

ITEM 4

Time Started : 7.00pm

Time Finished : 9.28pm

AREA PANEL 5 (ALLESTREE, DARLEY AND MACKWORTH WARDS) 12 OCTOBER 2005

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

Derby City Council and Other Officers:

Sue Glithero	- Director of Policy
Sara Allmond	- Constitutional Services Officer
Jody Kirkpatrick	- Constitutional Services Assistant
Inspector McLaughlin	- Derbyshire Constabulary
Ray Dring	- Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service
Andy Thomas	- Head of Service Anti-Social Behaviour
Phil O'Brien	- Civic and Members' Services Manager
Deb Smith	- Children's Strategic Partnership Manager
Tony Gascoigne	- Traffic Control Engineer
Theresa Whyte	- Derby Homes

56 members of the public were in attendance.

19/05 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence

20/05 Late Items

There were no late items

21/05 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Webb declared a personal interest in minute number 24/05, applications on Allestree Memorial Hall and Allestree Netball Club as he had advised them to put in an application for funding to the Area Panel.

22/05 Public Question Time

The following questions were raised by members of the public:

Parking around Markeaton Primary School

Catherine Lilly of Markeaton Primary School thanked the Panel for its intervention in getting the yellow lines marked up on the road, but commented that the Traffic Regulation Order was not being enforced.

Inspector McLaughlin replied that he would look into the situation and would liaise directly with Catherine Lilly.

Scout Hut on Leytonstone Drive

Les Broughton of Leytonstone Drive asked what the decision was on the old scout hut which was owned by the Council and if the plan was to demolish the scout hut what it would be replaced with. He also asked who within the Council had responsibility for the hut, as when he tried to contact the Council during normal working hours, to inform them of damage to the hut, he could not find anyone to take responsibility and was passed around different departments.

Councillor Gerrard replied that he would look into the plans for the site and press to get it demolished. He believed the Chief Estates Officer was responsible but he would check this and let Les Broughton know.

Graffiti on Drayton Avenue

Paul Pegg, Mackworth resident, commented that in June he reported graffiti at the chip shop in Drayton Avenue but it was still there. In August, he was told that all the necessary permissions had been granted although he did not understand why this should be necessary when the shop was council property. When he rang to chase, he was told that the new equipment kept breaking down so he was now asking the Panel to look into this.

Councillor Gerrard agreed to look into it.

University Traffic

A member of the public commented that the traffic on Markeaton Street was very bad owing to the construction traffic and asked what the plans were to sort it out. Another member of the public agreed it was very dangerous.

Councillor Repton replied that he was aware of the issues, the budget was already set for the rest of the financial year, but that he would try and get the Cabinet to authorise looking at the area as a whole as a pilot, in the hope of solving the problem.

Mr Conway asked how the University parking issues were going to be cured, particularly on Broadway and Penny Long Lane. He commented that it was now three weeks in to the new University term

and the parking problem was worse than ever.

Councillor Webb replied that the police had already given out 300 parking tickets and although this wouldn't solve the problem, it must be helping.

Councillor Repton commented that the University had introduced a free bus service and had put fliers on cars. He also reported that temporary plastic barriers would be put up along Broadway to stop cars parking on the grass verges.

Parking on corner of Robincroft Road

A member of the public asked whether anything could be done about cars parking on the bend on Robincroft Road.

Councillor Webb replied that it had been looked at in the past by the Panel and that any changes suggested had been rejected by traffic management. The problem was that there had been no injury accidents there reported to the police.

Agenda Papers

Brenda Armitage asked what the situation was with agenda papers.

Councillor Webb replied that it was going back to the next meeting of full Council which would be on 23 November, where the decision to re-instate sending full agendas out to those who wanted them would be debated and a decision taken.

Communication between Council and Police

A member of the public asked the panel to look into more effective communication between Councillors, the Highways department and the Police as in Darley Street, the yellow paving stones kept getting broken by cars driving on to them. She reported that cars actually drove onto the stones behind the bollards put up by Highways to stop this from happening. The Police weren't coming out when local residents called to report the cars and she now had five incident numbers.

Inspector McLaughlin replied that it was unacceptable that the local residents had had to call so many times and gave the resident a direct telephone number to call if any further incidents occurred.

Tony Gascoigne reported that the Highways department spoke to the Police on a daily basis and that regular police liaison meetings took place, so the issue could be raised at there.

Allestree Hall

A member of the public asked about a rumour circulating that Allestree Hall was going to be sold along with 10 acres of land.

Councillor Repton replied that he had not heard the rumour that and

would look into it.

Councillor Webb commented that Allestree Park was a local nature reserve so any proposed sale of land would have to go through the Local Nature Reserve Committee.

City Centre Eastern Fringes Area Action Plan

A member of the public asked why the plan had not been raised.

Councillor Repton replied that it was at an early stage of consultation, with letters having gone to local residents and businesses. No decisions had yet been made and that included the Victoria Inn.

Traffic on Ferrers Way

A member of the public commented that the volume of traffic was increasing rapidly on Ferrers Way and that the traffic was moving very quickly considering the width of the road and the parked cars which were sometimes double parked. He felt that a traffic census needed to be done as it was an accident waiting to happen. He also asked what could be done about the trees hanging over onto the pavement in the area including Birchover Way.

Councillor Webb replied that two reports had previously come to the Panel and the recommendation of officers each time was no further action. He felt sure that Highways would review the situation.

Section 106 Payments

A member of the public asked how the Section 106 payments were calculated, how much the Section 106 Agreement was for the Highfields Development and whether this payment would be increased now that the application for an increase of units had been made. They also asked how this payment would be used.

Councillor Baxter replied that the issue over increased contributions had been raised at the Planning Control meeting that the application came to and the Planners had been asked to go back and re-look at it.

Agreed to bring a detailed answer back to a future meeting.

St Helens House

A member of the public asked what the comment “market site for disposal” meant in the report to Council Cabinet.

Councillor Webb replied that the meeting had not yet taken place.

Councillor Repton commented that St Helens House was a very important Grade I listed building and that it was very important that it was not allowed to deteriorate. The plan put forward in the Cabinet report was a safety net and it would be up to Cabinet to decide on the matter when it came before it.

A member of the public asked whether English Heritage had agreed to the proposal of selling the site. He also said that the Trust could partly rent out the site and speed up the feasibility study.

Councillor Travis replied that English Heritage had expressed support for it to gain funding as a public building.

Litter on Broadway

A member of the public commented that litter was being dumped out of cars and fly posting on student cars was creating litter. He also commented that he had been keeping a record of the cars parking on Broadway and he had not seen any tickets on windscreens from the Police. He reported that the plastic barriers had gone up on the Broadway that evening.

Parking on Amber Road

A resident of Amber Road said that he had petitioned all local residents of Amber Road and all but one resident were willing to have a residents only parking scheme, but did not know who to contact at the council to go about getting this put into place.

Tony Gascoigne replied that he would be able to help them and would speak to him after the meeting about it.

Tree Trimming

Margaret Gladdish commented that she had a large chestnut tree 28 feet from her front door and was having trouble with children throwing things at it to dislodge the conkers. She wanted the tree to be cut back and asked what she needed to do to get it done.

Councillor Webb replied that he had been in contact with John Booth, the Council's Arboricultural Manager who had told him that he did not want the tree to be pruned as there was nothing wrong with it and the problem was something that the Police should be dealing with. However, the Area Panels now had the budget to get trees trimmed if it was in line with the tree management policy and the Panel agreed to it. Agreed to look at whether it was in line with the tree management policy.

Park Farm Hotel

A member of the public asked what the status of the Park Farm Hotel was, as the site was still boarded off, and also what could be done in terms of the poor lighting in the Park Farm car park.

Councillor Webb replied that the Park Farm Hotel was owned by the developers who owned Park Farm and they had not informed the Council of any plans for the site. The car park was also privately owned by the developers so is up to them to make any improvements to the lighting.

Councillor Samra agreed to write to the centre manager to express resident's concern and to ask for information for the plans for the Park Farm Hotel and any plans to improve the lighting in the car park.

23/05 Petitions

The following petitions which had been received since the last meeting were considered:

Petition Relating to Traffic Issues on Markeaton Street

Mrs Severn, the lead petitioner addressed the panel. She commented that the local residents would like access only or a one way system running out of town. Cars kept getting damaged as the road was used as a rat-run and cars were mounting the pavement to get through which was very dangerous.

Agreed to receive a response at a future meeting.

Petition asking Derby City Council to assign a dedicated ranger to Darley Park and complete the riverside footpath from wild-flower meadow to the rowing club.

A document from the lead petitioner was circulated at the meeting which set out the petitioner's case for a dedicated ranger and the completion of the riverside path.

Agreed to receive a response at a future meeting.

Petition requesting the repair of the well at the bottom of Well Street and to install a handrail to Well Street

Agreed to receive a response at a future meeting.

The following responses to petitions were received at the meeting:

Petition requesting a pedestrian crossing on Park Lane and Cornhill

The panel considered a report of the Assistant Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste Management which responded to a petition received on 6 April 2005, signed by 57 people requesting the provision of a pedestrian crossing at the junction of Park Lane, Cornhill and St Edmunds Close.

Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer reported that the proposal was to extend the pavement to allow better visibility for crossing the road and to put the proposal into the 2006/07 work plan. It was hopeful that this could be done next year, but it would be up to the Cabinet to

approve the priorities of work to be done next year from the list.

Petition requesting a pedestrian crossing on Prince Charles Avenue

The panel considered a report of the Assistant Director of Development and Cultural Services which responded to the petition requesting a crossing on Prince Charles Avenue which was signed by 1,078 people. The report detailed that a survey had been carried out in September when the schools and college were back in session. A full 12 hour pedestrian and vehicle survey was carried out on Tuesday 20 September 2005 when the weather was dry and sunny.

The report concluded that the investigation indicated that the threshold for the installation of a pedestrian crossing was not met. It was recognised that on occasion pedestrians sometimes had to wait a short time for a suitable gap in traffic.

Mrs Lee, the lead petitioner replied that the criteria did not take into account the difficulty disabled people had in crossing the road due to the double parking of vehicles and the number of buses travelling along the road. She also pointed out that in 2006 the Disability Discrimination Act would become law and that the Mackworth petitioners would bring the petition back to challenge the refusal in light of the changes to the law.

Councillor Gerrard replied that he supported Mrs Lee's application and pointed out that Mackworth did not have a single crossing. He felt it was time to put a crossing in whether or not the criteria was met.

Councillor Webb commented that the requirements of the new Disability Discrimination Act should be considered when the issue was reviewed.

24/05 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 three applications for funding, as follows:

- To consider whether to support the application received from the Allestree Memorial Hall to fund the cost of the provision of disabled people's facilities and updated toilets – Amount requested £2,000
- To consider whether to support the application received from the Allestree Netball Club to fund new equipment and kit – Amount requested £1,234
- To consider whether to support the application received from the

Mackworth Link Association to fund the Mackworth Link Day –
Amount requested £200

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

1. To award grants to the following applications:

- Allestree Memorial Hall – Grant for £2,000 for the provision of disabled people's facilities and updated toilets

Reasons

1. It would improve access for local people to existing services
 2. It would enable residents to participate in their community
- Allestree Netball Club – Grant for £1,234 for the provision of new equipment and kit

Reasons

1. It would improve access for local people to existing services
 2. It would enable residents to participate in their community
- Mackworth Link Association – Grant for £200 for the Mackworth Link Day 2005.

Reasons

1. It would improve access for local people to existing services
2. It would enable residents to participate in their community

25/05 Neighbourhood Policing

The Panel received a presentation by Andy Thomas, Head of Antisocial Behaviour detailing the changes about to happen to the England's police forces. The Home Office had a plan that by 2007 all areas must have local neighbourhood teams.

Inspector McLaughlin detailed the plans the local force had in terms of neighbourhood policing, which included removing the “beats” and making them fit into wards, which would mean a team for each local community. This would raise the visibility and accountability of the force as the teams would be local. The hope was to have the teams up and running by the end of 2005.

Resolved to note the presentation and to thank Andy Thomas and Inspector McLaughlin for their time.

26/05 Integrating Children’s Services

The Children’s Strategic Partnership Manager gave a presentation on the Integration of Children’s Services at Derby City Council.

Resolved to note the presentation and the forthcoming changes to Children’s Services.

27/05 Local Democracy Week

The panel received an oral report from Phil O’Brien, Civic and Members Services Manager who reported that the Members and Officers had been working to create an event for Local Democracy Week with the three principal aims being, satisfying the Local Government Association objective of engaging young people, being attractive to the public in general and providing guidance and information to people of all ages who might be interested in becoming local councillors.

The event would take place on Thursday 20 October 2005 at the Council House and was called ‘Your City – Your Voice.’

Resolved to note the report

28/05 Health Briefing from Greater Derby and Central Derby Primary Care Trusts

A briefing paper on health services was considered.

Agreed:

- 1. to note the contents of the briefing paper**
- 2. to invite an officer from the NHS to give a presentation on future developments of the City Hospital and the DRI site.**

29/05 Update Report

Sue Glithero, Director of Policy introduced a report, which set out

responses to questions raised verbally or in writing at the last meeting.

Pedestrian Crossing, Blenheim Drive

It was agreed to keep the item on the agenda

King Street Subway

A member of the public asked who had been consulted on what was needed as a replacement to the subway as she was not aware of anyone having been consulted and felt it was important to get the right alternative to the subway.

Tony Gascoigne replied that the work would start on 24 October 2005, a huge consultation did not take place as the department was aware that the situation needed dealing with so had consulted with Members.

Councillor Repton commented that the priority was getting it sorted and it was a balance between the length of consultation with the length of time it would then take before a solution was put in place.

Rat Running Church Lane

It was reported that the Council intended to carry out a further consultation into the issue of rat running on Church Lane.

Litter, footway St Benedict School to Broadway

A member of the public asked for a response from St Benedict School to the query regarding the trimming of bushes.

Speed limit on Broadway

A member of the public commented that the Broadway pub was no longer allowing parents to park in the pub car park when dropping their children off at school. He commented that it had been previously reported that the speed limit remaining at 40mph on the Broadway would be affected if the car park could no longer be used. He felt that the issue needed to be re-looked at.

A member of the public asked about the egress on driveways. Inspector McLaughlin reported that he was looking into it and would report back.

Concrete Bollards, Prince Charles Avenue

A member of the public commented that they did not understand the response as the gates were not locked. Agreed to take back and re-look at this in view of the comment.

Parking on Broadway

A member of the public asked whether the green parking agenda was taken to the Freshers Fair, as it was reported it would be at the last meeting. Councillor Webb replied that the University should have been taking it and, as far as he knew, it had been.

Restrictions on parking on Broadway

A member of the public offered their support to the suggestion of a multi-storey car park on the University's Kedleston Road site in order to solve the car park issues. He went on to report that he had spoken to a number of students who had commented that a £20 fine was not enough to deter them from parking, especially at the start of the term when their loan cheques had just come through.

A member of the public commented that they did not want to have to go out and ticket cars which they would if Councillor Webb's suggestion at the last meeting was implemented. Councillor Webb replied that the only other solution was the one being worked on and that the only other solution was residents only parking, which would mean residents would have to pay, and he felt they shouldn't have to.

Bushes, Prince Charles Avenue

It was reported that the bushes were going to be taken out leaving the grassed area and trees. The work would start on 19 October.

Crazy Golf, Markeaton Park

A member of the public commented that the green maze on the crazy golf course was getting torn and broken up. She asked if she could be told if this was likely to be repaired for the Easter holidays next year.

Paul Pegg commented that the whole of Markeaton Park was deteriorating. The brook had been dug up and the soil piled up so it was a mess. He asked if money from the car park charges was used to update the park.

Graffiti

A member of the public asked whether there was a single point of contact for reporting graffiti. It was reported that there was a single point of contact for the Graffiti team and the number was 0845 605 2222

30/05 Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 6 July 2005 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

31/05 Arrangements for the next meeting

- 1. To note that the next meeting of the Area Panel would be held on Wednesday 7 December 2005 at 7.00pm at Brackensdale Junior School, Walthamstow Drive, Mackworth.**
- 2. To agree that the Chair for the remaining meetings for 2005/06 would be:**

Date and Ward	Venue	Councillor
7 December 2005 Mackworth Ward	Brackensdale Junior School, Walthamstow Drive	Councillor Baxter
1 February 20056 Darley Ward	St Mary's Parish Centre, Darley Lane	Councillor Travis
5 April 2006 Allestree Ward	Lawn Primary School, Norbury Close	Councillor Hickson
12 July 2006 Mackworth Ward	Brackensdale Junior School, Walthamstow Drive	Councillor Gerrard

MINUTES END