

**AREA PANEL 2 COMMUNITY ISSUES – UPDATE REPORT
BACKGROUND INFORMATION
11 JANUARY 2006**

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1. Ref: 204050 – Petition – Installation of lighting, improved surfacing and drainage to Green Lane, Alvaston - received 03.11.04

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

John Edgar, Maintenance Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715067

Issue:

A petition was received by the panel requesting the installation of lighting, improved surfacing and drainage to Green Lane, Alvaston to improve the safety for pedestrians, cyclists and those living or working alongside Green Lane, by reducing the fear of crime.

Previous key points / action taken:

June 2005 - Area Panel 2 approved a funding application for £5,000 to improve lighting along Green Lane. The work on the new lighting will be included in the lighting programme.
In September it was reported the lighting columns are now in, the connection to the mains should be made shortly.

September 2005 - Councillor Bayliss confirmed that the posts were now in place for the lighting and that the Area Panel had funded them.

November 2005 - We have been waiting for Central Networks to install the electricity cables. Central Networks have assured us that these columns will be serviced before the end of October.

Response on 9 November 2005

A local resident informed the meeting that on 28 October the lights were switched on, but on 4 November, three of the five lights went out. He also stated that where the lane joins the footbridge is very dark and additional lighting is needed there.

Actions agreed:

Investigate and report back.

Update:

Green Lane was surveyed by the Night Patroller on Monday 5 December, and the necessary repairs were placed

2. Ref: 205017 – Petition – Installation of pedestrian crossing on London Road – Burnaby Street/Meadow Lane, Alvaston – received 15.06.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

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

Issue:

On 4 February 2005, a petition signed by 216 people was received requesting the provision of a pedestrian crossing on London Road near its junction with Burnaby Street and Meadow Lane.

Previous key points / action taken:

June 2005 - A full report was available at the meeting which suggested that the request be refused, as the investigations that were carried out indicated that the threshold for the installation of a pedestrian crossing facility was not met at this location. Dave Taylor, Alvaston resident confirmed that 369 people had now signed the petition, and agreed with the Councillors that something is desperately needed, and asked that the panel rejects the officers proposals.

The area panel accepted the report recommendations to refuse a pedestrian crossing however they asked the Director of Development and Cultural Services to consider installing a refuge in next years budget. They also asked for the cost of installing the refuge to see if the area panel could fund it through their budget.

September 2005 – It was reported that Highway officers have surveyed the site for a refuge and they confirmed that there is enough room for a refuge at the location. The approximate cost to install the refuge would be £5,700. The Area Panel was asked to consider funding this from their budget allocation in 2005/6.

November 2005 - The Area Panel was asked to confirm if it wanted Development and Cultural Services to complete a funding application to the Area Panel for £5,700 to be considered at the area panel meeting on 11 January 2006. If the application for Area Panel funding is approved in January 2006 the refuge could be installed as part of the 2006/7 programme.

Response on 9 November 2005

Councillor Wynn stated that this is a very dangerous part of London Road, and the Alvaston councillors would support this application for a refuge. People cannot cross London Road to get to the buses, or across to the recycling bins – it is extremely dangerous at that point.

Actions agreed:

To submit a funding application for the refuge.

Update:

A funding application for a refuge is on the agenda for 11 January for the Area panel to consider.

3. Ref: 205027 –Detrunking Shardlow Road, Alvaston – received 21.09.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

David Gartside, Head of Traffic, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715025.

Issue:

A representative from Alvaston Neighbourhood Watch, asked when Shardlow Road would be detrunked, as the Blue Peter and Raynesway are heavily congested every morning, and he was concerned that this would get worse, once developments take place.

Previous key points / action taken:

The Council has to decide its priorities, and how best to action them. Alvaston is one of the high priorities, and the Council Cabinet need to ratify this later in the year.

Response on 9 November 2005

Councillor Bayliss confirmed that the detrunking would be completed by 28 November. He also stated that the 30mph speed limit would be extended to the county boundary.

Actions agreed:

None.

Update:

The proposals for the speed limit involve moving the 30/40 mph change in speed limit to 40 metres south-east of the junction with Keldholme Lane. The order is currently still being processed.

4. Ref: 205041 – Traffic congestion, Alvaston Junior School, Alvaston – received 09.11.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

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

Issue:

A resident raised concern over the traffic congestion at Alvaston Junior School. She explained that as an employee at the school they have been working with Andy Culshaw to try to encourage people to walk to school. There are big problems with cars parked outside the school, making it difficult for the emergency services to gain access. She explained that a car door had hit her daughter, when she was on the crossing. She wanted to know who to speak to get something done.

Previous key points / action taken:

New item.

Response on 9 November 2005

Councillor Graves suggested the resident talk to the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator for that area.

Councillor Bayliss confirmed that the zig zag lines outside the school are actually enforceable, and tickets can be issued. The major problem with schools is the parents driving children to school. He suggested that the parents are spoken to again. He encouraged residents to take down the vehicle numbers of those cars parked on the lines, and report them to the police. Need to educate parents and encourage alternatives. Parking restrictions are being taken over by the Council – currently looking if we can use our resources.

Inspector Gascoyne explained that officers would take action where possible, but emphasised that they cannot be there all the time, but when complaints are made, then resources would be sent.

Actions agreed:

Investigate and report back

Update:

Significant investment has taken place at Alvaston School including the creation of a school safety zone incorporating enforceable school keep clear markings and traffic calming measures. As stated previously the Police have powers to prosecute drivers for stopping on the markings during school and arrival times. The school has an active travel plan forum and is working closely with the Council to promote alternatives to car trips where possible.

5. Ref: 205043 – Raynesway to London Road junction priorities, Alvaston – received 09.11.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

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

Issue:

A local resident asked for clarification over the right access points at the garage on the roundabout on the Raynesway to London Road junction. There are two entrances and people turning right from London Road into the garage are crossing over Raynesway to get in. She asked if this was correct.

Previous key points / action taken:

New item.

Response on 9 November 2005

Another resident stated that there were also problems with cars queuing out of the frontage of the shops, round onto the island. Asked the police if a notice could be put up to say that people should not be stopping on the roundabout.

Councillor Bayliss confirmed that people should not be crossing over Raynesway and stressed that this should be made very clear to motorists.

Actions agreed:

Investigate and report back.

Update:

We recognise that the petrol station is in an undesirable location. However, historically, it has been on that site for a number of years. Unfortunately, we have no jurisdiction how the petrol station operates their access. It has private access over the public highway.

6. Ref: 205048 – Raynesway Refuse Site, Alvaston – received 09.11.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

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

Issue:

A resident commented that during a visit to Raynesway Refuse site Tip, in a small car, she received assistance to lift the rubbish out of her car. However, the assistant referred to a notice, that stated the site would only accept small amounts of hardcore/soil from car boots. Repeat visitors with the above materials will be turned away. She considered that if she was turned away, she would just dump the rubbish outside, and would certainly not take it back home. This is therefore encouraging flytipping.

Previous key points / action taken:

Response on 9 November 2005

Councillor Wynn explained that this could have something to do with the new twin bin scheme.

Councillor Tittley stated that he felt this was a very unpragmatic approach to take to suggest that elderly people will not be allowed to take their rubbish to the tip. Where clearly it is the average citizen disposing of their waste, then a more pragmatic view should be taken. He agreed to follow this up as it would encourage fly tipping.

Actions agreed:

Investigate and respond

Update:

We would like to thank the resident for highlighting the assistance she received from staff at Raynesway. We have passed this comment on to the site supervisor.

Raynesway Recycling Centre operations are governed by the licence, which is issued by the Environment Agency. The terms of the licence state that Raynesway can only accept household waste. Household waste does not include soil, building rubble etc. in significant amounts.

We are aware that a household may generate small amounts of soil etc occasionally, and therefore, we allow this onto the site for disposal by car. Anyone who generates large amounts of soil or builders rubble would be directed towards a private waste site (there are many in Derby), or advised that it may be appropriate to hire a skip. Hiring a skip can work out cheaper than making repeated journeys to Raynesway, and the majority of people tend to use this option.

There is no evidence to suggest a link between flytipping and the rules under which Raynesway operates. The level of flytipping has remained constant.

There has been little effect on dumping, flytipping etc that could be attributed to the twin bin system, and to some extent this system has shown to be beneficial. The total waste collected on the scheme has risen significantly on previous years indicating that we are collecting more waste from the area, some of which may have been dumped or flytipped before the scheme was introduced.

A new law was introduced on 21 November 2005, which covers the disposal of domestic waste. There is now a fine of £5,000 for those people who give their rubbish to someone who then subsequently dumps it. We are currently looking at how this new legislation will be promoted.

7. Ref: 205019 – Petition – Parking outside Moorhead Primary School, Boulton – received 15.06.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

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

Issue:

A petition was handed in about the problem of parking outside Moorhead Primary School. The main issue concerns parking and congestion outside the school gates at the parking, and specifically mentions the proposed closure of a car park, which belongs to Merrill College.

Previous key points / action taken:

June 2005 - A report in response to the petition was presented to the meeting. This stated that Officers would work with Moorhead Primary School to develop a Travel Plan.

September 2005 - Work is still ongoing to develop a school travel plan. We are working towards completing the travel plan by March 2006.

Response on 9 November 2005

A resident raised concerns that because it is the parents responsibility, the problems are not being dealt with. He stated that there are no signs or parking restrictions at the school, but highlighted that Moorhead Primary School is next to a comprehensive school, and therefore some kind of restrictions should be implemented.

A local resident stated that the petition only considers the parking issues outside Moorhead School, but now that Merrill School will be moving next door the parking issues be increased. What is being done to address this?

Councillor Jackson reported that the proposed shared car park with Merrill College would not be going ahead, as it was not agreed by the Governors. She stated the importance of re-educating the parents. She also suggested that she would be putting forward a proposal for the installation of a chicane.

Councillor Wynn agreed to visit the school personally. He stated that he had been told that the parking problems would not be increased by the Merrill site, but agreed to provide a report to the next meeting.

Actions agreed:

Update on progress to develop travel plan.

Update:

School travel plan officers have contacted the head teacher at Moorhead to progress the development of the school travel plan. Parents have been invited to set up a travel plan forum and an initial meeting has been held to explain the travel plan process. Travel questionnaires have been sent to parents and pupils to identify travel patterns and barriers to movement. These are currently being analysed and a further meeting has been arranged with the forum to go through the results. Following this the travel plan forum will begin to prepare and develop a school travel plan. It is hoped that the travel plan will be signed off by colleagues in the Education Service before April 2006 following which the school will be eligible for a small grant of approximately £5,000 to support the travel plan. Once the travel plan is completed consideration will also be given to funding safety and accessibility improvements through the Local Transport Plan.

With regard to the school warning triangles on Brackens Lane, there are signs, but some are in a poor condition. The school has requested that we replace the existing school warning signs due to their poor condition. We will replace the signs as soon as possible.

8. Ref: 205030 – Temporary bus lane, Allenton, Boulton– received 21.09.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

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

Issue:

A resident asked the panel how long the temporary bus lane would be in use for, as she had seen three serious accidents since its installation due to the road not being wide enough.

Previous key points / action taken:

September 2005 – It was agreed to recommend Council Cabinet remove the bus lane in Allenton.

November 2005 - This issue is being referred to Cabinet on 8 November. However it was deferred to the cabinet meeting on 29 November, to allow a full report to be produced.

Response on 9 November 2005

Councillor Tittley raised objection to the item being deferred, stating that it needs to be brought to Cabinet at the earliest possible date.

Sue Glithero explained that the item was deferred to the meeting on 29 November, as the supporting report had not been completed.

Actions agreed:

Update on progress.

Update:

It has been agreed to bring forward the review of the bus lane and ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to complete a review in time for a response to Area Panel 2 on 15 March 2006.

9. Ref: 205031 – Merrill College Site, Boulton – received 21.09.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

Mike Melliush, PFI Programme Manager, telephone 255533.

Issue:

A member of the public asked what was happening to the Merrill College site.

Previous key points / action taken:

November 2005 - The Upper School site of Merrill College, both land and buildings, will be disposed of when the new single school on Upper Moor Road is completed and occupied, currently set for September 2006.

The Governing Body owns the land and buildings. Ownership was transferred from the Council when Merrill became a Grant Maintained - now Foundation school. The Governing Body has started discussions about the disposal process with the Council using a 'partnership approach'. Although beginning around September 2006, it is likely to take several months to complete before a sale on the open market can be effected.

At this stage, it is not possible to determine how and when re-development of the site will take place. Re-development will be subject to planning conditions and guidelines, including arrangements and opportunities for local residents to express their views about any planning applications.

Response on 9 November 2005

None.

Actions agreed:

None.

Update:

Disposal of the Upper School site requires the approval of the Department for Education and Skills – DfES - and the Council, in conjunction with the College, has already been through a significant part of that process. However, some uncertainties on the part of the DfES concerning the process were encountered, and there has been a delay in securing a valuation of the site by the District Valuer, which is required by the DfES process. However, that valuation has now been undertaken, and the disposal process re-started. The Council and the College will work together to ensure that vacating the site and its eventual disposal, integrate as closely as possible with occupation of the new single school on Upper Moor Road.

10. Ref: 205035 – Vandalism, Field Lane Community Centre, Boulton – received 21.09.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

Sarah Wheatley, Acting Community Development Officer, Education, telephone 715656
Andrew Beddow, Head of Sport and Leisure, Education, telephone 715513

Issue:

A member of the public asked the panel if it was a high priority that a long term solution is found to the ongoing vandalism of the Community Centre. He stated that serious vandalism as led to the closure of the facilities.

Previous key points / action taken:

November 2005 - The centre is currently closed. Councillors and officers met on 14 September to discuss the situation and the impact of the closure on centre users and the football teams. The preference would be to repair and reopen the centre as soon as possible if funding can be found. A survey has been carried out to determine the cost of repairs.

The Asset Management Group approved funding of £4,000 for measures to reduce vandalism and overnight security patrols are now being carried out. The Youth Offending Service and Youth Service are working in the area to try and reduce vandalism. Further damage has recently been caused to the building. The situation will be monitored prior to a final decision on the future viability of the centre and its priority for funding being made.

Response on 9 November 2005

Councillor Jackson informed the meeting that an upgraded column for the camera had been ordered, but could not confirm the actual installation date at this time. She also reported that the Youth Service are also working in the area.

Actions agreed:

To provide an update on progress to reopen the centre.

Update:

A meeting was held on Tuesday 6 December to discuss possible future use of the community centre. The meeting involved local councillors, user groups and members of the public. The meeting focused on the production of an Action Plan that will help to improve the usage, security and management of the centre. The Council has made a commitment to finding the money to fix the centre, however this is dependent upon the commitment of the local community to supporting the plan and the long term sustainability of the centre. The Action Plan will be circulated for comment in early January with a further follow up meeting to be organised in mid/ late January.

Anti vandalism measures have been put in place and levels of vandalism will be monitored.

11. Ref: 205044 – Lighting for Mullion Green, Boulton – received 09.11.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

Alf Bousie, Principal Landscape Assistant, Commercial Services, telephone 715778

Issue:

A resident stated that there was a campaign to install lights on the footpath across Mullion Green, opposite the Cornishman Pub. He explained there would be a petition handed in and that an application for funding would be submitted to the area panel. He asked why officers had previously visited the site and acknowledged that lights were needed to reduce the level of antisocial behaviour but had not installed any lights.

Previous key points / action taken:

New item.

Response on 9 November 2005

Councillor Jackson confirmed that two years ago it was agreed that three lights would be installed but they had been taken off the list, as they were not a priority.

Councillor Graves confirmed that he felt the area panel would support the installation of these lights.

Actions agreed:

Submit funding application to the next meeting for consideration

Update:

A funding application has been received and is to be considered at the meeting. Derby Homes have confirmed that if the area panel approve the funding, they will provide all future maintenance.

12. Ref: 205049 – Boulton Lane drains, Boulton – received 09.11.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

John Edgar, Maintenance Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715067

Issue:

A local resident informed the panel that the drains on Boulton Lane were smelling vile and had done for over a month. She asked the panel if anything could be done.

Previous key points / action taken:

New item.

Response on 9 November 2005

None.

Actions agreed:

Investigate and respond, in writing to the resident.

Update:

To investigate the concerns raised, more information is needed from the resident regarding the specific location of the problem highlighted.

13. Ref: 205023 – Tree problems, Chellaston – received 15.06.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

Alf Bousie, Commercial Services, telephone 715778

Issue:

Mrs Nixon spoke on behalf of a resident in Newbridge Crescent, who understood that the tree at the back of the property could be pruned. This has not yet been done, and is blocking light from the house.

Previous key points / action taken:

September 2005 - The Arboricultural Officer has investigated the tree which is actually in Hubert Shaw Close. He has spoken to the resident about the tree and explained that unfortunately the work that the resident feels is required would not be acceptable working practice for this tree. Heavily pruning the tree would not be good for the health and safety of the tree. It is likely to lead to weak branch unions and the possibility of allowing decay to further weaken such unions, other pruning that may have been acceptable such as crown lifting or thinning has already been carried out.

The tree is in the garden of a Derby Homes tenant and not on open space and is therefore in the first instance the responsibility of the tenant. Therefore there is unfortunately no acceptable pruning that is likely to bring about an appreciable difference to the shade cast by the tree.

November 2005 - The Council Cabinet has decided to allocate each of the Area Panels £1,000 in order to commission cosmetic tree works in cases where the Arboricultural Officers had not been prepared to commission work requested by a resident. This work is restricted to trees on Council owned land and all work requested would have to comply with the conditions stated in the Tree Management Policy.

Response on 9 November 2005

Sue Glithero reported that she understood a lot of work would need doing to achieve what the residents are looking for. The quote provided was to prune back a few overhanging branches on a tree in Hubert Shaw Close, which are likely to grow back in the next 12 months.

In response to the Cosmetic Work to Trees Report, the Area Panel approved £100 of their budget to thin a tree in line with the estimate provided by the Director of Commercial Services.

Actions agreed:

Update on action taken.

Update:

A tree on Hubert Shaw Close was due to be pruned on instructions from the Council using £100 from Area Panel 2 budget. However, in error, the sub-contractor felled the tree. When the error was pointed out, the contractor immediately acknowledged the genuine mistake and offered to prune the other three trees on Hubert Shaw Close at no charge.

14. Ref: 205007 – Petition – Dog fouling, Flatts Path, Chellaston - received 12.01.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

Alf Bousie, Principal Landscape Assistant, Commercial Services, telephone 71577

Issue:

It was noted that a petition had been received regarding dog fouling at Flatts Path. The petition asked for the path to be widened and for dog fouling to be prevented.

Previous key points / action taken:

June 2005 - Regarding dog fouling the Dog Wardens visited the site on a number of occasions at the end of 2004 and early 2005. To date they have not been able to apprehend anyone committing an offence. 'No Fouling' stencils have been applied to the pathway. A meeting took place at the site on 5 January. It was agreed that

- some monitoring with a view to issuing fixed penalty notices for owners failing to clear up after their dogs. It was agreed that this would take place in the evening.
- the Dog Wardens would visit the adjacent schools to get a message across from the children to dog walkers.

Regarding path widening, a plan to straighten the path has been designed and was discussed at three meetings at the local schools on 15 June. It was proposed that the scheme will be designed in detail and introduced later in the year. Funding has been secured from the 'Safer Routes to School' programme.

November 2005 - Derby Parks are installing 51 new dual purpose bins across the city by April 2006, there will be 12 new bins provided in Area Panel 2 area. However there have been requests for 19 new bins to be installed in Area Panel 2 area and the initial 12 locations selected will be confirmed by 30 November 2005. At the area panel meeting on 11 January 2006 the area panel will be invited to fund the remaining seven suggested bins from their budget allocation. Each bin approved will cost £238 to purchase and install. Commercial Services have confirmed they will maintain these seven bins if funded by Area panel 2. When the new bin is installed on Flatts Path the school will be consulted.

Response on 9 November 2005

A local resident asked the panel when the dog dirt bins that were requested over previous two years would be installed. Have been told that the funds are available and that bins have been allocated.

Actions agreed:

Update on progress with locations of the agreed 12 dual purpose bins.

Update:

The path widening is part of the safer routes to school scheme. A new dual purpose bin will be installed by March 2006.

15. Ref: 205015 – Petition – ‘Access only’ signs on the service road to properties on Derby Road, Chellaston – received 15.06.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 716090

Issue:

A new petition was received asking for ‘Access only’ signs on the service road to properties on Derby Road, Chellaston

Previous key points / action taken:

September 2005 - We have written to ward councillors concerning the proposal to install access only signs. We will be writing to residents to keep them informed. We have begun the statutory consultation process as part of the Traffic Regulation Order. If we get no objections to the proposal, the access only signs will be installed. Previous experience has shown us that to obtain a Traffic Regulation Order will take around six months, providing there are no objections or unexpected complications.

November 2005 - We are currently at the public advertisement stage. If there are no objections from the advertisement we can then start work to implement the order.

Response on 9 November 2005

Councillor Tittley informed the meeting that the signs are going to be placed.

Actions agreed:

To provide an update on action.

Update:

The order has now been made. The signs will be in place before the next area panel meeting.

16. Ref: 205018 – Petition – Fenced off outdoor facility at Chellaston Community Centre, Chellaston – received 15.06.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

Councillor Tittley

Issue:

A petition was submitted to the Area panel 2 meeting by local residents requesting a fence around the outdoor area at Chellaston Community Centre. "We the undersigned residents call upon Derby City Council to give consideration to the fenced off area. This will provide a safe environment for all users of the centre. We believe that this will greatly reduce vandalism and give the many users a more acceptable facility at the centre. The undersigned residents therefore call upon Derby City Council to take into account these significant and very serious concerns when considering these proposals.'

Previous key points / action taken:

June 2005 - A full report to the petition was presented to the area panel on 15 June 2005. It was reported that the proposal is not in line with Council Policy regarding loss of public open space. The following course of action was proposed as a means to testing and resolving this particular proposal:

1. The petitioners should submit a planning application for the proposed fence and change of use. The application should be clear in demonstrating community support and benefit for the proposals
2. The application will be dealt with as part of the normal planning process. As part of this Parks will be consulted and will make an objection on the grounds of loss of public open space and this being against Council policy. Other objections may also be received from other organisations and/or individuals
3. The application will be reported to the Planning Committee for a decision
4. If a fence is chosen that requires planning permission then this will also be decided as part of the approval process. If a fence is selected that does not require planning permission then details of the fence should be submitted to the Council for approval as landowner and to ensure the fence does not impact on the amenity of the park.

It was recommended that the applicant select a dark green or black weldmesh style fence, preferably no higher than 2 metres. The applicant would also need to provide a minimum 400mm wide mowing strip under the fence to the satisfaction of the Parks Section. If planning approval is granted then Estates will prepare the necessary lease documents, including details of maintenance standards and future use of the land. The land would be transferred to Education and the area enclosed would no longer be public open space

September 2005 - Andy Morgan, Landscape and Development Officer, met with the Association and Councillor Tittley in July. It was confirmed what type of fencing Parks would approve and examples were sent to the Councillor and Association. Fencing less than 2 metres high, in this location, will not need planning permission, however the Community Association will still need to resubmit their planning application because of the change of use proposed. On submission of a new application Parks and others will have the opportunity to comment on the proposed change in use of the public open space.

November 2005 - No new planning application has been submitted by the Association as at 28 October 2005. The original withdrawn application was submitted in April 2004 and any new application submitted within 12 months of that date would have been free. As more than 12 months has now passed another fee of £265 would be required.

Response on 9 November 2005

Councillor Tittley informed the meeting that the application had been delayed as it had taken a long time to get a response back from Derby Parks and this is why the reapplication was over 12

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months.

Actions agreed:

Councillor Tittley agreed to progress the issue.

Update:

The proposal is not in line with Council Policy regarding loss of public open space. No new planning application has been received. No more information to add .

17. Ref: 205029 – Parking issues, Maple Drive, Chellaston- received 21.09.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

Inspector Adrian Gascoyne, Cotton Lane Police Station, telephone 290100.

Issue:

A resident of Maple Drive raised a concern about people parking across Maple Drive driveways when they attend the school to drop off and pick up their children. She appreciates that parents will want to park near the school but does not feel that people should park over her own personal driveway. She asked who she should refer this to, and what actions could be taken.

Previous key points / action taken:

November 2005 - Councillor Tittley encouraged the resident to discuss this with the ward councillors, and then it would be passed over to Highways Officers and the Police. He stressed that this is a major problem, and is a serious issue when driveways are blocked. He asked the resident to provide contact details, and also encouraged her to take car details down.

Acting Inspector Mark Argyle, asked that residents contact PC Adele Stringer, to report when their driveways are blocked. He confirmed that he would get the beat officers to visit the school, and raise this issue with them.

Response on 9 November 2005

None.

Actions agreed:

Update.

Update:

Patrols have been carried out by both the traffic wardens and the local beat officer. Both acknowledge that there is a significant problem here, wholly due to the amount of cars trying to park in or around the school at peak times. This results in unnecessary congestion and has obvious dangers to the children travelling to and from the area. Unfortunately the visits did not produce any fixed penalty notices, in other words the parking may be inconsiderate but it has not amounted to any specific offences. Officers will continue to make patrols in the area, but it is unrealistic to expect that these patrols will be anything more than occasional. I would suggest that this is a case of forcing the parents to accept more responsibility. There may some measures that the local highways department can suggest to help relieve the problem

18. Ref: 205038 – Petition - Pruning of trees, Church Close, Chellaston– received 09.11.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

John Winters, Director of Commercial Services, telephone 716401

Issue:

A petition had been received from local residents complaining about trees on Church Close blocking out light of local residents. They also have concerns over root growth.

Previous key points / action taken:

New item.

Response on 9 November 2005

The lead petitioner informed the panel that he had met with John Booth, who had informed him that the roots were not causing problems with the flats, even though slabs have already been moved away by root growth. He also had stated that they would not prune the trees, nor did they feel that the trees blocking bathroom lights was an issue. He asked the panel to put pressure on to cut the trees right back. He also stated that the fallen leaves are also very slippery and are proving dangerous particularly to elderly residents.

Sue Glithero informed the meeting that the Arboricultural officer had met the lead petitioner to discuss the issues about the trees, in particular shedding leaves and blocked light. There is no arboricultural solution to this issue. However, regarding the blocking of light, it is possible that works can be carried out, as there are branches that are very close to windows. The pruning necessary to overcome these particular problems will also help with the light issues. The work will be completed during the next 8-10 weeks. Concern was also raised about structural damage to the Council flats, however, the Arboricultural Officer had stated that the likelihood of damage is remote.

Councillor Tittley sympathised with the comments made, particularly with the light issues. He considered the tree policy needs to be addressed.

Councillor Willetts raised his concern over the attitude of the Arboricultural Officer, stating that if a tree is impinging on residents lives, then they should be removed, regardless of whether they live in private or council owned properties.

Councillor Wynn commented that the Arboricultural Officer could not be blamed, stating that it is up to the Councillors to change the tree policy.

Councillor Jackson informed the meeting that she had recently carried out a survey in the Boulton Ward, and tree problems came out top. She also made reference to a residents wall on Madina Close that is clearly being destroyed by trees, stating that this was unsatisfactory.

Councillor Liversedge requested that the Arboricultural Officer attends the next meeting.

Actions agreed:

To request the director of commercial services attends the next meeting to discuss the tree management policy.

Update:

A meeting was held with the petitioner. The pruning necessary to overcome these problems will be completed by February 2006. There is no arboricultural solution to the leaf issue.

19. Ref: 205039 – Petition – Re-routing of bus services 68 and 68a, Chellaston – received 09.11.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

Peter Price, Transport Policy Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715034

Issue:

A petition signed by approximately 90 peoples was received from residents of Chellaston, requesting the re-routing of the number 68 and 68a bus service away from Crown Way, Duchess Way and Courtway Crescent to go along Homeleigh Way. As currently routed, the residents feel that the bus services cause unnecessary traffic and environmental problems, which if re-0routed along Homeleigh Way would stop.

Previous key points / action taken:

New item.

Response on 9 November 2005

A local resident stated that although they do agree with the rerouting in principal, just feel that the route proposed and installed. is totally inappropriate. He also stated that he was not aware of any consultation with residents. He explained that he had spoke to Mel Thompson, Arriva, and she stated that because it is not a sponsored route, then they do not have to consult with all residents, just those residents who live adjacent to the new bus stop. He also explained that she had also stated that the Council were consulted 54 days prior to the change. He asked if she was aware of the route, but was told that she was not aware that there was still a building site and properties being built at the end of Park Way.

Councillor Tittley explained that Arriva have redirected the route as there has been a strong argument that the new estate needs to be served. The level of actual consultation with the public was negligible. Friday the stops went in, Monday the service started. Duchess and Crown Way are not suitable for bus services, and there is an appropriate service road that the bus could run. The alternative route is Homeleigh Way. There has been a lack of consultation by Arriva – cannot remember being consulted prior to the implementation. Want the bus service retained, but transferred down Homeleigh Way.

Councillor Willetts explained that since being informed of the service, he contacted Arriva and asked why this started, without consultation. The service comes from Melbourne, and goes through Pride Park, so there are a lot of people who live in Melbourne who used it to get to the Hospital, but now with the reroute – they have to get off in town, and catch a second bus to go to the Hospital.

Councillor Willetts explained that he only became aware of these changes during the last week, and could not believe that Arriva want to carve the estate in two. He explained that the roads are not designed for any kind of bus, and the only bus entering the estate should go up and down Homeleigh Way only.

Actions agreed:

Investigate and provide a report at the next meeting.

Update:

A report appears on the agenda for 11 January – item 6c.

20. Ref: 205042 – Cycle Lane Proposal, High Street / Mitre, Chellaston – received 09.11.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

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

Issue:

A local resident requested the installation of a cycle route, from High Street, Chellaston past the Mitre Island, as dedicated cyclists are at risk by using the A514, and so use the pavements instead. She suggested the temporary bus lane in Allenton be used.

Previous key points / action taken:

New item.

Response on 9 November 2005

None.

Actions agreed:

Investigate and report back at next meeting.

Update:

We are currently undertaking a strategic integrated transport study, SITS, along this transport corridor. As part of this, consideration will be given to facilities to encourage sustainable transport choices, including cycling.

Cyclists can currently use all bus lanes in Derby, including the one near Mitre island.

21. Ref: 205046 – New traffic system, Parkway, Chellaston – received 09.11.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 716090

Issue:

A resident raised a number of questions about traffic on Parkway and wanted to know what the Council can do to resolve them. These included concerns about the school entrance because it is on a bend, with a junction immediately before the entrance. She asked if it was the Council's responsibility to inform the test centre that Parkway is no longer a dead end, because it is still on the driving test route. She also asked why Arriva put their bus stops so near to the school entrance on both sides of the road. Parkway has become a rat run for people going to the new estate with 2,500 homes on it.

Previous key points / action taken:

New item.

Response on 9 November 2005

Councillor Wynn confirmed that he was aware of the issues and agreed to visit the area, spend some time looking at how it operates, and report back to the next meeting.

Actions agreed:

Investigate and report back

Update:

Early in the new year we will be working with the bus operators to consider moving some bus stops in West Chellaston. We will be undertaking consultation with local residents, Councillors and other interested parties as part of this review. The bus stops referred to by the resident will be included in this consultation. However, we expect that should these bus stops be moved, they would still need to be close to the school for the convenience of the passengers using the services.

22. Ref: 205050 – Review of Traffic issues in Chellaston – received 21.09.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

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

Issue:

At its meeting on 15 June 2005 Area Panel 2 identified the issue of traffic issues as one of its highest priorities. Issues had been raised at the area panel over the previous two years that all related to requests for improvements in traffic. These included parking restrictions on High Street and School Lane, the high volume of traffic using A514, traffic problems on St Peter's Road and traffic problems at the junction of Station Road and Derby Road.

Previous key points / action taken:

November 2005 - A report titled 'Review of Traffic Issues in Chellaston' was presented to the area panel meeting in September 2005. It proposed that the issues are dealt with as part of a review of traffic issues in Chellaston. A meeting took place on 24 August 2005 that was attended by Councillors, residents including representatives of Chellaston Residents Association and the Police. A list of key traffic issues was developed and put into priority order. This included the four issues raised at area panel meetings:

Parking restrictions on High Street and School Lane – there was request in March 2005 for a range of measures in School Lane and High Street, including yellow lines.

High volume of traffic using A514 - a petition was received in January 2004 suggesting that traffic volumes on the A514 were excessive and asking for action to be taken

Traffic problems on St Peter's Road - a petition was received in June 2005 from residents of St Peter's Road, concerned about the road being used as a rat run. It asked that an investigation takes place to look at the possibility of it becoming a one way street.

Junction of Station Road and Derby Road – a petition was submitted in June 2005 asking for action regarding the Junction of Station Road and Derby Road.

A traffic review programme was presented to Area Panel 2 along with a questionnaire for residents to complete. The Area Panel supported the work outlined in the report and the traffic review programme. Residents were encouraged to complete the questionnaire and return it to Development and Cultural Services by the end of September.

Response on 9 November 2005

None.

Actions agreed:

Update on progress with the traffic review and the priority list.

Update:

We aim to have a meeting with Area Panel members and representatives of residents groups in the New Year to review the options available, prioritise any future improvements and draw up an action plan. Following this we will report our findings to the Area Panel for further discussion.

23. Ref: 205028 – Area panel papers, All wards – received 21.09.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

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

Issue:

A resident asked about residents receiving copies of the area panel papers, and proposed that they are allowed to pay for the postage to make sure they receive the papers at home, allowing sufficient time to read and digest the papers prior to the meeting.

Previous key points / action taken:

November 2005 - Council is due to discuss the proposal to reintroduce the distribution of agenda papers at its meeting on 23 November.

Response on 9 November 2005

None.

Actions agreed:

Update on outcome

Update:

24. Ref: 205045 – Council review on grounds maintenance, all wards – received 09.11.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

Alf Bousie, Principal Landscape Assistant, Commercial Services, telephone 715778
Pam Stretton, Area Manager, Derby Homes, telephone 716578

Issue:

A resident commented that she understood the Council were undertaking a review of grounds maintenance. She asked the panel to take the issue of grass cuttings being cleared around sheltered housing on board. She stated that elderly residents are out trying to clear the grass themselves and she would like to see some help for them.

Previous key points / action taken:

New item.

Response on 9 November 2005

Councillor Wynn will certainly push for this, but this will put budget pressures onto Derby Homes. Also, at this time of year, there is a particular issue with leaves.

Actions agreed:

Confirm status of any review of grounds maintenance

Update:

The contract for Grounds Maintenance is shortly to go out to tender. We are currently working towards a late January tendering exercise and we are currently at the stage of selecting appropriate Companies.

It is not definite that Commercial Services will retain the contract.

A later part of the exercise will be looking at what should go into the specification and this is, at the moment, quite open. We will be considering what tenants and leaseholders think and the issue of removing grass cuttings is one of the most mentioned services.

Area Panel 2 – Community issues background information – 11 January 2006

This is not currently included in the specification. What we do to alleviate this area of concern is :

- undertake 15 cuts a year, generally
- 30 cuts a year on sheltered schemes - the more often we cut the less cutting there is, less likely to cause problems, that's the theory
- remove from paths - blow/brush it back onto lawn, any cuttings

25. Ref: 205047 – Cycle provision, all wards– received 09.11.05

Responsible officer(s) for more information:

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

Issue:

A local resident asked how the £1.5 million match funding pledge for new cycling facilities would be provided, how it would be spent and when consultation will be carried out.

Previous key points / action taken:

New item.

Response on 9 November 2005

None.

Actions agreed:

To report back to the next meeting.

Update:

We are still working with Cycling England to finalise and refine our spending proposals. Chiefly we are using the funds to encourage young people to cycle in Derby. We aim to achieve this by improving cycle parking in schools, improving cycle links to and from schools, increasing the level of cycle training and coaching for young people and developing a marketing and promotions strategy. Our match funding is from a number of sources including the Local Transport Plan, existing Council and partner training and coaching budgets and developer funding.

We have arranged a public meeting, in partnership with Derby Cycling Group, to present and discuss our proposals in more detail. It is on Tuesday 17 January at 7pm in the Voice box on Forman Street.