



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

AREA PANEL 3
18 JANUARY 2005

Report of the Assistant Director Highways, Transportation and Waste Management and the Assistant Director Housing and Advice Services

Petition seeking improvements to Meynell Street, Normanton

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.1 A petition has been received from residents of Meynell Street requesting that action be taken regarding:

- the state of their garden walls
- blocked drains
- the state of the pavements
- why it is not part of any local area renewal programme
- the need for speed ramps to slow traffic.

1.2 These issues are considered below:

The garden walls and local area renewal programme -

The replacement of front boundary walls by the Council has been carried out as an Environmental Works Programme in existing or former Renewal Areas only as part of a comprehensive regeneration strategy. The Council do not have sufficient resources to offer grant assistance for such works city-wide. It is likely that Environmental Works to improve boundary walls will continue to be included in future Renewal Areas, but the Renewal Policy review will not include recommendations for such schemes to be made more widely available in the city due to other higher priority housing improvement projects.

1.3 The blocked drains and pavements –

It was accepted that some of the gullies were in need of cleaning out. However, there was a problem of access for the gully cleansing vehicle due to the extent of vehicle parking. We improved access by issuing letters to residents asking them to move their vehicles on a particular day. Although we were not able to achieve 100% success moving vehicles, the gullies have now been cleaned out. We also made arrangements for the road to be swept.

The entries are privately owned and StreetCare has no duty to keep these clear.

Sections of Meynell Street footways have been reconstructed/resurfaced in the past. The remaining sections, although not in as good a condition as we would like them to be, do not have sufficiently high priority for reconstruction

when compared with all other footways across the city. The footways will be routinely inspected every six months, and any defects exceeding our intervention levels will be repaired. There are no such defects at present.

Whilst the condition of the footways do not justify reconstruction, we will consider them for next financial year's slurry sealing programme. Slurry seal is a low-cost thin coat surfacing which extends the life of the footway and gives it a uniform appearance.

1.4 Meynell Street not being part of any area renewal programmes -

Meynell Street is not included in either current or programmed Renewal Areas or Housing Improvement Zones in the city. These are currently targeted at the Hartington Street and Osmaston areas. However the Council are currently commissioning a comprehensive Private Sector House Condition Survey which will identify the concentrations of poorest housing conditions in the city and once the results of this are available (August/September 2006) we will be reviewing our Housing Renewal Policy so that these areas can be targeted. We cannot give any assurances that Meynell Street will be included in any future housing renewal programmes but the Renewal Policy review will include the opportunity for residents to be involved through the consultation process prior to it being adopted.

1.5 Speed ramps to slow traffic –

When the 20 mph zone, of which Meynell Street is part, was introduced, it was not considered necessary to install traffic calming measures on the cul-de-sac part of Meynell Street, or its neighbouring cul-de-sac. Examination of Derbyshire Constabulary's accident statistics has revealed that there has been only one reported injury accident on this part of Meynell Street since the 20 mph zone was introduced.

While all accidents are regrettable, this incident does not indicate that road safety is regularly compromised or that vehicles are regularly driven along this short cul-de-sac at excessive speeds. Consequently, it is not considered that any additional traffic calming measures are required.

PROPOSED ACTION

- 2.1 Consider Meynell Street pavements for possible inclusion in the 2006/07 slurry-sealing programme.

**For more information
contact:
Background papers:
List of appendices:**

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Appendix - None