

Time Commenced: 6.30pm
Time Finished: 8.10pm

**AREA PANEL 4 (BLAGREAVES, LITTLEOVER AND MICKLEOVER
WARDS)
31 JANUARY 2007**

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

Also Present: Councillor Williamson

Derby City Council and Other Officers:

Ellen Bird	-	Constitutional Services Officer
Richard Smail	-	Area Panel Manager
Gemma Barlow	-	Constitutional Services Officer
Don McLure	-	Assistant Director, Corporate Finance
Inspector Shaun Skelton	-	Derbyshire Police

44/06 Apologies for Absence

There were none.

45/06 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were none.

46/06 Declarations of Interest

The Littleover Councillors declared a personal interest in relation to minute number 56/06 as they had submitted the application on behalf of their Ward.

Councillors Care and Carr left the room during minute number 51/06 for questions relating to Planning issues as they were Members of the Planning Control Committee.
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47/06 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 29 November 2006 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to the following amendment:

Item 36/06 on page 3

'Councillor Wynn Cabinet Member for Transport and Housing'. Be amended to read: 'Councillor Wynn Cabinet Member for Transportation and Planning'
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48/06 Chairs Report

The Panel considered a verbal report providing an update on current activities, progress on projects and successes in the Area Panel 4 area.

Resolved to note the report.

49/06 Let's Talk Budget

The Panel received a presentation from the Leader of the Council, Councillor Williamson, outlining the Council's budget proposals for 2007/08.

The Leader received the following questions from the public:

- Will you give assurances that the building costs for the Quad Development will not be allowed to increase above their current budget?

Councillor Williamson gave assurances that the Council's input to the project's budget would be closely monitored and maintained. He explained that there were several funding sources for the project and the Council's contribution was primarily the land that the Quad would be built on. He hoped that the Quad would help support the Cathedral Quarter of the City.

- Will you confirm that the all party working group, which has been set up to look at the future of Gayton Swimming Pool, will have the ability to secure funds to save the pool?

Councillor Williamson said he was committed to looking at every avenue of funding to secure the pool's future. He said he had visited the site and hoped that the cross party working group would agree a way forward to keep the pool open at least for the short term. He would not commit to keeping the pool open indefinitely as he felt the Council's spending had to be prioritised. He felt that health and safety issues needed to be looked at as well as the costs of repairing and maintaining the pool and felt it was important to ensure that resources were only committed to the pool if its long term future was secure.

- Why isn't some of the money in the budget for Street Cleansing used to educate young people about litter dropping and looking after their city?

Councillor Williamson said that schools were involved in educating young people about littering and looking after their local environment. He agreed that littering was unsightly and expensive. He reported that the council was currently pursuing a number of high profile cases against fly tippers and outlined plans to extend the Council's enforcement role to include fixed penalty notices for litter dropping.

- When will the bus station be re-opened?

Councillor Williamson said that work would commence next week on the bus station. He felt that the new bus station would be worth the wait and reported that in the meantime additional bus shelters had been erected. He said the Deputy Leader of the Council was a regular bus user so he was fully aware of the problems facing bus users. He reported that the Government was considering giving some powers back to Local Authorities in relation to bus service provision.

Resolved to note the presentation.

50/06 Petitions

To Receive New Petitions

There were none.

To Consider Petitions Received Since the Last Meeting

- Petition relating to Time Limit Sign in the Car Park adjacent to Sunny Hill Post Office

The Panel received a petition regarding the lack of a time limit for cars parked in the car park adjacent to the Sunny Hill Post Office.

Mr Cheema, Lead Petitioner and manager of the Post Office reported that people who were not customers were occupying the car parking places and that this was affecting his business. He felt the situation in the car park was becoming dangerous and that old people and disabled customers were being denied the opportunity to park at the Post Office, which he regarded as the heart of the community. He said the people parking in the car park were local residents. He reported that he had tried to talk to them about the problem but he had had little positive response. He said that if his business continued to decline he may have to opt for voluntary redundancy from the Post Office and his business would close. He felt that introducing a time limit for parking in the car park could only be advantageous to the community.

Councillor Skelton said she had visited the site and could confirm the situation was as bad as described by Mr Cheema. She said she felt that the best solution would be to request a Traffic Order as quickly as possible.

Councillor Marshall offered his full support to the petitioner.

Councillor Care suggested that the Panel should ask officers to take action on this problem without the Panels consent, as there would be a time delay if no action was taken until the Panel had received a further report.

Resolved to ask officers to put a traffic order in place as quickly as possible to limit the time cars could park at the car park adjacent to Sunny Hill Post Office.

To Consider Responses to Petitions Received
There were none.
51/06 Public Question Time
<p>Buildings of Character being knocked down and replaced with large scale developments</p> <p>(Councillors Care and Carr left the room during discussion of this item)</p> <p>A member of the public raised concerns about the number of buildings of character that were being knocked down in order to make room for large scale developments. It was reported that 59 Blagreaves Lane was being replaced with a 49 bed care home and it was felt this was an over development of the site.</p> <p>The Panel shared the questioners concerns. Councillor Skelton raised further concerns that legislation allowed gardens to now be considered as 'Brown Field Sites'</p> <p>Councillor Marshall reported he was intending to speak at the Planning Committee against the application for 59 Blagreaves Lane.</p> <p>Councillor Hird felt that large scale developments were contributing to increased traffic levels on already busy roads.</p> <p>Resolved to ask the Chair to write to the Government expressing the Panels concerns about Garden's being classed as 'brown field sites' and to reflect the Panels concerns as outlined above.</p>

Road sweeping at Development of Flats on Stenson Road

It was reported that lorries were cleaning the road adjacent to the site on Stenson Road, where some flats were under construction, during the morning rush hour and that this was creating traffic problems.

Resolved to ask officers to speak to the developers to request that the road cleaning around the site is done after the morning rush hour.

Recycling

A member of the public queried how much of the waste put out for recycling was actually recycled and where the items for recycling were sent.

Councillor Care reported that the waste was sorted before being weighed and it was these figures that were reported by the Council.

Councillor Carr referred to the use of Waste Transfer Notices that track the disposal of all waste by being recorded and monitored to ensure safe and appropriate disposal.

52/06 Area Panel Review Progress Report

The Panel received a report from the Head of Stronger and Safer Communities Unit about the ongoing review of Area Panels.

Resolved to note that consultation was being carried out on Wednesday 28 February and to request a report to a future meeting.

53/06 Area Panel Budget Proposals 2006/07**Central United Reformed Church Tennis Club**

The Panel considered an application for £2000 from the Central United Reformed Church Tennis Club. It was noted that the Tennis club is contributing nearly all the funding for this project and that the facility was to be available to the whole community.

Resolved to approve the application for £2000

Littleover Ward Councillors

The Panel received an application for £562 for a dual waste bin for Haven Baulk Lane Park.

The Panel felt that the money for this application should come from mainstream central funds but felt that it was unlikely that this would be approved.

Resolved to approve the application for £562.

54/06	Health Briefing Primary Care Trust
The Panel received information about health services.	
Resolved to note the report.	
55/06	Diary of Events
The Panel received information about the events taking place in the Area Panel 4 Area.	
Resolved to note the report	
56/06	Arrangements for the Next Meeting
It was noted that the next meeting would be held at Littleover Methodist Church on Wednesday 28 March 2007 at 6.30pm and would be chaired by Councillor Allen.	

MINUTES END