

Normanton Neighbourhood Board

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 22nd November 2010 at Austin Neighbourhood Base, Browning Circle.

Present:	Councillor Hardyal Dhindsa	Chair, DCC
	Councillor Amar Nath	DCC
	Colin Avison	Neighbourhood
Manager, DCC		
	Wayne Brooks	Derbyshire Fire Service
	Anthony Jones	Derby Homes
	Jackie Whyper	Resident Board
Member		
	Carla Mathurin	Resident Board
Member		
	Nick Gamblin	Derbyshire Police
	Martin Follows	StreetPride, DCC
	Jill Lamb	Resident Board
	Member	
	Dave Lamb	Resident Board
	Member	
	Paul Riley	Highways, DCC
	Sue Cliffe	Resident Board
	Member	
	Andy Thomas	Head of Neighbourhood
	Services	
	Zia Bhatti	Youth Service, DCC
	Sarah Dosunmu	Minute taker, DCC

Apologies: Neil Barber, St Giles Church; Sajda Kauser, Derby City PCT; Balbir Rattu
Resident Board Member

1/22	Welcome and introductions Cllr. Dhindsa welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions and apologies were recorded.	Action
2/22	Declarations of Interest None	
3/22	Late Items There are two late funding items to be considered. Cllr Dhindsa proposed these be considered under item 9 of the agenda. Agreed.	

4/22	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were discussed and checked for accuracy. The minutes of the meeting were agreed.</p> <p>Matters arising and agreed actions</p> <p>Trevor Lamb Colin confirmed that a letter has been sent out to Trevor Lamb on behalf of the board. Trevor was in hospital last week, unfortunately he is seriously ill. A member of the Board will be visiting him next week.</p> <p>Community newsletter and Communications Sub Group Colin reported that there has not been any progress on this. The sub group meeting has not happened. Jackie agreed to take the lead on this. Cllr Dhindsa asked the Board to offer support to Jackie as this would be very much appreciated.</p> <p>Punjab United Colin confirmed that he has spoken with them. A successful event was held in Sinfin and they have provided all relevant information.</p> <p>Vehicle Actuated Signs (SIDS) Colin confirmed that Highways will maintain the SIDS as part of their overall programme.</p> <p>Problems with bin route Further problems have been reported and Ian Drury and Kully Raju are following up the issues. Martin to feedback to the Board on progress and actions undertaken. Colin also confirmed that problems reported at the Austin Forum have been passed to the Bin inspector.</p> <p>Shadow Youth Board - on the agenda for discussion.</p> <p>Sunnyhill Community Centre -The photocopier offered to the group is too large but as part of the discussion they identified a photocopier they can buy through a local supplier.</p> <p>Community Budget Applications – Colin confirmed that all payments have been processed.</p> <p>Road safety proposals – funding has been arranged and Councillors have been invited to an event at Village school.</p> <p>Forum feedback - Colin confirmed that the actions from the forum have been tasked to the appropriate officers and departments.</p>	<p>JW</p> <p>MF</p> <p>Cllrs Dhindsa and Nath</p>
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	<p>agreed. In relation to the Roma taskforce this is on the agenda.</p> <p>Cllr Nath highlighted the role and involvement of landlords and their responsibility is critical to resolving a number of local issues not just relating to the Roma community. This should be addressed as a matter of urgency.</p> <p>Forum and Board meeting dates To be discussed the dates and Boards and forums.</p> <p>Petitions <i>Sherwood Recreation Ground – to tackle anti social behaviour and resolve the boundary fencing and Parking on Portland Street. The Portland Street petition will be presented to the next Pear Tree forum meeting.</i></p>	
5/22	<p>Grange Avenue – former schools sites</p> <p>A presentation from Patrick Tracey (PT), speaking on behalf of Parks and the Estates departments at the City Council; Helen Metcalfe (HM) representing East Midlands Planning Aid; Mike Moore (MM) representing Education at Derby City \Council and Lee Griffin (LG), Design and Technical Director for Bloor Homes</p> <p>PT – outlined that he has been keeping the Board informed on the developments for the site. Previously options were outlined and developed into a marketing site and a team assigned to take forward the proposal.</p> <p>This has led to the consultation process to seek approval for the change of use of the playing fields for potential development. Need to ensure that thorough engagement of the local community and partners for the further development of the land. Aim to ensure that the site develops successfully and see increase in the public open space available to the local community. This is a long term proposal that may take up to three years to see this develop.</p> <p>MM stated that he here to share with the Board progress to date on the consultation process and application to Dept of Education regarding the future use of the playing fields.</p> <p>Following closure of Sunnyhill Infants and Normanton juniors the site came surplus to requirements. Cannot be sold without permission of Department for Education as this forms part of the process of preventing the erosion of school playing fields.</p>	

Land in three parts –

- Land immediately around the old Normanton juniors – not classed as playing fields land as buildings formed part of the potential site.
- Sunnyhill infants – as above
- Playing fields of Normanton juniors and playgrounds are technically classed as playing fields land.

Presumption that it cannot be sold unless there is good use for the land. Agreement to sell is decided by a committee of various representations. Must make case that the land being replaced is as good or better than what was in place originally.

Area D – below Village Primary – must remain as playing field land. There is a set equation that states the minimum land that should be available to a school as playing fields, however this can also be used as public open space.

Consultation must be undertaken in the community and with local Councillors. Community consultation must be over 10 term time weeks – already started the process and a number of returns received. Following completion of the consultation the application for change of use can be submitted and the decision can take up to 16 weeks.

Consultation documents have been issued to key partners, Head Teachers within half a mile and secondary schools within a mile and a public meeting is to be held.

PT outlined that in the application to the DfE, the following is required:

1. Must ensure land is not required
2. Demonstrate that more public open space than previously as the school grounds were not accessible to the public
3. Have to demonstrate that the benefit of any money from the sale of the land is being invested and seen as a priority to support in the local area.

There is no appeal process so the decision of the Committee is final. Long way still to go – any money that comes in must demonstrate how we will spend the funds.

Consultation ends on 31 January 2011. Expect a decision from the Committee in summer 2011.

A query was raised as to how many properties are part of the consultation. In response it was stated that it is approximately 2,500. Copies of the consultation documents are available locally and a further public meeting is planned.

A query was raised about what will happen to responses – these will be assessed.

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Meeting planned on 14 December 2010 – opportunity to see plans, etc.

There was a discussion on consideration of using Caxton Park instead – area not used often by residents due to previous incidents and the proposed site is in the centre of the estate and there is a preference to use Caxton park for a development and then have the site for public open space.

The board agreed that this is something that should be explored.

Lee Griffin outlined his involvement in the previous 12 months. An initial scheme was designed and split in two parts – Affordable housing and an Open market element. A site with a single point of access with 1.5 acres of public open space. Both sites will have a separate access and the two areas separated by a single strip of land.

Have undertaken discussions regarding the scheme and comments raised suggested

Cul de sac development not appropriate

Concerns regarding the footpath link

Should be one large development

Open strip of the land is not the best place – disproportionate use so there would be conflict

Not in favour of the parking quarter.

As a result the scheme re-visited, as part of this an assessment of the traffic impact was explored and improvements to the junctions.

As a result they have now moved to a new plan which was

<p>circulated at the meeting and the Board were invited to comment.</p> <p>The point of access to the site has been moved to increase visibility. The public open space has changed to one large and one smaller section. Footpath linked to maintain cohesive nature of the development to enable people to walk through the site.</p> <p>A balancing pond is to be incorporated, a semi dry pond, to offer a drainage system. Size approx 20mx20m and will be in the form of a shallow depression, it won't take away from the total available public open space but it will need to be adopted as the drainage system for the site.</p> <p>There will be 83 properties in total. They have taken out terraces of houses and ensured natural surveillance along the footpaths. There are changes to the road network – still takes a cul de sac form but they are linked.</p> <p>Plans have no formal planning status – but welcome comments.</p> <p>Properties range in size from 3 bed detached and terraced properties and 4 bed semi and detached. 81% of the properties are detached units.</p> <p>Concern was expressed regarding access to the site during construction and consideration should be given to noise and disruption to the nursery on Grange Avenue.</p> <p>Unfortunately, it is the only point of access to the site.</p> <p>The board agreed that they want assurances that a plan is in place to mitigate the impact on a nursery.</p> <p>Given the size of the development, an element of social housing is required to be built as part of the development. Agreed that the housing should be extra care homes, similar to sheltered housing for older people.</p> <p>Concern raised as whether this is suitable in an area where there is a history of youth ASB issues.</p> <p>Proposed that extra care provision is on old Sunnyhill site as it requires 1.3 acres.</p>	<p>LG</p>
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<p>Derby has a commitment to develop such provision in the city. Enough traditional social housing – need something that matches with the needs of older people in the community. High cost – funds still required to make it deliverable.</p> <p>A Board member asked if it is possible to contact Alzheimers Society to see if such a village can be developed for Derby.</p> <p>Stuart from Housing 21 will be coming along to the next forum meeting to provide more detail.</p> <p>A question was asked, does the funding of the extra care hinge on the development taking forward. In response, it was stated that if there is no funding an alternative social housing scheme could be developed by the council or a third party or the land could be sold and used for other purposes.</p> <p>If the extra care doesn't happen, members of the Board expressed concern regarding segregation of social and affluent housing.</p> <p>Willingness to bring in the scheme but there is a funding gap. Housing 21 been asked to bring it to a more economic achievable. But Council are being asked to look at this again and secure more of a financial contribution</p> <p>Kitchener Avenue – create additional open space on this area on the bottom fields. One area will be used to serve the school but the remainder can provide a more centralised public open space for the estate.</p> <p>Principal design drawn up to provide : Young people's play area Public green area Area for older children</p> <p>Play area will be funded through the sale of the land but will not happen unless there is consent to sell the land.</p> <p>More detailed design in the summer.</p> <p>HM reported back on consultation she facilitated last week Thursday. A report has been produced and passed to Colin. These</p>	<p>PT</p>
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were circulated at the meeting.

From the consultation Helen outlined some of the issues raised as part of the consultation:

Residents are happy with the general principle including provision for older people. Concern was expressed regarding older people living on site B – existing open space next to the area is a site for ASB and this is an opportunity to resolve the issues on this site.

Other people have suggested D not B as closer to bus route and health services.

The revised scheme addresses some of the issues regarding the footpaths to the rear of the properties.

Back Lane good route but need it to be overlooked. Desire for some provision of site A.

Also request for play provision for those aged 6 to 11 years – need for that in the area.

Consistent issues was the lack of adequate car parking, numerous requests for car parking on C.

Village school full so where would children go from the new development.

Does the school want site D – could there be better use of the land.

22 people in total formed part of the consultation.

PT clarified that to get approval to sell the ex playing fields we have to show what the funds will be used for and it does not necessarily have to be spent locally.

The Section 106 contribution from the development will cover the costs of the play space and social housing.

A request was made as to why could some of the land not be used for car parking?

In response it was stated that the DFE has said they need the

	<p>minimum amount of open space for the school and has to stay in control of the school.</p> <p>View is that parking is required – can not some of site C be used for car parking? Permission granted for the health centre should have considered the parking and traffic impact.</p> <p>Neil B could not be at the meeting this evening but wanted raised the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – sale of land owned by the public, playing fields owned by public and the parking created by a public agency. Why cannot we do something when we have the chance to sort out the problem. <p>In response it was stated that it was felt that the parking if developed would not be used.</p> <p>Cllr Dhindsa stated that the points have been made and they need to be considered and addressed.</p> <p>In principle there was agreement that the Bord were happy for the land to be disposed of but the following points need investigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking provision locally • Potential of changing the site to Caxton Park • Ensure residents are fully involved in the consultation 	
6/22	<p>Forum Feedback</p> <p><i>Austin Forum</i> Problem with motorbikes has been addressed through a section 59 issued recently.</p> <p>Pear Tree forum – number of issues raised relating to Roma communities and football being played at the school. Expected that there will be a funding application to the Board to help support fencing to stop balls going over.</p> <p>New Normanton Forum Nick fed back that following the forum there was also another meeting at the same venue and this was much better attended. Police were the only agencies in attendance and it was organised by Dale Community Champions. Colin was not aware of the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Dhindsa asked that it be clarified with Sgt Adams the organisers of the meeting, etc.</p>	

	<p>At Normanton Forum everyone was given the opportunity to speak and notes of the issues were recrded at the meeting and individual issues raised and noted on a question form.</p> <p>General isseus are being looked at collectively; half of the specific complaints are nothing to do with Roma communities, trying to deal with those; for the Roma specific issues, they have been tasked to differing agencies and contact has been made with complainants and the problem properties.</p> <p>Finding that there is a migration of some elements of the Roama commuity moving out of the country. The problem is subsudingin but a problem is still present.</p> <p>Need to be aware that there is a small number of families causing the problem,.</p> <p>Approx 150-200 Roma families in derby, majority are working and integrating well.</p> <p>Colin is meeting with them to arrange community meetings, representations and help to identify and help deal with the poor elements in the community.</p> <p>Number o fissues – sme related to Roma communities and some relating to housing. With a saturated housing market – landlords taking short cuts and adding to the problems in the neighbourhood.</p> <p>At the forum meeting it was agreed to establish a special task force in September – now mid to end of November. Colin was congratulated on progress to date but there was some concern that there has been little progress.</p> <p>Andy Thomas provided an update. He outlined that there has been work taking place but it is clear that it is not working. Need to get people in from across the city to direct resources into Normanton as part of a task force. This task force met for the first time this morning and will focus on the following key issues:</p> <p>Identify culprits – An information resources on individuals and families</p> <p>Procedures for addrssing issues -\need to be addressed so we can we tackle the problems in particular wehere we have a number</p>	<p>NG</p> <p>PR</p>
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of transient families.

He underlined the need to map and identify who they are. The approach is to identify as family groups – this is how they move about/interrelate, etc.

Focus on approximately 20 families – bulk of information so that we assign tasks appropriately.

Landlords – do not know who owns the properties. Over occupancy is common, some taken advantage of, payment of rent in cash – can take action on both sides. Until the identity of landlords – it cannot be addressed. Normally through housing benefit but many are not eligible or claiming benefits.

Need to identify their details to provide a long term solution to the problems.

Andy outlined some short term actions:

Streetpride – flexible about bin collections (collect if the bin lid is not fully closed).

3 bin system needs reviewing just for Normanton area – may not have 3 bins but one bin for certain streets. They will target certain streets in Normanton ward.

Environmental regulation have agreed to deploy 3 officers in the Normanton area to focus on environmental issues private housing standards until improvements seen.

Education Welfare Officers to target area regarding truancy in the area, etc.

All local schools are full, for example, Pear Tree school has 70 Roma children. Problem is they are having to travel further to get to school but on minimum wage so cannot afford funds for bus fare to school, also no money for dinner money, etc.

Not going to focus of enforcement but to try and identify and address problems.

Cllr. Nath stated the main issues are ASB. Also a number of issues relating to private landlord, these cannot be addressed without

getting them involved in the process. Need to get them involved and make contact with the landlord association to see how many properties they are letting out to Roma families. Likely to be causing issues for landlords.

Taking food from bins was a recent report and this is largely due to no money or food available to communities.

Cllr Dhindsa said that these are actions that have been raised previously in the last year and a half – need there to be more action and progress on these matters.

There is work taking place locally but it is important that residents are aware of the actions being taken to address issues.

It was agreed that a communication needs to be sent out prior to the forum meeting on the 16 December with some targets for action. Suggest the publication focus on three or four issues of the main issues which are having the biggest impact on the community.

There was some concern raised about community walkabouts as these can be seen as vigilantes – develop in to similar incidents in Rosehill street around prostitution – can escalate into a bigger problem.

The Board agreed the following:

Produce a newsletter with actions etc regarding what is happening next. Content to include the following:

Work Police has been undertaking including additional diversionary activity for young people

An example of a resident's view

Actions taken to tackle issues raised at the forum meeting

Update from the Task Force

Board agreed to award £400 for the production of a newsletter
Cllr Dhindsa agreed to organise distribution of the newsletter

Board agreed that the Chair of the Board should undertake meetings with representatives in the community.

Cllr Dhindsa to meet one to one with representatives of Dale

Community Champions and local residents. The aim is to provide an update on actions and to encourage joint working.

Cllr Dhindsa – keen for this to be done –

Board agreed to allocate £400 for the production of the newsletter.

Cllr Dhindsa will organise distribution of the news letter

AT something in contact:

Cllr Dhindsa – want to meet with Dale Community Champions and key individuals to get the message across and encourage greater joint working.

Agreed to one to one meetings with targeted individuals – aim to communicate what has been agreed – joint working

Shop on corner on Stanford Street – need to look for enforcement – illegally opened etc.

Neil Jackson is enforcement officer dealing with the matter.

CA to follow up and feedback to Cllr Dhindsa and progress the planning process

CA also raised London mini market which is a significant issue too.

Problems as landlords are key to this. Some are not decent landlords

Can't identify one or two streets.

progress made = Number of concerned

Is there any way of getting volunteers to help with schooling, etc.

When Colin met with her said that one of them was going in to volunteer but it was seen negatively

CA to explore suggestion around volunteers to help in schools.

Want to publicise that there is a school shortage space in the

	<p>neighbourhood –</p> <p>Due to full schools so more truancy</p> <p>Also mentioned that landlords are ripping off the residents Need to provide advice and information on what is available for the communities and support available.</p> <p>House prices driven down so that properties can be purchased and exacerbates the problem.</p>	
	<p>c) Vehicle Actuated Signs (SIDS)</p> <p>The council are looking to buy 7 signs which can be installed temporally in areas for a period of 6 to 8 weeks; board can bid for the signs to be used in their areas. Colin informed Paul that last financial year the board put money aside to purchase 2 signs so they could control where the signs would be put up. Paul stated that if the board did wish to they could also bid for the central signs as well if needed.</p> <p>Colin to look into whose responsibility it would be to maintain the signs.</p> <p>Colin told the board that if they wanted to look at parking enforcement as a priority they didn't need to specify the days straight away.</p> <p>In previous years the boards have been allowed to carry money over to the following year. This year it is unlikely that this will be allowed so all money must be spent by the end of the year otherwise it will be lost.</p> <p>Board members were asked to look at pages 34 to 37 and feed back thoughts to Colin.</p>	<p>CA</p> <p>Board Members</p>
	<p>Fire and Rescue Service</p> <p>There have been 3 bin fires in the area, they were on Rosehill Street, Portland Street, Violet Street, 2 of the bin fires led to serious fires.</p> <p>Colin attends the DRAG meetings and an awareness campaign is on-going and the feedback was successful.</p> <p>Operation Relentless will begin soon and there are 6 weeks of activities. As part of the first week the Fire Service will be tackling drivers who park recklessly. For those cars not parked properly the fire service will put warning leaflets on the cars that look like parking tickets.</p> <p>There has been a rise in the theft of lead and copper across the city, the robbers either don't realise or don't care that this can cause flooding and also can cut through gas pipes.</p> <p>There will be a campaign about perceptions of fire "Question Your Perception"</p>	

	<p>information will be put on websites, youth groups, libraries, buses and radio. Board member were asked to encourage members of the public to look at the website as there is a downloadable fire check.</p> <p>Main problem in the area is refuse and overflowing bins, Fire Service are working closely with Streetpride to sort the problems.</p> <p>Jackie raised that on the brown bin route there is a bin man who has an attitude and isn't very nice to residents.</p> <p>Ian – to check route to see who the bin man is</p>	ID
7/08	<p>Young people in Derby</p> <p>Adele Styles had produced a report after the Voice in Action event, Colin has picked out the statistics for the Normanton ward. Adele Styles went into every secondary school in the City with an opinion meter with set questions for young people to answer.</p> <p>The young people were asked what they would do if they were given £20,000 to spend in their area most said they would spend it on Parks, leisure and youth activities, crime, safety and shops.</p> <p>1/3 of young people think they have influence on making decisions and 1/3 think they belong to their neighbourhood. The amount of young people who took part in the survey was 3176.</p> <p>If the survey is done again a lesson to be learnt is to link in with the ward boundaries.</p> <p>b) Shadow Youth Board</p> <p>Each Neighbourhood Manager has been set 2 targets regarding young people. Every board will have a standard item on the agenda at every meeting and by March 2011 Neighbourhood Managers must have an action plan for engaging with young people, in other parts of the city some boards have had shadow youth boards.</p> <p>The Board agreed in principle to the establishment of a Shadow Youth Board covering Normanton, Arboretum and Abbey Wards.</p> <p>c) Youth Services</p> <p>The board part funded a Community Fun Day during the summer holidays on Sunnyhill Recreation Ground. A lot of young people and families came along to the event and it went really well. The summer programme included trips and sporting activities.</p> <p>A positive was that families were referred from Social Care for the first time. There has been an increase in young people from the Normanton area attending youth club, there is now 15 from the area.</p> <p>Zia informed the board that at the moment the only partners who operate in the area are street pastors, youth service and Sporting Futures.</p>	CA

	<p>£300</p> <p>Each activity will have a written report produced after they have taken place.</p> <p>The board agreed to fund the above proposals</p>	CA
	<p>d) Youth, ASB & Highways Budget Applications and proposals</p> <p>i) Shadow Youth Board</p> <p>Abbey has currently spent all of there community Budget so is unable to fund this project this financial year. The proposal was for Normanton and Arboretum to pay £1000 this year and then £750 next year with Abbey covering the extra amount next year.</p> <p>Youth Service will contribute their staff's time. The project is a two year pilot.</p> <p>The board agreed to fund £1000 towards the proposals and agreed in principle to the year 2 funding subject to a proposal being presented to the Board in the new financial year.</p>	CA
	<p>Item 3 – Late Item Surtal Asian Arts</p> <p>The application is not being well received at other Neighbourhood Boards across the city and was not well received last year, other boards think it is a lot of money for the work being done. The other issue is that the work is not sustainable.</p> <p>The Board agreed to not approve the application for the following reasons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project hasn't been outlined properly • The activities do not show sustainability • The project doesn't link into secondary schools • This is the third year the group has come to the board to fund essentially the same activity. 	CA
	<p>e) 2011/12 Neighbourhood priorities</p> <p>This will be brought back to the next board meeting and the board needs to focus on mainstream services.</p>	
	<p>f) Forum Feedback</p> <p>There were no major issues raised at the Austin Forum.</p> <p>The Normanton Forum was well behaved despite the discussion of issues but the residents are waiting for work to start to sort out the problems in the area.</p> <p>A Taskforce approach had been proposed. This proposal was currently being developed within the .City Council.</p> <p>The Board agreed that the Landlords who are renting out the properties need to be targeted and if possible we need to get them on board.</p> <p>Action – Colin and Kully to look at the best way to get Landlords</p>	CA/ KR

	<p>involved.</p> <p>The Police are looking at holding a weekly surgery in the area, the board suggested the venue Faidene Court as it is free of charge and also agreed the best time of day would be the early evening.</p>	
	<p>g) Forum and Board meeting dates</p> <p>Neighbourhood Managers were now covering two wards each. Neighbourhood Development and Support Officers were covering 4 or 5 wards each. Workload planning was very important to help ensure that all meetings could be appropriately administered. Colin proposed of changing the forum timetable so not all the forums fell in the same month to reduce administrative congestion and even out workload. Colin suggested the following:</p> <p>Forums would take place in January, February, March / May, June, July, / September, October, November.</p> <p>The Board agreed to Colin's proposal.</p> <p>It was further agreed that the Board needed to encourage people to call in with problems and not wait until a forum takes place.</p> <p>The new forum process will take place from January 2011.</p> <p>Action – Rajeev to sort out new dates with current venues.</p>	RN
	<p>h) Petitions</p> <p>A petition had been received by the Council regarding parking problems on Portland Street. The petition report is expected to be presented at the next Pear Tree Forum meeting.</p> <p>Action. Rajeev to include as an agenda item for the next Pear Tree Forum</p>	RN
	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>22nd November 2010, 6pm, Austin Neighbourhood Base, Browning Circle</p>	