

ITEM 4

Time Started : 7.00pm
Time Finished : 9.05pm

AREA PANEL 5 (ALLESTREE, DARLEY AND MACKWORTH WARDS) 4 JULY 2007

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

Derby City Council and Other Officers:

Sarah Dosunmu	- Area Panel Manager
Andy Thomas	- Head of Stronger and Safer Communities Unit
Emma Tidbury	- Local Manager Derby Homes
Insp. Rachel Walker	- Derbyshire Constabulary

33 members of the public were in attendance.

01/07 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Hickson.

02/07 Late Items

In accordance with Section 100 (B) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Chair agreed to accept two late funding applications on the grounds that they needed considering before the next scheduled meeting of the panel.

03/07 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Repton declared a personal and prejudicial interest in minute number 11/07 as was the lead applicant for funding.

Councillors Baxter and Willoughby left the meeting during consideration of part of minute number 09/07 as they related to issues that would be considered by the Planning Control Committee.

04/07 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 April 2007 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the chair subject to the amendment in minute no 65/06 that Midland Canoe Club received a grant of £1,000

not £1,500 as stated.

05/07 Chairs Report

The Panel received a report from the Chair on current issues and successes within Area Panel 5.

Resolved to note the report

06/07 Petitions

New Petitions

A new petition was received relating to a request for a crossing on Prince Charles Avenue Mackworth outside the shopping parade following a spate of accidents. The Councillors for Mackworth Ward supported the petition in light of the new evidence presented.

Agreed to investigate the petition and report back to a future meeting.

Petitions received since the last meeting

It was reported that a petition had been received since the last meeting relating to visitor permits Mansfield Road Chester Green.

Agreed to investigate the petition and report back to a future meeting of the Panel.

07/07 Transforming Area Panels into Neighbourhood Forums

A report was considered which gave an update on the Area Panel Review and introduced proposals to roll out neighbourhood working across the city. The Area and Neighbourhood Board, on behalf of Derby City Partnership, had concluded the review and proposed a new framework for neighbourhood working in Derby replacing Area Panels with a framework of Neighbourhood Forums.

The following proposals were put forward:

- Area Panels be transformed into Neighbourhood Forums
- Neighbourhood Forums for each ward, which would be led by Councillors and engage with local residents
- Three levels of neighbourhood management would be developed
- Neighbourhood Managers would co-ordinate and deliver some services relating to the cleaner, stronger and safer communities agenda
- A neighbourhood profile, neighbourhood plan and performance framework to be developed.

Councillors were currently being invited to local briefing sessions to raise awareness of the proposals, to discuss the impact in their ward and to feedback their views. Presentations were being made at all five Area Panel meetings.

Council Cabinet would consider feedback from Area Panels and Councillor briefings and make a recommendation to Council in July 2007. Subject to approval in July, Council would receive a further report on the agreed way forward in September 2007.

Resolved to note the report.

08/07 Area Panel Update Report

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:

Petition – Well repairs and installation of hand rail Well Street

Councillor Richards reported that he was pleased that the hand rail had been repaired but he was still concerned about the well and lack of progress on repairs.

Yellow Advertising Signs

It was noted that the new PFI contract would address the issues relating to yellow advertising signs. There was little point in the Council carrying out enforcement when the PFI was imminent.

Parking Restrictions and Enforcement, Darley

A Member of the Broadway Action Group suggested that a way of solving the issue of parking on verges outside the pub would be to install metal retractable bollards; they felt this would be more cost effective than having parking enforcement officers patrolling the area. Councillor Repton reported that a meeting with the Cabinet Member and the University to try and resolve issues relating to parking in the area had been arranged to discuss this issue.

University Parking

Relates to the previous item. A meeting had been arranged with ward Councillors and interested parties on 19 July at the University. A member of the public asked that the on going problem with people parking in public car parks particularly at Darley Park Drive and Mundy Play Centre all day be considered as part of this meeting.

Bus Lanes

This subject had yet to be approved by the Cabinet Member, an update would be provided for the next meeting.

Conservation Areas

A member of the public said there was a problem with the clutter of street furniture, street signage and bins. She offered to show the appropriate officer where the issues were.

09/07 Public Question Time

The following questions were raised by members of the public:

Darley Park Toilets

A Member of the public asked if the Darley Park Toilets could be refurbished as they were in a terrible state. Councillor Repton agreed to speak to the relevant Cabinet Member to ensure the toilets were brought up to standard.

Criteria for Planning Applications

A Member of the public asked about the criteria for planning applications. An explanation of the process was given. It was reported that each application was considered on its merits.

Kingscroft

A member of the public asked about the high density of development proposed for Kingscroft. It was reported that the Government recommended 35 properties per hectare and that the development be in keeping with the local area. It was noted that this particular planning application had not yet been received and it was therefore difficult to comment on what was proposed.

Overgrown Trees and Hedges Whitecross Street and Gardens

A member of the public asked if the trees and hedges on Whitecross Street and Whitecross Gardens could be trimmed. There was difficulty walking along the streets and the trees were affecting the light in the properties. It was suggested that the issue be brought up at the resident's Derby Homes Community Panel which was held at Whitecross House.

A6 changes to variation in traffic flows

A member of the public asked what plans there were to monitor changes to traffic flows following the introduction of the bus lane on the A6. It was reported that this would be dealt with as part of the bus lane review.

Representation of the People

A member of the public asked if there would be one neighbourhood forum for Allestree and if all three Councillors would be on the Forum. He also asked if the forums would follow the good practice of Area Panels by providing agendas and minutes, what the structure of the boards would be and how often they would meet. It was reported that there would be one forum for Allestree and all three Councillors would be on the Forum. The idea of the forums was to reduce bureaucracy

and they would meet quarterly.

Sturgess Site

A member of the public asked if the site had been saved from further development.

St Mary's Footbridge

A member of the public asked why there had been no consultation on the design of the St Mary's footbridge as this was an important route in and out of the city. It was noted that there was a display at the Guildhall this week showing the proposed new footbridge. Agreed to bring a report to the next meeting.

Neighbourhood Forums

A member of the public asked who the board comprised of and if they would be thrown out like area panels after a period of operation. It was noted that councillors were being consulted on the make up of the boards. It was suggested that the member of the public put his questions in writing to Andy Thomas Head of Stronger and Safer Communities and copy the letter to the Ward Councillors.

Chester Green Alcohol Free Zone

A member of the public asked where the Chester Green Alcohol Free Zone would be located and how big it would be. Agreed to provide the member of the public with a response when the item is discussed in minute number 11/07.

Developments Around Allestree and Sustainability

A member of the public asked about a development at 456-458 Duffield Road the proposal was for 56 properties per hectare. He asked if consideration was given to providing place for children at the local school and how the road infrastructure would cope to ensure the development was sustainable. Councillor Webb explained that when there were such developments, Section 106 agreements took account of these issues.

10/07 Budget Report – Outturn Area Panel 5 Budget 2006/07

The Panel considered a report of the Director of Derby Community Safety Partnership which detailed how the Panel had spent their budget for 2006/07.

Resolved to note the report.

11/07 Area Panel Budget Proposals 2007/08

A report of the Head of the Stronger and Safer Communities Unit was considered which set out details of seven applications for funding

which had been received.

It was reported that the first application was from Allestree Schools Out Club, they were seeking a grant of £2,000 towards fencing and security improvements.

The second application was from Markeaton Leisure Gardens Association, they were seeking a grant of £750 towards the provision of extra garden sheds.

The third application was from Councillor Repton he was seeking a grant of £3,000 towards the establishment of Chester Green Area Alcohol Free Zone.

The fourth application was from Darley Abbey Cricket Club, they were seeking a grant of £560 towards temporary room hire.

The fifth application was from the 100th Derby Mackworth Methodist Cub Pack, they were seeking a grant of £1,900 towards the replacement of existing cooker and camping equipment.

The sixth application was from Midland Canoe Club, they were seeking a grant of £500 towards the purchase of two new kayaks.

Decision

1. To award a grant of £2,000 be awarded to Allestree Schools Out Club from Darley and Allestree ward allocations towards fencing and security improvements.
2. To award a grant of £750 to Markeaton Leisure Gardens towards the provision of extra garden sheds from Darley ward allocation.
3. To defer the application from Councillor Repton to the next meeting for further information.
4. To award a grant of £560 to Darley Abbey Cricket Club towards the cost of temporary room hire from Darley ward allocation.
5. To award a grant of £1,500 to 100th Mackworth Methodist Cub Pack towards the replacement of existing cooker and camping equipment from Mackworth ward allocation and to inform them to reapply if they require funding.
6. To award a grant of £500 to Midland Canoe Club towards the purchase of two kayaks from Allestree ward allocation.

12/07 Health Briefing from Primary Care Trusts

A briefing paper on health services was considered.

Agreed to note the contents of the briefing paper.

13/07 Events Diary

Resolved to note the report.

14/07 Arrangements for the next meeting

Agreed to note that the next meeting of the Area Panel would be held on Wednesday 3 October 2007 at 7.00pm at Brackensdale Junior School, Walthamstow Drive, Mackworth. Councillor Gerrard would be the Chair.

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