



meeting notes

Title: Ilkeston and North Community Forum

Date: Wednesday 17 July 2013

Venue: Gladstone Lodge, Market Street, Ilkeston

Apologies: None received.

No.	Subject	Action / Lead Officer
1	<p>Welcome from the Chair (Lesley Flint)</p> <p>The Chair introduced Karen Martin (KM), Director of Workforce Management, Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.</p>	
2	<p>Karen Martin, Director of Workforce Management, Derby Hospitals NHS Foundations Trust</p> <p>A presentation on Derby Hospitals' five year strategy.</p>	
2.1	<p>The Trust's previous five year strategy finished in 2012. The theme of the new strategy is 'quality through partnership'.</p>	
2.2	<p>The Trust has an annual turnover of £442 million. It employs 8,000 staff. Many of these staff are based at Royal Derby Hospital. A number are community based. In 2011/12 the Trust dealt with 644,042 outpatients' attendances, and 116,781 Emergency Department attendances.</p>	
2.3	<p>There have been many changes over the past ten years. Increasing financial pressures, new technologies and increasing public expectation. Similar changes have been experienced across the whole of the NHS.</p>	
2.4	<p>There are many challenges to meet. The Trust will look to work in partnership with other organisations and to engage with patients, the public, staff and partners to ask them what they think.</p>	
2.5	<p>KM went through 'Lilly's story', a theoretical example of a patient's experience in attending a hospital after an accident. KM explained how 'Lilly' became more dependent on the care provided as time went on. The Trust is now examining how providing care can actually take away people's independence. One example of a different approach is to create a 'care plan' for the patient so that they retain their independence.</p>	

2.6	The financial challenge means that the Trust has to do more for less, which is a huge task. To enable this to happen they have to think about how to do things differently. People are living longer and more patients have long-term conditions. Patients have higher expectations. New technologies and treatments are increasing what it is possible to do.	
2.7	The Trust wants to avoid people making unnecessary hospital visits. For example, attendances at emergency departments.	
2.8	The Trust's vision (long terms ambition) for next five years is "to be a national beacon for all that is best in the NHS delivering 21 st century healthcare. We will be part of a flourishing network of health and social care partners to integrate care for our patients, deliver clinically excellent results and be financially sustainable".	
2.9	The Trust's four strategic 'must do's' are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering quality in everything we do; safety, effectiveness and patient experience, e.g. always events • Transform services to maximise productivity and efficiency, e.g. ambulatory care • Create networks for acute and complex care, e.g. stroke and vascular services • Develop integrated care for people with long term conditions to help them stay as healthy as they can, e.g. diabetes and frail older people. 	
2.10	To deliver the strategy the Trust will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • talk to patients and carers about what they want and need from the Trust's services • Make sure staff understand the strategy and their role in delivering it. • Share the strategy with all the Trust's stakeholders • Work with partners to improve the care the Trust provide, particularly how better to support people outside of hospital. • Agree and plan what the Trust must do each year to ensure the strategy is delivered. • Regularly measure the progress being made. 	
2.11	<p><i>Question from Councillor Frank Phillips:</i> Regarding acute care and being treated at home; do the two go hand in hand? I have first-hand experience of this with my own mother-in-law. She was treated at home and quite clearly it wasn't suitable. I hope people are not pushed towards this where it's not suitable.</p> <p><i>Karen Martin, Director of Workforce Management, Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust:</i> The issue is about care in the right place. The vast amount of feedback that we get is that people do not want to be in hospital. We want them to be in the right place for them. Maybe an acute hospital is not the right place for them, but maybe a community hospital is. I think this is where the partnership work comes in to</p>	

	make sure the correct decision is made.	
2.12	<p><i>Question from resident:</i> What if 'Lilly' needed a scan, surely she'd have to go into an acute hospital? It's like with Ilkeston Hospital. The number of beds is being cut. It's always about kicking people out of hospital.</p> <p><i>Karen Martin, Director of Workforce Management, Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust:</i> Not necessarily. She may go into the acute hospital for the scan but then go into the community hospital. This is where the partnership work comes into play to make sure that the appropriate services are given to the individual.</p> <p><i>Resident:</i> Do you intend to outsource any services?</p> <p><i>Karen Martin, Director of Workforce Management, Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust:</i> Outsourcing is not in the current plans.</p>	
2.13	<p><i>Question from resident:</i> In light of the Francis Report looking at Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust and yesterday's revelations of failings at King's Mill Hospital in Mansfield I would say that there is a general lack of confidence in the community with the NHS. You will have to address this with the community. You have got to get out into the community and talk to patients and carers. Until you start doing this and stop paying lip service to them then this situation will not be resolved.</p> <p><i>Karen Martin, Director of Workforce Management, Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust:</i> I couldn't agree more. Confidence levels in the NHS are low. I don't think the media help with this. I think there is a certain amount of scaremongering at the moment. I support what you say regarding engaging with the community. We had a meeting last night with 32 governors, working on our engagement programme.</p>	
2.14	<p><i>Statement from resident:</i> I have been an unpaid carer. I previously worked in health care and I had knowledge as a carer for my husband but I needed my work-based knowledge to look after him. It is very difficult for unqualified carers.</p>	
2.15	<p><i>Question from Councillor Louis Booth:</i> The majority of the Trust's staff does an excellent job. I think services are being cut in preparation for privatisation. My family has been a victim of such cutbacks in the past. I think you should be making a case to the budget setters that the consequences of such cutbacks are the loss of lives. NHS services need to get back to basics. For example, deep clean the hospitals to avoid MRSA.</p>	

	<p><i>Karen Martin, Director of Workforce Management, Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust:</i> Thank you for acknowledging our fantastic staff. The vast majority do an excellent job and are proud of our services. We don't outsource our cleaning services. Our cleaning staff are employed by the NHS. There is no intention to change this. In terms of staff cuts the staff numbers have not changed over the past three years (around 8,000). We've not had huge redundancy programmes.</p>	
2.16	<p><i>Question from resident:</i> Have the staff terms and conditions been reduced? Are there any redundancies?</p> <p><i>Karen Martin, Director of Workforce Management, Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust:</i> There have been very few redundancies. There are currently no changes to staff's terms and conditions.</p>	
2.17	LF thanked KM for her presentation. KM left the meeting.	
3	<p>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager, Erewash Borough Council: Welfare Reform</p>	
3.1	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 (10% less funding). To make up this shortfall this total has had to be collected from residents.	
3.2	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. 50% of those eligible for Council Tax Support in Erewash are of working age.	
3.3	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.	
3.4	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.	

3.5	<p><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.</p>	
3.6	<p>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.</p>	
3.7	<p>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.</p> <p><i>Question from resident:</i> What percentage of people have actually paid this increase in rent since it was introduced?</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager, Erewash Borough Council:</i> It is difficult for me to say. Three Valleys Housing hold this information.</p> <p><i>Question from Councillor Birkin:</i> Where do such residents go if they cannot afford their larger original home? Where are the one bedroom properties for them to move into?</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager, Erewash Borough Council:</i> Three Valleys Housing are aware of this issue.</p> <p><i>Councillor Frudd:</i> Erewash Borough Council has a duty to re-house homeless people. How much is Erewash Borough Council taking on board the re-housing of people into smaller properties?</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager, Erewash Borough Council:</i> We are working with Three Valleys Housing regarding this. Three Valleys are making it clear to people what rent they will have to pay under these regulations, therefore making sure that the right people move into the right properties. Three Valleys Housing states that only three people have moved because of this change, i.e. this is what they quoted on paperwork when asked why they wanted to move.</p>	
3.8	<p><u>Local Housing Allowance</u>. First introduced in April 2008. 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.</p> <p>From April 2013 Local Housing Allowance rates will be increased</p>	

	<p>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).</p>	
3.9	<p><u>Benefit Cap</u> This was introduced this week, on 15 July. The principle is that benefits should not pay more than the national average wage. The cap is set at £300 per week for a single person and £500 per week for a couple. This system is currently restricted to Housing Benefit only until Universal Credit is introduced. Over 60 households in the Erewash borough have been impacted by the change. The restrictions vary from £4 per week to £150 per week.</p>	
3.10	<p><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.</p> <p><i>Question from resident:</i> Will payment be made every calendar month (twelve times per year) or every four weeks (thirteen times per year)?</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager, Erewash Borough Council:</i> Probably every calendar month.</p> <p><i>Question from resident:</i> How are Erewash Borough Council helping people to understand this?</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager, Erewash Borough Council:</i> We will provide support during the transition. We have our views on what support will be required. Once we get more information on the system to be introduced we will start to engage with the community a lot more. We already have a money management post at Erewash Borough Council. We are currently contacting every single person affected by the Benefit Cap either through a home visit or a telephone call.</p> <p><i>Question from Councillor Michelle Booth:</i> What type of communication have you had with other authorities regarding this? Do you expect people to change their area of residence as property in their original area may become too expensive for them?</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager, Erewash Borough Council:</i> People may well tend to move from the hardest hit areas. We are working with a number of local authorities. The Benefits Office</p>	

	will support and advise people. We'll need to do more of this in the future.	
3.11	<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.	
3.12	<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> <p><i>Question from resident:</i> How much is allocated to this fund annually?</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager, Erewash Borough Council:</i> I'm not sure.</p>	
3.13	<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.	
3.14	<p><i>Question from resident:</i> The cut in central government funding was 8.5% for this financial year. What will it be next year?</p> <p><i>Phil Sudlow, Benefits Manager, Erewash Borough Council:</i> At this stage we don't know. If there is a change to the current arrangements then we would look to consult with members of the public.</p>	
3.15	LF thanked PS for his presentation.	

4	Matters arising from the previous meeting (15/01/13)	
4.1	All outstanding matters resolved as per the meeting notes, with two exceptions detailed below.	
4.2	<p>Item 3.3 noted that Councillor Carol Hart was to contact Tracy Allen, Chief Executive, Derbyshire Community Health Services NHS Trust. This was regarding Ms Allen previously promising to contact the Chair of the Ilkeston 50+ Forum with a view to attending a meeting of the 50+ Forum to discuss the future of Ilkeston Hospital.</p> <p><i>The Chair of the Ilkeston 50+ Forum confirmed that they are still going to try and contact Tracy Allen.</i></p>	
4.3	<p>Item 3.5 noted parked cars blocking the pavements at the bottom of Brook Street, Ilkeston. Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council (DCC) was to contact DCC's Traffic and Safety Team to instruct them to investigate the matter.</p> <p>Paul Jameson responded on 9 July 2013 to confirm that, on inspection, there are single yellow lines around the junction with Nottingham Road continuing several metres into Brook Street itself. The investigating officer from the Traffic & Safety Team did not observe any vehicles parked on the lines. However, it was noted that vehicles do park beyond the lines where there are no restrictions.</p> <p>The single yellow line limited waiting restriction is in effect from 8am to 6pm Monday to Saturday and so it may be that vehicles are parking here outside of these hours, which they are legally entitled to do.</p> <p>If vehicles are being parked at the location during the restricted hours then action can be taken, and it would be helpful to know the times / days when such incidents are occurring. Records show that the Civil Enforcement Officers have had no cause to carry out enforcement at this location in recent months.</p> <p>In the absence of waiting restrictions it is for the Police to determine whether a vehicle is causing an obstruction (i.e. by parking on the footway and preventing pedestrian access).</p>	
5	Questions for Officers	
5.1	<p><i>Question from resident:</i></p> <p><u>Trainers hanging from telephone wires</u> At the bottom of Bath Street there are pairs of trainers dangling from telephone lines. This is either a teenage prank or a method of gangs selling drugs or marking out their territory. Who is responsible for their removal?</p>	

	<p><i>Inspector Nick Daines, Derbyshire Constabulary:</i> It's an urban myth that they are linked to gangs selling drugs. You have to ask if a drug dealer would advertise themselves in this way There was a craze some years ago in Derby for this activity. BT will be responsible for the telephone line so I would imagine that they are responsible for clearing the trainers from it.</p> <p><i>Scott Cartledge, Neighbourhood Warden Manager, Erewash Borough Council:</i> I have raised this issue with BT Openreach already. Their usual response time is four hours so I will get back to them tomorrow and chase this issue.</p> <p><i>On 18 July 2013 Scott Cartledge contacted BT Openreach and received the following standard e-mail response:</i> "Thank you for your email and my apologies for any inconvenience caused. Thank you for taking the time to bring this matter to the attention of Openreach.</p> <p>We have raised damage on high priority and the fault reference for the same is EM7TYF17. One of our engineers will look into it and make the area safe in the next 4 to 24 hours.</p> <p>Please contact us on 0800 023 2023 with the reference number or email us for further clarification. If you are experiencing any service issues then I must advise you contact your chosen Communications Provider (to whom you pay the bill) who will be able to carry out the relevant checks and deal accordingly on your behalf."</p> <p><i>The resident e-mailed on 24/07/13 to confirm that the trainers had been removed.</i></p>	
5.2	<p><i>Question from resident:</i></p> <p><u>Number of accidents on Quarry Hill Road, Ilkeston</u> In light of the number of accidents on Quarry Hill Road, the latest being on Monday this week, what is being done to prevent these in the future, with the proposal to build a large number of houses in the area?</p> <p><i>Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council:</i> I can take this matter back to our Traffic & Safety Team who will be able to look at the injury collision history for Quarry Hill Road and establish whether there are any trends occurring which could be resolved by engineering measures.</p> <p>The funding we have available for safety measures must be targeted to areas where there is a history of collisions resulting in personal injury, and where a trend in those collisions has been identified that can be remedied by engineering measures. One of the key responsibilities of any highway authority is to reduce the number of people being killed or seriously injured on the roads and this is why we must focus our resources on areas where</p>	<p>Paul Jameson to source collision history data</p> <p>Paul Jameson to contact Development Control section</p>

there is an injury collision problem and there are measures available which will resolve this.

I am not aware of the details of the planned development for Quarry Hill Road. As part of the planning process Erewash Borough Council, as the Local Planning Authority, would have consulted DCC as the local highway authority and we will have assessed whether the existing highway infrastructure can sustain the additional traffic generated from the proposed development. It may be that we have recommended some highway improvements as part of the planning conditions (and requested developer contributions) and I will check with our Development Control section to ascertain what our response has been.

If a development was large enough to significantly change the character of an area then a lowering of the speed limit (i.e. to 30mph) may be possible. However, the Department for Transport stipulates that a 40mph speed limit is considered appropriate on the edge of urban areas where there are fewer accesses onto the road; this is consistent with the existing environment along this stretch of Quarry Hill Road.

Councillor John Frudd:

I would like to see more use of 20mph speed limits.

Councillor Carol Hart:

Regarding the recorded accident ratio. It's only when there is physical injury that accidents are recorded. I have queried this as it's not a true record of all the accidents that take place. Bad accidents can happen that, luckily, do not result in physical injury. These do not get recorded.

Inspector Nick Daines, Derbyshire Constabulary:

There are variations in what needs to be reported to the police. If there is a minor collision where both parties stop and exchange insurance and address details there is no obligation to report the matter to the police. It is different where injuries are concerned.

Further response from Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council received on 31/07/13:

A check of the injury collision records have revealed that there have been two minor shunts on Quarry Hill Road (including the Merlin Way junction) over the past 3 years, which resulted in 'slight' injuries. We only have data up to April 2013 so there is no information available in regard to the collision referred to at the forum.

Neither of the two collisions were judged to be speed-related, were not at the same location and did not have any common factors. As such, there is nothing to suggest any action we could take which would have prevented them occurring.

In view of the high volume of traffic – and particularly HGV's – on this road, two minor incidents do not suggest that it is a location we currently need to give any priority to.

	<p>An application for a proposed development off Quarry Hill Road has not yet been submitted to Erewash Borough Council as the Local Planning Authority. DCC's Development Control officer for the area has confirmed that no pre-application advice has been sought from the authority.</p>	
<p>5.3</p>	<p><i>Question from resident #1:</i></p> <p><u>Green space strategy and skate board track</u> In 2007 (approximately) Dave Bramwell published a five year Green Space Strategy. Kirk Hallam was first on the list of the second year for a skateboard track to the value of £60,000. When will it be built?</p> <p><i>Phillip Wright, Director for Operational Services, Erewash Borough Council:</i> There are no current plans to build a skateboard park in Kirk Hallam. There are a number of community groups that the council is assisting in looking at funding streams that may financially support such a development. The Green Space Strategy is a document that states the council's ambitions, not necessarily what will be delivered. What is delivered all depends on what funding streams are available. I will double-check the wording of the Green Space Strategy and report back via the meeting notes.</p> <p><i>Question from resident #2:</i> Where would a skateboard park be located in Kirk Hallam? Nobody wants it near them.</p> <p><i>Councillor Louis Booth:</i> Windsor Crescent is one option. Residents are welcome to come on a ward walk with us to look at the options.</p> <p><i>Councillor Birkin:</i> Where has the money to develop the new play park on Rutland Recreation Park, Ilkeston come from? Facilities have been taken away from poorer areas than this and not replaced.</p> <p><i>Phillip Wright, Director for Operational Services, Erewash Borough Council:</i> All funding for the new park at Rutland Recreation came from the Aiming High Fund. The council has spent approximately £1 million on different play areas across the Erewash borough.</p> <p><i>Further response from Phillip Wright, Director for Operational Services, Erewash Borough Council on 25/07/13:</i> This is clarification of the Green Space Strategy with regards to the skate park formerly at Wyndale Drive, Kirk Hallam.</p> <p>I can confirm that in the action plan for the Green Space Strategy the relocation of the skate park facility at Wyndale Drive is identified as an action.</p> <p>I can also confirm that within the same Strategy under the heading of budget costings it is identified the cost of skate parks</p>	<p>Phillip Wright to check the wording of the Green Space Strategy.</p>

	<p>are in the region of £1,105 to £60,766 dependant on the amount of equipment provided and the degree of construction required for the surface.</p> <p>However, it must be pointed out that these are nominal budget estimates and the Green Space Strategy does not identify any specific budget for the replacement of a skate park in Kirk Hallam.</p> <p>The council has always maintained that the Green Space Strategy outlines the council's ambitions for its green spaces and all actions identified within it are subject to suitable funds being available.</p> <p>These funds may come from a combination of sources including the council, the Lottery, local groups, parish councils and external grants.</p> <p>The council has not specifically identified any funding for the provision of a replacement skate park.</p> <p>However, officers are currently working alongside a number of community groups assisting them with technical advice on how to prepare suitable bids for funding.</p>	
5.4	<p><i>Question from resident:</i></p> <p><u>Living wage</u> When will Erewash Borough Council be introducing the living wage for its staff?</p> <p><i>(Investigation after the meeting has found that the 'living wage' is considered to be a minimum £7.45 per hour, compared to the 'national minimum wage' of £6.19).</i></p> <p><i>Phillip Wright, Director for Operational Services, Erewash Borough Council:</i> We will look to obtain a profile of the Erewash Borough Council employee wage structure to see how many staff members are currently receiving a salary lower than the 'living wage'. It should be noted that council workers receive other benefits to their employment such as a pension scheme etc. I will raise this question at our next Corporate Management Team meeting.</p>	<p>Ian Marsden to request this information from Erewash Borough Council's Personnel team.</p> <p>Phillip Wright to raise the question at a meeting of the Corporate Management Team.</p>
5.5	<p><i>Question from resident:</i></p> <p><u>Motorbikes between Gallows Inn and Potters Lock</u> We're still getting motor cyclists riding up and down the canal towpath between Gallows Inn and Potters Lock all hours, day and night.</p> <p><i>Inspector Nick Daines, Derbyshire Constabulary:</i> We have this issue at a number of locations throughout Ilkeston. e.g. starting at the old 'American Adventure' site, and on the Nutbrook Trail. The issue increases with the warm weather. We see not just young people on their own but also parents with their</p>	

	<p>young children. The parents' perception is that they are doing nothing wrong. We are aware of the issue. We put resources to it where we can and we will seize bikes where appropriate. In Derbyshire we do not have a motorbike off-road facility so it can be difficult to catch them.</p> <p><i>Councillor Frank Phillips:</i> If they are on a road private, can you seize the bikes?</p> <p><i>Inspector Nick Daines, Derbyshire Constabulary:</i> If the location is considered to be a public place then, yes, we can as there is an implied right of access, e.g. a postman would have to go down there. If any member of the public (e.g. a postman) accesses the road at any time (private or otherwise) then the road is considered to be a public place.</p>	
5.6	<p><i>Question from resident:</i></p> <p><u>The Mayor</u> Are the public getting value for money from the Mayor? In 2006 some members of the local council claimed that it costs Erewash £2,364 per week for this position to run. How much is it costing us in 2013?</p> <p>On the same subject the gold and silverware held at the town hall. It is said that it is at risk of being stolen. Will this add further costs and more expense to the public purse to uphold this 'bling's' security?</p> <p>Is it not high time the public and residents had a vote to keep or remove the Mayor due to today's austerity cut backs being forced upon them? Is it not high time we moved forward and removed these ancient out-dated medieval ceremonial official held positions in today's society and get on with real work?</p> <p>Fighting back at these austerity cuts forced upon the less fortunate amongst our society.</p> <p><i>Phillip Wright, Director for Operational Services, Erewash Borough Council:</i> We will take these comments back to the council. Some of the points made are political points.</p> <p><i>Response from Andrew Sharpe, Democratic Services Manager, Erewash Borough Council on 25/07/13:</i> The Mayoral and Civic functions of the authority are regularly reviewed to ensure value for money. In 2007/08 a Scrutiny committee considered: <i>'what procedures are in place for the Mayoralty at Erewash Borough Council to measure the expenditure and demonstrate value for money, customer satisfaction and engagement with Corporate Priorities'.</i></p> <p>The Committee acknowledged the excellent work of the Mayor and their role as a figure head and ambassador for the borough. It was also acknowledged that the functions of Civic Office would</p>	Ilan Marsden to seek a response.

	<p>still need to be fronted and costed if there was no Mayoralty.</p> <p>The Committee also considered the Mayor's role to give excellent value for money in fulfilling the following main functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To chair council meetings. • To represent the council at outside engagements. • To "host" civic functions which are organised by the council. • To promote good causes and help raise money for charities. <p>The council is always striving to reduce costs but it is felt that the Civic presence is an important and historical function of the council and gives excellent value for money. The actual cost of the service in 2013/14, including all allowances and staffing costs, is budgeted as £84,893 (a cost of £1,632 per week). There are no significant additional costs to the council's insurance to cover the civic regalia.</p>	
5.7	<p><i>The Chair made the point that the Forum cannot replace the roles and responsibilities of local elected councillors. The Chair added that the Forum meeting is to raise awareness of topical issues (e.g. welfare reform) and in turn give the public an opportunity to raise questions about the local issues important to them. The Forum cannot lead or support local campaigns.</i></p> <p><i>The Chair brought the meeting to a close at 8:40pm, stating that everyone had been given the opportunity to have their say at the meeting and that the Forum was not designed to replace the Full Council meetings where decisions were made.</i></p> <p><i>The Chair was thanked by the meeting attendees.</i></p>	
	<p>Date and time of next meeting Tuesday 17 September 2013, 7:00pm. Venue: Gladstone Lodge, Market Street, Ilkeston.</p>	