

ITEM 4

Time commenced : 6.30 pm
Time finished : 8.45 pm

AREA PANEL 2 (ALVASTON, BOULTON, CHELLASTON AND SINFIN WARDS) 12 JANUARY 2005

Present: Councillor Bayliss (Chair)
Councillors Blanksby, Chera, H S Dhamrait, Jackson,
Leeming, Liversedge, Turner, Willitts and Wynn

In attendance: Councillor Hickson

Derby City Council and Derbyshire Constabulary:

Michael Foote	-	Director of Corporate Services
Inspector Gascoigne	-	Derbyshire Constabulary
Jody Kirkpatrick	-	Constitutional Services Assistant
Bill Reed	-	Area Panel Manger
Sarah Turner	-	Constitutional Services Officer
Carolyn Wright	-	Head of Accountancy

46 members of the public were in attendance.

40/04 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Graves and Tittley.

41/04 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

42/04 Late Items Introduced By The Chair

There were no late items.

43/04 Minutes

Agreed that the Minutes of the Area Panel 2 meeting held on 3 November 2004, be confirmed as a correct record.

44/04 Corporate Plan and Budget

The Panel received a presentation from Councillor Philip Hickson – Deputy Leader of the Council and Michael Foote – Director of Corporate Services and Deputy Chief Executive, on the Council's vision and priorities and the Council's budget proposals for 2005-06.

Members of the public were advised that the consultation period had begun and they could raise any issues through their local Councillor for discussion at the relevant Overview and Scrutiny budget consultation meeting.

Agreed to note the presentation.

45/04 Update Report

The Panel considered an update report on the progress of community issues raised at the last meeting. The report included details on the issues raised, the proposed actions, progress to date and the City Council Officer responsible.

Request for Pedestrian Crossing or Central Refuge, Boulton Lane

Bill Reed reported that a crossing had been approved for Crayford Road near Boulton Lane. The preliminary design was now being undertaken and Bill would meet with anyone in the area to discuss the plans.

Parking at Alvaston Library

The contractors were being chased to find out when the work would be completed.

Area Panel Papers

Councillor Wynn stated that the Alvaston Councillors were offering to hand deliver agendas to anyone in their Ward wanting an agenda and were unable to get to the Council House.

A member of the public stated that only having sight of the full agenda at the meeting made it difficult to read up on issues before they were discussed.

Councillor Hickson responded that investigations had been carried out and of the people that received an Area Panel agenda in the post less than 10% of these actually attended a meeting. There had to be a balance of whether it be putting more money into direct services or continue the paper chase. The Council were cutting out waste, working smarter and embracing technology, people who did want an agenda would be able to get hold of one.

Councillor Wynn stated that Area Panel 2 was always well attended and thanked members of the public who did attend. They were taking part in the democratic process and the council should not set a price for democracy. There was a cost to individuals when downloading agendas and printing their own papers. He saw nothing wrong in sending out 100 agendas and only 16 people turning up. This should not be a record of success or failure.

Dropped Kerbs, Newbridge Crescent

Clarification was sought on where in the timetable this work would be done.

Council's Tree Policy

Councillor Hickson asked for any comments on the review of the Tree Management Policy to be sent to him within a month. In the meantime the current Council Policy continued.

A member of the public commented that they were always told there wasn't a budget for work. Councillor Bayliss responded that there was a budget the issue was whether that budget was sufficient.

A member of the public advised that there was an issue with suckers on Bolton Lane.

The Council's Arboricultural Officer to contact the member of the public to look at the situation.

East Midlands Airport

Bill Reed advised the Panel that a representative from the Airport would attend the next meeting.

Petition, Installation of Bus Shelters

A member of the public clarified that the bus shelters in question were:

- Outside Royal Crown Derby on Osmaston Road
- Moving the one outside Sinfin Community School to Heath Court or opposite Sinclair Close

Petition, Nursery Provision, St Peter's Church Hall, Chellaston

Bill Reed advised that Councillor Tittley was trying to arrange a date for all parties to meet to determine whether there had been any adverse effects.

Petition, Pavements Rosythe Crescent

Bill Reed advised that the pathway would never be a public vehicle route, it would eventually be downgraded to a cycle route.

46/04 Public Question Time

The public raised the following issues during public question time:

Footpath from Baker Street to Waldorf Close

A resident of Waldorf Close stated that she had received a letter from Ray Brown, Senior Planning Officer, regarding the closure of a footpath. The footpath stated in the letter was not correct. It should have been the footpath from Baker Street to Star Cottages.

Agreed to ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to respond to this issue.

Markings on Pavement by Jason's Lay-by on Brackens Lane

A member of the public informed the Panel that someone had marked out parking spaces on the pavement in front of the shops on Brackens Lane which means that if people park in the lay-by in front cars can not get on and off the pavement. Is it legal for someone to paint parking spaces on the pavement? It was causing an obstruction especially for disabled people.

Agreed to ask the Council's surveyors to assess the situation.

Traffic on Goodsmoor Bridge

A member of the public raised concern about the large volumes of traffic using Goodsmoor bridge following the temporary closure of Stenson Road. Adding to the problem were traffic lights on Wilmore Road making it impossible to get in and out of Sinfin at peak times.

Councillor Jackson commented that the traffic works on Stenson Road meant that the only route out of Sinfin was Sinfin Lane. A member of the public asked for traffic lights to control the flow of traffic at the junction of Wordsworth Avenue and Sinfin Lane and the junction of Goodsmoor Road and Stenson Road.

Relating to this issue a member of the public stated that she had emailed local Councillors to find out who authorised the closure of Redwood Road. Traffic on Grampian Way was horrendous.

Another member of the public commented that at the time residents asked for Redwood Road to be closed. It was never meant to be a through road it was 'access only' but many drivers did not respect this. This decision had been 20 years in the making.

Agreed to ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to respond to this issue.

Van Obstructing Traffic on Farmhouse Road

A member of the public asked for something to be done about a Council van being parked on the corner of Farmhouse Road/Deepdale Lane, it was causing an obstruction.

The member of the public provided Officers with the van number.

Agreed to ask the Director of Commercial Services to respond to this issue.

Elvaston Castle

A member of the public raised concern about developers turning Elvaston Castle into a hotel and golf course. He asked for the Alvaston Councillors views on the County Council's decision.

Councillor Wynn stated that he regretted the plans to semi privatise Elvaston Castle. He knew nothing about the options considered by the County Council. The City Council had no influence over decisions made about the County Council. This was a matter for the County Council and issues should be directed to them.

A member of the public commented that 80% of people who used the park were residents of the Alvaston ward and that local Councillors had a moral obligation to do something.

Councillor Bayliss stated that Elvaston Castle was beyond the boundaries of the city.

47/04 Petitions

New Petitions

a) T-Mobile mast sighting on Chellaston Road

The Panel noted that a petition had been received from residents of Chellaston regarding the proposed siting of a T Mobile mast outside the Esso Petrol Station on Chellaston Road.

The lead petitioner commented that there was a risk of explosion having a mast next to a petrol station and residents were worried about radiation poisoning.

Agreed to refer the Petition to Development Control for consideration along with the planning application.

b) Dog Waste Bins for Fullens Lock Playground

The Panel noted that a petition had been received from residents of Chellaston regarding the provision of dog waste bins on Fullens Lock Playground.

Agreed to ask the Director of Commercial Services to report back to the next meeting.

c) Dog Fouling and Widening of Flatts Path, Chellaston

The Panel noted that a petition had been received from residents of Chellaston regarding the problem of dog fouling on Flatts Path and the need for the path to be widened at one end to allow easier access for pushchairs.

Agreed to ask the Director of Corporate Services and Education to report back to the next meeting.

d) Bus Stop on Derby Road, Parkway Area of Chellaston

The Panel noted that a petition had been received from residents of Chellaston regarding the siting of a bus stop on Derby Road, Parkway area of Chellaston.

Agreed to ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to report back to the next meeting.

Responses to Petitions Received

e) Petition requesting lay-by parking or other form of short stay parking in close proximity to Andrew's Fish and Chip Shop, Chellaston

The Panel considered a report of the Director of Development and Cultural Services regarding a petition received asking for a lay-by or other form of short stay parking to be situated in close proximity to Andrew's Fish and Chip shop in Chellaston.

The report concluded that no action was to be taken on the suggestions made in the petition.

The lead petitioner submitted a response to the Directors report. A copy of this would be forwarded to the Director of Development and Cultural Services.

Councillor Bayliss suggested that the Highways department look at this issue again and report back to the next meeting. Councillor Liversedge commented that he supported the petitioners, as the car parking at the back of the shops was not sufficient.

Agreed to ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to report back to the next meeting.

f) Landscaping of the field to the rear of St John Fisher School, Alvaston

The Panel were advised that the Council were unable to agree to the petitioner's request as a local farmer currently leased the land. The land had unfortunately been severed by the construction and opening of the new part of the Alvaston By Pass and the Council were currently in discussion with the farmer about the future use of the site.

g) Dog dirt bins for Green Lane, Elvaston Lane playing field and field to the rear of St Michael's and All Angels Church, Alvaston]

The Panel were advised that the budget for this financial year had already been allocated and there were no funds to meet this request. It would be added to a list of similar requests which would be looked at again should additional funds become available.

h) Installation of a central refuge and improvements to the road layout junction of Raynesway and Alvaston Street, Alvaston

The Panel advised that the investigation was not yet complete and the Director of Development and Cultural Services would report back to the next meeting.

i) Installation of lighting, improved surfacing and drainage to Green Lane, Alvaston

The Panel considered a report of the Assistant Director – Highways, Transportation and Waste Management regarding a petition requesting the installation of lighting, improved surfacing and drainage and installation of lighting on Green Lane, Alvaston.

The lead petitioner commented that street lighting was very much needed on Green Lane. People won't use the path at night for safety reasons. Particularly because of the pot holes, flooding in wet weather and dog mess not to mention the lack of lighting. The fear of crime in this area was not being addressed either.

Councillor Wynn proposed that if £5,000 needed for resurfacing and the £5,000 needed for lighting could not be found in normal budgets they could use any residual Area Panel funding at the next meeting as it will be the end of the financial year.

48/04 Health Briefing from Primary Care Trusts

A briefing on health services paper was considered.

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

49/04 Area Panel Budget Proposals 2004/05

A report of the Assistant Director of Community Policy was considered which set out details of two applications for funding which had been received. This was:

1. To consider whether to support the application received from Boulton Lane Park Senior Citizens Club – Boulton Ward, for funding for room hire and equipment. Grant requested – £1,200.
2. To consider whether to support the application received from Derby and Sandiacre Canal Society – Boulton, Chellaston and Alvaston Wards, for funding for public consultation equipment. Grant requested – £1,831.

Options Considered

The suggested recommendations from the Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel were to approve the applications. The Appraisal Panel considered that the proposals met the criteria for area panel funding.

KEY DECISION

To award funding to the applications as follows:

- Boulton Lane Park Senior Citizens Club – Grant £1,200.

Reasons

1. The application met the criteria for Area Panel funding.
 2. The application would provide a service in response to the needs of local residents.
 3. The application would enable residents to participate within their community.
- Derby and Sandiacre Canal Society – Grant £2,000.

Reasons

1. The Panel felt that the application deserved more funding than the Appraisal Panel had recommended - £1,831, on the basis that some of the equipment would cost more than originally budgeted for and the Panel felt that this was a worthwhile scheme to support.
2. The application met the criteria for Area Panel funding.
3. The applicant would contribute to environmental improvements, which would provide a benefit to local residents.

50/04 Arrangements for the Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held in the Boulton Ward on Wednesday 16 March 2005 at 6.30pm at Moorhead Primary School, Brackens Lane, Alvaston, Derby. Councillor Blanksby would be the Chair.

MINUTES END