



# meeting notes

**Title:** Long Eaton and South Community Forum

**Date:** Tuesday 18 June 2013

**Venue:** Council Chamber, Long Eaton Town Hall, Derby Road, Long Eaton

**Apologies:** David Hollingsworth; Ian Neill; Derbyshire County Council.

No.	Subject	Action / Lead Officer
1	<p><b>Welcome from the Chair (Mike Powell)</b>            Mike Powell (MP) welcomed Inspector Katie Andrews to the meeting for the first time. Inspector Andrews is taking over from Inspector Phil Laing as the Long Eaton Section Inspector from 24 June 2013.</p> <p>The Chair then introduced Phil Sudlow (PS), Benefits Manager, Erewash Borough Council.</p>	
2	<p><b>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager, Erewash Borough Council:            Welfare Reform</b></p>	
2.1	<p>Phil Sudlow (PS) went through the different elements of Welfare Reform, some of which are currently active and some that are still in the development stage. The first aspect mentioned was <u>Council Tax Support</u>. This has caused the biggest local impact. From 1 April 2013 it has replaced Council Tax Benefit. Central government's funding for Council Tax has been reduced by £850,000 within Erewash for the 2013-14 financial year. To make up this shortfall this total has had to be collected from residents.</p>	
2.2	<p>Pension age people have been protected from any changes to the level of support they receive, in line with national legislation. The £850,000 shortfall has to be collected from the working age population.</p>	
2.3	<p>Erewash Borough Council has managed to cover some of the shortfall by making changes to the system of Council Tax discounts and exemptions. For example, the Council Tax discount given to second homes used to be 50%. Now there is no discount, i.e. the owner of a second home pays 100% of their Council Tax bill for that property.</p>	

2.4	The remainder of the shortfall is being recovered by working age people experiencing an 8.5% reduction in their Council Tax benefit award. This has affected over 5,000 Erewash households. They now have to pay on average £1.50 per week that they didn't have to pay before April 2013.	
2.5	<u>Social Sector Size Criteria</u> . This is commonly known as the 'bedroom tax'. Again, this only affects people of working age. Again this came into effect on 1 April 2013. People affected by this will have to pay extra through their rent if their property is deemed to be under-occupied, i.e. they have bedrooms that they 'do not need'. People with one extra bedroom will have to pay an extra 14% of their rent per week. People with two or more extra bedrooms will have to pay an extra 25% of their rent per week.	
2.6	There are a number of conditions set that exclude people from paying this. For example, there is an exemption of 52 weeks where there has been a death in the household.	
2.7	Over 800 Erewash households have been affected by this. The average 'one bedroom' reduction is £12.79 per week. The average 'two or more bedrooms' reduction is £22.74 per week.	
2.8	<u>Local Housing Allowance</u> . Prior to January 2012 people aged under 25 and living alone would get a limit to the Local Housing Allowance they could receive. From January 2012 this ruling extended to those aged under 35 years and living alone. In effect this meant that, for those aged 26 to 35 years, their allowance was reduced from £84.23 per week to £55.00 per week.  From April 2013 Local Housing Allowance rates will be increased based on the Consumer Price Index rather than on actual rents. This will probably mean that the gap between the rent level and the allowance level will increase (the allowance being lower than the rent).	
2.9	<u>Universal Credit</u> . This system is still in its infancy and not all finalised at the current time. It is 'live' in just one authority at the current time – Ashton-under-Lyne, near Manchester. The idea is to bring various benefits (Job Seekers Allowance, Employment Support Allowance, Income Support, Child Tax Credits, Working Tax Credits, Housing Benefits) into one benefit paid monthly. The money is paid directly to the customer and not (as previously in the example of housing benefit) the landlord. It is argued by some that it could be difficult for people to start budgeting on a monthly basis as opposed to the weekly basis that they're used to.	
2.10	<u>Pension Credit</u> . Will be a direct payment to the customer again. No indication of when it is going to be introduced at this stage. Similar to Universal Credit in that it is expected that Housing Benefit will form part of the Pension Credit payment. It still remains unclear how or when this will happen.	

2.11	<p><u>Social Fund</u>. This scheme used to be administered by the JobCentre Plus. It is to help customers receiving Income Support; Employment Support Allowance; Job Seekers Allowance; Pension Credit. Derbyshire County Council (DCC) now administers the scheme – the Derbyshire Discretionary Fund.</p> <p>This idea is that people can ask for a little bit of extra financial support when needed, e.g. when a washing machine breaks down. People are asked to contact DCC by telephone (01629 533399) to apply for this money. Those successful are given a token to take to a particular supplier in exchange for the goods required.</p>	
2.12	<p><u>Discretionary Housing Payments</u>. Erewash Borough Council has a fund to make such payments. The fund is there to help the transition of customers through Welfare Reform. The Department for Works and Pensions is putting £300 million towards this fund over the next three years. An area's portion of the £300 million is determined by the impact of Welfare Reform on their area. Erewash is receiving £195,535 for 2013-14 to fund this scheme. Applications for Discretionary Housing Payments need to be made to Erewash Borough Council's Benefits Department and will require evidence of both income and expenditure before an award may be granted. This is to identify the essential / non-essential purchases being made. Erewash Borough Council has already spent over £40,000 of the fund this year.</p>	
2.13	<p><i>Chair:</i> If someone is affected by any of these changes, where is their first point to seek advice?</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager:</i> For Council Tax Support and anything relating to a reduction in benefit please come to Erewash Borough Council's Benefits team (0115 907 1010) in the first instance. For the Social Fund please contact Derbyshire County Council (01629 533399).</p>	
2.14	<p><i>Councillor Kevin Miller:</i> Under the Universal Credit proposals people will be paid direct to their bank account rather than direct to the landlord. Can they opt to have the landlord paid directly?</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager:</i> My understanding is that this will not be possible. Direct payments to the individual are being trialled at the moment.</p>	
2.15	<p><i>Councillor Daniel Walton:</i> Can the transition from weekly to monthly payments be done gradually over a number of months?</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager:</i> I don't think that this will be possible at this stage. I personally think that a phased approach as suggested would be better.</p>	

2.16	<p><i>Councillor Garry Hickton:</i> We currently teach children how to budget. Surely there is a role for Erewash Borough Council in teaching residents to do the same?</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager:</i> We have started already. We have recruited someone to a money management position within the borough council to advise residents on how to handle their finances. Our benefits team will probably move more towards this as time goes on.</p>	
2.17	<p><i>Resident:</i> The problems from people not budgeting effectively don't come to light until six months down the line. How would such a large debt be handled?</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager:</i> That's something that is very difficult for me to answer at this time. I take on board the point you make.</p>	
2.18	<p><i>Resident:</i> We have a number of residents with learning disabilities. How will their carers be trained to help the people they look after?</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager:</i> There are two large areas of concern. People with learning disabilities and people dependent on alcohol and / or drugs. The government is looking at the types of support mechanisms that can be put in place. We're probably about twelve months away from Universal Credit being introduced in Erewash so there is a bit of time to get something sorted.</p>	
2.19	<p><i>Resident:</i> I understand the logic of the 'bedroom tax' but is there any facility for someone to move into smaller accommodation to avoid such a charge?</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager:</i> Yes, in theory. Three Valleys Housing can transfer their residents to smaller properties. However, when you look on a national scale, there are basically not enough properties to downsize everyone who may want to move to a smaller property. Some residents will have to take the hit. With Three Valleys Housing, as far as I am aware, no one has asked to be re-housed as yet because of the impact of this financial change.</p>	
2.20	<p><i>Resident:</i> In certain locations people are moving in to bed and breakfasts, as this is seen as the better option. This is still costing them a fortune.</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager:</i> I am not aware of any such cases within Erewash.</p>	

2.21	<p><i>Councillor Corbett:</i> Three Valleys Housing has just completed the building of twenty-one one bedroom flats at Wilsthorpe. These are to be designated for people downsizing their property.</p>	
2.22	<p><i>Resident:</i> When collecting the Council Tax I would imagine that not all of those paying Council Tax for the first time will be willing to pay. Will you write any of the outstanding debt off? Could you use the Discretionary Housing Payments fund to help plug the gap?</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager:</i> In certain cases we will write off debts where it is considered to be financially not viable to chase the debt. We have to be realistic that we will not recover all Council Tax owed. We will however pro-actively target people who have to pay Council Tax for the first time. We will contact them and make sure that they understand their obligations.</p>	
2.23	<p><i>Councillor Hickton:</i> The best way is to set residents up with a direct debit that transfers the money straight after they receive it.</p>	
2.24	<p><i>Chair:</i> Some church groups run debt advice courses. The Citizens Advice Bureau can also be contacted. Plus, as Phil stated, Erewash Borough Council can assist you with all aspects of Welfare Reform.</p>	
2.25	<p>MP thanked PS for his presentation.</p>	
3	<p><b>Questions for Officers</b></p>	
3.1	<p><i>Question received in advance from resident:</i></p> <p><u>Property at corner of Central Avenue and Station Road, Borrowash</u> On the corner of Central Avenue and Station Road is a large house that has had a lot of work done to it for use by Social Services. This work was only about two to three years ago. The property is now boarded up. Is there any plan for this property in the future?</p> <p><i>Ian Marsden, Consultation Officer, Erewash Borough Council e-mailed the question to Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council on 10/06/13.</i></p> <p><i>Response from Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council on 25/06/13:</i> Enquiries with Derbyshire County Council's Corporate Property Division have established that the County Council does not own the building on the corner of Central Avenue and Station Road, Borrowash.</p> <p>Furthermore, there is nothing in their records to indicate that the</p>	

	County Council has ever had any involvement with the property.	
3.2	<p><i>Question received in advance from resident:</i></p> <p><u>Two questions for Inspector Phil Laing, Derbyshire Constabulary</u></p> <p>What is the possibility of governments doing something to overturn drugs prohibition, which appears to be merely an employment scheme for the police and totally ineffective in its intent?</p> <p>Further, what does the Inspector have to say about the Channel 4 TV 'Dispatches' programme 'The police's dirty secret' to be broadcast next Monday (24 June) at 8pm, which I believe to be about surveillance?</p> <p><i>Inspector Phil Laing considered it inappropriate to answer the two questions posed.</i></p> <p><i>The Chair stated that it would be inappropriate to comment on a television programme that was yet to be broadcast.</i></p>	
3.3	<p><i>Resident #1:</i></p> <p><u>Cycling on pavements</u> Cycling on pavements is a risk to pedestrians. I don't believe this is an issue taken on board by the police.</p> <p><i>Inspector Phil Laing, Derbyshire Constabulary:</i> The correct approach would be to attend your local Panel meeting and suggest that the issue is made a priority so that resources can be concentrated on that particular issue. I would encourage you to attend these meetings to raise such issues.</p> <p><i>Resident #2:</i> I do go to Panel meetings and I was told that the police no longer ticket cyclists for riding on pavements.</p>	
3.4	<p><i>Resident:</i></p> <p><u>Parking on double-yellow lines near to Costa Coffee, Long Eaton</u> Cars are parked on double-yellow lines in this area on a frequent basis.</p> <p><i>Scott Cartledge, Neighbourhood Warden Manager, Erewash Borough Council:</i> Disabled badge holders can park on double yellows lines providing such action does not show 'wilful obstruction'. I will get our Civil Enforcement Officers to monitor this location to see if any offences are occurring. For example, we can check that the disabled badge holder is the one driving the car.</p> <p><i>Response from Scott Cartledge, Neighbourhood Warden Manager, Erewash Borough Council on 19/06/13:</i> This matter has been passed on to our Civil Enforcement Officer after it was raised at the Forum. They will now ensure that the</p>	<p>Scott Cartledge to instruct Civil Enforcement Officers to monitor the market Place.</p>

	vehicles are checked more frequently as we are aware of the problems that were highlighted last night.	
3.5	<p><i>Resident:</i></p> <p><u>Vehicles parked on Derby Road outside Trent College</u> Should they be parked with lights on? I phoned '101' for advice on this. I believe it's an offence to park without lights as this is a 40mph zone. The people working on '101' had a very low level of knowledge. What training do they have?</p> <p><i>Inspector Phil Laing, Derbyshire Constabulary:</i> If you have no joy with '101' then I would advise that you make contact with the relevant beat officer.</p> <p><i>Scott Cartledge, Neighbourhood Warden Manager, Erewash Borough Council:</i> This is not a common issue. If someone is new to their '101' post then they have probably not come across this issue before.</p>	
3.6	<p><i>Resident:</i></p> <p><u>Taxis driving through Long Eaton pedestrian areas</u> Is this allowed?</p> <p><i>Scott Cartledge, Neighbourhood Warden Manager, Erewash Borough Council:</i> If it's the same as Ilkeston then taxis are not allowed in the pedestrian zone between 10:00am and 4:00pm. I will double check this and report back via the meeting notes.</p> <p><i>Response from Scott Cartledge, Neighbourhood Warden Manager, Erewash Borough Council on 19/06/13:</i> I have queried this with Derbyshire County Council today. They will report back to me with their findings and I will subsequently report this back to the meeting.</p>	Scott Cartledge to check the times taxis can access Long Eaton's pedestrian areas.
3.7	<p><i>Resident:</i></p> <p><u>The taxi rank outside The Lockstone public house</u> Taxis are turning right into this taxi rank. I understand that they should not be doing this.</p> <p><i>Councillor Corbett:</i> I'm confident that taxis are not allowed to turn right at this location.</p> <p><i>Scott Cartledge, Neighbourhood Warden Manager, Erewash Borough Council:</i> I will speak to Carolyn Singleton, Erewash Borough Council's Senior Licensing and Enforcement Officer. I will suggest that contact is made with the taxi drivers to remind them not to turn right at this location.</p> <p><i>Response from Carolyn Singleton, Senior Licensing and Enforcement Officer, Erewash Borough Council on 21/06/13:</i></p>	<p>Scott Cartledge to contact Carolyn Singleton</p> <p>Contact to be made with relevant taxi drivers.</p>

	<p>In response, it is not an offence under the Road Traffic Act 1984 to make a U-turn either on to or off the rank, only the requirement to do it safely.</p> <p>There may have been confusion in the past to whether this manoeuvre is permitted but this was confirmed by Derbyshire County Council Highways Department after a previous complaint when the rank was moved during the pedestrianisation area development.</p> <p>A Traffic Regulation Order would need to be in place to restrict the manoeuvre and would require signage at the rank to permit any enforcement action to be taken by the police.</p> <p>To confirm this we have revisited the Derbyshire County Council Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (Long Eaton Market Place) (Pedestrianisation) Order 2011 which revoked two previous orders. These were the Derbyshire County Council (Market Place Area, Long Eaton) (Traffic Regulation) Order 1989 in its entirety and the Derbyshire County Council (Long Eaton Town Centre) (Pedestrianisation Scheme) Order 1996 in relation to Market Place, Union Street and High Street.</p> <p>In any cases of dangerous or careless driving from the rank, these incidents should always be notified to the police and to us and the driver / vehicle details taken.</p> <p>Actions: We will raise the issue of safety when turning into or out from the rank at the next taxi forum although this will not be until September. We will also add some information in to the latest news website for taxi drivers.</p> <p>Unfortunately, to raise this issue in a mailshot would cost in-excess of £150 (postage/paper &amp; envelopes) and on face value I do not feel the complaint implies that the issue is dangerous or careless driving which, in any case, we would hope to deal with in isolation rather than as a mailshot.</p>	
3.8	<p><i>Councillor Corbett:</i></p> <p><u>The wall located at the junction of Waverley Street and Nottingham Road.</u> The wall is located between the footpath and the highway. The wall was knocked down about a year ago. Is it going to be repaired? Who is responsible for the repair?</p> <p><i>Ian Marsden, Consultation Officer, Erewash Borough Council:</i> I will contact Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer at Derbyshire County Council (DCC) to try to establish ownership of the wall.</p> <p><i>Response received from Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council on 16/07/13:</i> It has been established that this was a highway wall which Derbyshire County Council have responsibility for. A works order</p>	<p>Ian Marsden to contact Paul Jameson</p>



	<p>has been issued to our contractors to rebuild the wall and replace the pedestrian guard rail. A date is being sought for when this works will take place and further details will be provided to the Forum in due course.</p>	
3.9	<p><i>Resident:</i></p> <p><u>Derby Hospitals' NHS Foundation Trust presentation</u> Why has this not featured in tonight's meeting?</p> <p><i>Ian Marsden, Consultation Officer, Erewash Borough Council:</i> My contact at Derby Hospitals e-mailed me to tell me that they were struggling to get an Executive Director to attend the Long Eaton &amp; South Community Forum. They asked if it would be possible to attend a Forum meeting later in the year. They are to attend the next meeting on 17 October 2013.</p>	
3.10	<p><i>Resident #1:</i></p> <p><u>Police and Crime Commissioner</u> I haven't heard anything from this individual since they were appointed.</p> <p><i>Councillor Corbett:</i> The Police and Crime Commissioner is to visit Long Eaton Market Place on Friday 12 July between 9:00am and 2:00pm to speak to members of the public as part of the 'Have Your Say' consultation.</p> <p><i>Resident #2:</i> The Police and Crime Commissioner is to do a walkabout around the Fields Farm Estate in the coming weeks. He's already been to Ilkeston. I believe he (Alan Charles) will also attend the Long Eaton 50+ Forum meeting on Monday 10 September.</p>	
3.11	<p><i>Chair:</i> I will now pass over to Ian Marsden, who has an update from Derbyshire County Council regarding the Cycle Safety Scheme proposed for The Green, Long Eaton.</p> <p><i>Ian Marsden, Consultation Officer, Erewash Borough Council:</i> Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council has sent his apologies for tonight's meeting. However, he has provided me with some information regarding the proposed Cycle Safety Scheme that I will run through with you.</p> <p>This information was presented at the meeting of the Long Eaton 50+ Forum on Monday 10 June 2013. I have made some copies of Paul's presentation and these will be made available for you to take away at the end of the meeting.</p> <p>The main points in Paul's e-mail to me are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Government have a £15 million Cycle Safety Fund. They identified 44 locations nationally that have</li> </ul>	

experienced a high level of cycle-related collisions.

- The Green in Long Eaton was one of the 44 locations identified. Derbyshire County Council (DCC) was successful in securing £400,000 from the fund. Match funding of £200,000 has been made available through the County Council's 2013/14 Service Plan.
- Over the 5-year period 1 September 2007 to 31 August 2012 there have been 26 collisions in which cyclists have been injured on Derby Road-The Green-Nottingham Road (21 slight injuries and 5 serious).
- DCC's initial proposals are to remove the roundabout at The Green and introduce a 4-way signalised junction (with cycle-specific infrastructure). Also, to introduce on-road cycle lanes along Derby Road/Nottingham Road; with the possibility of replacing some central pedestrian refuges with controlled crossings. Design for the scheme has not yet commenced and so these proposals are all subject to change.
- DCC should have some plans available in the next few months; residents will then be able to view and comment on the proposals as part of a public consultation.

*Chair:*

I would encourage you to follow this issue.

*Councillor Roland Hosker:*

The proposal is in the very early stages. I am assured that there will be extensive public consultation nearer the time.

*Resident #1:*

How many of the reported accidents were the cyclists' fault?

*Ian Marsden, Consultation Officer, Erewash Borough Council:*

That information is not recorded.

*Response from Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council on 16/07/13:*

The collision history for any particular route or location is gathered from police reports which do not apportion blame. As such, the highway authority is not able to provide this information.

*Resident #2:*

I believe that the reported cycle collision figures are not high. It's less than one collision every two months.

*Response from Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council on 16/07/13:*

Clusters of pedal cycle collisions in this area of Long Eaton rank highest in Derbyshire and also rank in the Department for Transport's national statistics; this is reflected in the fact that

Central Government have identified The Green as one of 44 locations across the country which suffers from a particular cycle injury problems.

*Resident #3:*

I would like to see a traffic model created by DCC showing how they believe traffic will flow through the proposed junction at The Green.

*Response from Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council on 16/07/13:*

It should be stressed that these proposals are still in the early stages with the scheme yet to be designed in detail and, as such, are subject to change. As the design process progresses we will be able to establish how traffic will flow through the proposed junction. Plans showing the proposals should be available in the next few months and residents will have opportunity to view the plans and submit comments or voice any concerns they might have.

*Dave Bramwell, Head of Green Space and Street Scene, Erewash Borough Council:*

I would like to make a personal plea that DCC contact me directly regarding this. Erewash Borough Council is responsible for an award winning green space close to The Green. I would like to talk to them about landscape design as part of the proposed scheme.

*Response from Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council on 16/07/13:*

This request has been passed on to the Traffic & Safety Officer responsible for the scheme.

*Resident #4:*

Can we have a meeting to specifically talk about this issue?

*Chair:*

DCC will no doubt be organising consultation opportunities in the near future. I agree that it would be good to receive a presentation at the next Forum meeting if possible. We will contact DCC to see what can be arranged.

*Response from Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council on 16/07/13:*

As already stated at the Forum, DCC will in due course carry out an extensive public consultation in regard to these proposals. The plans will be made available for viewing and residents will be given opportunity to let us know what they think.

DCC's Liaison Officer will be attending the October meeting of the Long Eaton & South Community Forum and will provide any available updates on how the proposals are progressing.

Ian Marsden to contact Paul Jameson, Derbyshire County Council regarding the issues raised.

3.12	<p><i>Resident:</i></p> <p><u>Bridge on Nottingham Road</u> There is talk of taking away a road bridge on Nottingham Road. Is this the case?</p> <p><i>Councillor Corbett:</i> This alteration is part of the HS2 proposal.</p>	
3.13	<p><i>Resident #1:</i></p> <p><u>West Park Leisure Centre</u> The gym at West Park Leisure Centre has recently been relocated and the process has been chaos. The café has been moved upstairs and the lift to access it will not be installed until August. Has a health and safety check been completed with regards to the whole refit? In addition the centre closed without much notice a couple of weeks ago.</p> <p><i>Resident #2:</i> Regarding the lift for wheelchair users. How would West Park Leisure Centre staff evacuate wheelchair users in the event of a power cut? How would this be arranged?</p> <p><i>Chair:</i> I would imagine that an Evacuation Chair would be used in such circumstances but we will seek an answer for you.</p> <p><i>Response from Tim Spencer, Head of Culture &amp; Leisure, Erewash Borough Council on 20/06/13:</i> The refurbishment of WPLC was planned to provide customers with as little disruption as possible whilst the centre remained open. The alternative was to close the facility which would not have been acceptable.</p> <p>As part of the contract works a full Health &amp; Safety plan was implemented and monitored by both the council's Health and Safety Officers and as part of the contracts appointed Health and Safety CDM coordinator.</p> <p>All information was communicated to customers via notices, press releases, and letter to gym members.</p> <p>The length of the project was delayed due to the initial contractor going into liquidation, which was beyond the council's control.</p> <p>Staff are trained to evacuate wheelchair users from the building using the supplied 'sleds' which are located in both the fitness gym and café areas.</p>	<p>Ian Marsden to contact Tim Spencer, Head of Culture &amp; Leisure, Erewash Borough Council to seek a response</p>
3.14	<p><i>Chair:</i> I will now ask Ian Marsden to provide an update for you on a piece of consultation that is currently taking place regarding the <u>number of councillors</u> for Erewash in the future.</p>	

*Ian Marsden, Consultation Officer, Erewash Borough Council:*

Each of our councillors represents a number of electors and, over time, the number represented by each councillor has become quite distorted from the average. This is due to reasons such as population growth and shift. This has triggered the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to complete a review. I'll paraphrase from their media release to explain this further.

"The independent Local Government Boundary Commission for England is asking local people how many councillors they think should represent Erewash Borough Council in future.

The six-week public consultation is the first part of an electoral review which will also consider changes to the number, names and boundaries of the council's wards.

The Commission has considered views put to it by the council and local councillors and is now asking residents whether they think the district should be represented by **47** or **43** borough councillors. The district is currently served by **51** councillors.

Max Caller, Chair of the Commission, said: *"This is your chance to shape your council for the future. We have considered the views put to us by the council and believe there should be fewer borough councillors in future. We now need your help to tell us exactly how many councillors should represent Erewash in future.*

*"We want to know if you think the number of councillors should be reduced to 47 or 43. We want to establish the right number of councillors to be able to take decisions effectively and the right number to represent the interests of all communities in Erewash.*

*"Once we have taken a view on the number of councillors for Erewash, we will re-draw ward boundaries to accommodate those elected members and we will be asking local people to have their say during that process as well."*

Further information about the review is available at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk).

Residents can have their say directly at [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk).

Or email [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk) to find out more.

The current phase of consultation closes on **16 July 2013**. Once it has considered the evidence provided by local people and organisations, the Commission will publish its proposal on the total number of councillors in September 2013 and then begin to gather information to help draw up new ward boundaries.

The Commission aims to publish its draft recommendations for a new pattern of wards for Erewash in February 2014 when it will consult local people again. Final recommendations are due to be

	<p>published in September 2014 and the new electoral arrangements would come into effect for the council elections in 2015.</p> <p>To have your say either click on the consultation links highlighted above or write to:</p> <p>The Review Officer (Erewash)  Local Government Boundary Commission for England  Layden House  76-86 Turnmill Street  London EC1M 5LG</p> <p>Or email: <a href="mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk">reviews@lgbce.org.uk</a></p> <p>Please note that all feedback must be issued directly to the independent Local Government Boundary Commission for England. Erewash Borough Council is not permitted to collect any feedback as part of this consultation exercise.”</p>	
3.15	<p><i>Chair:</i></p> <p>I will now ask Ian Marsden to again provide an update for you on a second piece of consultation that is currently taking place regarding historic buildings and gardens within the Erewash borough.</p> <p><i>Ian Marsden, Consultation Officer, Erewash Borough Council:</i>  On the 18 October 2012, Erewash Borough Council adopted the <u>List of Buildings of Local Interest (Local List)</u>. The list recognises the contribution made by about 160 buildings to the architectural and historic interest of the Borough. Buildings on the list appear to meet our <i>Criteria for Local Heritage Designations</i>, which were adopted in January 2011.</p> <p>We wish to carry out an annual review of the Local List. We would be grateful if you could provide details of any buildings that you would like to see added to (or removed from) the list. We would also be grateful for any further information that you may have regarding buildings already included on the list.</p> <p>We also wish to compile a Register of Gardens of Local Interest. This would recognise the contribution made by parks, gardens and other designed landscapes to the architectural and historic interest of the Borough. Gardens on the register ought to meet our <i>Criteria for Local Heritage Designations</i>. We would be grateful if you could provide details of any gardens that you would like to see included on the local register.</p> <p>The current adopted Local List, the <i>Criteria for Local Heritage Designations</i> and the consultation can all be found on the Erewash Borough Council website by following the following link:  <a href="http://www.erewash.gov.uk/local-list">www.erewash.gov.uk/local-list</a></p> <p>Please ensure that your suggestions reach us no later than noon on Friday 5 July.</p>	

3.16	The Chair closed the meeting at 8:45pm.	
	<b>Date and time of next meeting</b> Thursday 17 October 2013, 7:00pm. Venue to be confirmed.	