

ITEM 4

Time commenced : 6.30 pm
Time finished : 8.30 pm

AREA PANEL 4 (LITTLEOVER, MICKLEOVER and BLAGREAVES WARDS)

19 JANUARY 2005

Present: Councillor Winter (Chair)
Councillors Allen, Care, Carr, Hird, Jones, Skelton and
Troup

Derby City Council and Derbyshire Constabulary Officers:

Gemma Barlow	Constitutional Services Officer
Richard Smail	Area Panel Manager
Jody Kirkpatrick	Constitutional Services Assistant
Jonathan Guest	Director of Development and Cultural Services
Philip Walker	Assistant Director - Finance

19 members of the public were in attendance.

35/04 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Marshall

36/04 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Allen declared a personal prejudicial interest in item number 6.1 as he was a member of the University Council.

37/04 Late Items Introduced By The Chair

There were no late items.

38/04 Minutes

Agreed that the minutes of Area Panel 4 held on 17 November 2004 be confirmed as a correct record.

39/04 Corporate Plan and Budget

The Panel received a presentation from Councillor Michael Carr and Jonathan Guest – Director of Development and Cultural Services, on the Council's vision and priorities and the Council's budget proposals for 2005-06.

Members of the public were advised that the consultation period had begun and they could raise any issues through their local Councillor for discussion at the relevant Overview and Scrutiny budget consultation meeting.

Agreed to note the presentation.

40/04 Update on Progress Regarding Community Issues Raised at the Area Panel Meeting

Planning Application at East Midlands Airport – All Wards

David Purdy raised concerns about a proposed development being close to the centre line for aircrafts arriving and departing East Midlands. He asked how Derby City Council would inform members of the public about the possible noise. It was considered that the area plan had no reference to the flight path, however aeronautical plans had been published. It was considered that it could be put onto the Local Plan ground map.

Agreed to ask Julian DeMowbray to investigate the possibility of producing a map.

High Kerb on City Hospital Island, A516 – Littleover

It was reported that the Highways Agency anticipated the work to be completed by March 2005.

Signpost Centre, Blagreaves

It was confirmed that SureStart were responsible for the rent of the building and work had commenced on 17 January 2005.

Councillor Allen reported that the work was due to be finished by 2 March 2005.

Area Panel Agenda Papers, all wards

A member of the public asked if the papers would return to being posted?

Councillor Care responded that there would be a review on the decision after 6-12 months.

Stenson Road Roadworks, Blagreaves

A member of the public raised concerns about the closure of part of Stenson Road and the traffic problems it was causing.

Councillor Care explained that the problems on Goodsmoor Bridge were partly due to Arriva's decision to run the number 37 bus along this route during the closure, so the traffic management for the area was set with this in mind.

A member of the public asked if Goodsmoor Bridge had a weight limit?

Councillor Care confirmed that although the bridge did have a limit Arriva had been given permission to use it during the road closure.

Motorbikes Using Bus Lanes – All Wards

A member of the public asked if anything could be done about private hire vehicles using bus lanes?

Councillor Care confirmed that enforcement was a Police issue.

Councillor Skelton suggested that if the vehicle badge number was obtained the vehicle could be reported to the taxi licensing section and action would be taken.

Petition – Bendall Green Play Area – Blagreaves

It was reported that the additional funding required for the scheme to go ahead had been secured.

A member of the public asked if the Council had applied for Landfill Tax Credit funding?

Richard Smail responded that whilst the funding would have been applied for, the submission date was before the consultation for the area had been completed, so had been missed.

A member of the public asked how far away from a development could Section 106 Agreement money be spent? A copy of an agreement between builders and Derby City Council for a development in Heatherton was requested.

Jonathan Guest confirmed that whilst there was no specific rule the funding would need to be spent in a way that was relevant to the development.

Jonathan Guest to investigate the possibility of a copy of an agreement being provided to members of the public.

Petition – Road Safety on Havenbault Lane – Littleover

It was reported that as the petition received was detailed a response was not ready for presentation, however it was confirmed that traffic readings for speed had taken place in November/December 2004.

Councillor Care reported that officers in highways had taken readings that showed that a significant number of vehicles were doing over 30 mph. She considered that the petition was being investigated to see what members of the public perceived the problems to be. Accidents records were being looked at and then a decision would be made as to what course of action would be most acceptable.

A member of the public considered that the proposal for 1200 houses in the area would have a major impact on the road.

Councillor Care responded that there would be an expectation that improvements would be made if the proposals were to go ahead, such as schools, open space and ways to make travel easier including subsidised buses.

40/04 Public Question Time

The following questions were asked by members of the public:

Traffic Street

A member of the public asked if Traffic Street would close during the Riverlights development?

Councillor Care responded that The Morledge would become very congested with buses as a result of the temporary bus station, however Traffic Street would be widened as part of the Westfield development.

Memorial Gardens

A member of the public asked what was the Councillors stance on the QUAD building being developed on the Memorial Gardens site?

Councillor Skelton advised that the Civic Office had been in direct contact with Lady Hilton, the Veterans Association and architects to discuss the gardens and its surroundings. She commented that the original site – closing of the Market Place, was not supported and therefore the design had been radically changed.

Councillor Allen reported that Metro Cinema had collaborated with Q Arts and it was agreed that there was a need for such a building in Derby. He confirmed that Councillors would not support the original site and would the plans need to go through the planning process. He confirmed that Derby City Council's main contribution would be land.

A member of the public requested that consultation take place on a weekend.

41/04 Petitions

To receive new petitions

Play area of Woodcote Way

A petition was received that was requesting completion of the play area off Woodcote Way.

Agreed to ask the Director of Commercial services to investigate the petition and report back to a future meeting.

To consider petitions received since the last meeting

Petition requesting removal of Sycamore trees on Willson Avenue

The Panel considered a joint response from the Director of Commercial Services and Development and Cultural Services following a request for removal of Sycamore trees on Willson Avenue.

A member of the public considered that the elderly residents of the Avenue were concerned that the roots from the trees would grow through the walls of their houses and about the seeds dropping from the trees.

Richard Smail reported that 42 residents had signed the petition requesting removal and replacement of the trees. He reported that the Council Arboricultural Officer had been involved with investigations to the site and it was considered that there was no history of particular problems on Willson Avenue. It was considered a desirable street for work to take place in the long term but not a priority.

Councillor Care suggested that additional information about the damage to walls should be awaited before a recommendation was made and to clarify the species of the Sycamores.

Agreed to investigate the species of tree and its effect on the residents' walls and to report back to the lead petitioner on the outcome of the investigation.

42/04 Health Briefing from Primary Care Trusts

A briefing on health services paper was considered.

Agreed to note the information about health services, contained in the briefing paper.

43/04 Area Panel Budget Proposals 2004/5

A report of the Assistant Director of Community Policy was considered which set out details of Area Panel funding still available for 2004/05. The total budget remaining was £7568. No new applications for funding had been received.

44/04 Arrangements for the Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held at Newmount Methodist Church Hall, Blagreaves Lane, Councillor Care will Chair the meeting.

Minutes End