

Time commenced : 6.00 pm
Time finished : 9.15 pm

AREA PANEL 3 (ABBEY, ARBORETUM AND NORMANTON)
12 MAY 2004

Present: Councillor Jackman (Chair)
Councillors Burgess, A Hussain, F Hussain, Lowe, Nath,
Rehman and Williamson

Derby City Council and Derbyshire Constabulary Officers:

Annabelle Barwick	-	Local Manager Derby Homes, South Area
Sarah Edwards	-	Area Panel Manager Policy Directorate
Martin Follows	-	Project Manager, Street Care and Waste Management
Jody Kirkpatrick	-	Members Services Assistant Democratic Services
Neil Palfreyman	-	Traffic Management Engineer, Development and Cultural Services
Inspector Gary Parkin	-	Police Inspector - Derbyshire Constabulary
Katherine Taylor	-	Members Services Officer Democratic Services
Lesley Walker	-	Area and Neighbourhood Manager Policy Directorate

55 members of the public.

This record of decisions was published on 14 May 2004. The key decisions set out in this record will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of five clear days, unless the decisions are called-in.

62/03 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Kalia.

63/03 Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

64/03 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Nath declared a personal interest in Minute Number 71/03 – Application for Area Panel funding from Dale Community Primary School, as his grandson was a pupil at the school.

65/03 Minutes

The minutes of the Area Panel 3 meeting held on 17 March 2004 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

66/03 Update on progress regarding Community Issues raised at the Area Panel Meeting

The Panel considered an update report on the progress of community issues raised at the last meeting. The report included details of issues raised, various actions, progress to date and detailed which Council Officer was responsible for the issue.

Agreed to note the report.

Specific Issues

Prostitution in Normanton

Councillor Williamson reported that he had attended a meeting of the Peartree Residents' Group and it had been agreed that a meeting would take place ahead of the next Area Panel meeting to explain the strategy and proposals to tackle prostitution in Normanton with the residents. He reported that this meeting would be between the various agencies and residents in the next two to three weeks and that it was an opportunity to allow local residents to engage in tackling the issues. Councillor Williamson emphasised that residents from all areas who were affected by prostitution issues could attend the meeting and it was not just restricted to those residents of Peartree.

The Panel noted this update.

One Way Street – Empress Road

The Area Panel received an update from Sarah Edwards on the consultation with residents of Empress Road, concerning the possible introduction of a one way street between Breedon Hill Road and St Chad's Road. It was reported that the response rate was 64%, but only 56% of properties surveyed were in favour of making this section of Empress Road one way.

Resolved to request the Director of Development and Cultural Services to proceed to investigate making Empress Road one-way between Breedon Hill Road and St Chad's Road.

Petition – One Way System for Stockbrook Road and Westbury Street

The Panel received an update from Sarah Edwards on the results of the consultation carried out with the residents of Stockbrook Road and Westbury Street concerning the possible introduction of a one way system. It was reported that of the questionnaires delivered to properties on Westbury Street, Westbury Court and Stockbrook Road, a response rate of 39% was received, of which 18% were positive responses to the proposal of introducing a one way system.

Resolved to request the Director of Development and Cultural Services to investigate the feasibility of introducing a one way system for Stockbrook Road and Westbury Street.

Parking on Sutherland Road

Sue Dean, a resident of Sutherland Road considered that the views of the majority were not represented on the petition opposing the Home Zone scheme in its entirety, but particularly diagonal parking. She handed in a further petition to the Panel, asking that Sutherland Road be included in the Home Zone Scheme consultation, but with an option that they could opt out afterwards should they wish.

The Petition was received by the Panel.

Crossing at Sainsbury's Island, Kingsway

Sarah Edwards reported that her letter had been acknowledged and passed onto the site owners – Onyx.

Sarah agreed to provide a further update at the next meeting.

Anti Social Behaviour on Havelock Road

In addition to the information given in the update, it was reported that an order had been placed for:

- a weekly sweep and litter pick of the site.
- a monthly safety inspection of gym equipment, and
- the installation of a litter bin inside the sports area.

It was also reported that community wardens were able to lock the site in the evening, but not in the morning and alternatives were being pursued through the Parks ranger service.

Car Park on Colwyn Avenue and Warwick Avenue – adjacent to Normanton Park

It was reported that the original proposal to provide a lockable area, which could be opened and closed at the beginning and at the end of each day, was not considered feasible, as it had many legal and financial implications for the Council.

Resolved to recommend to the Council Cabinet the installation of a barrier at Colwyn Avenue car park and that the Park Department make arrangements to open and lock the barrier at suitable times in accordance with the needs of the community living in the area.

Anti Social Behaviour on the Austin Estate

A member of the public commented that he was disappointed that a full response to the petition had not yet been received.

Inspector Gary Parkin reported that the Austin estate area was a priority for the coming year and that Craig Keen would be the Community Safety Co-ordinator working in the area from 1 June 2004.

A member of the public commented that residents of the area considered that some sort of Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, even in an informal setting, would be useful and an important step to tackling anti social behaviour on the Austin estate.

Annabelle Barwick responded that there was an Austin Estate Action Group that acted similarly to a Neighbourhood Watch Team.

Annabelle Barwick committed to speak to the resident after the meeting.

Parking on Footpaths, Normanton Road

Inspector Gary Parkin reported that if any of his officers were in the Peartree area during 'down time', that he would ask them to patrol that area for vehicles parking on, or obstructing footpaths in Normanton Road. He reported that Traffic Wardens patrolled the area three to four times a week. Beat officers patrolled the area every day but they were there to deal with incidents other than traffic offences.

Illicit Retail Organisation, Mount Street

At the last meeting of the Area Panel, Ann Underhill raised concern that the Apples Garage on Mount Street / Mill Hill Lane, had been turned into an illicit retail outlet for 'Floors to Go'. At this meeting of the Area Panel, she stated that she did not consider it right that permanent structures had been erected without the correct planning permission.

Sarah Edwards committed to speak to the Planning Enforcement Officer on this matter and contact Ann Underhill with a response.

Petition – St Alban's Road/Manor Road Junction

Mr Steve Riley who presented a petition regarding road safety issues on the Manor Road junction reported that he had still not had a response on the issue.

Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer assured Mr Riley that it was being investigated very thoroughly and would be reported to a future meeting of the Area Panel.

67/03 Public Question Time

The following issues were raised by members of the public:

Application for Area Panel Funding – Persian Cultural Association

A representative of the Persian Cultural Association addressed the Panel and thanked them for the funding which had been granted at the last Area Panel meeting.

Resolved to note the thanks.

Phase 3A - Connecting Derby

Chris Woodward expressed concern about levels of pollution following Connecting Derby Phase 3A. He reported that he had

previously been told that Phase 3A had been designed to take only existing levels of traffic and he asked what the expected maximum traffic flowing and result in Nitrous Oxide levels would be from the approved Eagle Centre and Riverlights Schemes. He asked whether the figures would be revised when other elements of the 'CityScape' had been approved.

Councillor Burgess responded that the planning application for Phase 3 was due to be presented at the end of the month to commence the consultation. He reported that this would then go to the Planning Committee in around October 2004 and may also be subject to a public enquiry and that no work would commence until 2006. He assured Mr Woodward that there would be a thorough environmental statement with the application.

Communication with the Council

A member of the public commented that she did not consider that the Council gave a good enough service to people for whom English was not their first language and also commented that she was not happy about this year's all postal vote and considered that people had not been told about it properly.

Replacement or Repairs to Street Lighting Columns

A resident of Mount Street asked why it was so difficult to get street lighting replaced or repaired when lights were out, as she had reported lights on Mount Street and Mill Hill Lane to be out and was advised by Street Care that they would be coming in a week but that it had been three months ago. Martin Follows – Street Care and Waste Management urged the member of the public to re-report the incident on the helpline number - Derby 715000.

As a follow up to this question, a member of the public raised concern over the danger of advertising signs being left on public highways, particularly on Normanton Road and Mount Street and also asked how they could be removed from street lighting columns.

Needles and Drug Litter

Ann Underhill gave positive feedback to the issue of needles and drug litter and commented that the team had done excellent work to clean up these items promptly.

Bi-lingual Staff at Walbrook, Harrington and Stonehill Nursery Schools

Mr Hardial Dhindsa asked why he had not received a formal response to the 900 signature petition that he had handed to Councillor Burgess. He reported that three weeks had elapsed and wanted to know why the jobs of frontline staff at Harrington, Walbrook

and Stonehill Nursery schools were at risk.

Councillor Burgess assured Mr Dhindsa that this petition had been passed to the Education Department and commented that proposals for children's centres had been drawn up but that stand alone nursery schools would have to be part of the mainstream school funding system, which meant bringing nursery schools in line. He reported that schools which had control of their own budgets had been given an additional £20,000 for two years over and above their main budget and that any cuts in frontline staff was a result of the schools administration of their budget.

St Alban's Road issue

Ms Lisa Higginbottom asked Councillor Jackman whether she had personally investigated the item raised at the last Area Panel meeting on St Alban's Road. Councillor Jackman responded that she had not done so personally.

68/03 Petitions

To consider petitions received since the last meeting

Councillor Williamson presented the following three petitions on behalf of the residents of the Peartree Area.

Weight Restriction on Portland Street

Councillor Williamson reported that the residents of Portland Street had petitioned to restrict access of the lorries which deliver to S&A Foods as residents were being caused difficulty on what was already a busy road and they considered that a weight restriction would help alleviate the problem.

School Crossing Lights on Portland Street

Councillor Williamson reported that this was another safety issue which residents were concerned about and they considered that some school crossing lights would alert motorists to the presence of a school.

Anti Social Behaviour at Garages on Balfour Road

Councillor Williamson reported that a number of issues were being pursued by residents of Balfour Road who were concerned about the garages on Balfour Road being used for prostitution and other anti-social behaviour. The residents requested help from the Council to tackle the anti social behaviour, which was taking place there.

Poor Pavements and Road Surface on Hamilton Road

Mr Mahmood, resident of Hamilton Road, presented a petition requesting the Council to resurface the road and rejuvenate the pavements as necessary, which he considered to be in a state of disrepair. He passed around some photographs as evidence of the problems stated in the petition.

Councillor Burgess responded that Hamilton Road was number two on the Council's priority list of reserved items to be investigated by the Council. He stated that if the current repairs scheduled for the current financial year fell under budget, that it may be included in this year's programme.

The Arboretum Boar

Ms Josephine Rooney presented her petition of more than 1,000 signatures, requesting the Council to reinstate the Arboretum Boar.

Councillor Burgess read a prepared statement about the Arboretum Boar to the Panel and urged those present that they could become involved with the Friends of the Arboretum Scheme and that the Derby City Parks contact number was 716272.

Request for Residents' Only Parking Scheme, Joseph Street

Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer, presented a report in response to the petition signed by 17 people living on Joseph Street requesting the Council to provide residents' only parking provision in Joseph Street. It confirmed that parking had been monitored at different times of the day, and that these investigations had not showed any significant problem during the daytime. It was therefore recommended that the residents' parking scheme was not pursued.

Councillor A Hussain commented that in nearby Portland Street the parking problems were worst at night.

A member of the public submitted photographic evidence showing the lack of parking on the road. He also informed the panel that many of the people living in Joseph Street worked nights.

Another resident confirmed that it was night-time parking that was a problem, as several properties on the street were multi-occupancy residences, with three or four cars.

Neil Palfreyman stated that residents' only schemes generally operated during the day because this was when most problems occurred due to commuter parking. Parking pressures that occurred in the evening, such as those on Joseph Street, were usually brought

about because there were too many residents' vehicles for the parking spaces available and therefore a residents' only parking scheme could not alleviate such problems.

Request for Formalised Parking and Improvements to the living environment, Warwick Avenue

The Area Panel received a response on a petition which was received in January 2004 containing 15 signatures where residents of Warwick Avenue requested proper car parking and a clean and safe living environment. Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer presented a response which proposed that officers hold a meeting with the residents of numbers 1-23 of Warwick Avenue in order to consider access and parking arrangements before any action is taken to prevent vehicular access to the grass verges.

Councillor Williamson presented a response to the report and stated that the issues on the south end of Warwick Avenue were a long term problem and that residents considered that no accidents had been caused by residents parking on the grass verges. He reported that residents would like to have the grass verges surfaced for easier access and that people did not consider that the Highways Department had consulted them satisfactorily. Councillor Williamson stated that residents wanted a simple solution replacing a grass verge which had been churned up by people parking on them, with a hard surface and dropped kerbs and that within their own curtilage, residents could make their own hard standing.

Councillor Burgess reported that a meeting with residents of Warwick Avenue had been arranged at St Giles Church Hall for the evening of 25 May, to discuss potential solutions.

Home Zone Improvements on Cameron Road

Neil Palfreyman presented a response to the petition against Home Zone improvements on Cameron Road, which was received in October 2003 and signed by 29 residents, asking for the parallel kerb side parking on Cameron Road to be left the same. Neil Palfreyman reported that Cameron Road was within Phase 1 of the Home Zone area and that since September 2002 there had been a great deal of detailed consultation with residents, including open days, two door to door surveys, two design workshops, exhibitions and a full scale mock up of the final design launched with a fun day. He reported that Phase 1 included diagonal parking but future Phases of the Home Zone had not yet been designed and were subject to further consultation. A member of the public reported that the Home Zone Co-ordinator had not visited him and that if he were contacted he would express to her that he would not wish the Home Zone scheme to proceed in Cameron Road.

The Panel resolved to request the Home Zone Co-ordinator to consult Cameron Road residents again in order to come to a majority decision on whether to proceed with the Home Zone scheme there.

69/03 Street Lighting Provision within Derby

The Panel received a report from the Assistant Director, Highways, Transportation and Waste Management on street lighting provision within Derby. The report gave an update on the Council's bid for £32.7million of PFI credits which had been approved in full for installation and upgrading of street lighting columns with Derby. The bid proposed a replacement of 76% of the current street lighting columns over a five year period and improvement to surface levels and maintenance of the infrastructure at that level for the period of the contract, which was 25 years.

Martin Follows, Street Lighting PFI Project Manager presented the report and informed those present that the Council would be interested to hear the comments and suggestions of as many residents as possible on the issue of street lighting in Derby. He asked those present to feedback to him either directly on his office number which was 715050 or by completing the questionnaire which was available on the website and also made available in hard copy at the meeting. It was requested that comments could be submitted to Martin Follows by 18 June 2004.

70/03 Developing a Five Year Strategy for Supporting People

Sarah Edwards presented a report from the Assistant Director – Housing and Advice Services on the proposed Supporting People Policy which intends to provide supported housing to allow people to live independently in the community. Supported housing was considered to be very important to the well being of people in Derby and covered a wide range of services for many different kinds of needs. Supported housing included warden schemes for older people, refuges for people fleeing domestic violence and hostels for homeless people.

The government required the Council to set up a partnership to oversee the commission of new services and the Supporting People Commissioning Board had been set up in line with government recommendations and had representatives from health, Social Services and the probation service sitting on it.

It was proposed that in order to find out what people thought, the Supporting People Team were using a range of methods to get feedback, which included holding conferences, attending a wide

range of groups and forums and using questionnaires. The report requested peoples' comments to be sent to Maggie Fennell, Supporting People Officer, telephone 255320 or in writing to the Supporting People Team, Council House, Corporation Street, Derby, DE1 2WW and that comments be received by 30 July 2004.

71/03 Area Panel Budget Proposals 2004/05

Applications for Area Panel Funding

A report of the Assistant Director of Community Policy was considered which updated the Panel on the budget for 2004/5, the breakdown of spending in 2003/04 and the carry forward from the 2003/04 budget. The report set out details of six applications for funding which had been received, four of which were key decisions, as follows:

- To consider whether to support the application received from the Community Action Safety and Training Trust - CAST to provide funding for the Stockbrook Community Week project which would benefit the 6,000 plus households in the Stockbrook Area following the success of the Stockbrook Community Day held in 2003 – Grant requested £2,500.
- To consider whether to support the application received from Friends of St Joseph's School to purchase 2 waterproof gazebos for use at community events such as summer fayres. Grant requested - £140.
- To consider whether to support the application received from Dale Community Primary School to purchase a plasma screen to project community messages in the school foyer. Grant requested - £3,000.
- The application from Derby Minority Senior Citizens Society's was withdrawn before the meeting.
- To consider whether to support the application received from the Asian Over 60's Centre for carpeting for the Women's Club room, which is old, worn, badly soiled and in need of replacement. The centre provides a place where elderly housebound local Asian women. Grant requested - £500.
- To consider whether to support the application received from St Luke's Parish Church for funding to help with the repair of the brick wall at the west end of the Church building, which has been vandalised and is having a negative impact on residents in Churchside Walk and those using the public path next to the wall. Grant requested- £2,359.

Options considered

The Panel assessed the applications for funding against the agreed criteria and assessed the applications for funding against priorities.

Decisions

- 1 To note the report.
- 2 To agree to allocate the 2004/05 budget equally among the three wards.
- 3 To carry forward the unspent funds from each ward into the 2004/05 Area Panel budget for each ward respectively.
- 4 To award grants to the following applications:
 - Friends of St Joseph's School to purchase two gazebos for use at community events. Grant awarded £140.
 - Asian Over 60s to replace carpeting in the Women's Centre at St Thomas' Church. Grant awarded £500 to be split equally between Normanton and Arboretum wards.
- 5 To refuse the following application:

Dale Community Primary School to purchase a plasma screen to project community messages in the school foyer.

Reasons

- 1 The successful applications met the criteria for Area Panel Funding.
- 2 The successful applications provided a service in response to needs of local residents as raised at the meeting.
- 3 The successful applications contributed to improvements, which would provide a benefit to all residents.
- 4 The successful applications were capable of rapid implementation, and could have a significant impact in a short time.
- 5 The refused application did not provide enough evidence and the amount requested was too great, without some contribution from the school.

Key Decisions

6 To award grants to the following applications:

- Community Action Safety and Training Trust to fund a week of 6 themed days of activities covering many subjects including community development activities. Grant awarded £2,500.
- St Luke's Parish Church for repairs to the boundary wall. Grant awarded £1,500. This would be subject to the funding being paid only once work on the wall was due to commence.

Reasons

- 1 The applications met the criteria for Area Panel Funding.
- 2 The applications provided a service in response to needs of local residents as raised at the meeting.
- 3 They contributed to improvements, which would provide a benefit to all residents.
- 4 They were capable of rapid implementation, and could have a significant impact in a short time.

72/03 Arrangements for the Next Meeting

Agreed

- 1 To note that the next Area Panel 3 meeting would be held at 6pm on Wednesday 14 July 2004 at Pear Tree Community Junior School, Pear Tree Street, Arboretum Ward.**
- 2 To appoint Councillor Rehman as Chair.**

Note

This decision notice is an extract from the full record of the meeting, setting out an Executive key decision taken by the Area Panel in accordance with Council Procedure Rules.

MINUTES END