

**AREA PANEL FIVE – UPDATE REPORT
FOR 2 FEBRUARY 2005
LAWN PRIMARY SCHOOL, NORBURY CLOSE**

**Area and Neighbourhood Unit
Bill Reed, Area Panel Manager, telephone 258501
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1. Ref: 503035 – Parking at Markeaton Primary School – raised 02.07.03

Issue

A member of the public raised an issue regarding the problems of parking on yellow zig zags outside the school, and on Bromley Street. She contended that the existing street markings were not enforceable and she suggested that parking be prevented from 8.30am – 9.30am and 3pm – 4pm.

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council officers met the Police on site on 17 November to look at the area generally, and with particular reference to this issue. Proposals will be presented to the Area panel on 2 February.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

To provide proposals to the meeting on 2 February.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

We are working to progress the statutory consultation that is required when proposing a Traffic Regulation Order - TRO. The draft TRO will not be ready for the area panel meeting on 2 February 2005. However a consultation map will be made available for the meeting.

Responsibility

Ian Butler, Senior Engineer, Accidents and Projects, Development and Cultural Services,
telephone 715021
Michelle Spamer, Area and Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Development and Cultural Services,
telephone 715064

2. Ref: 503051 – Walking routes into the city centre – received 08.10.03

Issue

It was reported that footpaths into the City Centre were not safe. One example was near the Seven Stars Public House where there were no kerbs and, because of an uneven surface, flooded when it rained. The second footpath mentioned was underneath St Mary's Bridge where the lighting and policing needed improving, with a surface crossing from the inner ring road to Queen Street.

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Action has been taken with regard to vermin and this matter should now be under control. The Section 106 agreement between the Council and the developers has now been signed. This will ensure that the surface crossing is funded, together with improvements to the subway, consisting of lighting, renovation and CCTV cameras. In addition the developers will pay for 10% of the units to be 'mobility units' and for improvements to landscaping and open space. This agreement will come into effect when the development commences. Closure of the subway could only take place if the right of way were diverted or removed. This is a complicated procedure and is unlikely to be successful in the courts.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

The panel resolved to ask Cabinet to move rapidly to implement a surface crossing across King Street and to have the subway closed. Councillor Hickson indicated that he was seeking Council funding for this for next financial year.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

Report will be prepared for Cabinet meeting on 8 February 2005. We will report back to the area panel on 6 April 05.

Responsibility

Michelle Spamer, Area and Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715064

3. Ref: 504002 – Traffic on Park Farm precinct – received 20.01.04

Issue

Members of the public were concerned about the volume of traffic around the Park Farm Precinct and thought it was very dangerous, especially on Birchover Way and Oakover Drive. It was most difficult during the mornings and afternoons at school times, with buses sometimes parking in the middle of the road due to parked cars.

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

A meeting was convened by Councillor Webb on 18 November.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Councillor Webb reported that a number of issues had been discussed. Disabled parking was under discussion. Attempting to reduce car usage by parents through 'Safer routes to school' programme. Police are looking to increase enforcement around centre. Student parking being seriously monitored. A more comprehensive report would be given to the next meeting.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Councillor Webb to report to the next meeting.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

Councillor Webb will report verbally. He has had further meetings with the Centre Management and others.

Responsibility

Councillor Webb

4. Ref: 504020 – Concrete Bollards, Prince Charles Avenue – received 02.06.04

Issue

Need for bollards to stop vehicles driving over paved pedestrian areas. In particular, vehicles servicing the cash machine were driving on the paved areas. Agreed to ask the Co-op whether they could make alternative arrangements with the cash machine suppliers.

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

A letter has been sent to the Co-operative store manager who is taking the issue up with her Head Office. No reply had been received at the time of writing this update.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

To await a response.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

A letter has been received from Sunwin Cash Processing Services Ltd, the security company responsible for delivering cash to the Mackworth Co-op and to the cash machine. Their response is that they do not believe they are responsible for cracked pavements. However, after a review of their security arrangements, they could not prejudice the security of their staff and other members of the public by parking away from the front of the shop.

Responsibility

John Edgar, Maintenance Manager – Highways and Footways, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715067
Bill Reed, Area Panel Manager, Policy Directorate, telephone 258501

5. Ref: 504022 – Speed limits on Broadway – received 02.06.04

Issue

Speed limit on Broadway

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

St Mary's have established a school travel plan forum and they have produced an 'action plan'. There is nothing further to add from the forum meeting.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Residents continued to press for a reduced speed limit. There was also concern about limited enforcement of speeding.

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

It was explained that the Council could not take the action the residents desired, for the reasons explained at the last meeting.

Inspector McLaughlin explained that it was not possible to enforce on this road every day but that there had been an increase in their work in this area since the last meeting.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

The St Mary's School Travel Plan is still being developed and a copy is not yet available. It will include a range of measures designed to improve safety for children travelling to and from the school.

Responsibility

Enforcement measures - Inspector McLaughlin
School Travel Plan – Andy Culshaw, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715146

6. Ref: 504027 – Pedestrian crossing, Blenheim Drive – received 02.06.04

Issue

Need for a pedestrian crossing at Woodlands School

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

No work has taken place on this proposal to date for the reasons indicated at the last meeting

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

To request a response for the meeting on 2 February.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

We have carried out a number of surveys including site visits at school arrival and dispersal times, 12 hour pedestrian and vehicle counts, analysis of the police reported road casualty database and hand held radar vehicle speed readings. The results show that the site does not meet the requirements for a pedestrian crossing facility. Whilst there are high numbers of school children crossing Blenheim Drive to Woodlands School traffic flows are relatively low and there are adequate gaps in traffic for pedestrians to cross safely with little inconvenience.

In the morning peak hour 226 pedestrians crossed within a 100m length around the school entrance and 460 vehicles used Blenheim Drive. In the evening peak hour 189 pedestrians crossed and 323 vehicles were recorded. Traffic speed surveys at school arrival times show average traffic speeds were just above 20 mph. An analysis of police reported road injury collisions shows that there has been one slight injury outside the school in the last ten years. This occurred when a vehicle reversed into the school drive whilst attempting to turn round and collided with a child pedestrian crossing the access.

In these circumstances it is not recommended that a crossing on Blenheim Drive is introduced.

Responsibility

Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715019

7. Ref: 504035 – Pedestrian Crossing, Mackworth Estate – received 21.07.04

Issue

A pedestrian crossing was requested across the A52 between the Mackworth Estate and Markeaton Park as it was extremely dangerous, especially for children crossing.

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

It has not been possible to address this issue in the timescale anticipated because of staffing difficulties. It is anticipated that an initial assessment will take place before Christmas.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

To request that an update be provided for the February 2 meeting.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

Following site observations during the morning and evening peak hours very few pedestrians were seen to cross Ashbourne Road on the 400m approach to Markeaton Roundabout. In total seven adults crossed the road in these two hours most of whom appeared to be walking their dogs. Only one pedestrian crossed at the roundabout. At these times two-way traffic flows were estimated to be around 1000 vehicles an hour.

It is recognised that on occasions pedestrians may have to wait some time for a safe gap in traffic or use other facilities which may be less convenient. However, the very low level of pedestrians means that the crossing falls well short of the Council's approved criteria. In these circumstances it is not recommended that a crossing is introduced on Ashbourne Road on the approach to Markeaton Roundabout.

Responsibility

Michelle Spamer, Area and Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715064

8. Ref: 504039 - Bus service through Morley estate – received 21.07.04

Issue

A report of the Assistant Director – Highways, Transportation and Waste Management was considered, which gave details on a proposal to re-route the bus service, currently running through Morley Estate.

It was reported that a number of problems with the current route had been causing a serious problem to the bus service, run by Arriva Midlands. Due to the width of the roads, parked cars narrowed them further, making it difficult for buses to gain access and had even caused some damage to cars. This affected the reliability of bus times, causing more customer complaints.

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

The diversion of route 28 from Stepping Lane/Slater Avenue to Slack Lane, and Cheviot Street has been verbally confirmed by Arriva to the city council in early July. However, we did not receive the change to the service registration confirming the intention to run along Slack Lane until after the deadline for getting written updates prepared for the area panel minutes. This is why a verbal update was given at the meeting on 6 October.

The new route is proving to be more reliable, and is well used at the bus stops it serves along Slack Lane and Cheviot Street. Whilst many residents have poorer access to the bus, others have gained. There is no prospect of reinstating service 28 as the council has no control over a commercial decision. Complaints from local residents and members will, in the short term, make no difference to the decision by a bus operator over a commercial bus route.

The whole issue of accessibility to the bus network is being reviewed by the council, as part of the preparation of the next Local Transport Plan, which will guide the council's transport investment up to 2011. What we have to do is look at how people can gain effective access to bus services through the provision of improved walking routes, or where the walk is too far or difficult, through the funding of smaller demand responsive vehicles. This however costs a lot of money to run, and these costs have to be considered by the council within their overall priorities. A recent consultation exercise on the LTP has shown accessibility to be a problem in some parts of the city, and these areas will need to be looked at carefully to see how money can be effectively spent to best secure access to facilities. Commercial bus operators are focussing more and more on the high volume routes, and service 28, when running through the narrow streets within Morley estate, was losing customers due to its poor reliability, and in the long term could have become unviable to run. Arriva recognise the problems that the change has caused, but have the best interests of the majority of their customers at heart, by ensuring the bus continues to run and provide a frequent, reliable service for the majority of people.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Councillor Higginbottom was concerned that the Council had not done everything it could to explore traffic management measures that would have prevented Arriva changing the route of the 28. Specifically we should have consulted residents about reducing parking on street which would have enabled buses to get through. She felt we should now do this consultation.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004
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It was agreed that a response would be provided to the next meeting.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

The issue of on street parking is a difficult problem to address. We have carried out investigations in the past to determine whether the cars using the streets for parking belong to the residents, or whether commuters working nearby were using the streets. We concluded that there was not an issue of cars parking for convenience. The significant on street parking is caused by the residents of the streets parking as there is no provision for off road parking.

The residents using the streets for parking would not agree to parking restrictions being placed upon them, as there is no practical alternative that could be offered to them. Consultation with residents seeking to reduce the amount of on street parking near to their homes would result in a great amount of opposition to any proposals put forward.

We have also been advised that Arriva report that bus no. 28 is experiencing a significant improvement in the bus running to time. It is extremely unlikely that Arriva would consider reversing their decision to re-route this service. The improvements in the reliability of the service also benefit the residents in the Morley estate area, providing them with a regular and frequent service.

Responsibility

Peter Price, Transport Policy Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715034
Michelle Spamer, Area and Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715064

9. Ref: 504046 – Garages, Darley Abbey– raised 06.10.04

Issue

A member of the public questioned whether the nine Council garages adjoining the car park west of Darley Abbey in Darley Abbey village are being used effectively, as local residents had been informed that there was a waiting list for the garages, when in fact some were not in use, and repairs were taking a long time to be done.

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Bill Reed reported that the update provided would be corrected at the next meeting.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

None.

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

None.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

At present seven of the nine garages are let and are being used. All of the tenants are Darley Abbey residents.

Two garages are currently vacant as the doors are broken. New doors have been on order for some time and the wrong sized doors were incorrectly delivered recently. We are expecting delivery of the correct doors on 17 February 2005 and these should be fitted within a few days.

There is currently a waiting list of 28 people and the garages will be relet as soon as they have been repaired. We will write to existing tenants to check that they are all still using the garages.

Responsibility

Julie Basford, Estates department, telephone 255545

10. Ref: 504053 – Darley Abbey post office – raised 07.12.04

Issue

Closure of the Post Office. A member of the public wanted to know if the post box would be closed also.

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Councillor Repton reported on the steps taken to oppose the closure of the Post offices.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

To respond to the resident directly and to the next meeting.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

This Post Office is to close on 16 February.
The Post Office at Uttoxeter Old Road will close on 19 February.
The Post Office at Duffield Road will close on 8 March

Responsibility

Rob Davison, Overview and Scrutiny Commission, telephone 255596

11. Ref: 504054 – Rat running on Church Lane, Darley Abbey– raised 07.12.04

Issue

A number of residents raised concern about vehicles using Church Lane to avoid traffic queues on Duffield Road.

It was reported on behalf of the Darley Abbey Traffic Committee that the Council had agreed to put in additional traffic calming measures, but that these had been withdrawn two years ago. The money had apparently been spent on coloured paving instead.

A resident felt that the situation would only improve if the A38 junctions were improved at Mackworth and on the A61.

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

To investigate the problem, with a traffic count if considered necessary. To identify whether a commitment was made by the Council.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

In partnership with the Darley Abbey Traffic Committee 2000, five traffic management options were proposed within the village. The options ranged from do nothing to very draconian access restrictions and aimed to reduce excessive traffic speeds, address difficulties crossing the main roads in the village and reduce unnecessary through traffic. Consultation took place with all households in the village, and an exhibition was held in October 2000 to review the proposals in detail.

Following the public consultation over 250 people responded and the majority felt that the introduction of raised plateau and junction entry treatments would be the most appropriate scheme to implement. Further discussions took place with interested parties, including Trent Barton Bus Company and a further exhibition showing the preferred design was held in January 2002. The scheme was fully funded and completed in 2003.

Before and after surveys show significant reductions in traffic speed on Mile Ash Lane and Church Lane. They also show a small reduction in through traffic during the morning term time peak period.

Local residents were invited to attend a further round of consultation in November and December 2003 as part of the ongoing transport plans for Five Lamps and King Street. As part of the consultation we asked people what they thought of the changes in Darley Abbey. About 90 people responded, the majority felt that speeds had reduced in the area and it was easier to cross the road but they thought there was more through traffic. However, about three quarters of respondents felt that further improvements should not be carried out.

Area panel 5 update report – for 2 February 2005

The findings were reported to the Council's Cabinet in April 2004 and Cabinet agreed that no further action should be taken for the time being.

Responsibility

Michelle Spamer, Area and Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Development and Cultural Services,
telephone 715064

12. Ref: 504055 – Litter bins in Knightsbridge Recreation Ground – raised 07.12.04

Issue

A resident asked whether additional bins could be provided in Knightsbridge Recreation Ground

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

To respond at the next meeting.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

The Council has no funding for any extra bins on the highway this financial year. However, we will investigate the issue raised by the resident and monitor whether there is a problem with litter on the Knightsbridge highway area. If it is found that there is a litter problem from a street cleansing point of view, we will look at providing extra litter bins in the new financial year.

Responsibility

Richard Winter, Assistant Waste Management, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 716352

13. Ref: 504056 – Lighting, Prince Charles Avenue– raised 07.12.04

Issue

A resident asked whether lighting could be improved at Prince Charles Avenue, adjoining the shops, as the CCTV cameras were unable to provide adequate pictures.

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

To respond to the next meeting.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

We have investigated the lighting in Prince Charles Avenue in the area around the shops. White light lanterns are already in place on the highway lighting columns in the area. The new white light lanterns give better illumination than the traditional lanterns.

The area in front of the shops is managed by Derby Homes, who are aware of the problems raised, but at the present time have no funds available to enhance the lighting.

Responsibility

Michelle Spamer, Area and Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715064

14. Ref: 504057 – Bushes, Prince Charles Avenue– raised 07.12.04

Issue

A resident asked whether bushes at the shopping area at Prince Charles Avenue could be removed completely as they were a haven for young people, to the detriment of safety for other residents.

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

To respond to the next meeting.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

The bushes will be trimmed again in the near future. However, if the bushes are to be removed completely this would require additional consultation.

Responsibility

John Edgar, Maintenance Manager – Highways and Footways, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715067

15. Ref: 504058 – Litter, footway St Benedict School to Broadway– raised 07.12.04

Issue

A resident raised concerns about the amount of litter deposited on the footpath between St Benedict School and Broadway. He was also concerned that the hedges on this footway were only trimmed when he requested.

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

To respond to the next meeting

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

Area Panel 5 paid for two litter bins in this area which were installed last year. The jitty from Broadway up to the school is being added to the new street cleaning contract even though it's not highway land.

Responsibility

Richard Winter, Assistant Waste Management Officer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 716352

John Edgar, Maintenance Manager – Highways and Footways, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715067

16. Ref: 504059 – Balustrade at Darley Abbey Park– raised 07.12.04

Issue

A resident asked what had happened about the balustrade at Darley Abbey Park. The Area panel had agreed a feasibility study and temporary measures were in place to prevent accident.

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Bill Reed reported that the temporary measures were in place whilst funding was sought for a permanent solution to the outfall and the watercourse. The temporary measures were replaced as necessary after vandalism.

The funding for the feasibility study had not been taken up and the meeting would consider whether to reallocate this later in the meeting.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

To get a full response to the next meeting.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

It is acknowledged that this work needs doing. The Council cannot ask for it to be done by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs – DEFRA – as it falls outside their criteria. The work needs funding by the Council, and, as yet, no funds have been identified for the work.

Responsibility

Dawn Dagley, Parks Liaison Officer, Commercial Services, telephone 716272
Ian Frearson, Land Drainage and Flood Defence Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 255969.

17. Ref: 504060 – Parking, Oakover Drive - Petition – raised 07.12.04

Issue

A petition had been submitted, asking for action to prevent illegal and obstructing parking on Oakover Drive, Allestree.

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

A full response would be given at the next meeting.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

A full report appears on the agenda elsewhere.

Responsibility

Michelle Spamer, Area and Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715064

18. Ref: 504061 – Petition - Parking on Penny Long Lane - raised 07.12.04

Issue

A petition had been submitted asking for parking restrictions to be introduced on penny Long Lane.

It was understood that an Order had been agreed several years ago for double yellow lines along the full length of the Lane, but this had not been implemented.

Action reported at the meeting on 1 December 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Council response at the meeting on 1 December 2004

Actions agreed at the meeting on 1 December 2004

To seek a full response to the next meeting.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 2 February 2005

We are currently investigating the matters referred to in the petition and will report back to the next area panel meeting when the investigation is complete.

Responsibility

Michelle Spamer, Area and Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715064