

Time commenced : 6.00 pm
Time finished : 8.50 pm

AREA PANEL 3 (ABBEY, ARBORETUM AND NORMANTON) 30 MARCH 2005

Present: Councillor Williamson (Chair)
Councillors Burgess, Dhindsa, Khan, Hussain, Lowe,
Nath, Rehman

In attendance: Councillor Ahern

Derby City Council and Derbyshire Constabulary Officers:

Sarah Edwards	-	Area Panel Manager Policy Directorate
Sara Allmond	-	Constitutional Services Officer Democratic Services
Jody Kirkpatrick	-	Constitutional Services Assistant Democratic Services
Michael Kay	-	Group Leader – Health and Safety Environmental Health
Henry Cipcer	-	Home Improvement Manager Housing and Advice Services
Ray Dring	-	Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service
Julie Eyre	-	Local Manager, Derby Homes

38 members of the public.

52/04 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jackman and
Inspector Gary Parkin.

53/04 Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

54/04 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Nath declared a prejudicial interest in Minute 63/04 – Application from the Hindu Culture and Welfare Society in Derby, as he was a member of the Society.

55/04 Minutes

The minutes of the Area Panel 3 meeting held on 19 January 2005 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

56/04 Derby City Council Licensing Policy

Michael Kay, Group Leader – Health and Safety gave a presentation on Derby City Council new licensing policy.

A member of the public asked how the Riverlights project could have been granted licenses when there were currently no premises. Michael Kay responded that these provisional licenses had been granted under the old licensing regime by the Magistrates Court. Under the new licensing regime individual applications for new licenses would need to be made, but no requests had been received as yet.

Agreed to note the presentation.

57/04 Hartington Street Renewal Programme

Henry Cipcer gave a presentation detailing the current progress on the Hartington Street Renewal Programme.

A member of the public asked what was going to be done about the building on the corner of Leopold Street. It had an odd fabric extension to it which looked awful and detracted from the regeneration happening in the rest of the area. Henry Cipcer replied that the Council was in the process of applying for compulsory purchase orders - CPO for this property and a number of other empty buildings on the street.

A member of the public asked whether a sign could be put up at the building on the corner of Leopold Street saying that it was to be regenerated and for more general signs to be erected to let them know that the area was getting special attention. The panel agreed that this was a good idea and Henry Cipcer agreed to follow up this suggestion.

Councillor Hussain commented that although various regeneration projects were apparent, it was also clear that there was no co-ordination between the various departments involved in the regeneration of the area. Projects are done to regenerate some properties in an area, while other properties were left to run-down.

He suggested that the planners should make sure that no more properties with multi-occupancy were built in this area for the next few years. Henry Cipcer replied that he was limited to the housing point of view but he was aware that the Planning department had refused multi-occupancy developments recently in the area. He commented that it was a long process and were limited with what was already there.

Councillor Burgess gave a word of caution that planning procedures may not allow a blanket refusal of multi-occupancy properties.

Resolved to:

Ask Council Cabinet to ensure that long-term coordinated action is taken by the departments involved in regeneration to stop the proliferation of house in multiple-occupancy in Arboretum.

Ask for a full and detailed report back as to what action the Council can take to address this issue.

58/04 Health Briefing from Greater Derby and Central Derby Primary Care Trust

A briefing paper on health services was considered.

A member of the public commented that the stop smoking campaign did not go far enough. He suggested that a qualified nurse could go into schools and demonstrate the problems smoking can cause, with the aim of stopping them from starting to smoke in the first place.

Resolved to ask Greater Derby and Central Derby Primary Care Trust to respond to the issue of non-smoking education at the next meeting.

59/04 Planning and Environment Commission Work Plan Topic Reviews 2004/05

A report of the Chair of the Planning and Environment Commission was considered which stated that the Commission's review of the Council's Tree Management Policy was completed in November 2004, and was reported to Council Cabinet on 21 December 2004. The Commission was awaiting a response from Council Cabinet to its recommendations. An executive summary detailing the outcome of the Commission's review of the Tree Management Policy was attached to the report. The Commission had now started its review of dog control, and enforcement of the dog fouling legislation. The Chair of the Planning and Environment Commission, Councillor

Ahern, stated that the Commission would like to hear about locations in the area where people considered there was a problem with dog fouling. He asked members of the public to contact members of the Commission or David Romaine on 255598. Later in the year the Commission would be holding a workshop session with Derby residents to discuss the possible solutions to the problems of dog fouling and dog control. A number of written questions about dog fouling and control were submitted to the panel. These were forwarded to the Commission following the meeting.

Resolved

1. **To note the report.**

60/04 Area Panel Updates

Specific issues

Unauthorised change of use at 51 Mount Street

The Panel was informed that the Planning application had been received but had not yet gone to Planning for approval.

Railings – Mount Carmel Street

It was reported that the railings had been repaired but had not yet been repainted.

Traffic Issues – Normanton and Pear Tree

Councillor Nath commented that this was a long standing issue and that he was disappointed that there was no update on the report. He felt that the Planning and Highways Officers should be looking at this issue together, rather than it getting passed between the departments with nothing being resolved. **The Panel agreed to recommend that Ward Councillors and Officers should meet to get a resolution to this.**

Graffiti in Crompton/Gerard Streets

A member of the public commented that the response given in the report was not what they were asking. The original question they had asked was for the cost to the Council for repainting the NTL boxes on the pavement when they have had graffiti on them. Also why should the Council pay to repaint NTLs property? It was agreed to ask the Director of Cultural and Development Services to give a breakdown of costs to Derby City Council for painting over graffiti on NTL green boxes and to ask why the Council is paying to do this.

Removal of telephone boxes in the City

It was reported that BT would be attending the June 2005 meeting so any questions people had could be raised with them then.

A member of the public asked who authorised planning permission for phone boxes. Agreed to report back at the next meeting.

Area Panel Agendas

Agreed to recommend to Council Cabinet that it re-examines its decision on Area Panel agenda distribution now, rather than waiting to see if public attendance at Area Panels reduces.

Draft Licensing policy

An update on this was given by Michael Kay earlier in the meeting. Agreed to close this item.

Railings, St Chads Road and Whitaker Road

It was reported that the railings were on order and were expected to be installed shortly.

Hartington Street Renewal Area

An update on this was given by Henry Cipcer earlier in the meeting. Agreed to close this item.

Air Pollution

A member of the public asked whether the new Council vehicles used alternative fuels. Councillor Burgess agreed to look into and come back with an answer at the next meeting. It was agreed to close this item and to deal with this as a separate issue.

Derelict Buildings, Dashwood Street/Normanton Road

A member of the public suggested that a warrant be obtained from the Magistrate's Court now, rather than waiting for the Legal department to attempt to find out who the current owners were. It was agreed to try and make formal progress on this item by the next meeting.

Public Consultation, Eagle Centre

It was reported that Westfield would erect information boards around the site informing the public of what was going to happen. Agreed to close this item.

Removal of Rubbish

It was reported that no charge was made for the disposal of household waste at Raynesway for residents using cars. Agreed to close this item.

Eagle Centre, access to cycle parking racks

A member of the public suggested that a trolley park be created as well next to the cycle racks so that trolleys don't have to be wheeled back to Sainsbury's to get the £1 back. Agreed to note the comment and feed this back to Sainsbury's.

Cameron Road Homezone, improvements and wheelie bins

Agreed to get a response on this issue for the next meeting.

Petition – Baseball Ground, Leacroft Road

A report on this item was considered later in the meeting.

Petition – Molineux Street

It was noted that a report will be presented at the next meeting. Councillor Nath expressed his disappointment that a response was not available for this meeting.

Petition – Raven Street

It was noted that no update was available on this item and again Councillor Nath raised his disappointment that no report was available on this item.

Petition – Activ8 Project, Mount Carmel Street

It was reported that Ian Fullagar had been in contact with residents and had reported that the plan was to install a concierge at the building, subject to approval. It was noted that a full response to the petition would be presented at the next meeting.

Petition – Renal Street and Avondale Road

It was reported that a full response will be presented at the next meeting.

Petition – St Giles Road – request for one way system

It was reported that a full response will be presented at the next meeting.

Petition – Harold Court, Reginald Street

A report in this item was considered later in the meeting. Agreed to close this item.

61/04 Public Question Time

The following issues were raised by members of the public:

Crossing at Kingsway

A member of the public asked for an update on the crossing at Kingsway. It was noted that this item had been closed. The Council was having discussions with the owners of the road to try and negotiate a long-term solution to improve pedestrian facilities at the Kingsway retail park. The area panel agreed to ask David Gartside to contact the resident and provide an update on progress.

Street lighting in Derby City centre

A member of the public commented that he had counted a large number of street lights out on the Wardwick and Uttoxter New Road.

Parking outside Normanton Infant School, Browning Street

A member of the public raised concerns about the parking around Normanton Infant School by parents dropping off and picking up children. It was agreed to write a letter to the head teacher and to the Police to include the school in the local beat.

Request for provision of additional car parking facilities on land on corner of Kenilworth Avenue and Village Street

A member of the public asked whether the piece of land on the corner of Kenilworth Avenue and Village Street could be turned into a car park for the local residents due to the lack of parking now available on Sackville Street.

Parking on the pavement

A member of the public asked whether or not it was illegal to park a car on the pavement. Councillor Dhindsa replied that as the law stood it was illegal to drive a car onto the pavement and illegal to drive it off, but it was not illegal for a stationary car to be parked on the pavement. It was agreed to refer the issue to the Police.

One way system, Empress Road

A member of the public asked whether the one way system on Empress Road had been completed yet. Councillor Hussain replied that the start date been moved a number of times. It was noted that the work should begin on 4 April 2005.

Homezone, Chatham Street

A member of the public raised concerns over the state that Chatham Street had been left in following the completion of the Homezone scheme. No one at the Council would take responsibility for finishing the work off that had been left uncompleted. Photographs were distributed to demonstrate the incomplete works. Concern was also expressed about the lack of kerb edges – especially at the end of streets. Residents felt that this was potentially dangerous for pedestrians – especially young children.

62/04 Petitions

The following petitions were presented to the Area Panel:

Petition relating to the barriers on Cameron Road

The Panel received a petition regarding the barriers on Cameron Road. The petition had been referred to the Director of Development and Cultural Services to provide a full response to the next meeting.

Petition requesting One Way Road System on Wilfred Street, Sale Street and Molineux Street, Normanton.

The Panel received a petition requesting a one way traffic system on Wilfred Street, Sale Street and Molineux Street. The petition had

been referred to the Director of Development and Cultural Services to provide a full response to the next meeting.

Petition relating to Anti-Social Behaviour on Corner of Abbey Street and Monk Street.

The Panel received a petition regarding anti-social behaviour on the corner of Abbey Street and Monk Street. The petition had been referred to the Director of Service Anti-Social Behaviour to provide a full response to the next meeting.

Petition requesting closure of footpath, Western Road to Gordon Road (St Chads School)

The panel considered a report of the Assistant Director, Highways Transportation and Waste Management, which stated that a petition had been received, to request the closure of the footpath between Western Road and Gordon Road leading to St Chads School. A copy of the petition was also sent to Derby Community Safety Partnership. They were consulted during the investigation of this issue; their view was that all that could be done to improve safety and security had been done. A number of site visits were carried out during the preparation of the report, to observe the state of the footpath and to assess whether there was sufficient justification to close it as requested by the petitioners. There was no evidence to support the closure of the footpath using either section 116 or 118 of the Highways Act 1980. As the footpath was so well used it could not be considered to be either unnecessary or 'not needed for public use'.

A member of the public raised concerns about the investigation of this issue and stated that they were fed up with the drug addition, drug dealing and dog fouling regularly occurring in the alleyway. Children had been known to pick up needles in the alleyway. The Area Panel was very helpful 2 years ago getting the extra street lighting but it hasn't helped the problem and has instead just given them better light to deal with.

Some residents commented that they found the final paragraph in Para 1.9 of the Council report very offensive.

Councillor Hussain commented that the Council should also be checking that the alleyway was being cleaned properly. He felt that a more thorough investigation was needed including proper consultation with local residents and the residents who signed the petition, as part of the process.

The Panel resolved to reject the recommendation and ask the Officers to re-examine the issue.

Petition from Residents of Harold Court, Reginald Street

The panel considered a report of the Assistant Director, Highways Transportation and Waste Management which stated that a petition had been considered at a previous meeting, requesting that some kind of action be taken to prevent building workers, who were working on two separate projects (both next door and facing) from using their private car park to turn around their heavy goods vehicles, blocking off our car park when making deliveries and generally blocking off the pavements. Mention was also made in the covering letter of teachers and parents cars from the nearby school causing access problems. The issue of vehicles parked on pavements was raised with the Police and they said that traffic wardens have been requested to give the area some attention. The majority of the building work was nearly completed so the problem was expected to be alleviated shortly. The car parking situation in Reginald Street had been monitored a number of times over the past two years and it was still considered that the existing waiting restrictions were sufficient to provide safe and legitimate access. It was proposed to continue to monitor the area and the issues would continue to be raised with the police as and when necessary.

Agreed to note the report

Petition Seeking Rear Access and Parking to Properties on Leacroft Road

The panel considered a report of the Director of Development and Cultural Services which stated that a petition had been received from residents of Leacroft Road seeking off-road parking facilities at the rear of the properties. A number of issues needed to be addressed in considering the request. It was proposed that the petitioners request be examined in detail within the context of the masterplan currently being prepared for the regeneration of the wider Baseball Ground site and to bring a further report to a future meeting. It was noted that there was also another Leacroft Road petition about housing improvements. The area panel manager said that the response for this would be done through the update report at the June area panel meeting.

Resolved to get feedback on progress with the masterplan for the next meeting.

63/04 Area Panel Budget Proposals 2004/05

Applications for Area Panel Funding

A report of the Director Policy was considered which set out details of an application for funding, which was a key decisions, as follows:

- To consider whether to support the application received from the Hindu Culture and Welfare Society in Derby for a Friday luncheon club. Amount requested £2,000.

Options considered

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

Decision

To award a grant to the following application:

Councillor Nath left the meeting during consideration of the next item

- Hindu Culture and Welfare Society of Derby – Grant for £2,000 for a Friday Luncheon Club.

Reason

1. The application provided a service in response to the needs of local residents
2. The application directly benefited people living within the geographical area covered by Area Panel 3

64/04 Arrangements for the Next Meeting

To note that:

1. **the next meeting of the Area Panel would be held on Wednesday 22 June 2005 at 6.00pm at The Voice Box, Forman Street, Derby.**
2. **Councillor Lowe would be the Chair**

MINUTES END