

ITEM 4

Time Started : 7.05pm
Time Finished : 9.10pm

AREA PANEL 5 (ALLESTREE, DARLEY AND MACKWORTH WARDS) 21 JULY 2004

Present: Councillor Samra (in the Chair)
Councillors Baxter, Gerrard, Hickson, Repton, Richards, Travis and Webb

Derby City Council and Derbyshire Constabulary Officers:

Bill Reed	- Area Panel Manager – Policy Directorate
Peter Price	- Transportation Policy Manager
Sharon Jackson	- Corporate Customer Service Manager
Karen Crawley	- Derby Homes
Sergeant Sean Dawson	- Derbyshire Constabulary
Nikki MacDonald	- Members Services Officer – Corporate Services
Helen Couperthwaite	- Members Services Officer - Corporate Services

105 members of the public were in attendance.

01/04 Election of Chair

Agreed that Councillor Samra be appointed as Chair for the meeting.

Councillor Samra welcomed people to the meeting.

02/04 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

03/04 Late Items

The Chair agreed to admit one late item on the grounds of health and safety. It was a funding application which sought funds to ensure appropriate work was done to dangerous steps in the Darley Ward.

Riverside West Community Panel

The Chair agreed to admit one late item which was a funding application from the Riverside West Community Panel. It sought a grant of £2,550 to assist with improvements to the steps at Markeaton Recreation Ground. This was to be considered as part of Item 11 – Area Panel Funding Applications.

04/04 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

05/04 Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 2 June 2004 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

06/04 Update Report

Bill Reed, Area Panel Manager introduced a report which set out responses to questions raised verbally or in writing at the last meeting.

Five Lamps Junction – Rat Running

Bill Reed thanked the member of the public who had handed in the letter and video of rat running at Five Lamps. He reiterated that the traffic surveys carried out had demonstrated a reduction. It was advised that planning applications had now been submitted for Connecting Derby, and exhibitions were starting on 22 July. This would allow for members of the public to offer suggestions and raise issues they had previously brought to the Area Panel.

Five Lamps Junction – Air Quality

It had been promised at the last meeting that information in relation to air quality would be provided. It had not been possible to provide the information to this meeting, although it was reiterated that results from earlier data collection had shown that compared to other areas in the City, Five Lamps was not as bad as expected.

A member of the public felt that people should have been given the opportunity to comment on the figures before the decision on Connecting Derby was made. However, it was advised that, having had contact with the Environmental Health and Trading Standards Division, a report would be available at the next meeting of the Panel.

Parking at Markeaton Primary School

Bill Reed advised that the Council was now in a position to implement a Traffic Regulation Order, and would report progress at the next meeting.

Darley Park Litter

It was noted that there were currently six dog bins in Darley Park, and this was felt to be sufficient, compared to other areas in the City. The Panel were reassured that that Darley Park would be amongst priorities in future allocations.

Walking Routes into the City Centre

Bill Reed reported that the terms of the s106 agreement had not been

determined and it was uncertain when it would be completed. Members of the public raised concern in relation to the subway under King Street, and did not want it to be refurbished. Councillor Repton agreed that it should be closed, and asked who owned it in order that they could be contacted. It was noted that an update would be given at the next meeting.

Roundabouts at Mackworth Estate

Bill Reed reported that, after looking into the possibility of re-kerbing the fourth roundabout in Mackworth, there was not enough funding available this financial year.

Darley Park

It was reported that temporary barriers had been put in place until a solution could be found for the replacement of the balustrade. Councillor Travis commented that the barriers were being continuously pushed over and consequently created a safety hazard.

Councillor Samra advised that the Council was investigating a long term solution for the problem, but at the moment, funding was not available.

Traffic on Park Farm Precinct

It had been suggested that the service road be made one way, in order to avoid traffic congestion around the Park Farm Centre. It was reported that, although this would solve some problems, it could lead to an increase in speeding and would make the area unsafe.

Members of the public felt that the situation had not improved, although Sergeant Dawson reported that up to £3000 in parking tickets had been issued in the Allestree area, including the Park Farm area. Councillor Webb felt that the situation had improved since the bus Clearway Order had been introduced.

It was also advised that the provision of Disabled parking spaces was also being consulted on, and that discussions were taking place regularly. It had been suggested that spaces at the rear of the precinct were created. Any progress would be provided at a future meeting of the Panel.

Motorcycle Problems, Cheviot Street

Bill Reed reported that no incidents had been reported since this issue was raised, although the situation would continue to be monitored.

Street Lighting – St Bride’s Walk

It was noted that work on the street lighting on St Bride’s Walk was still being carried out.

St Mary’s Bridge, Mansfield Road

Members of the public were referred to a display at the meeting, which

showed the proposal currently being considered on Mansfield Road. Any questions on the display would be taken by Bill Reed at the end of the meeting.

Alcohol Free Zone, West End, Derby

It was reported that this issue was still under consideration by the Police and the Council. Updates would be provided at a future meeting.

Woodlands School Development

It was noted that this issue was being dealt with by Planning Enforcement Officers. The Developer had agreed to replant the hedgerow on completion of the development and if they failed to do this, then relevant action would be taken against them.

Markeaton Brook

Bill Reed reported that Markeaton Brook had been successfully cleaned a few weeks before the meeting, through a Community 'Enviro-Event'. This was reported in 'late items' at the meeting held on 2 June 2004.

University Development

Members of the public were advised that this issue was still being considered. Bill Reed agreed to pass the views of the Panel to the Planning Department.

Concrete Bollards, Prince Charles Avenue

It was reported that this issue had been looked into following a site visit. No response had been received, although it was a strong possibility that bollards could be provided to stop vehicles driving over paved pedestrian areas.

Public Open Space

Members of the public were referred to the newsletter at the meeting, which gave details on a series of drop-in sessions for people to offer their views on the provision of public open space in Derby.

Speed Limits on Broadway

It was noted that there was currently a 40mph speed limit on Broadway, which was considered by residents to be excessive. Bill Reed explained that there was no serious accident problem which gave the Council no obligation to do anything. It was felt that the introduction of a 30mph speed limit would not be enforceable. Bill Reed agreed to report a response to the next meeting in relation to a reduction in the speed limit.

Parking on Grass Verges

Sergeant Dawson explained that this parking issue was being enforced by the Police and that Traffic Wardens regularly visited the area. It was reported that consultation was taking place with the University to address the issue of student parking. It was also noted that the Police

do try to ensure they deal with every complaint they receive as effectively as possible.

Pedestrian Crossing, Whitecross Street

Bill Reed reported that the streetlights had now been repaired.

Litter and Grass Cutting on Broadway

It was noted that the arrangements in place in relation to grass cutting had been working effectively and did not require any improvement.

Bus Routes and Shelters

It was reported that this issue was in progress, and a location for the new shelter was being decided.

Pedestrian Crossing, Blenheim Drive

Members of the public were informed that the Council had identified an area of need for the crossing on Blenheim Drive, but were unable to carry out another site visit until the children returned to school in September. An update would be provided at the next meeting.

Parking, Blenheim Drive

Sergeant Dawson advised that this area continued to be monitored and that regulations were enforced as necessary.

St Mary's School

Bill Reed explained that there was no obligation for the Council to consult CABE (Commission of Architects for Built Environment) in relation to the design of the proposed buildings. It was noted that the application concerning the St Mary's School Development would be submitted to the next meeting of the Planning Control Committee meeting.

Petition – Drug Free Mackworth

Since the petition was submitted to the Area Panel, it was noted that the property concerned remained unoccupied. Derby Homes were currently considering a solution to the problem, and would provide updates to the Panel as necessary.

The Panel was referred to an Appendix to the Update Report which gave details on the work of the Derby Community Safety Partnership and related to the main issues outlined in the petition.

07/04 Public Question Time

Newton's Walk

A member of the public questioned whether Newton's Walk was a public a right of way, as Derby University locked the gate which cut across it. It was advised that it was not a public right of way, although an application had been submitted several years ago, which was refused as it was closed for one day a year. In order to become a

public right of way, footpaths have to have been in constant use for a period of twenty years.

St Benedict's School Development

Members of the St Benedict's Residents Action Group attended the meeting in objection to the proposed development at St Benedict's School. The issues raised included the illuminated sports ground, proposed wind turbine and school expansion, which had not included any extra parking facilities. These proposals had not been submitted to the Planning Control Committee, so Councillors who were on the Committee refrained from speaking.

Members of the Action Group expressed serious concerns in relation to the noise that could be created by the wind turbine, along with the light pollution which would be emitted from the sports ground. Councillors Hickson, Repton and Samra had each spoken to members of the public on the subject and had taken on board these concerns. The lack of consultation on the issue was considered to be a problem in itself and people felt that the Planning Department could have made more contact with local residents.

It was felt that the proposal would be overdominant within the area and would set a precedent for other planning applications. Bill Reed advised that he would pass all the comments given to the Planning Officers concerned.

Darley Park Concert

It was requested that, during the Darley Park Concert, there could be parking restrictions on Broadway. Restrictions had previously been implemented, but never upheld, and residents wondered why this was.

Another issue raised in relation to the concert was the litter left behind afterwards. It was explained that this was the responsibility of the Park Rangers, although the resources to clear the area were sometimes strained. It was advised that a response would be provided regarding both issues at a future meeting.

Brackensdale Avenue

A member of the public asked if a barrier could be put in place outside the school on Brackensdale Avenue to prevent children from running into the road. Councillor Baxter advised that there was a member of the school crossing patrol stationed outside the school and if a barrier was placed there, it was unlikely that the school crossing control would remain.

Pedestrian Crossing – Mackworth Estate

A crossing was requested to be built between the Mackworth Estate and Markeaton Park as it was extremely dangerous, especially for children crossing. These concerns would be taken to the relevant Officer and an update provided at the future meeting.

Brough Street – Drains

It was reported that when Brough Street was resurfaced, a lot of stones from the Tarmac had fallen down the drains and was creating a problem as water was not draining properly. Bill Reed agreed to pass this complaint on the relevant Officer to be dealt with.

Stepping Lane

It was suggested that Stepping Lane be changed to a one way street. Members of the public explained that a lot of traffic was driving through Campion Street and Slack Lane, causing problems as cars were parked on each side of the roads. It was asked if the roads could be made access only to avoid rat running. Bill Reed would look into this issue and report back at the next meeting.

08/04 Petitions

New petitions received by the Panel.

a) Petition for a Pedestrian Crossing on Brackensdale Avenue

The Panel noted a petition that had been received from residents of Mackworth requesting a pedestrian crossing be provided on Brackensdale Avenue. The reason was that the road served a school, and was near a small shopping centre and Kingsway Retail Park, and there was currently a heavy amount of traffic passing through daily.

It was advised that a response to this petition would be provided as soon as possible.

Agreed to note the petition.

09/04 Customer Service Strategy

A report of the Director of Corporate Services was considered, which stated that the Service Access Review, which had been completed earlier this year, had recommended the development of a customer service strategy for the Council. Sharon Jackson, Customer Service Manager, gave a brief presentation on the strategy, which outlined the Council's vision for customer service over the next three years. The draft strategy had been prepared and was available on the Council's website.

It was reported that the consultation had started in May 2004, and had involved presenting the strategy to various Council Groups, including all Area Panels.

Comments were made in relation to accessibility to the internet. It was questioned how people who did not have the internet could access the draft strategy and how else it would be publicised. It was advised that

copies of the document were available at the meeting. It was hoped that more people would become aware of the strategy as more consultation was carried out.

Agreed to note that the consultation with stakeholders would take place on the draft customer services strategy during June and July 2004.

Agreed to note the presentation.

10/04 Developing a Five Year Strategy for Supporting People – Consultation Exercise

A report of the Assistant Director Housing and Advice Services was considered, which stated that supported housing was very important to the well being of people in Derby. It covered a wide range of services and many different kinds of needs. Supported housing included warden schemes for older people, refuges for people fleeing domestic violence and hostels for homeless people.

It was reported that Supporting People, which was introduced in April 2003 was a new initiative that brought all the old sources of funding from supported housing together into a single fund, for which the Council acts as the administering authority. A five year strategy was being developed and views of the service users were required as part of the consultation.

Questionnaires were being sent by post to people who had experience of receiving supporting housing services and a questionnaire was also placed on the Council's website. It was noted that the consultation exercise would end on 30 July 2004.

Bill Reed advised that if anyone had any comments to make on the proposed strategy, even if they were not a service user, to either complete a questionnaire or contact Maggie Fennell, Supporting People Officer on (01332) 255320, before 30 July 2004.

Agreed to note that the consultation with stakeholders would be completed by 30 July 2004.

11/04 Bus Services Through Morley Estate

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. Peter Price, Transportation Policy Manager, gave members of the public the opportunity to make suggestions on the route and the proposed changes.

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.

It was advised that what had prompted the review of the service was the new regulations concerning the Disability Discrimination Act and the change to the size of buses, which would make it almost impossible for them to gain access. Other routes were suggested, including a diversion through Slack Lane and Cheviot Street. Reducing the amount of parking down the streets was also considered, although with the existing lack of residents' parking, it was doubtful it would be welcomed. The consultation was aimed to please as many residents as possible, without termination of the service completely.

Members of the public were advised to contact the department with any further comments or queries on (01332) 715034 or (01332) 715064. All suggestions from the meeting would be considered.

Agreed to note the presentation.

12/04 Area Panel Budget Proposals

A report of the Assistant Director of Community Policy was considered, which updated the Panel on the current position of Area Panel 5's budget allocation and details of applications received. Copies of the applications were attached to the report.

The Panel considered applications ward by ward.

City Wide – All Wards

The Multi-Faith Centre at the University of Derby

The first application was received from the Multi-Faith Centre at the University of Derby, which sought a percentage of the cost from each Area Panel to fund 200 chairs for the centre. It requested £980.00 from Area Panel 5.

Mackworth

Mackworth Community Crime Prevention Panel

The second application was received from Mackworth Community Crime Prevention Panel. It sought £500.00 for assistance towards various Neighbourhood Watch schemes throughout Mackworth.

Morley and Mackworth Community Panel

This application was received from Morley and Mackworth Community Panel, which requested £500.00 towards a Morley and Mackworth Community Fun Day.

Darley

Riverside West Community Panel

The Chair had agreed to accept this application as a late item, from Riverside West Community Panel. It was seeking a grant of £2,550 to assist with improvements to the steps at Markeaton Recreation Ground.

Options considered

The Panel considered the applications in line with the guidelines set out within the report. In deciding on the application, the Panel assessed funding against its priorities.

Decisions

- 1 To refuse the application for seating at the Multi-Faith Centre.
- 2 To award a grant of £500.00 for assistance towards various Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in Mackworth.
- 3 To grant the application for £500.00 towards a Community Fun Day in Morley and Mackworth.

Reasons

- 1 It was commented that as funding had been requested from each Area Panel, it was not related to a specific ward or community project. It was noted that Area Panels 1, 2 and 3 had also refused the application.
- 2 The application meets the criteria for Area Panel funding and would enable local residents to participate within their community.
- 3 The application meets the criteria for Area Panel funding and would enable local residents to participate within their community.

Key Decisions

- 1 To award a grant of £2,550 to assist with improvements to the steps at Markeaton Recreation Ground.

Reasons

- 1 The application meets the criteria for Area Panel funding.

13/04 Outturn Report, Area Panel 5 Budget 2003/4

A report from the Director of Policy was considered, which stated that in 2003/04, Area Panel 5 was allocated a budget of £22,000. The Panel had agreed to divide this equally between the three wards. Details of how the budget was spent was set out in the report.

Agreed to note the report.

14/04 Arrangements for the Next and Future Meetings

It was noted that the following meetings had been arranged:

6 October 2004, Mackworth Ward
Ashgate School, Ashbourne Road, Derby

1 December 2004, Darley Ward
Walter Evans Primary School, Darley Abbey Drive, Darley Abbey,
Derby

2 February 2005, Allestree Ward
Lawn Primary School, Norbury Close, Allestree, Derby

6 April 2005, Mackworth Ward
Diocesan Centre, Mornington Crescent, Mackworth, Derby

6 July 2005, Darley Ward
St Mary's Parish Centre, Darley Lane, Derby

Agreed that the following chairs be appointed

**Councillor Baxter for the meeting on 6 October 2004,
Councillor Travis for the meeting on 1 December 2004,
Councillor Webb for the meeting on 2 February 2005,
Councillor Gerrard for the meeting on 6 April 2005, and
Councillor Richards for the meeting on 6 July 2005.**

MINUTES END