are a matter for the Council to choose.

2.1 Throughout the Constitution, references to Officers by revised job title have been amended and none are brought to the Council's specific attention.

In terms of decision making, Part 3 of the Constitution sets out which of Council's functions it seeks to reserve, discharge to Committees, and delegate to officers. No changes are proposed to the reservation or discharge of functions to Committees. The structure is illustrated below and a revised Part 3 is published electronically in support of this report.



2.2 A review has been undertaken of the scheme of delegation to officers and changes have been made to reflect new job titles in the revised management structure. The Scheme of Delegation is published in Part 3 of the Constitution. No significant new delegations have been added to the current scheme.

2.3 Mandatory Standing Order

Part 4 of the Constitution contains the rules of procedure with regard to the conduct of meetings. A new mandatory standing order needs to be inserted as required by statute to provide for the recording of whenever decisions are taken to agree the budget, or set the Council Tax and precepts.

Rule of Procedure 19 is therefore recommended for inclusion as follows

Voting

The Chairman shall take the votes in one of the following ways

19(e) The names for, against or abstaining from voting, on a proposal, or amendment will be taken in writing and entered in the Minutes, whenever the Council makes a decision to agree the budget, or sets the Council Tax and precepts.

2.4 Contract Standing Orders

A review of Contract Standing Orders has been undertaken and 3 amendments are proposed:

- To increase the thresholds where practicable, alternative quotations shall be invited for the execution of work, the supply of goods or the provision of services from £20,000 to £25,000.

The increased threshold is to allow for greater flexibility and efficiency and is considered to be at the right level to deliver best value. Governance arrangements will remain in place through Financial Regulations and Contract Standing Orders generally. The risk in raising the threshold is assessed as low.

- The requirement that all Contracts are in a form approved and **executed** by the Head of Corporate Services. This is to enable consistency and for all contracts to be entered into the Contracts Register for public scrutiny.
- The creation of a web site facility called 'Source Derbyshire Dales' which will publicise all live and potential contracts for work, goods and services. This is a promotional facility which will make it easier for companies and individuals to find out how to do business with the District Council. The risk associated with the facility is assessed as low.

2.5 Re-Print of the Constitution

The Constitution will be republished to reflect the decisions of this Annual Meeting and a full copy will be available electronically on the web site and Members Portal. Officer copies will be stored on the Intranet with sections available in paper form only when deemed absolutely necessary in the interests of economy and efficiency.

3 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

- 3.1 The Calendar of Meetings for 2014/15 is attached as Appendix 1 for adoption by Council.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 Legal

The legislative foundation to enable or require amendments to the Constitution is shown within the main body of the report. The legal risk is therefore low.

4.2 Financial

There are no legal considerations arising from the report.

5 CONTACT INFORMATION

Sandra Lamb Head of Corporate Services Tel. 01629 761281 or e-mail sandra.lamb@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

6 BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 Electronic Appendices

Part 3 of the Constitution – Responsibility for Functions
Part 8 – Contract Standing Orders
Part 9 – Financial Regulations

7 ATTACHMENTS

Appendix 1 – Programme of Meetings



Notable dates in 2014/15
 26 May 2014
 25 August 2013
 17, 18 February 2015
 3 April 2015
 6 April 2015
 4 May 2015

Spring Bank Holiday
 August Bank Holiday
 Shrovetide
 Good Friday
 Easter Monday
 May Day

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS 2014/2015

1 = Council Tax & Budget Setting
 2 = Civic & Ceremonial Annual Meeting

District and Parish Elections 7 May 2015

2014										2015				
MEETING – All at 6.00pm (unless otherwise stated)	VENUE	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY
Council	M	29(2)	19	24		25		20		22		5(1)	23	21(2)
Corporate	M		26			18			11			19		
Community	M			10			16			15			9	
Environment	M			17		11			18		26		16	
Central & Northern Area Planning	M		3	1	5	2	7	4	2	13	3	3	7	
Southern Area Planning	A		10	8	12	9	14	11	9	20	10	10	14	
Joint Consultative Group 2.30 pm	M			17			9			29		26		
Central Forum 7.00 pm				22			29				9			
Southern Forum 7.00 pm				9			6				2			
Northern Forum 7.00 pm				15			13				16			
Car Parking Review Sub	M													
Ernest Bailey	M							6						
Parish Council Conference 7.00pm	M										24			
Parish Clerks' Liaison				2			22				4			
Licensing/Appeals	M			29				12				25		
Local Plan Advisory	M		12						4					

COUNCIL
29 MAY 2014

Report of the Chief Executive

APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES

SUMMARY

To appoint Members to serve on the Committees of the Council for the year 2014/15

RECOMMENDATION

That Members be appointed to serve on the Committees of the Council in accordance with the wishes of the political groups as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.

WARDS AFFECTED

None

STRATEGIC LINK

An effective decision making structure underpins all of the Council's objectives.

1 REPORT

1.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 governs the appointment of Members to serve on Committees. The Act requires that where an authority's membership is divided into different political groups, appointments to fill seats on -

- ordinary committees or sub-committees of the authority;
- advisory committees; and
- outside bodies with at least three seats,

are allocated in the same proportion as that in which the Council as a whole is divided.

1.2 The Council is also under a duty to review the representation of political groups and to determine the allocation of seats to be filled and in doing so, as far as reasonably practicable, to make decisions that conform with the following prescribed principles:

- a) that not all the seats are allocated to the same political group;
- b) that a political group with an overall council majority gets a majority of seats allocated;
- c) subject to (a) and (b) that the total number of seats each political group has on all ordinary committees is in proportion to that group's share of the total council elected membership; and

d) subject to (a) and (c) that each political group has the same proportion of seats as it holds on the council as a whole.

1.3 A table demonstrating the allocation of seats is attached at Appendix 1.

1.4 The Council is now under a duty to make appointments to Committees in accordance with the wishes of the political groups which are shown in the Schedule at Appendix 2.

2 RISK ASSESSMENT

2.1 Legal

The regulatory framework governing committee places is documented in the main body of the report, which represents minimal risk to the Council.

2.2 Financial

There are no financial risks arising from this report.

3 CONTACT INFORMATION

Sandra Lamb, Head of Corporate Services, Telephone 01629 7618281 or email sandra.lamb@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

4 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

5 ATTACHMENTS

Appendix 1 – Allocation of Seats

Appendix 2 – Schedule of appointments

Appendix 1



Committee/Outside Body	No. of Seats	Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour	Independent Member
Community	16	12	2	2	
Environment	16	12	2	2	
Corporate	16	12	1	2	1
Central Planning	17	13	2	2	
Southern Planning	17	13	2	1	1
Licensing and Appeals	12	9	1	1	1
JCG	6	4	1	1	
Local Plan Advisory	12	7	1	2	1
Joint ICT	3	2	0	1	
Total Allocated	115	85	12	14	4
Overall Total Entitlement		85	12	15	3
Variations		0	0	-1	+1

Liberal Democrat to cede one seat to the Independent Member

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP – 2014-2015

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

16 SEATS

Conservative 12	Liberal Democrat 2	Labour 2
	S Burfoot	J. M. Ratcliffe
J.J. Bower	D. R. Burton	C. Swindell
J. R. H. Bright		
T. G. Donnelly		
A. G. Millward		
L. M. Rose		
A. P. Statham		
G. E. M. Stevens		
J. A. Stevens		
P. Tilbrook		
J.A. Twigg		
J. Wild		
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
J. Bevan	R. D. Fearn	R. Cartwright
S. Bull	S. Flitter	P. Slack
A. J. P. Catt		
A. Elliott		
R. N. FitzHerbert		
C. Furness		
N. Horton		
C. A. Hunt		
M. V. Longden		
J. Monks		
G. Purdy		
B. Tipping		

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

16 SEATS

Conservative 12	Liberal Democrat 2	Labour 2
S. Bull	S. Burfoot	J. M. Ratcliffe
A. Elliott	S. Flitter	P. Slack
C. Furness		
N. Horton		
C. A. Hunt		
A. D. Jenkins		
G. Purdy		
L. M. Rose		
A. Shirley		
G. E. M. Stevens		
C. A. Walker		
J. Wild		
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
J. Bevan	R. D. Fearn	R. Cartwright
J. J. Bower	D. R. Burton	C. Swindell
J. R. H. Bright		
A.J.P.Catt		
T. G. Donnelly		
R. N. FitzHerbert		
M. Longden		
J. Monks		
A. Statham		
J. Stevens		
B. Tipping		
J. A. Twigg		

CORPORATE COMMITTEE

16 SEATS

Conservative 12	Liberal Democrat 1	Labour 2	Independent 1
A. J. P. Catt	R. D. Fearn	R. Cartwright	D. Frederickson
D. G. Chapman		I. Ratcliffe	
R. N. FitzHerbert			
A. I. Lewer			
M. V. Longden			
J. Monks			
G. Purdy			
L. M. Rose			
G. E. M. Stevens			
J. A. Stevens			
B. Tipping			
J. A. Twigg			
Substitutes	Substitute	Substitutes	
J. Bower	D. R. Burton	J. M. Ratcliffe	
J. H. R. Bright		C. Swindell	
S. Bull			
T. G. Donnelly			
A. Elliott			
C. Furness			
C. Hunt			
A. Millward			
A. P. Statham			
P. Tilbrook			
C. A. Walker			
J. Wild			

CENTRAL & NORTHERN PLANNING COMMITTEE 17 SEATS

Conservative 13	Liberal Democrat 2	Labour 2
A. Elliott	D. R. Burton	R. Cartwright
N. Horton	R. D. Fearn	J. M. Ratcliffe
M. V. Longden		
J. Monks		
G. Purdy		
L. M. Rose		
A. P. Statham		
G. E. M. Stevens		
J. A. Stevens		
P. Tilbrook		
B. Tipping		
C. A. Walker		
J. Wild		
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
J. Bevan	S. Flitter	P. Slack
J. H. R. Bright	S. Burfoot	C. Swindell
S. Bull		
A. J. P. Catt		
D. Chapman		
T. Donnelly		
R. N. FitzHerbert		
C. Furness		
C. A. Hunt		
A. Jenkins		
A. Lewer		
A. Millward		
J. A. Twigg		

SOUTHERN PLANNING COMMITTEE

17 SEATS

Conservative 13	Liberal Democrat 2	Labour 1	Independent 1
J. H. R. Bright	R. D. Fearn	P. Slack	D. Frederickson
K. C. Bull	S. Flitter		
S. Bull			
A. J. P. Catt			
T. G. Donnelly			
R. N. FitzHerbert			
C. A. Hunt			
A. D. Jenkins			
A. I. Lewer			
A. G. Millward			
L. M. Rose			
A. Shirley			
G. E. M. Stevens			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	
J. Bevan	D. R. Burton	R. Cartwright	
A. Elliott	S. Burfoot		
C. Furness			
N. Horton			
J. Monks			
G. Purdy			
A. P. Statham			
J. A. Stevens			
B. Tipping			
P. Tilbrook			
J. Twigg			
C. A. Walker			
J. Wild			

LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

12 SEATS

Conservative 9	Liberal Democrat 1	Labour 1	Independent 1
J. N. Bevan	S. Flitter	J. M. Ratcliffe	D. Frederickson
T. G. Donnelly			
R. N. FitzHerbert			
C. A. Hunt			
A. D. Jenkins			
A. G. Millward			
J. Monks			
J. A. Twigg			
C. A. Walker			

JOINT CONSULTATIVE GROUP
6 SEATS

Conservative 4	Liberal Democrat 1	Labour 1
C. A. Hunt	S. Flitter	I. Ratcliffe
L. M. Rose		
G. E. M. Stevens		
C. A. Walker		
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes
S. Bull	R. D. Fearn	R. Cartwright
A. J. P. Catt		
G. Purdy		
J. A. Twigg		

LOCAL PLAN ADVISORY
12 SEATS

Conservative 8	Liberal Democrat 1	Labour 2	Independent 1
A. J. P. Catt	R. D. Fearn	R. Cartwright	D. Frederickson
C. Furness		J. M. Ratcliffe	
A. I. Lewer			
G. Purdy			
L. M. Rose			
G. E. M. Stevens			
J. A. Stevens			
C. A. Walker			
Substitutes	Substitutes	Substitutes	
J. H. R. Bright	S. Burfoot	I. Ratcliffe	
K. C. Bull		C. Swindell	
S. Bull			
R. FitzHerbert			
C. A. Hunt			
A. G. Millward			
J. Monks			
B. Tipping			
J. Wild			

JOINT ICT SERVICE COMMITTEE 3 SEATS

Conservative 2	Labour 1
L. M. Rose	R. Cartwright
G. E. M. Stevens	
Substitutes	Substitutes
A.J.P. Catt	J. M. Ratcliffe
J. A. Stevens	

ERNEST BAILEY CHARITY COMMITTEE (area based)

13 SEATS

S. Burfoot
D. R. Burton
R. Cartwright
A. Elliott
R. D. Fearn

S. Flitter
G. Purdy
A. Statham
G. E. M. Stevens
J. Stevens
C. Swindell
B. Tipping
J. Wild

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN

2014/2015

	CHAIRMAN	VICE-CHAIRMAN
Corporate	A.J.P. Catt	J.A. Stevens
Community	J.J. Bower	J. Wild
Environment	S. Bull	C. Furness
Central & Northern Area Planning	G. Purdy	B. Tipping
Southern Area Planning	A. G. Millward	T. G. Donnelly
Local Plan Advisory	L. M. Rose	G. E. M. Stevens
Licensing/Appeals	J. N. Bevan	J. Monks
Car Parking Review Sub	J. J. Bower	J. A. Twigg
JCG	G.E.M. Stevens	A. Watts
Ernest Bailey Charity	G.E.M. Stevens	C. Swindell
Central Area Community Forum	A. Elliott	A. P. Statham
Southern Area Community Forum	R. R. FitzHerbert	J. R. H. Bright
Northern Area Community Forum	J. A. Twigg	J. Monks

COUNCIL
29 MAY 2014

Report of the Chief Executive

APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

SUMMARY

This report reviews the Council's affiliations with outside bodies and significant partnerships and invites nominations to act as the Council's representatives.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council reviews the appointments to outside bodies identified in Appendix 1, and considers any changes it may wish to make to the current arrangements.
2. That the position of organisations where no indemnity insurance currently exists be noted and representatives notified accordingly.
3. That the Members identified in Appendix 1 be appointed to the relevant outside body to serve until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.
4. That Members nominated to represent the Council on outside bodies be requested to report back annually on their involvement.

WARDS AFFECTED

Not applicable

STRATEGIC LINK

Successful and meaningful relationships with external agencies underpin all of the Council's Corporate Aims and Priorities. The new Local Area Agreement framework will have a significant impact on the manner in which services are delivered across the Derbyshire Dales.

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1** This is an annual review of the schedule of outside body appointments and the Council's affiliation with those outside bodies.
- 1.2** The Schedule attached at Appendix 1, gives the full list of outside bodies that require the Council's consideration at this time, together with a list of the current representatives. Council is required to consider its nominations and any changes it wishes to make to those currently in place.

2 REPORT

- 2.1 Those bodies that do not afford their representatives the benefit of personal liability insurance have been highlighted in bold. The associated risk however is considered to be low.
- 2.2 At a previous meeting of Council it was agreed that Members report back annually on their involvement with an outside body It is recommended that Members be reminded of this requirement and that updates be sent to all Members

3 SIGNIFICANT PARTNERSHIPS

- 3.1 The Council currently maintains a list of significant external partnerships, many of which require the involvement of representatives from the Council both at elected member and officer level as detailed below. Representation to the bodies marked * are dealt with under the appointments to outside bodies.

Partnership	Comment	Proposed Representative
Derbyshire County Council	Significant impact	Derbyshire Partnership Forum - Councillor Lewis Rose Culture Board - Councillor Geoff Stevens Safer Communities Board - Councillor Lewis Rose Sustainable Communities Board - Councillor Lewis Rose
Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Local Strategic Partnership		Councillor L M Rose
Derbyshire Dales Community Safety Partnership		Councillor L.M. Rose
Derbyshire Concessionary Fares Scheme		Head of Resources
Derbyshire Economic Partnership*		Councillor L M Rose
Derby and Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Forum*		Councillor L M Rose
Derbyshire Sport*		Councillor J. J. Bower
Home Options	Officer working group	Head of Housing
Peak District and Derbyshire Destination Management Partnership*		Councillor G E M Stevens
Derbyshire Rural Forum		Councillor L M Rose

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 Legal

There are risks attached to representing the Council on outside bodies. Where these are not covered by insurance there is a risk of personal liability being incurred. Members will have to decide whether they are prepared to accept this possible consequence when deciding to represent the Council. In most cases, the possible level of personal liability will be small.

4.2 Financial

There are no financial risks arising from the report. The Council has a reserve of £25,000 to cover Member/Officer indemnity. The indemnity extends to co-opted members on the Council's Committees.

5 CONTACT INFORMATION

Sandra Lamb, Head of Corporate Services Tel. 01629 761281 or e-mail sandra.lamb@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

6 BACKGROUND PAPERS –

Annual review of outside bodies. Outside Body File held in Chief Executive's Department

7 ATTACHMENTS

Appendix 1 – Schedule of Outside Bodies

APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2013/2014

Appendix 1

Organisation	Representatives	Substitutes
Arkwright Society - Council of Management	G.Purdy	Not Allowed
Ashbourne Community Transport	S.Bull	Not Applicable
Ashbourne Partnership	A.I.Lewer	Not Applicable
Dales Housing Limited	G.E.M.Stevens	Not Applicable
Derbyshire Dales Council for Voluntary Service	J.N.Bevan	Not Applicable
Derbyshire Economic Partnership	L.M.Rose	Not Applicable
Derby and Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Forum	L.M.Rose	Not Applicable
Derbyshire Sport	J.J. Bower	Not Applicable
Derbyshire Supporting People Commissioning Body	J.J. Bower	J.Wild
Derwent Valley Community Rail Partnership	G. Purdy	Not Allowed
Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Board	G.E.M.Stevens	Not Allowed
Peak District and Derbyshire Destination Management Partnership	G.E.M.Stevens	Not Allowed
East Midlands Museum Service	R. FitzHerbert	J. Monks
East Midlands Councils	G.E.M.Stevens	L.M.Rose
Derwent Valley Partnership Schemes in Conservation Areas – Cromford Grants Committee	G.Purdy R. Cartwright	Not Applicable
District Councils' Network	L.M.Rose	G.E.M.Stevens
High Peak and Hope Valley Community Rail Partnership	C.Furness	J.Monks
LGA General Assembly	L.M.Rose	G.E.M.Stevens

Organisation	Representatives	Substitutes
Mid Derbyshire CAB Board	G.E.M.Stevens	Not Applicable
National Association of British Market Authorities	S.Bull	Not Allowed
National Stone Centre	P. Slack	Not Allowed
Peak District National Park Authority	D.Chapman C.Furness	Not Allowed
Police and Crime Panel	L.M.Rose	Not Allowed
Rural Action Derbyshire	M.V.Longden	Not Allowed
Rural Network East Midlands	L.M.Rose	G.E.M. Stevens
Wirksworth Learner Pool Trust	A. P. Statham	Not Allowed
Wirksworth Leisure Community Group	J. M. Ratcliffe Vacancy	Not Allowed

COUNCIL
29 MAY 2014

Report of the Chief Executive

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AREA COMMUNITY FORUMS

SUMMARY

To endorse the Annual report of the Area Community Forums.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the Annual report of the Area Community Forums.

WARDS AFFECTED

All

STRATEGIC LINK

The work of the Area Community Forums in the past year has helped to deliver the Council's aim of providing leadership in the communities of Derbyshire Dales.

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Annual Report is intended to be a summary of the work of the Area Community Forums in 2013/14.
- 1.2 The Annual report enables the District Council to monitor the work of the Area Community Forums.
- 1.3 The Annual Report is attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

2 RISK ASSESSMENT

2.1 Legal

The legal risk is low as the reports provide a summary of the work of the Committee and Area Community Forums.

2.2 Financial

There are no financial risks arising from the report.

3 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors is also been considered prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, environmental health, legal and human rights, financial personal and property considerations.

4 CONTACT INFORMATION

4.1 Sandra Lamb, Head of Corporate Services, Tel. 01629 761281 or email sandra.lamb@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

5 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None



Area Community Forums Annual Report, May 2014

Introduction by Councillor Lewis Rose, OBE, Leader of the Council

Almost 200 members of the public participated in the District Council's Area Community Forums during 2013/2014. These included representatives from the community, town and parish councils, local community groups, the voluntary sector and the business community.

As well as presentations by the District Council and its partners, the Forums always include the popular Question Time session. The Forums are an opportunity for local residents to put questions about topical local issues to senior Councillors and officers from the District Council.

Our colleagues from Derbyshire County Council, the Peak District National Park Authority, Derbyshire Constabulary and Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service regularly participate in the Forums and this year we were particularly pleased to welcome Heather Bradford from Derbyshire Dales Business Support Advice.

Once again, we invited remote participation (on line, by email or via Twitter) for anyone who couldn't attend the Forums in person.

The District Council welcomes as many people as possible, representing the different areas, interests and communities of the Dales, to its Forums, and looks forward to seeing some new faces as well as our familiar regulars. Your feedback and views are important to us and help shape service delivery and policies.

We are already planning the 2014/15 Forums where we will continue to foster the close links with our partners and communities.

Councillor Lewis Rose, OBE – Leader of the Council

2013/2014 Summary

Forums were held in July & October 2013 and February 2014. Host venues were Ashbourne, Bakewell, Brailsford, Cromford, Darley Dale, Matlock, Shirley and Wirksworth.

In July, Derbyshire Dales, Chief Executive, Dorcas Bunton gave a presentation on 'The Changing Face of Local Government and its Impact on the Derbyshire Dales'. One attendee described the presentation as 'excellent, well informed, clear & concise'.

Another hot topic was the ongoing consultation on the future of the District Council's street cleansing and grounds maintenance services.

One attendee believed community involvement to be critical if the District Council is to preserve its services.

The District Council were pleased to hold the Southern Forum at the newly opened Ashbourne Library who's services included free internet usage as well as the loan of books and DVDs

A variety of issues were raised in the popular Question Time session including traffic management, affordable housing and housing provision for the ageing population.

A Bakewell business man thanked the Police for providing shop watch radios which had resulted in immediate success and also urged for increased car park enforcement, particularly on busy market days.

Supporting Business in the Derbyshire Dales was the main topic for the October Forums. A very interesting presentation was made jointly by the District Council, Derbyshire Dales Business Advice and Derbyshire Dales Council for Voluntary Services. Business Advice provides support in a variety of ways to local small businesses. Heather Bradford was pleased to highlight that 141 jobs had been created and 288 businesses helped and gave examples of enterprises in Bradwell, Tansley, Great Hucklow and Ashbourne.

John Scott's presentation on Relaxations in Planning Change of Use of Buildings in the Peak Park attracted lively discussion at the Bakewell Forum and the local economy and environmental issues were also raised in Question Time.

At Brailsford, residents were pleased to hear that local crime rates are low and that Ashbourne is a safe place to live, whilst at Cromford residents raised concerns about the potential loss of local fire stations and its impact on response times.

February 2014 saw the annual presentation of the District Council's Spending Plans and Priorities. The District Council continues to face financial challenges and seeks to achieve savings for example through alternative service provision such as by delivering tourist information in partnership with local business through Visitor Information Points (VIPs).

North Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group attended the Central and Northern Forums where concerns were expressed about future service provision at the Whitworth and Newholme hospitals.

A petition about the Agricultural Business Centre noise barrier was presented at the Bakewell Forum where issues about flooding and gully emptying and fracking were also discussed.

Other Question Time topics were planning matters, recycling and waste management and street cleansing.

Feedback from participators is encouraged to enable the District Council to continually improve and shape the Forums. Comments received include:-

- 'Keep them happening, they are valuable to DDDC' (Bakewell, July 2013)
- 'Good all round presentation of Council activities with good organisation' (Matlock, February 2014)

The year ahead

Plans for the summer Forums are underway and two further rounds will take place in October and February 2015. The next round of Forums will include information about the impending Individual Electoral Registration (IER) requirements.

The Forums are one of the means by which the District Council engages and consult with its residents. They are also a vehicle to raise awareness of changes in policy or service delivery.

Partner organisations will continue to be invited to bring matters to the table which affect Dales' residents. Alongside its partners, the District Council will continue to strive for greater public engagement and partnership working

Dales' residents will once again have the opportunity to comment on the Council's spending plans and priorities and to influence service delivery. Other topics for inclusion in the 2014/15 Forum work programme have yet to be determined, but presentations will be varied and aim to attract as many as possible to attend.

There will be plenty of opportunity at 'Question Time' for residents to air their views and ask questions. Participating authorities will continue to listen to residents, act on their concerns and keep them informed through avenues such as the Forums.

A web video explaining more about the District Council's forums can be accessed at www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/communityforums or for more information email communityforum@derbyshiredales.gov.uk, phone 01629 761302.