

Time Started : 7.00pm
Time Finished : 8.58pm

**AREA PANEL 5
(ALLESTREE, DARLEY AND MACKWORTH WARDS)
1 FEBRUARY 2006**

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

Also present: Councillor Williamson

Derby City Council and Other Officers:

Richard Smail	- Area Panel Manager
Sara Allmond	- Constitutional Services Officer
Jody Kirkpatrick	- Constitutional Services Assistant
Rachel Levy	- Constitutional Services Assistant
John Winters	- Corporate Director – Environmental Services
Michelle Spamer	- Regeneration and Community
Philip Walker	- Assistant Director Corporate Finance
Lesley Walker	- Area and Neighbourhood Manager
Vickie Butler	- Area Panel Support Officer
Adam Hinds	- Station Manager, Nottingham Road Fire Station
PC Dickinson	- Allestree Police Office
Paul Cole	- Mackworth Housing Office - Derby Homes

32 members of the public were in attendance.

43/05 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Gerrard, Repton and Webb

44/05 Late Items

There were no late items

45/05 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

46/05 Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 7 December 2005 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair, with the addition of the following wording to the end of minute number 37/05 Petitions before Councillor Webb left the meeting:

‘A member of the public commented that she believed that there had been a resolution by Council ten years before which stated that no path would ever be put on the north side of the river.’

47/05 Corporate Budget

The Panel received a presentation from Councillor Williamson, Leader of the Council on the corporate budget proposals for 2006/7.

A local resident commented that there was a £7 million shortfall in the Connecting Derby funding and asked for confirmation that no Derby City Council money would be spent on Connecting Derby. Councillor Williamson agreed to provide a written response to Mr Butler.

A local resident commented that she believed that two years before £243,000 had been spent on consultant's fees to produce a report on where to locate the new council house. She felt the money could have been better spent on St Helens House, she asked for an assurance that the Council would not spend anymore money on that sort of thing please. Councillor Williamson replied that he couldn't confirm that money would not be spent on consultants and professional fees as specialists were sometimes needed to carry out research. He agreed to look into the specific fees referred to and agreed to provide an answer directly to the resident.

A local resident commented that the Police Authority had used Council meeting rooms to hold a private consultation meeting on their budget, she asked to know approximately how much the meeting cost and when the police budget consultation would be open to the general public. Councillor Williamson replied that the meeting was a Police Authority function and was arranged and paid for by them with no involvement from the Council. Councillor Williamson agreed to ask the Police Authority the question and ask them to provide a response to the resident.

A local resident asked whether there was any reserve in the budget for re-opening the bus station if the Riverlights project didn't happen or

was delayed long-term. Councillor Williamson replied that there was no specific budget allocated to re-open the bus station as the lease for the bus station was held by the developer, the developer was seeking another partner to try and take the project forward. He hoped there was significant interest from other developers and that discussions would be concluded within the next six to eight weeks. Councillor Williamson also reported that asbestos had been found in the roof of the existing building so the bus station could not just be re-opened.

Resolved to note the presentation

48/05 Petitions

There were no new petitions

41/05 Update Report

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

Litter, footway St Benedict School to Broadway

A local resident felt that the wording in the update was not clear as the path was a public right of way and therefore was a public footpath

Agreed to amend the update to make the position clearer

Speed Limit on Broadway

PC Dickinson, Allestree Police Officer reported that the police were satisfied that the current speed met with regulations so it would remain at 40mph.

A local resident replied that as a school was located on the road now, in the Department of Transport's guidance leaflet it stated that speed limits where schools were located should be 30 or even 20mph and asked why this guidance hadn't been taken on Broadway.

Councillor Higginbottom asked whether there was any right of appeal about the decision on the speed limit. PC Dickinson replied that he believed that it was the traffic department at Police Headquarters who made those decisions and suggested contacting them to find out whether an appeal could be lodged.

A local resident reported that on 19 January 2006, the Broadway Action Group met with Councillors, Council Officers, the Police, Derby University and St Mary's School. Progress was being made and another meeting was being planned soon.

Petition – Well repairs and installation of hand rail, Well Street

Michelle Spamer, Regeneration and Community, reported that from a

Highways point of view, they were looking at the possibility of installing a handrail and were waiting for a cost for that. She reported that Derby Homes were involved in the investigation the site with the well on it was housing owned land. They were proposing to tidy up the area generally as well as repair the well and surrounding bricks. Derby Homes were also working with the Police regarding anti-social behaviour in the area with the hope of installing a CCTV camera and putting up signs promoting the alcohol free zone. A report would be brought back to the next meeting which would detail the costs of the various options, which may result in some funding being requested from the Area Panel budget if the full cost could not be met by the department and Derby Homes.

A local resident said she had major concerns over the installation of CCTV cameras as she felt they were not the solution and was particularly concerned as the area was part of the Strutts Park Conservation area. She felt that as it was an ancient well any treatment needed to be sympathetic. Michelle Spamer responded that the Planners and Antiquities Section were involved in the project and there would not be anything done that's going to spoil the area. It would go to Conservation Area Advisory Committee for consideration.

University Parking

PC Dickinson, Allestree Police Officer commented that the police did recognise the issues regarding the university parking and acted fairly and proportionally and gave out advice as well as tickets. He reported that a total of 522 non-endorsible fixed penalties had been issued since October 2005 and that Police enforcement would continue.

A member of the public asked why tickets had been given to local residents. PC Dickinson replied that it was very difficult to know which cars belonged to local residents and that if the residents parking permits were introduced, it would make it easier to identify residents cars.

Bus Stops, Kedleston Road

A local resident asked whether it was definitely Trent Barton who were responsible for the Notts and Derby service timetabling on the Kedleston bus stops.

Agreed to check and provide an update

New Bus Stop on Sixes Service along A6

A member of the public commented that the original recommendation was to replace those stops at Cathedral Road and Seven Stars Pub so the criticism of proximity does not seem to add up, also don't understand the contra-indication implied by widening King Street, as there didn't seem to be much difference in the plans for Connecting Derby for this area.

Richard Smail reported that the widening would be done by reducing the six to eight feet of central reservation.

Agreed to contact the resident directly with a response and leave the update open.

Land on Leytonstone Drive

A local resident commented that the land was becoming an ever increasing eyesore and asked whether something could be done with the contractors to either move on and develop the land or get it cleared and have some fencing put up. Councillor Baxter responded that he had contacted the Environmental Health Officer who had agreed to keep the issue under review but he would ask them to have another go at clearing the site.

Agreed to ask for a firmer commitment as to when the clearance would be done by.

Public Information Pillars

A local resident asked why it took over a week after the previous Area Panel 5 meeting to get the posters removed from the pillars, and it was only once it had been on the television that they were removed.

Richard Smail, Area Panel Manager replied that following the last meeting, the information had been passed onto the relevant officer, and that it would have taken about a week to get the information passed through and the work actioned.

A local resident also commented that she felt there were too many of the pillars around the city. Richard Smail replied that they were being reviewed.

Agreed to request that the results of the review come to Area Panel

42/05 Public Question Time

The following questions were raised by members of the public:

Markeaton Park

A local resident asked whether there were proposals to turn the broad grass area between Kedleston Road and the eastern stream of the brook into a car park for the University. The area in question ran from the entrance to the Mundy Play Centre to opposite the entrance to the University. This information was the latest 'news' circulating among park users following conversations with the men who were busy on the other works at present taking place in the park.

Agreed to provide a response to a future meeting

Telephone Manner of Council Staff

A local resident asked whether there were security reasons why staff were encouraged not to give out their surnames and that she had not been spoken to courteously when she had rung to report an issue to the Streetcare hotline number.

Councillor Hickson replied that staff should always be courteous and that it was unacceptable if the officer hadn't been, however there were health and safety issues regarding giving out full names. As long as the member of staff could be identified by their first name then he considered that was a reasonable response.

Agreed to provide a full response to a future meeting

Shopping Parade – Prince Charles Avenue

A local resident commented that when a pedestrian crossing was requested for outside the shopping parade on Prince Charles Avenue they were informed that a crossing would be installed when the parade was developed, he asked when that would be.

Agreed to investigate and provide a date to a future meeting.

Parks Open Tennis Tournament

A local resident asked how the proposed closure of a number of grass tennis courts across the city would affect the proposed Parks Open Tennis Tournament and this country and hosting the Olympics. Plus what would this cost.

Agreed to provide a response to a future meeting.

Section 106 Payments

A local resident reported that at a previous meeting it had been reported that a Section 106 payment had been diverted away from Darley and that it had been reported that it would be returned. She asked whether the money had come back into the ward and what it had been spent on. She also asked whether it was possible for all Section 106 payments, in particular for Area Panel 5, to be recorded so that they were brought to the meeting and the Panel would know what Section 106 payments were in Area Panel 5 and what they would be spent on.

Councillor Baxter reported that new procedures make sure all Councillors now got a list of Section 106 Agreements and where the money was to be spent, however there was an issue about whether figures could be made public as it could affect how much the Council could ask for from future applicants.

Agreed to investigate and report back to a future meeting

Parking in Handyside Street and Buchanan Street

A local resident asked how often traffic wardens patrolled these streets

as she was regularly unable to park even though she had a permit. She commented that it was particularly bad around Christmas and the situation was getting worse. Richard Smail referred her to details within the updates regarding North Street as they had raised similar concerns and the answer provided there was appropriate to these streets as well.

Connecting Derby – Five Lamps area

A local resident commented that he felt that the traffic lights recently installed at Queen Street negated the need for Phase 3B of Connecting Derby because they were acting to hold the traffic further back and asked that a new set of traffic figures be done to be considered as part of Connecting Derby as it was important that the most relevant and up to date information be considered.

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

Sale of St Helens House

A local resident asked whether if bids were received for the purchase of St Helens House, the Council had to legally take the best bid, or did they still have the option of going with the Trust even if they couldn't make the best offer or the bid was received after that time.

Agreed to investigate and report back to a future meeting.

Cheviot Street Brook

A local resident reported that there was a smell coming from the brook that ran through Cheviot Street Recreation Ground, he asked whether the council was aware of this and what it planned to do about it.

Councillor Baxter agreed to investigate.

Home Care Charges

A local resident, commented that Councillor Hussain has often said that low level home care services provided by the Council were essential to enable older people to keep living at home. Why is it now proposed to cut the laundry services and the cleaning service provided for such needy people and why is it now proposed to charge some people for services now provided by the Council, when Councillor Williamson had vowed that there would be no abolition to home care charges

Agreed to provide a response at a future meeting

Granite Kerb Stones, Darley Lane

A local resident asked where the granite kerb stones, that had been removed from the pavement on Darley Lane, had gone and why had they been allowed to be taken away and replaced with concrete and tarmac when the area was a conservation area.

Agreed to investigate and provide a response at a future meeting

43/05 Cosmetic Work to Trees

The Panel considered a report from the Director of Commercial Services which set out details for an application for Cosmetic Work to Trees:

1. Tree outside 121 Allestree Lane, Allestree - pruning of the Horse Chestnut tree which was restricting light and the pruning would comprise crown lifting and thinning by 15%. Cost of work would be £68

Resolved to approve the request for cosmetic work to one tree outside 121 Allestree Lane, Allestree, grant £68

44/05 Provision of Dual Waste Bins

The Panel considered a report of the Director of Commercial Services regarding the provision of dual waste bins. The existing provision of dual waste bins capable of holding dog waste did not meet the demands of Councillors, Area Panels or the public. As part of the budget for 2005/06, funding was provided to enable each Area Panel to have three additional dual waste bins for each ward. The priority locations identified for the nine new dual waste bins in Area Panel 5 were listed in Appendix 1 of the report. The Panel were advised that if they wished to use their own resources to purchase up to seven additional bins at locations already identified in the three wards then they would be able to do this and the additional ongoing revenue costs would be contained within the base budget. This would be possible as part of a rescheduling exercise but it was a one-off opportunity for this financial year. To purchase and install a dual waste bin would cost £240.

Richard Smail reported that one location on Knightsbridge recreation ground in Mack worth ward had been omitted in error. The panel were asked to consider this as an additional location.

Agreed:

1. **to note the locations of the new dual waste bins in Area Panel 5**
2. **to approve the funding of eight additional dual waste bins in the locations highlighted in the report**

45/05 Area Panel Review Progress Report

The Panel considered a report of the Assistant Director – Community

Policy giving progress on the Area Panel Review.

Resolved to note the report

46/05 Area Panel Budget Proposals 2005/06

Applications for Area Panel Funding

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

- To consider whether to support the application received from the 35th Derby (Markeaton) Scout Group for security fencing – Amount requested £1,950
- To consider whether to support the application received from the Little Chester Residents Association to fund the Keeping the Community in Touch newsletter – Amount requested £750
- To consider whether to support the application received from the Mackworth Estate Community Association to fund Easter Activities and the dance group – Amount requested £1,200
- To consider whether to support the application received from the Mackworth St. Francis Football Club for goal posts – Amount requested £520
- To consider whether to support the application received from the 3rd Derby Boys' Brigade Company for Sports/Games Equipment – Amount requested £1991
- To consider whether to support the application received from the British Legion Allestree to fund the installation of Disabled People's ramp – Amount requested £5,000

Options considered

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

Decisions

To award grants to the following applications:

- 35th Derby (Markeaton) Scout Group – Grant for £1,950 for security fencing

Reasons

1. It would contribute to environmental improvements which would provide a benefit to local residents
 2. It would enable residents to participate in their community
- Little Chester Residents Association – Grant for £750 for Keeping the community in touch newsletter

Reasons

1. It would improve access for local people to existing services
 2. It would enable residents to participate in their community
- Mackworth Estate Community Association – Grant for £600 for Easter Activities.

Reasons

1. The group withdrew their request for £600 for the dance group
 2. It would improve access for local people to existing services
 3. It would enable residents to participate in their community
- Mackworth St Francis Football Club – Grant for £520 for goal posts

Reasons

1. It would improve access for local people to existing services
 2. It would enable residents to participate in their community
- 3rd Derby Boys' Brigade – Grant for £1,991 for sports/games equipment

Reasons

1. It would improve access for local people to existing services
 2. It would enable residents to participate in their community
- British Legion, Allestree – Grant for £4,000 towards the installation of Disabled People's ramp

Reasons

1. It would improve access for local people to existing services
2. It would contribute to environmental improvements which would

provide a benefit to local residents

47/05 Health Briefing from Greater Derby and Central Derby Primary Care Trusts

A briefing paper on health services was considered.

Agreed to note the contents of the briefing paper

48/05 Arrangements for the next meeting

To note that the next meeting of the Area Panel would be held on Wednesday 5 April 2006 at 7.00pm at Lawn Primary School, Norbury Close, Allestree. Councillor Hickson would chair.

MINUTES END