AREA PANEL 1 (CHADDESDEN, DERWENT, OAKWOOD AND SPONDON WARDS) 7 JUNE 2006

Present: Councillor MacDonald (Chair)

Councillors Ahern, P Berry, Bolton, Rawson, Roberts and West

Derby City Council and Other Officers:

Gemma Barlow – Constitutional Services Officer
Julian DeMowbray – Group Leader – Pollution Control
Adam Hind – Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service
Inspector McLaughlin – Derbyshire Constabulary
Jody Kirkpatrick – Temporary Constitutional Services Officer
Rachel Levy – Constitutional Services Officer
Richard Smail – Area Panel Manager

23 Members of the public were in attendance.

01/06 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E Berry, Latham, Poulter, Redfern and Smalley.

02/06 Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

03/06 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

04/06 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2006 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair, subject to minute no 58/05 stating that the Derwent Councillors declared the interest in the funding application.

05/06 Chairs Report

The Chair provided a verbal report on current activities, progress on projects and successes in Area Panel 1.

Agreed to note the report.

06/06 Petitions

There were no new petitions received.

There were no petitions to consider since the last meeting.

There were no responses for petitions received.

07/06 Area Panel Updates

The Panel considered an update report on the progress of community issues raised at previous meetings. The report included details of the issues raised, the proposed actions and the progress to date. The following issues in the report were discussed in detail:

Pedestrian Crossing request by Toys R Us

A member of the public asked if the funding could be brought forward for the scheme that had been approved in principle by Cabinet.

The Panel were advised that the design would be completed in 2006/7, but that there were not yet any firm design details to consult upon. When the details were known the local ward councillors would be informed. Councillor Bolton explained that she had been speaking to Tony Gascoigne who had assured her that this was being moved on as quickly as possible. She confirmed that Council Cabinet had agreed the funding, but there needed to be a lot of investigative work carried out.

Resolved to note the report.

08/06 Public Question Time

The following questions were asked by members of the public:

Anti Social Behaviour - West Park - Mr Graham Yeomans and Mr David Hayes Two members of the public raised concern over antisocial behaviour at West Park Meadow. They explained that wildlife were being used as targets and shot, and as a result, live shot cartridges were on the football pitch. One of the residents explained that the cabin used by AFC Crusaders had been burnt with all their equipment inside. He stated that the football club had been advised to cancel the Saturday soccer training for the 6 years old, due to the cartridges, and the dangers they posed. He also stated that people were driving motorcycles over the pitches, whilst the youngsters were playing football. He reported that the storage container for the football equipment had been subject to an arson attack, which resulted in the loss of all equipment. He emphasised that this was a very serious problem, and they are trying to provide a safe and happy environment for the youngsters. He asked the panel whether there was a joint initiative between the police, council, park rangers and the community to get rid of this problem, as he was concerned that the school holidays were approaching.

A member of the local nature reserve management committee stated that this had been the worse year for antisocial behaviour in the area, and have continued problems with motorbikes and quad bikes at the reserve and on the school fields, which was hazardous. He asked the panel if there were any laws that existed that could be brought into action to tackle this problem.

Councillor P Berry thanked both residents for raising the issue, and agreed that this problem was getting worse, and neither the police or Antisocial Behaviour Team seemed to be tackling the issue. He suggested that a meeting be set up with local residents, the police, antisocial behaviour team and councillors to look at this. He also encouraged residents to continue to report any incidents.

Councillor Ahern confirmed the problem, stating that it had been raised on numerous occasions.

Councillor Roberts explained his deep concern over the shots being fired, and the prospect of an incident. He encouraged all residents to report any instances of shots being fired immediately to the police.

Inspector McLaughlin explained that there was a similar problem with motorbikes in Oakwood and Croft Wood some 18 months before, which was resolved, by the police issuing residents with cameras, and petrol garages being encouraged not to sell petrol to the motorcyclists. He reported that some bikes had been confiscated, and ASBOs issued. He emphasised that a big issue with this is educating the youngsters and their parents that the bikes cannot be used on public land. He explained that in Croft Wood and Oakwood they used funding to look at access points and erected stiles to help prevent motorcycle use. He asked residents to take details of registration plates, and take pictures wherever possible, stating that cameras where available for the public to use.

With regard to the shotgun cartridges, he explained that there are very tight regulations about the use and discharge. The protocols in place for the Police to deal with firearms incidents were very detailed. He asked residents to recover cartridges carefully and hand in to the police, giving details of timings, wherever possible.

Alcohol Free Zones - Mr Stephen Peat

A local resident asked if the current alcohol free zone in Spondon could be extended up to Dale Road park, as there were problems with drinking in the open spaces.

Councillor P Berry explained that they could not put a blanket alcohol free zone anywhere. The hotspots of alcohol problems and antisocial behaviour had been targeted, and has a result the zone had been expanded up to West Road, but it was a matter of enforcement. He also explained that an application for a section 30 dispersal order was turned down, as not all the avenues of the dispersal of people from the area had been explored.

Inspector McLaughlin reinforced Councillor Berry's comments, confirming that the zone was mapped where there was highlighted problems in Spondon.

09/06 Item Referred by Cabinet about Detailed Assessment of Air Quality in Derby - Benzene

The Panel considered a report from Julian DeMowbray updating the Panel on the progress of the assessments of the air quality level in Derby - Benzene. Julian explained that an Air Quality Management Area need not be declared in Spondon at present and that consultation with local residents will take place during the summer. Details will de distributed soon.

He also referred to the report presented to Council Cabinet on 6 June regarding Detailed Air Quality Assessment for Derby – Nitrogen Dioxide. This report recommended that an Air Quality Management Area for Nitrogen Dioxide is declared in Spondon pending local consultation. Details of the consultation will be available shortly on the Council website.

Resolved to note the report.

10/06 Area Panel Review Progress Report

The Panel considered a report from the Director of the Community Safety Partnership updating the Panel on the progress of the Area Panel Review.

Agreed to note the proposals to pilot changes to the operation of Area Panels 2 and 3 as a result of the Area Panel Review.

11/06 Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service

The Panel received a presentation from Adam Hind of Derbyshire Fire and Rescue giving an update on the services Derbyshire Fire and Rescue service had been undertaking.

Agreed to note the presentation.

12/06 Derbyshire Police

The Panel received a presentation from Inspector McLaughlin of Derbyshire Constabulary, in which he detailed the current performance statistics for Area Panel 1 for the last 6 months.

Agreed to note the presentation.

13/06 Budget Report – Outturn Report: Area Panel 1 Budget 2005/06

The Panel considered a report of the Director of Derby Community Safety Partnership which detailed how the Panel had spent their budget for 2005/6.

Resolved to note the report.

14/06 Area Panel Budget Proposals 2006/07

A report of the Director of Community Safety Partnership was considered which set out details of two applications for funding which had been received.

It was reported that the first application was from Springwood Leisure Centre. They had been asked to resubmit their application after a decision at the meeting in March to defer the decision from the Chaddesden ward Councillors. They were seeking a grant of £250 towards Car Park Lighting.

The second application was from Derby City Council. They were seeking a grant of £802.00 towards the Wild Derby Summer Scheme – West Park.

Options Considered

The Panel assessed each application for funding against the agreed criteria and priorities.

Decision

- To award a grant of £100 to Springwood Leisure Centre towards Car Park Lighting.
- To award a grant of £802.00 to Derby City Council towards the Wild Derby Summer Scheme West Park, split between the four wards on a percentage basis dependant on the number of children attending from each ward.

15/06 Health Briefing from Greater Derby and Central Derby Primary Care Trusts

A 'Briefing on Health Services' paper was considered.

Resolved to note the information about health services contained in the briefing paper.

16/06 Arrangements for the Next Meeting

Resolved to note that the next meeting would be on Wednesday 6 September 2006 in the Derwent Ward.

Chair of the next ensuing meeting at which these minutes were signed MINUTES END