

**AREA PANEL FIVE – UPDATE REPORT
FOR 7 DECEMBER 2005
BRACKENSDALE JUNIOR SCHOOL**

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1. Ref: 504027 – Pedestrian crossing, Blenheim Drive, Allestree – received 02.06.04

Issue

Need for a pedestrian crossing at Woodlands School

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

July 2005: The pedestrian crossing on referred to was put in place as part of the school travel plan. The traffic flows differ in this location, as a lot of traffic turns left before reaching the point where the request has been made for a further crossing. We would review the situation should Woodlands School develop a travel plan in the future.

October 2005: A pedestrian crossing has been installed further along Blenheim Drive near to Portway School. The request for a pedestrian crossing near to Woodlands school will be reviewed if the school develops a school travel plan.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Councillor Webb agreed that this issue remain on the agenda, as one school has a crossing, but the other does not.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

No further information to add.

Responsibility

Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715019

2. Ref: 505014 – Petition – Crossing on Park Lane and Cornhill, Allestree - raised 06.04.05

Issue

A petition signed by 57 residents was submitted which asked for a risk assessment and action relating to the hazard of crossing the road at the junction of Park Lane and Cornhill, Allestree.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

July 2005: The investigations had not been completed and the report will be available at the October meeting.

October 2005: - report responding to this petition presented to the meeting. Observations on site had shown that pedestrians cross easily and safely in gaps in traffic on all three approaches. Pedestrian and vehicle surveys were carried out over a 12 hour weekday period on Park Lane, St Edmunds Close and Cornhill. This investigation indicated that the threshold for the installation of a pedestrian crossing facility was not met at this location. It was therefore proposed that the request for a pedestrian crossing be refused. However it was recommended that a scheme be added to the Traffic Management Minor Schemes preparation pool to investigate the creation of a new footway at this point..

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

A member of the public stated that they did not specifically ask for a crossing, but instead, somewhere safe for the children to cross. She asked if the people who were carrying out the observations did so from the cars or from standing on the street. Tony – don't know, but generally speaking they do it from the cars.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Tony Gascoigne explained that because the footpath ends, it would be sensible to improve it, and extend the footpath. This would be included in next year's plans, and would be taken to Cabinet in the new year. With regard to the observations, he could not confirm, but explained that in general, observations are carried out from cars.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Update on next years pedestrian crossing plan.
Confirm how observations are made.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

Each year a number of schemes are put forward for consideration by Cabinet. The schemes approved by Cabinet are then included in the following financial year's work programme. The crossing on Park Lane and Cornhill will go forward to Cabinet for possible inclusion in the 2006/07 work programme.

Traffic observation surveys are usually carried out from cars for safety reasons and also to protect the equipment being used. However, on occasion the surveys are carried out standing on the street where it is not possible to safely park cars.

Responsibility

Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715019

3. Ref: 505028 – Parking, Robin Croft / West Bank Avenue, Allestree - raised 12.10.05

Issue

Concern was raised over parking near the bend on Robin Croft / West Bank Avenue, Allestree. It was reported that drivers have to go on the other side of the road around the bend, which is highly dangerous.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Councillor Webb informed the meeting that the issue had been raised before and that officers had rejected previous suggestions. He felt that extending the double yellow lines should be considered. He explained that although there have been several accidents, none have been recorded as injury accidents, which makes it difficult to put a case forward for highway improvements.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Report back

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

A number of complaints have recently been received, including a request received from the bus company to extend the waiting restrictions at this location. As a result the additional length of waiting restriction is again being considered. Further investigations are being completed to fully justify any recommendation.

Responsibility

Nicola Weekly, Traffic Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 716074

4. Ref: 505031 – Allestree Hall, Allestree - raised 12.10.05

Issue

A member of the public asked if there was any truth behind a rumour that developers were interested in owning 10 acres of the park land at Allestree Hall.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Martin Repton stated that he had not heard this, but would try and find out, and report back to the next meeting.

Councillor Webb explained that Allestree Park is a local nature reserve, therefore any proposals would have to go through the local nature reserve committee.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Investigate and report back.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

The terms agreed for the leasehold disposal of the Hall include an area of 3.5 acres around the Hall. A further area of 2.3 acres will be granted under a licence to the developer to maintain. No development will be allowed in that area or any boundary treatment that would affect the view.

Responsibility

Steve Meynell, Chief Estates Officer, Chief Executive's, telephone 255557

5. Ref: 505035 – Tree pruning, Allestree Lane, Allestree - raised 12.10.05

Issue

Concern was raised over a Horse Chestnut tree that is growing just 28 feet from a residents front door. It was reported that there are problems with children standing on top of work vans to get the conkers. She asked if the tree could be trimmed back slightly so that it doesn't bear fruit. They had been told that because they are mature trees that they cannot be cut, but had suggested taking it out, which the resident did not favour.

The panel were also asked whether it is permitted to trim trees back from their side of the garden.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Councillor Webb reported that he was aware that the Arboricultural Manager, John Booth has said that they did not want to trim the tree because it was healthy. It was considered to be an issue for the Police to prevent children causing antisocial behaviour around the tree.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

The panel agreed to include work on this tree when they consider allocating funding to do cosmetic work to trees, if it is in line with the tree management policy.
To refer to Commercial Services for an estimate.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

There is no amount of tree pruning that will prevent the production of conkers therefore no tree works are considered necessary. The pruning of overhanging branches does not accord with the Council Tree Management Policy unless there is a health and safety issue.

If the problem with this Horse Chestnut is about blocking light then the Arboricultural Team can provide an estimate to the Area Panel to use its budget to thin the crown by up to 15%. However, it must be noted that this will not have a long term impact of the amount of light nor the production of conkers.

Property owners are entitled to cut back any branches overhanging their boundary, as long as they dispose of all the cuttings properly.

Responsibility

John Booth, Arboricultural Manager, Commercial Services, telephone 715537

6. Ref: 505036 – Park Farm Centre and Hotel, Allestree - raised 12.10.05

Issue

The panel were asked for an update on the Park Farm Hotel, and it was also reported that there were problems with the lighting on the car park.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Councillor Webb explained that the Park Farm Hotel is owned by the developers who own the Park Farm Centre, and they have not informed the Council what they intend to do with it. He reported that they have secured the building, and at the moment, there is no vandalism taking place. He agreed that this is not an ideal solution.

With regard to the car park, it is up to the owners to carry out any repairs, as the Council do not own the land. Lots of ideas have been raised, but nothing has come forward in terms of planning applications.

Councillor Samra suggested that a letter is sent to the centre manager to ask for information about the plans for the Park Farm Hotel and any plans to improve the lighting in the car park.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

To contact the owner of Park Farm

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

The new owners of the Park Farm Centre only took ownership of the hotel site earlier in 2005. They are aware of the importance of the hotel site and are keen to bring it into use. They are currently considering the options for the site.

The Park Farm Centre Manager manages the operational issues around the shopping area, the malls and the car park including the lighting. There are two car parks, one on the roof, which has its own lighting, and one at ground level with no lighting. A recent problem with the lighting timer on the roof, which was switching the lighting on at the wrong time, has now been rectified.

There have been proposals in the past to install lighting in the ground level car park but there were a number of issues including, no electricity supply to the area, the columns are expensive, resistance from local residents, planning permission would be needed for high level lights and whether there is a need when the majority of shops close before 6pm. The owners have no current plans to install any lighting.

Responsibility

Kate Davies, Park Farm Centre Manager, telephone 553374

7. Ref: 505033 – Traffic issues, Ferrers Way, Allestree - raised 12.10.05

Issue

Concern was raised over traffic issues on Ferrers Way, with particular reference to increasing volume, speed in relation to the width of the road, the sharp bends and double parking. It was stated that there was an urgent need for a traffic census, and also the installation of hazard signs alerting vehicles to the oncoming bends. It was also suggested that there should be size restrictions for lorries using the road.

Concern was also raised over the trees at Park Farm at the end of Ferrers Way, and the junction with Birchover Way, as these urgently need pruning, as they are restricting the light and overhanging the road.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Councillor Webb explained that the panel had already been given two reports that recommended that no further action be taken on Ferrers Way but it needs to be reconsidered.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

To update on previous reports, investigate and reconsider response.
To investigate the complaint with the overhanging trees.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

The width of Ferrers Way is relatively narrow along its whole length - approximately five metres carriageway width. The geometry of the road along with, intermittent parking, has a natural calming effect on the speeds of vehicles. This is particularly the case when traffic flows meet. These factors also act as a deterrent to drivers using Ferrers Way as a through route. As an unclassified residential road with a 30mph limit, it is thought that the use of bend warning signs is excessive, particularly as Ferrers Way already has a Centre Warning line and Slow markings. The 30mph signs at the junction with Duffield Road were replaced in early 2005 as a result of concerns raised previously.

Ferrers Way is already subject to an area wide 7.5 tonne environmental weight limit however as is usual with these orders there is an exemption for vehicles requiring access to the area.

Regarding the overhanging trees on the grassed island near the junction with Birchover Way. The Arboricultural officers have inspected the trees and will place an order, on health and safety grounds, to lift the crowns of the two Silver Maples and a Cherry tree. This will clear the branches from the road, increase visibility and make it safer for traffic. It will also allow more light under the canopy, but no further work would make a significant difference to light levels.

Responsibility

Nicola Weekly, Traffic Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 716074
John Booth, Arboricultural Manager, Commercial Services, telephone 715537

8. Ref: 503051 – King Street Subway, Darley - received 08.10.03

Issue

Residents voiced concern about the safety of the subway under King Street and asked that it be closed.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

July 2005: We are currently working on detailed plans to put in a surface crossing and close the subway at Kings Street. It was reported that it is planned to complete the work prior to Christmas.

October 2005: We are waiting for a start date from our contractors. Consultation with residents on the project will take place shortly. More information will be available at the meeting on 12 October.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

A local resident asked if more information was available. They stated that they have repeatedly asked for public consultation on what the actual proposals are. She emphasised that it is important that the crossing is done right, and she raised concern that it seems to be happening very quickly. The panel were also asked what was going to happen to the actual subway, and whether or not it would be demolished.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Councillor Repton stated that work would start on the surface crossing before Christmas, and that there would also be a new pedestrian bridge linking to St Mary's Church. He also reported that there was a limit to surface crossings in the area, and stressed the importance that this is installed quickly.

Tony Gascoigne confirmed that the works would start on 24 October and would last approximately four weeks. With regard to the bridge, this would be ongoing and would not go in until the next financial year. He explained that there would be more consultation on this, and reported that plans were available for residents to look at the meeting.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Update on progress.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

The new pedestrian crossing on King Street will be completed by the beginning of December. This provides people with an alternative route to the subway and will enable people to feel safer when using this route. The new crossing provides a more direct route with good natural surveillance being open and visible to the road.

The subway will remain open, and will be available for those who chose to continue to use the route. We are examining what may be the most appropriate long term treatment for the subway. We are continuing to discuss development opportunities at the former Bridgegate site. Discussions are at an early stage, but we are looking to develop plans which:

- tie in with the replacement foot and cycle bridge across St Alkmunds Way planned in 2007/8
- make better use of the land between the bridge, subway and King Street
- consider the closure of the subway and a replacement pedestrian crossing along the line of the subway.

Responsibility

Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715019

9. Ref: 504058 – Litter, footway St Benedict School to Broadway, Darley – raised 07.12.04

Issue

A resident raised concerns about the amount of litter deposited on the footpath between St Benedict School and Broadway. He was also concerned that the hedges on this footway were only trimmed when he requested.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

July 2005: This footway has now been scheduled for a weekly litter collection each Wednesday. This is a high cleansing frequency. We will continue to monitor the area.

September 2005: The Council does not own the footway from St. Benedict School to Broadway. However, while it has now been added to the regular weekly street cleaning route, because it is not a Highways footpath they are unable to take enforcement action for the overgrowing bushes. The bushes along the path belong to the school and we have contacted the school and written to them asking that the bushes be trimmed back.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

A member of the public informed the panel that they were pleased that something has finally been done, as this issue had been an ongoing bone of contention with the School. She asked the panel if the school have now taken on responsibility for the bushes, and are they doing anything about them in terms of trimming.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Sue Glithero confirmed that the school has been contacted asking that them trim the bushes – she agreed to chase up this response, and report back.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

To confirm with the school whether they are trimming the bushes and update on the action taken to achieve this.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

The school has cut the hedges overhanging the footpath. The footpath is now clear of all major overhanging hedges.
The footpath is private and the Council is unable to take any enforcement action against owners whose hedges overhang private footpaths.

Responsibility

Richard Winter, Assistant Waste Management Officer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 716352
John Edgar, Maintenance Manager – Highways and Footways, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715067

10. Ref: 505011 – Speed limit on Broadway, Darley - raised 06.04.05

Issue

A local resident raised concern about the 40mph speed limit on Broadway. He asked the panel if they were aware that the public entrance to Highfields has been closed. The only entrance is by St Mary's school, where there is conflicting traffic. In July 2005 another resident stated that two years ago a proposal was put forward to reduce the speed limit to 30mph, but to date nothing has been done.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

July 2005: - the issue was previously raised in 2004 and as a result of consultation in 2002 no action was taken to reduce the speed limit. A new crossing was implemented. There are no plans to introduce a 30mph limit. The police do not support the introduction of a 30 mph limit and surveys had shown there were no major problems concerning speeds in excess of 40mph. There were also few recorded personal injury accidents. If the 30 mph limit were introduced there would be few parked cars to help keep the speeds below 30mph, especially at weekends. The introduction of any reduction in the speed limit needs to be self-enforcing and appropriate for the current conditions.

October 2005: - no further action is proposed.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

A representative of Broadway Action Group reported that St Mary's School had written to parents informing them that parking would not be available in the Broadway Public House car park, and any offenders would be clamped. She explained cars are parking at the top of Broadway, and queuing to get into the school, which is restricting traffic. There are 157 cars every morning going to the school, and she asked that something be done about it.

Another resident raised the issue of the speed limit, making reference to a publication that had been issued by the Transport's Highways Agency, which stated that where school children and elderly people cross, it recommended that the speed is 30 mph, and yet it is a 40 mph zone.

Another resident raised concern over the illegal parking at the school and the blocking of private driveways, stating that Inspector McLaughlin had agreed to look into this, but to date, have received no input from him or the school.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Update on progress to develop a school travel plan and respond to the suggestion about the recommended speed limit according to the Highways Agency.

Update from the police regarding the parking issues.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

The school established a travel plan in March 2005. A number of initiatives have been introduced including:

- The forum contacted the Broadway pub and is trying to come to an agreement to allocate some parking for parents at the pub.

- The school has recently received the 'Stop Watch' Road Race Theatre in Education tour for year 5 children. The play's theme concentrates on sustainable travel and the future of transport.
- The school has also piloted a new afternoon bus service. The new bus bypasses the nearby St. Benedict school meaning only St. Mary's school pupils can use the bus.
- The school is also considering installing cycle storage and receiving 'Bike Safe' cycle training to allow Year 6 children to cycle to school.

There is detailed guidance produced by the Department for Transport on the setting of speed limits which states that the local circumstances and conditions need to be taken into account. The existing 40mph limit is the most appropriate limit for the current local circumstances.

Responsibility

Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715019

Inspector Graham McLaughlin, Derbyshire Police, telephone 613131

11. Ref: 505012 – Bollards, Darley Park, Darley- raised 06.04.05

Issue

A member of the public asked the panel if the Council are responsible for making sure that the bollards are put up at night at the entrances to Darley Park. She raised concern that people have been able to access the park in their cars late at night.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

July 2005: There are no bollards replaced at the entrances to Darley Abbey Park in the evening. However, the entrances into the park are inaccessible to vehicles at that time of day. No vehicular access is available from Strutts Park or from Darley Abbey, and the entrance from Duffield Road is closed by a barrier.

October 2005: No further action proposed.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

A member of the public stated that there were a number of entrances into the park that were accessible by car, including New Road, Darley Park Drive and Darley Grove.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

To reinvestigate vehicle access to the Park and report back.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

At the New Road entrance, there are two gates and one gate is padlocked in position. The other gate is too narrow to allow vehicle access.

At the Darley Park Drive entrance, there is a bollard in place just past the house to restrict access into the park.

At the southern end of Darley Grove entrance, near to the Rowing Club, a new bollard is being installed to restrict access to the park whilst allowing access to the Rowing Club and easy maintenance.

At the South Drive entrance, we will be repairing the gates that will mean they will have to be removed for a short period.

We have written to all staff that use these entrances to remind them of the importance of making sure all bollards and padlocks on gates are put back in place after they have been used.

Responsibility

Dawn Dagley, Parks Services, telephone 716272

12. Ref: 505013 – Petition – Restrictive Parking, North Street, Darley - received 06.04.05

Issue

Lead petitioner stated that there were ten houses affected, and five of those houses were represented at the meeting. He stated that problems had arisen since the new housing opened. He informed the panel that the residents pay £25 for residents parking, and £50 for a second parking permit, but currently cannot park outside their homes. The petition was therefore asking for a residents only permit scheme.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

July 2005: Investigations are still under way.

October 2005: The investigations are continuing into this complex issue. The report will now be provided for the meeting in December.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

To report back to the December meeting.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

A report has been prepared in response to the petition and can be found in item 6 on the agenda for 7 December 2005.

Responsibility

Pat Ethelston, Assistant Director - Highways, Transportation and Waste Management, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715043

13. Ref: 505026 – Petition – Request for one-way system, Markeaton Street, Darley - raised 12.10.05

Issue

A petition signed by 63 people had been received requesting a one-way system on Markeaton Street, due to the concerning level of traffic that converge daily on the street. It also referred to the anticipated increase in traffic and parking problems due to the high level of developments in the area, and the proposals to expand Derby University. It also requested that the area be monitored on a regular basis by traffic wardens.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

A resident agreed that Markeaton Street has traffic problems and would get worse with the new developments. He acknowledged that there is very little that can be done, apart from putting pressure on the university to provide multi-storey parking on their sites. He stated that they have tried to work with the university, but this has been difficult.

It was stated that problems have been made worse by the Council introducing parking meters on nearby streets, because many people who work locally are parking there. A request was made for the road to be made access only, or one way out of town, to try to prevent this happening.

The panel was asked what plans the council has to deal with university construction traffic causing problems on the street. Another resident explained that traffic is bad during the morning when children are going to school.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Councillor Webb confirmed that there would be a full report prepared by the Highways Department that would be brought back to the area panel.

He reported that the university try to reduce traffic by not encouraging students to use cars by having a no parking policy and making it clear to students that there is very limited on site parking. He explained that many students are part time and need to get to the university at hours of the day when bus services do not run. He agreed with the concept of a multi-storey car park, but explained that the university need to come to the Council with an application for this.

Councillor Repton explained that the spending plans for this year are in place, so any work proposed would be in a future financial year. He confirmed that he would be talking to colleagues about general parking issues in Derby and was keen to get priority to use this area as a pilot. He stated that he would like officers on site to talk to local people, discuss the problems and look at possible solutions.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Update on response to the petition.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

Area panel 5 update report – for 7 December 2005

Investigations are continuing on Markeaton Street. We are aware that there is an element of unnecessary through traffic that uses the road particularly in the morning peak period in a southeast bound direction. We are proposing to consult the local residents in spring 2006 in order to gain their views on the introduction of any traffic management measures, including the possibility of making the street one way.

Responsibility

Nicola Weekly, Traffic Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 716074

14. Ref: 505034 – Section 106 – Highfields Development, Darley - raised 12.10.05

Issue

A representative of the Broadway Action Group asked the panel how Section 106 money is calculated, and in particular how much the Section 106 payment was for the Highfields Development. They asked if this payment would be increased now that the application for an increase in units has been made. They asked for detail on what this payment would be used for.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Sue Glithero explained that Section 106 is a complex matter and tends to be spent on a variety of things – have to be specific to the current development – will get an answer at the next meeting.

Councillor Baxter reported that when this issue of increased housing was raised he asked the officer to go back and look at the section 106 money. He confirmed that this is in hand, but would not know anything until the next planning meeting.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Report back on section 106 developments regarding Highfields and respond in writing to the questioner.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

Section 106 Agreements can only be secured on outline or full planning permission. The application relating to the Highfields Development considered at the Planning Control meeting on 24 November was a reserved matters application, therefore a S106 cannot be attached.

A S106 was attached to the original outline planning permission, which was granted in 2001. The agreement secured a specific set of contributions. There was no mechanism within the agreement to allow for further contributions if density was increased.

When negotiating agreements now, we include mechanisms to ensure that contributions are increased pro-rata if the number of units on site increases at reserved matters stage.

Responsibility

Rosie Heath, Senior Planning Officer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 255073

15. Ref: 505037 – St Helens House, Darley - raised 12.10.05

Issue

A number of residents raised concerns over the future of St Helen's House, in particular regarding an article in the Derby Evening Telegraph on 12 October, which stated that the Council are planning 'to market the site for disposal'. The panel were asked to confirm what the statement means, and what effect it could have to the residents of Derby.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Another local resident asked if the English Heritage had approved the Council officers recommendations to Cabinet. The panel were asked why the Council has not agreed to the St Helen's House Trust taking over the building, whilst they go ahead with an accelerated second stage of the feasibility study.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Councillor Webb explained that the agenda for the Cabinet meeting is produced and publicised seven days before the meeting, so that the press and public have an opportunity to view it. What the press make of it is entirely up to them. It is an open report and open to the public.

Councillor Repton stated that St Helens House is an important historic house, and that it is important that it is maintained. A trust was set up to consider trying to run the building and get the financial structure in place and he wished them success. He explained that in another 6 -12 months there will be more deterioration and the Council need to have a safety net in place in case the trust does not manage to achieve its aims.

Councillor Travis considered that the statement 'to market it' means to see if anybody is prepared to make an offer. She stated that the Trust should be given a chance to develop a scheme and hoped that Cabinet would be persuaded to allow the Trust to continue with it. She also confirmed that English Heritage and Lottery Fund have both expressed support for St Helen's House gaining funding.

Councillor Hickson considered that the Trust should be given sufficient time to put together a package to take over and run St Helen's House. However, the trust is not in a position to make an offer and therefore they could lose it to the private sector.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

To provide an update on developments.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

This issue was discussed at the Council Cabinet meetings of 18 October and 8 November. The decision was taken to market the site for disposal but, to allow the trust to further develop their proposals, to underwrite costs incurred by them for their stage 2 feasibility study up to a maximum of £50,000 should the Council sell the property.

Area panel 5 update report – for 7 December 2005

The Council will therefore invite interested parties to submit proposals for St Helen's House. This will allow consideration of all available options for the restoration of St Helen's House alongside the proposals of the Trust.

At present the site is not in use. The Council cannot afford to refurbish the property, nor does it have a sustainable use for it. Disposal to an outside organisation is seen as the best way of securing the refurbishment, protecting the future of this important Grade 1 building and bringing it back into beneficial use.

Responsibility

Chris Edwards, Assistant Director - Property Services, Chief Executive's, telephone 255070

16. Ref: 505038 – Petition – Darley Park ranger and Riverside path, Darley - raised 12.10.05

Issue

A petition containing 104 signatures had been received requesting the assignment of a dedicated ranger to Darley Park, and also to complete the Riverside footpath from wild-flower meadow to the rowing club.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

A member of the public explained that Severn Trent are currently working along the path, so would be a good opportunity for this work to be carried out immediate. The lead petition asked the panel for confirmation that the additional information that put forward a case for the ranger and improvements to the riverside path had been received, and would be considered.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Councillor Webb confirmed that the additional information has been received, and would be taken into consideration as part of the response to the petition.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

To prepare a report in response to the petition for the meeting on 7 December.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

A report in response to the petition can be found in item 6 on the agenda for 7 December 2005.

Responsibility

Dawn Dagley, Parks Liaison Officer, Commercial Services, telephone 716272

17. Ref: 505039 – Petition – Well repairs and installation of hand rail, Well Street, Darley - received 12.10.05

Issue

A petition containing 80 signatures, had been received from residents of Strutt's Park and Rivermead House requesting the repair of the well at the bottom of Well Street and the installation of a handrail on Well Street, as they were concerned about the general state of Well Street, in particular the slippery surface and the difficulties faced by everyone who use the route to negotiating the steep hill.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

To prepare a report in response to the petition.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

This is a complex petition involving a number of different departments within the Council. We have been undertaking investigatory work since the petition was presented to the last Area Panel 5 meeting on 12 October.

We are currently looking at the issues raised by the residents and hope that we will be in a position to respond to the petition in time for the meeting on 1 February 2006.

Responsibility

Michelle Spamer, Area and Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715064

18. Ref: 504055 – Litter bins in Knightsbridge Recreation Ground, Mackworth – raised 07.12.04

Issue

A resident asked whether additional bins could be provided in Knightsbridge Recreation Ground

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

July 2005: Streetcare inspected nearby roads on a number of occasions but it does not currently meet the criteria to have an extra highways waste bin installed. No litter problems were found on roads therefore we will not be putting litter bins out. However the request will be passed to Commercial Services Parks Department as they are responsible for cleaning parks.

October 2005: Parks have installed a dual purpose bin on Knightsbridge Recreation ground, and are considering one nearer to Prince Charles Avenue.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

A local resident stated that the bin had not yet been installed.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Update on installation of the new bin on Knightsbridge recreation ground.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

In response to requests over the last year Derby Parks are installing 51 new dual purpose bins across the city by April 2006. There will be 9 new bins provided in Area Panel 5 area. However there have been 16 requests for new bins to be installed in Area Panel 5 area. The initial 9 locations will be confirmed by 30 November 2005. Area Panel 5 are invited to fund the installation of the remaining seven bins from their own budget allocation.

Each bin approved by the Area panel will cost £238 to purchase and install. Commercial Services have confirmed they will pay all maintenance costs for up to seven extra bins, if funded by Area Panel 5 in 2005/6.

Responsibility

Dawn Dagley, Parks Liaison Officer, Commercial Services, telephone 716272

19. Ref: 505010 – Petition – Pedestrian crossing, Prince Charles Avenue, Mackworth - raised 06.04.05

Issue

A petition was received with 1078 signatures from residents of Prince Charles Avenue wanting a pedestrian crossing on Prince Charles Avenue. Four questions were raised:

1. What is the criteria for a road crossing – locally or nationally put in place
2. What department install the criteria conditions
3. When were the criteria requirements made compulsory
4. What criteria is necessary before they can have a basic need for a crossing

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

July 2005: - reported that officers met the lead petitioner. The lead petitioner felt the last count was done during poor weather and when some shops were closed. Increases in pedestrian and vehicle movements as a result of the restructuring of Mackworth College could have an impact and therefore new investigations would be after college starts in September.

October 2005: - response to petition reported to the meeting. The investigation indicated that the threshold for the installation of a pedestrian crossing was not met and the proposal for a crossing request be refused. It was recognised that on occasions pedestrians may have to wait a short time for a suitable gap in the traffic. Also reported that a rolling programme of District Centre Improvements is being funded from the Local Transport Plan budgets. When Mackworth Centre was included, any study would take into account the provision of pedestrian facilities.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Lead petitioner raised her disappointment at the recommendation to refuse the crossing. She read out a written statement about the difficulties crossing the road for the residents, particularly children and disabled people. She made reference to the recent Disability Discrimination Act and the Access to Highways Act which will become law, stating that this issue would be brought back to the panel and challenged again.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Councillor Webb thanked the lead petitioner for her statement.

Councillor Gerrard confirmed his support for the crossing request stating that Mackworth is probably the largest estate in Derby without a pedestrian crossing. He stated that there was always a row of parked cars restricting the road all the time. He reported that whether this area meets the criteria or not, a pedestrian crossing should be installed.

With regard to the Discrimination and Highways Act, Councillor Webb explained that these two point would have to be borne in mind if there is a review of the crossing criteria.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

No further information to add.

Responsibility

Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715019

20. Ref: 505016 – Crazy golf course, Markeaton Park, Mackworth - raised 06.07.05

Issue

An Allestree resident raised concern over the state of the crazy golf course at Markeaton Park. She asked the panel if it was due to be refurbished, and if so when, and if not, why.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Parks have reported that the golf course was painted at the beginning of the 2005 season. There are no further plans to do any additional work apart from ongoing maintenance.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

The resident who originally raised this issue, advised that she thought this would be looked into. She reiterated that it is very tatty, and is slowly deteriorating. She explained that all the green bases on the course are torn. She raised concern that the revenue that this facility brings into the area would reduce if it is not refurbished.

A Mackworth resident informed the panel that the whole of Markeaton Park is deteriorating, explaining that at present there are huge mud piles, full of weeds which look an absolute eyesore. The panel were asked when these would be removed. He suggested that the money received from parking could go towards restoring the park.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Provide a full update for the next meeting on plans for Markeaton Park.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

A Planning application has been submitted for a wheeled sports area on the large triangular area of land adjacent to the boating pond. The work is out to tender and specialist skatepark providers have been asked to submit their price and design. It is anticipated that the wheeled sports facility will be all concrete construction and that further consultation will be carried out once the designs have been received.

There are no other planned improvements for Markeaton Park at this time. We have a limited Capital budget and have been subject to budget cuts year on year. It is our intention to submit a bid for Lottery Funding for the whole of the Park in the future.

Responsibility

Dawn Dagley, Parks Development Officer, telephone 716272

21. Ref: 505018 – Removal of bins, Mackworth Estate, Mackworth - raised 06.07.05

Issue

A local resident informed the panel that since the resurfacing of the pavements on Mackworth Estate, some bins removed had not been replaced, and has resulted in large amounts of rubbish. He asked that these be replaced with immediate effect.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

We are currently only aware of two bins being removed in Mackworth. These were removed because of vandalism. It is our intention to replace them as soon as possible.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

The two vandalised litter bins at the entrance to Mackworth College, were replaced in August, although we have just issued an order to have one of them replaced again. In July, a new bin was installed on Prince Charles Avenue, opposite the shops.

Over a year ago, we removed a bin from Prince Charles Avenue - between Mornington Crescent and Barnes Green - at the request of residents and traffic management officers, as it was restricting the footway. We have not observed a significant litter problem in this area since its removal.

We are not aware of any other outstanding litter bin issues on the highway in Mackworth.

Responsibility

Richard Winter, Assistant Waste Management Officer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 716352

22. Ref: 505027 – Scout Hut, Leytonstone Drive, Mackworth - raised 12.10.05

Issue

A member of the public raised concern over the empty scout hut, as it is constantly being vandalised by local youths who, on occasions, get inside the building. They asked the panel whether a decision had been taken as to the future of the building, and whether it would be demolished, and if so, what it would be replaced with. They also asked for contact details should they need to report any further damage.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Councillor Gerrard confirmed that he had heard about this, and had tried to contact the Chief Estates Officer. He stated that he would be contacting them again. He reported that it was being rented out to an organisation for storage, and would confirm whether this was still the case. He also reported that it is being looked at to possibly sell for development, but he would be pressing to get it demolished as it is an hazard.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

To provide an update for the next meeting.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

This site is surplus to requirements and is to be marketed. From a planning point of view the established use is for community purposes and so the site will be marketed for community purposes. A community group have already expressed interest in the site and it is hoped that a sale could be completed in about 6 months.

The site is suffering from vandalism and to minimise the problems that this is creating, it has been decided to seek authority to demolish the Scout Hut before the sale being completed. Council Cabinet will consider a report on 20 December.

Residents are asked to report any vandalism to the Mackworth Housing Office on Prince Charles Avenue, telephone 717830.

Responsibility

Martin Laidler, Housing Development Manager, Chief Executive's, telephone 255196

23. Ref: 505040 – University Parking, Allestree and Darley - raised 12.10.05

Issue

Over the past two years residents have raised a number of issues, concerns and petitions about student parking and traffic around the University of Derby. These include complaints about student parking on Oakover Drive and Amber Road in Allestree, Broadway and Penny Long Lane and around Markeaton Street. Complaints had also been raised about the amount of litter generated on Broadway due to flyers and posters being placed on the car windscreens.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

University presentation in July 2005 - Professor John Coyne, Vice Chancellor, to Area Panel 5. He outlined the background to the University, the development the masterplan for the University and its local impact.

Issues raised:

Is it Council Policy that prevents the university building more car parks? It was explained that there are national guidelines that the Council has to work within and the University works within the Council framework.

Charging staff and students to park within the University is making students park on local roads. The Council needs to take this on board.

The core issue is consolidating more students on Kedleston Road site, it creates more parking problems and putting yellow lines on roads will not help residents.

Concern that residents will have to pay to park their cars outside their own properties.

It is not staff parking that is the problem but student parking and through traffic that needs to be dealt with.

Councillor Wynn complimented the university on their travel plans, but unfortunately it is not working. When additional students come to the site, the streets are not going to be more packed, as they are already full, so they will spread over the city – totally in favour of the university providing multi-storey parking on site.

Residents can only reclaim their streets by residents only parking schemes.

The university website states some roads are access only and not to park there, however nowhere does it say in student documents that parking on the streets outside of the university is illegal.

Cedar Street is a no parking area but students still park there and residents get abuse.

What have the University done to engage a positive association with Markeaton Brook, bearing in mind that the Markeaton Street site has caused problems with the brook and the bowling club. Could there be an exclusion zone around the university and how it could it be enforced?

Could more neighbourhood watch schemes similar to Carsington Crescent, be set up - anyone who is a resident is known by the watch, but any non residents are given a note on their car by the watch coordinators and the police, when they have resource would ticket these vehicles.

Responses:

University recognises that having more than one site generates some of the additional traffic. Want to be a good neighbour and value relationship with the Council and residents, and work closely with the council to tackle issues.

If the University did not charge for parking on site it would encourage more students to park on site and when spaces are not found they would seek other locations nearby. By discouraging parking on site and encouraging other transport methods is the solution. 39% more students now use local transport. From 2006 the University is scoping a project to provide free buses for all students in residence.

Issues are about traffic flow, not just parking. Providing multi-storey parking on the site would generate a massive increase in traffic in the area.

University does not condone irresponsible parking or behaviour.

University is looking at cycling schemes in the city centre which link to shuttle buses .
Freshers Fair in September – students are informed not to bring cars

Oakover Drive – a report in response to petition was presented to the panel in February 2005 and the request to introduce waiting restrictions was turned down. The report outlined that legislation surrounding traffic regulation is very clear in that parking restrictions can only be considered where safety is unduly compromised or traffic flow is significantly affected. It was confirmed that officers would keep the situation under review.

Broadway and Penny Long Lane - A resident was concerned about people parking on double yellow lines at the exits from Penny Long Lane in July 2005, and they asked whether the police or traffic wardens were responsible for monitoring this. It was reported that the yellow lines are there to protect the visibility of the junction. The enforcement of this is currently with the police but will transfer to the Council in 2006. The Police have been visiting the area and 29 fixed penalty tickets were issued in one week in September on Broadway. These include any vehicles breaking the law near Penny Long Lane. The Police anticipate that over 100 tickets will have been issued on Broadway in September.

A resident suggested the Council considers a scheme that allows two-hour no parking in the middle of the day on Broadway to make sure people could not park there all day. This is what Nottingham Council had done around the Queens Medical Centre. In response the Council explained that parking is tolerated on the public highway and all members of the public are able to park providing they do so in accordance with the Highway Code. Yellow lines are not a tool to prevent unwanted people parking on the public highway. They are generally only considered where there is a road safety hazard or serious congestion. It is not considered that either of these cases apply on Broadway.

Markeaton Street - A petition signed by 63 people had been received requesting a one-way system on Markeaton Street, due to the anticipated increase in traffic and parking problems due to the high level of developments in the area, and the proposals to expand Derby University.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

A resident informed the meeting that they had put together a petition in Amber Road to see if any residents would be willing to pay for residents only parking. So far the response had been very positive, with only one negative comment. They asked the panel who they should approach to take this forward.

A resident stated that Councillors should be forcing the parking issue with the University. They referred to the minutes of the last meeting which referred to an exclusion zone around the university and a neighbourhood watch scheme.

Another resident commented that whilst they do have sympathy with students parking issues, they have said to him that a £20 penalty notice does not and will not deter them from parking where they shouldn't.

A resident asked why local residents, as members of a neighbourhood watch, should have to put stickers on cars, the university should tackle this problem directly.
The Area Panel were asked to lobby against the amalgamation of the sites until the parking issues are dealt with. It was also suggested that the University are pushed into looking at providing multi-storey parking on their sites. Some residents understood that the university were prevented from providing further parking on their sites because it goes against Council policy.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005
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Councillor Webb explained that the Planning Authority does not put any restrictions on the university for parking in the university grounds – the criteria that is worked on is that any new build that takes place within the university should have sufficient parking associated with it. If they want additional parking on the site, they can do so.

Councillor Webb explained that Carsington Crescent Neighbourhood Watch actually prevented students parking by using the stickers in car window. He confirmed that the Council are working on trying to resolve this issue. He stressed that they can introduce a 'residents only' parking scheme if residents are happy to pay for it, but he does not feel that residents should have to pay to park in their own street, to prevent others parking there.

He also reported that tickets are being issued to residents where neighbourhood watch groups exist. The police will be interested in streets around the university who want to set up new neighbourhood watch groups. He encouraged residents of Amber Road and Broadway to set up a scheme.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005
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Update on joint working between the Council, Police and University.

Update on University opportunities for providing multi storey car parking on site.

Update on residents only parking schemes.

Update on progress to develop more neighbourhood watch schemes like Carsington Crescent.

Update on action taken to tackle litter from the parked cars on Broadway.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

University response: The University Executive, including the Vice Chancellor meet on a three monthly basis with Councillor Repton and senior officers at the Council. Our staff also work routinely with council officers in highways, public transport and travel planning. We have spoken at two area panel meetings to engage with local residents in response to the disruption caused by inappropriate or inconsiderate parking by students attending the Kedleston Road campus. We are keen to work with the Police, Council and local residents so that we work individually and collectively to make changes

University Travel Plan – We have introduced a travel plan for staff and students to reduce the reliance on single occupancy car travel and as a way control vehicles onto and around the campus. Fundamental to this is the subsidy towards the Unibus from car parking charges. In 2004 there was a 38% increase, which was about 130,000 extra journeys on the Unibus. In 2005 the Unibus ran throughout the summer to support those staff and students who wished to change their travel planning completely.

A major initiative this year has been to offer free travel on the Unibus by giving 25 free tickets to all halls students. This is a £70,000 investment in the bus services and has been so successful that extra buses to the Bridge Street halls have been introduced first thing in the morning. One of the targets for the University travel plan is to provide free travel on the Unibus for staff and students. This will represent a significant cost and the University will need to fund it.

We are aware that this option maintains the reliance on the car for some staff and students. However in many cases there is no opportunity to use any other form of transport than the car. We are currently conducting a full review of their parking policies to ensure we have the correct balance of parking spaces and parking privileges for staff, visitors, full and part time students. This is part of the University plan to reduce to zero the impact of the car on their neighbours.

Working together - We work closely with the police regarding parking and have been actively involved in deterring students parking on the grass on Broadway by patrolling the area with our own security staff. We also put notices onto cars that have parked on the grass.

We will continue to develop support of CarShare Derbyshire, our preferred car share scheme. We have links with Raleigh and Samways for discount cycle sales and are investigating Smart car pool cars to reduce the need for staff to travel within Derby during the day. In September 2005 our pool car scheme had over 10,000 miles driven allowing staff the ability not to bring their cars to work.

Council Response; The Council undertakes, and has continued to do so for many years, regular joint working with the University and the Police to deal with and control student parking in and around the University. This joint working is often in response to particular problems which arise, but also takes place as a matter of course before the start of the new academic year and at times of change. Our experience has shown that the start of the new academic year is often a difficult time. The arrival of new students requires a mixture of enforcement and encouragement in order to ensure that their behaviour doesn't create problems in nearby residential areas. This year, perhaps due to many circumstances including road works on Broadway, has been quite difficult.

Working together: The University have responded by engaging with students and giving them guidance on how they should behave and travel to the site, the Police have responded by carrying out extensive enforcement and the Council have taken steps to prevent parking on verges along Broadway. As always we are continually monitoring the situation. Road safety is our primary concern but we also try to take account of the impact parking has on local residents.

Parking on the Campus: There has been much discussion and debate on the possibility of a multi-storey car park facility within the University Campus. Many people view this as the solution to students parking in nearby residential streets. The main issue with taking such a proposal forward is the impact that the increased parking provision would have on the nearby highway network. Congestion is already severe along Kedleston Road and nearby corridors. Increasing car parking provision will increase the number of people who want to travel to university by car but it is not possible to accommodate this additional traffic on our roads. The Council's view is that there is only one long term sustainable solution, to the problem of the amount of students requiring access to the University, and that is to discourage car use and continue backing alternative initiatives such as the Unibus and developments which require less transfer between University sites. We strongly support, from a transport point of view, the University's accommodation strategy and expect some improvements to be delivered by combining most of the University's operations onto the Kedleston Road and Markeaton Street sites. This will cut down the need for inter-site travel and will enable better provision of alternative forms of travel.

We have supported and encouraged the University in its development of a Travel Plan for staff and students and we recognise the significant steps made to encourage alternative forms of travel to the car. The move towards free Unibus travel for staff and students is an initiative that we must all welcome and which will likely have a large impact on reducing the levels of parking in residential streets.

Residents' only parking: Residents' only parking initiatives are considered by the Council in streets where there is little off-street parking and residents are experiencing difficulties parking due to commuters or shoppers parking for long periods. We have offered residents of the Cedar Street/Longford Street area the opportunity to opt for a residents' only parking area as a replacement to the current Access Only restrictions. The majority of residents were not in favour of such a scheme. Carsington Crescent, although not suitable for a residents' only parking scheme, does have an access only prohibition. In this area this restriction works well and has been enforced regularly over many years by the police. We have discussed the possibility of introducing Access Only Orders on other roads. The Police, who have great difficulty enforcing such orders, do not support introducing Access Only Orders on other roads.

Neighbourhood Watch: The Neighbourhood Watch car stickers referred to are issued by the Police to assist them in identifying cars owned by residents of the street when they are enforcing Access Only orders. This provides some assistance to the police in determining whether a parked vehicle is legitimate but enforcement is still an onerous task. The Police are actively encouraging more residents to set up watches in the area.

Litter: The Council does not take enforcement action against people leaving leaflets under car windscreen wipers and currently this is not an offence. However, an offence of littering is committed when a person drops the leaflet. Currently the fines for littering are a Fixed Penalty Notice of £50 or £2,500 through the Magistrates Court. However, new legislation is due to come into force in 2006 under the Clean Neighbourhoods Act. This legislation will allow councils to designate areas so that companies or individuals cannot distribute flyers without the council's permission. A fine of up to £2,500 would be levied against culprits.

Responsibility

David Gartside, Head of Traffic, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715025
Inspector Graham McLaughlin, Derbyshire Police, telephone 613131
Neville Wells, University of Derby, Telephone 591962

24. Ref: 505005 – Graffiti, all wards - raised 02.02.05

Issue

A member of the public handed in photographs that she had taken of graffiti around St Mary's Church, Arthur Street, and North Gate, and asked that these be passed to Richard Winter. She asked the panel what the Council intend to do about graffiti. Utility boxes are a prime target, is there was any agreement with the owners to clean them?

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

July 2005: As of 1 March 2005, the contract for graffiti removal passed from Onyx to the Council's Commercial Services Department. A new service will expand to remove graffiti from Private Property but only when it is safe, we can actually remove the graffiti, we will not damage the fabric of the building and if we have the written permission from the property owner. The new chemicals will allow the Council to remove graffiti because they do not cause damage as much as previous chemicals.

October 2005: The new graffiti team has been appointed and been operating since August. They have now been trained and have increased in the number of jobs cleaned off. The partnership project supported by the Derby Evening Telegraph's 'Lets Strike Back' Campaign has proved very successful. One person has been dealt with and received a magistrates penalty and a three year Anti Social Behavior Order - ASBO and further cases are pending.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

It was asked if there was just one telephone contact number for reporting graffiti issues and was it 0845 605 2222?

A resident referred to graffiti on Drayton Avenue that has not been removed. He explained that he had contacted the relevant office and had been told that new equipment had been ordered, and that it would be removed as soon as possible. He was also informed that although the Chip Shop was Council Property they would still need to get permission to access the premises. He asked that the delay in the work is investigated.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Councillor Webb confirmed that the Graffiti Team should be contacted directly.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Update on latest developments about graffiti and confirm the graffiti team contact telephone number.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

The Derby City Council telephone number for reporting graffiti is the Streetcare Hotline number - **01332 715000**. Graffiti within Derby should be reported to this number. The number referred to at the last meeting - 0845 605 2222, is the new Anti-Social Behaviour number for reporting all anti-social behaviour.

The graffiti in Drayton Avenue has been cleared. The graffiti crew is steadily working around the city.

We have put through 130 requests for removal of graffiti in the last few weeks. The last cleanliness survey we carried out showed that 10% of streets in Derby had some graffiti. The amount has reduced from 11% on the previous survey three months earlier. We have had some minor teething problems with the introduction of the dedicated graffiti team. Minor issues are usually expected when a new service is introduced. Derby is one of the first councils to tackle graffiti in this way with a specialist team and on private property. We are very pleased with the improvements in graffiti levels since the introduction of the team, especially as they have only been operating since 1 August.

Responsibility

Richard Winter, Assistant Waste Management Officer, Development and Cultural Services,
telephone 716352

25. Ref: 505021 – Former Parks open tennis tournament, all wards - raised 06.07.05

Issue

A resident asked what had happened to the former tennis tournament held in the park, and asked if this event could be revived.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

The original tournament ran for 23 years until its final year in 2000.

In response to this question the issue was raised at a meeting between Sports Development, Derbyshire Tennis Association and other partners in August 2005. It was proposed to reintroduce a new look open tennis tournament in Derby for 2006.

It is hoped the new tournament will take place at the start of the summer 2006 and provide an opportunity for anyone to enter especially young people because it will be linked to the Derbyshire Youth Games.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

Discussions have taken place with Phil Wilcox - Derbyshire Tennis Development Officer, regarding a relaunch of the Park Tennis Tournament. It was agreed that a Tournament would be organised next year April/May in line with the Duffield Open Tennis Tournament.

Discussion are at a very early stage, however, it is anticipated that the Tournament will be open to City Schools and novice players.

Responsibility

Andy Doodson, Senior Sports Development Officer, telephone 715661

26. Ref: 505029 – Agenda Papers, all wards - raised 12.10.05

Issue

A member of the public asked for an update on when the full papers for area panels would be available to the public.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Councillor Webb explained that the issue would be going to the next full council meeting.

Councillor Repton confirmed that they want the reintroduction of these papers, and that it would be done at the earliest opportunity.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Update on Council decision on 23 November.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

At the full Council meeting on 23 November it was agreed to reintroduce the free distribution of agenda papers to residents who request them. However, officers will stop sending papers to anyone who does not attend two successive Area Panel meetings unless their request is renewed. Electronic copies of Area Panel papers will continue to be available on the Council website and an email alert will be sent to those who request it.

Responsibility

Richard Smail, Area Panel Manager, Policy Directorate, telephone 258505.

27. Ref: 505030 – Police liaison, all wards - raised 12.10.05

Issue

A member of the public asked the panel to look into more effective dialogues between the Council, Highways and the Police, where matters of mutual interest occur. It was stated that since June had been asking for police attendance as large vehicles are parking on the paving stones in a conservation area. They have received five incident numbers, but nobody has attended. They reported that they had taken photographs, and would be writing to the Chief Constable.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 October 2005

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Inspector McLaughlin apologised for lack of response and agreed to speak with the resident after the meeting.

Tony Gascoigne explained that they speak to the Police on a daily basis, and also have regular liaison meetings with the Police where mutual issues are discussed.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 October 2005

Update on regular meetings

Updates on agreed actions to feedback at the meeting on 7 December 2005

We have regular quarterly formal meetings with Derbyshire County Council and the Police, the next meeting being in December. In between meetings we speak to police officers on a daily basis on issues as and when they arise.

Responsibility

Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715019