

Time Started : 7.00pm
Time Finished : 8.40pm

**AREA PANEL 5
(ALLESTREE, DARLEY AND MACKWORTH WARDS)
7 DECEMBER 2005**

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

Derby City Council and Other Officers:

Richard Smail	- Area Panel Manager
Sara Allmond	- Constitutional Services Officer
Jody Kirkpatrick	- Constitutional Services Assistant
Rachel Levy	- Constitutional Services Assistant
Sergeant Critchley	- Derbyshire Constabulary
David Gartside	- Head of Traffic
Peter Matthews	- Derby Homes
Vickie Butler	- Area Panel Support Officer

36 members of the public were in attendance.

32/05 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Hickson

33/05 Late Items

There were no late items

34/05 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

35/05 Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 October 2005 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

36/05 Public Question Time

The following questions were raised by members of the public:

Slack Lane New Housing Development

Mr Jacobs commented on the problems with traffic on Slack Lane because of the new housing development and raised concerns over the state of the road.

David Gartside replied that it was being looked into and needed to be put into the work programme.

Mobile Phone Masts in Mackworth

Paul Pegg, Mackworth resident asked where the rent for the masts in Mackworth and Oakwood were going and what they were being spent on.

David Gartside replied that the Government had granted permission for masts to be put on public highways and the Council had very few powers to resist that. He confirmed that rent was not paid for the ones on the highways. He did not know the situation with the mast at Springfield Leisure Centre in Oakwood.

Markeaton Street

Brenda Armitage, asked about the contamination of the site on Markeaton Street and raised concerns about the fact the developers had placed portacabins on the site without permission and wanted to know what action the Council was taking.

Councillor Baxter replied that the portacabins issue was going to Planning Control the following day.

David Gartside replied that he had spoken to someone at the University regarding the contamination issue and they had provided a contact of someone there who are happy to speak to anyone who has any concerns.

Markeaton Park Hard Standing Extension

Brenda Armitage asked why the hard standing area in Markeaton Park beside Markeaton Lane is being extended.

World Heritage Site

Val Beech asked that now that the signs were in promoting the World Heritage Site and it was more widely known, what were the plans to promote the Darley Abbey Mills and also were there any special provision for litter picking and protection of flora and fauna in the park if more people started using it.

Agreed to provide a response to Val Beech.

Bus Stops on Kedleston Road

John Paul Keane commented that the new service to Park Farm – 17a had been running for three months but that the timetables on the bus stops were out of date and still did not show the service. He asked when this was going to be sorted.

Councillor Baxter replied that the bus stops belonged to the bus company so the details on them were maintained by the company, but that the Panel would feed the comment back to the bus company and ask them to update the timetables.

Bus Stops for Service along A6

Mr Jackson raised concerns about the reduction in number of stops for the “sixes” service in the city centre due to the closure of the bus station and asked that consideration be given to putting an extra stop in at the Flower Pot Public House.

Councillor Travis replied that the siting of the bus stops was the decision of the bus company and the Council had no influence on where they are, except in terms of safety. So the bus company would need to be lobbied.

Land at Leytonstone Drive

Les Broughton asked what the situation was with the land formally owned by the Bungalow on Leytonstone Drive. He wondered whether the local road was the stumbling block for the site being developed. He was concerned about the fact that the land was an eyesore and needed to be developed.

Councillor Baxter replied that he believed the issue was who the road belonged to and that he would try and get to find out and provide an answer.

Advertising Pillars in City Centre

Penny Abreu commented that early in 2004, Area Panel 5 had received a presentation about public advertising pillars which had since been installed. However, an escort agency is being advertised on many of these pillars and she asked if this was an appropriate use of the space.

Councillor Baxter replied that it would be looked into and a response brought back to the next meeting.

Agenda Papers

Chris Wynn asked whether the panel welcomed the re-introduction of full agenda papers.

Councillor Repton replied that he was pleased that the papers had been re-introduced as it was something Labour had said they would do.

37/05 Petitions

The following petition was presented at the meeting:

Removal of Bench on Blenheim Parade

Sergeant Critchley presented the petition on behalf of the local residents. The petition requested the removal of a bench near the bus stop on Blenheim Parade due as it attracted anti-social behaviour.

Resolved to receive the petition and bring a response to a future meeting.

The following responses to petitions were received at the meeting:

Petition regarding parking on North Street

The panel considered a report of the Assistant Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste Management which responded to a petition received from the residents of North Street living in the section between Arthur Street and North Parade, to request a Residents' Only Parking Scheme. It was reported that for a number of years this section of North Street and other streets in the area had been subject to a limited waiting restriction of 2 hours, no return within 1 hour, and in 2001, the order was amended to enable residents to purchase a permit to gain exemption from the 2 hour restriction. Under the circumstances it was not felt appropriate to make further changes to the restrictions on North Street at the moment or to consider North Street in isolation. In July 2006, the city council is due to take over the enforcement of parking restrictions. The intention is to increase the number of Parking Attendants significantly which would enable increased enforcement in areas like North Street. The consequences of the new development on North Street will be monitored and once the effect of the council taking over the enforcement of parking restrictions is known, the situation can be reviewed. The report proposed that the signs associated with the restrictions on North Street be reinstated, that the effects of the new development and changes in parking enforcement be monitored and that following the change in parking enforcement, if significant problems remain in the area, it be considered for a traffic management review.

Resolved to note the report.

Petition requesting a dedicated ranger for Darley Park and completion of the riverside path

The panel considered a report of the Director of Commercial Services which responded to the petition requesting a dedicated ranger for Darley Park and the completion of the riverside path, which was signed by 104 people. It was reported that although there was not a dedicated ranger for Darley Park at the time, the ranger base was located at

Darley Fields and provided a 12 hour, 7 day a week presence on the site.

It was reported that regarding the request for the completion of the riverside path, it would cost in the region of £50,000 and funds were not available for this.

A member of the public replied that he felt that figure was very high when all that was required was a limestone path, not a tarmac one. Another member of the public commented that he would not wish to see a path installed as he felt it could affect the habitat and that a full consultation should take place before anything be installed.

Councillor Webb left the meeting

38/05 Area Panel Budget Proposals 2005/06

Applications for Area Panel Funding

A report of the Assistant Director of Community Policy was considered which set out details of three applications for funding, as follows:

- To consider whether to support the application received from the Derby City Mission to fund the cost of the conversion of disabled people's toilet facilities – Amount requested £3,000
- To consider whether to support the application received from the St Edmunds Preschool Playgroup to fund an additional day for childcare provision – Amount requested £791
- To consider whether to support the application received from the St John's Methodist Church to fund the cost of a fenced area, notice board and disabled people's toilet – Amount requested £2,200

Options considered

The Panel assessed the applications for funding against the agreed criteria and assessed the applications for funding against priorities. The Panel considered the recommendation from the Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel for each application.

Decisions

To award grants to the following applications:

- Derby City Mission – Grant for £2,000 for the conversion of disabled people's toilet facilities

Reasons

1. It would improve access for local people to existing services
 2. It would enable residents to participate in their community
- St Edmunds Preschool Playgroup– Grant for £791 for an additional day for childcare provision

Reasons

1. It would improve access for local people to existing services
 2. It would enable residents to participate in their community
- St Johns Methodist Church – Grant for £2,000 for a fenced area, notice board and disabled people's toilet.

Reasons

1. It would improve access for local people to existing services
2. It would enable residents to participate in their community

39/05 Proposed Operation of Trial for Cosmetic Work to Trees

The Panel considered a report of the Director of Commercial Services regarding the proposed operation of a trial for cosmetic work to trees. The report updated the Panel on the trial and informed the Panel that the fund of £5,000 which had initially been allocated solely to Area Panel 5 would now be spread out between all five area panels as there was a concern that the budget would not be spent if left solely with Area Panel 5. Therefore Area Panel 5 would now have a budget of £1,000 to spend within the current municipal year on cosmetic tree work within the tree management policy.

Resolved to note the report.

40/05 Health Briefing from Greater Derby and Central Derby Primary Care Trusts

A briefing paper on health services was considered.

Agreed to note the contents of the briefing paper

41/05 Update Report

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

Pedestrian Crossing, Blenheim Drive

Councillor Samra asked whether the school had developed a travel plan year. David Gartside replied that they had not as yet.

Parking, Robin Croft/West Bank Avenue

Councillor Samra asked when the yellow lines would be replaced.

Agreed to investigate.

Allestree Hall

Councillor Repton reported that he was not aware of any current proposals.

Tree Pruning, Allestree Lane

Agreed to request a quote for light thinning pruning of tree within the cosmetic tree work trial.

Litter, footway St Benedict School to Broadway

A member of the public commented that the litter was only being cleared from about halfway down the path.

Agreed to look into the litter clearing again.

Speed limit on Broadway

Sergeant Critchley reported that he had had a meeting with the Head of the school and they had arranged to hold a public meeting in the new year.

Bollards, Darley Park

It was reported that the Panel had been informed that the entrances were still being left open so would reinvestigate.

Section 106 – Highfields Development

Still waiting for the answer to the questions relating to how much and what it is used for. Agreed to bring the remaining answers to a future meeting.

Crazy Golf, Markeaton Park

Councillor Baxter commented that he was appalled that there were no other planned improvements to the Crazy Golf Course on Markeaton Park as people paid to use it.

Scout Hut, Leytonstone Drive

Paul Pegg commented that he had read that a bid had been put in, but that if the sale fell through he was concerned that it may be sold for housing. He felt it would be much better to use the site for a library.

University Parking

Sergeant Critchley gave an update on the actions of the police regarding parking in the areas around the University.

Councillor Repton commented that the problem was very complex, that the university was helping to try and solve the problem but that there was still more work to be done.

42/05 Arrangements for the next meeting

To note that the next meeting of the Area Panel would be held on Wednesday 1 February 2006 at 7.00pm at St Mary's Parish Centre, Darley Lane.

MINUTES END