



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

AREA PANEL 1
5 SEPTEMBER 2007

ITEM 8

Report of Head of Stronger and Safer Communities Unit

Area Panel 1 Community Issues Update Report

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.1	Item No	Issue title	Recommended panel action
	1.2	Croft Wood Railway Line Improvements, Derwent	Note and close
	1.3	Petition - Purchase of land on Kinross Avenue, Derwent	Note and refer to Board
	1.4	Petition – Damage to Tiled Kerbs on Charterhouse Close, Oakwood	Note and close
	1.5	Derbyshire Blocks, Spondon	Note and refer to Board
	1.6	Spondon Cemetery, Spondon	Note and close
	1.7	Sitwell Street and Chapel Street Feasibility Study, Spondon	Note and refer to Board
	1.8	Car parking at Spondon Village Hall, Spondon	Note and refer to Board
	1.9	Road Surfacing Worcester Crescent, Derwent	Note and close
	1.10	Outstanding issues	None

1.2 Croft Wood Railway Line Improvements, Derwent – received 11.01.06

Issue: A resident reported that the Croft Wood area suffers from use by off road motorbikes even after the efforts put in by the Police and other partners. Enforcement measures still need to be planned, but he suggested that a longer term solution could rest with reclaiming the area as an amenity for local residents and walkers. He asked if members of the area panel would work with local residents to achieve this.

Action: Update on progress to develop the route as a cycling route to link with existing cycling routes in the city

Update: This project is now known as the Great Northern Greenway. The next Working Party meeting is being arranged for late September/early October. Things are progressing well with a possibility that some work could start on the Paddock Pub to Breadsall section this financial year. The site surveys, ecological surveys and costed schemes are underway. Note and close. **Note and close**

Further information: John Holmes, Derbyshire County Council, telephone 01629 580000

1.3 Petition - Purchase of land on Kinross Avenue, Derwent – received 10.01.07

Issue: A petition was submitted to the panel asking for support to allow a resident to retain a fence built on land between their property and a footpath. The lead petitioner informed the panel that an application to purchase the land had been made but prior to completion of the land purchase a fence had been constructed on the land. The resident was now being asked to move the fence however the petitioners considered the fence made the area safer.

Action: Resident to submit a planning application. Officers to investigate and report back to a future meeting.

Update: No planning application has been received from the resident. It has been agreed that the best way forward to resolve the issue is sort out the planning aspect first. There is little point in negotiating terms for a sale if the land that is intended to be purchased contravenes Planning guidelines. Therefore, until a planning application was submitted and determined the issue could not be resolved. In January 2007, the resident was advised to discuss the matter with the planners and submit an application. As no planning application has been submitted it is proposed to inform the resident that unless an application is submitted before the end of September enforcement action will commence. Note and refer to Neighbourhood Board. **Note and refer to Derwent Neighbourhood Board.**

Further information: Nick Keene, Corporate and Adult Social Services, telephone 255840

John Stewart, Principal Planner, Regeneration and Community, telephone 255934

1.4 Petition – Damage to Tiled Kerbs on Charterhouse Close, Oakwood – received 10.01.07

Issue: A petition that had been submitted to the Council in November 2006 was presented to the meeting requesting action to replace the badly worn kerb tiles that run along the road edge and were installed in the 1980's. The cracked tiles have resulted in pieces of tiles being scattered on the road and lawns. The lead petitioner asked that the appropriate action is taken to replace them as soon as possible.

A report in response to the petition was presented to the March meeting confirming that the issue had been investigated. It was reported that work to replace the kerbing on Charterhouse Close was included in the list of potential highway maintenance schemes for 2007/08

Action: Update on progress with the work for the next meeting.

Update: We have now received prices from the new highways contractor, McAlpine. The revised prices show that the difference in price to replace the kerbs in Charterhouse Close with special kerbs is now considerably less than with the Council's previous contractor. We therefore believe the choice of special kerbs is the appropriate way forward.

We are now discussing this year's footway resurfacing programme with McAlpine. We are working with a completely new set of prices and we are currently calculating what schemes can be done with the money available. We will include Charterhouse Close on the list. Once we have got approval to the list we can then firm up the timetable with McAlpine for site works.

We have informed Councillor Latham and Mr Gale of the latest position. **Note and**

close.

Further information: John Edgar, Maintenance Manager, Regeneration and Community, telephone 715067

1.5 Derbyshire Blocks, Spondon – received 06.06.07

Issue: A resident asked when the Derbyshire Blocks in Spondon would be demolished. He complained that the area was looking an eyesore and asked if the grass could be cut in the mean time.

Action: Councillor Williams to find out if the grass can be cut. Update on progress to demolish the blocks.

Update:

Grass cutting

Derby Homes undertake grass cutting once a month. Contractors were last due on site mid August.

Demolition update

As at 10 August, the detailed site survey has been now been completed.

Documentation for Services is now complete apart from some Gas certificates due soon and the asbestos survey is complete.

As all preparatory work listed above is now almost complete we are on course to send out tenders towards the end of August, appoint a demolition contractor following on from this.

Future development of the site:

- 3 Registered Social Landlords - RSL remain involved in bidding for the Housing Project Private Finance Initiative – PFI that includes five sites across Derby. Bids were due back in August and are currently being assessed in September. The process reduces them to just two bidders and following a further round of discussions and cost analysis with the remaining 2 bidders a partner RSL will be selected to deliver the PFI Housing Project.
- At this stage there are no finalised number of houses on site or designs while we wait for the bids from the 3 RSLs.
- The start on a new development at the Spondon site is anticipated Autumn 2008.
- Anticipated numbers for the Spondon site are 20 units for affordable rent and 30 units for market sale.
- The PFI asks for a mixture of house types across the five sites. The proposed mix of the affordable units across the Spondon site includes 1 and 2 bed flats and 2, 3 and 4 bed houses.
- Anticipated completion of the affordable units is estimated towards the end of 2009.

Please be aware that the dates and numbers for the new build properties are currently estimates and may slightly alter nearer the time. **Note and refer to Spondon Neighbourhood Board.**

Further information: Wendy Jessop, Housing and Neighbourhood Manager, Derby Homes, telephone 716564

Ian Fullagar, Housing Strategy and Performance Manager, Corporate and Adult Services, telephone 255185

1.6 Spondon Cemetery, Spondon – received 06.06.07

Issue: A resident reported that the grave of Colonel Lilly in Spondon Cemetery has been damaged and laid down flat. Colonel Lilly had been a Japanese prisoner of war and was of historic importance. He has spoken to the War Graves Commission about the damage and he wanted to know what the Council could do.

Action: To investigate and report back

Update: We have been contacted by a member of the family and they have asked that we stabilise the memorial upright using our stabilising bars and wood blocks. The problem is that this is only temporary and the person was not prepared to take on responsibility for the memorial. I am writing to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to see if they will take on responsibility for the memorial, however, this will take a while as we have to post notices on the grave asking anyone interested to contact us to establish that there is no one willing to take the grave on from the family.

Note and Close.

Further information: Andrew Morgan, Landscape and Development Officer, Environmental Services, telephone 715547

1.7 Sitwell Street and Chapel Street Feasibility Study, Spondon – received 06.06.07

Issue: A resident asked about the traffic feasibility study for the Sitwell Street area and asked if there would be meetings in the village hall. Councillor Poulter reported that the feasibility study had been started and it was planned to do survey numbers of vehicles, their direction of travel and pedestrian counts. Options would be considered and the public consulted after that which could include a meeting in the village hall. Work was still in its early stages.

Action: Update on progress with feasibility study

Update: Survey work was completed in July. Ideas for proposed works are now being developed. Consultation on proposals will take place in the autumn. Note and refer to Neighbourhood Board. **Note and refer to Spondon Neighbourhood Board.**

Further information: Chris Hegarty, Senior Public Transport Coordinator, Regeneration and Community, telephone 715045

1.8 Car parking at Spondon Village Hall, Spondon – received 06.06.07

Issue: A resident asked if the grassed area behind Spondon Village Hall could be used for eight car parking spaces. Councillor Poulter reported that he was well aware of the problems with parking in the area and that the suggestion had been made previously. Officers are investigating parking spaces in the village including around the village hall. He reported consultation will include talking to Spondon Community Association and the supermarket

Action: Update on progress with investigations on parking

Update: This issue can be considered as part of the proposal to create a joint car park between the Village Hall and the Supermarket. However, we are still waiting for an official response from Somerfield as to their view of this proposal. **Note and refer to Spondon Neighbourhood Board.**

Further information Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer, Regeneration and Community, telephone 716090

1.9 Road Surfacing Worcester Crescent, Derwent – received 06.06.07

Issue: A resident asked about the resurfacing of Worcester Crescent. Councillor Rawson explained the process used at area panels to put forward highway and

transport improvements. He was not sure whether Worcester Crescent was on a list for resurfacing but would investigate..

Action: investigate and respond directly to the resident.

Update: Our Highways Inspector inspected Worcester Crescent in August and noted that there were areas where the surface dressing required some patching works. He has raised an order for the patching work to be done within the next 6-8 weeks. In addition, we have also raised a request for the street cleansing department to apply some weed killer.

Surface dressing works were originally completed on Worcester Crescent a couple of years ago. We did request the contractor who undertook the works to return to rectify some aspects of the work. However, the contractor has not returned to Worcester Crescent. As a result, some monies have been deducted from the contractor's bill.

The resident has been informed. Note and close **Note and close**.

Further information John Edgar, Maintenance Manager, Regeneration and Community, telephone 715067

1.10 Outstanding issues

None.		

PROPOSED ACTION

2.1 To consider and note the report.

For more information contact:	Richard Smail 01332 258505 e-mail richard.smail@derby.gov.uk
Background papers:	Area Panel 1 community issues update report, background information 5 September 2007 on Council Management Information System
List of appendices:	None