

## **Blagreaves Neighbourhood Forum**

**Apologies** – Bernice Dakin and Louise Noble

**Attendance** – 29 residents and Cllrs Naitta, Skelton and Troup; Sarah Dosunmu (Neighbourhood Manager), Nanda Savage (Youth Worker), Nick Perry (Lighting Derby), Sgt Matt Williamson and PC Jonathon Joyce

Cllr Naitta welcomed all to the meeting and introduced Nick Perry to provide information on existing and forthcoming improvements to street lighting in the ward.

### **Lighting Derby**

Nick Perry said there was a five-year programme to replace street lights across Derby. The programme is one-year in, having started in August 2007. The programme covers all major and minor roads including cul-de-sacs and replacement depends on the condition of the existing street light. He outlined that there was a defined standard which must be met when considering whether to replace a street light. The lights used in Derby are Cosmopolis by Phillips which produces white light. On a street where work is to take place, residents are normally informed at least four weeks prior to installation. It is at this point that residents have the opportunity to comment on where lights should be sited. Installation normally takes up to eight weeks but they are currently working with the Council to reduce this to six weeks. The Forum then had the opportunity to ask questions which were answered. Nick Perry reminded people of the number to call to report faults or raise issues regarding street lighting. The number is 01332-715002.

**Actions agreed** – Inform Nick of current Neighbourhood Watch schemes to ensure NHW signs are replaced after work is undertaken.

Address the problem of over-hanging trees along jitty between Maple Avenue and Gayton School.

### **Policing and Community Safety**

Sgt Matt Williamson introduced this item by firstly outlining staffing in the Safe Neighbourhood Team. A new PCSO is starting in two weeks time and another one at the beginning of November. PC Vern Bell will also be joining the team. He then outlined the major crime stats for the area. He then reported on the two policing priorities for Blagreaves. These were Anti-Social Behaviour in particular damage caused by pupils travelling to and from school and robberies on Sunnydale Park. He also mentioned a third priority which is burglary in Heatherton. Residents raised concerns about speeding vehicles along Carlisle Avenue and Littleover Lane, gangs of youth around Bendall Green and nuisance motorbikes. In response, Sgt Williamson informed the meeting that members of his team will soon undertake training in the use of speed guns which will enable officers to be deployed in hot-spot areas. He said they were aware of the problem on Bendall Green and that officers would deal with the matter and report back to the next Forum. He also said that pilot work was

taking place in Slnfin where officers are being trained and supplied with mopeds to help tackle nuisance motorbikes. Sgt Williamson sought the views of the Forum on what the policing priorities should be for the next three months. It was agreed that they should remain ASB and robberies on Sunnysdale Park. He informed the meeting of the new evening surgeries at Haven Christian Centre in Heatherton. The next session is scheduled for Monday 8 September, starting at 6.00pm.

### **Update on Issues raised at the previous Blagreaves Forum**

Sarah Dosunmu introduced this report.

**Installation of single and double yellow lines along Hillsway** – it was noted that there were problems for buses along this road because of parked cars and congestion during the school run. The meeting agreed to produce a consultation leaflet for residents along Hillsway seeking their views on the installation of single or double yellow lines and asking for their support to encourage more considerate parking and to place the item on the agenda of the next Forum meeting and to specifically ask residents from Hillsway to attend the meeting to seek their views.

**Request for a crossing on Blagreaves Lane/The Hollow/Carlisle Avenue** – there was a general discussion on this matter and the meeting agreed to support the installation of a crossing. The meeting also agreed that this should be one of the priorities put forward by the Board for possible inclusion in the 2009/10 Highways and Transport Work Programme.

**Parking at Stenson Road Post Office** – A response was still awaited from Highways and Transport. It was noted that this was a serious problem that needs to be addressed.

**Lulworth Close** – It was reported that a new drainage system has been installed within the grounds of the school. However, a resident reported that rustic paling fencing has been installed by the school on a neighbour's boundary fence. This needs to be addressed.

**Ariva Bus Service** – Residents were informed of proposed changes in the service from October 2008. Residents on Porter Road, Overdale Road and Foremark Avenue will have to walk further to get to a bus stop. Route 33 Old Hall Road is not suitable for the bus service. There was concern that it will increase the scope for accidents. There was concern that there was no longer a service from Victoria Street, limiting access to the library and cathedral quarter. There was said to be too much emphasis on servicing the Westfield Centre. It was agreed to invite ARIVA to attend the next Forum meeting and to pass on concerns raised by local residents to ARIVA and seek a response prior to the next Forum meeting.

### **Public Question Time**

The following questions were raised:

What is the current position on Gayton pool? Regular meetings have been taking place. A swimming pool expert is now assisting the Council which has set aside

£600,000 to undertake improvement works. It was agreed that updates will be provided at every Forum meeting.

A request was made that minutes be produced for Forum meetings including Matters Arising to the Minutes which should be a regular agenda item at future Forum meetings.

A resident asked about the status of Southcroft. The condition of the road is poor and clarification was requested as to whether this was a private road or not and whether repairs could be dealt with as swiftly as possible.

Cllr Naitta reminded residents that they should report any holes in the road to their local councillors.

A question was raised about the state of the road surface on Old Hall Road. This will be passed on to Highways and Transport.

A query was raised about the proposed development of the Sandcroft site. A resident reported that they did not consider consultation had taken place with businesses or residents. He asked whether the Forum could submit a motion to Full Council. He was told that it would be more appropriate to put forward any motion as an individual.

What is going to happen regarding the use of Littleover Lane as a rat-run and speeding traffic along this road? The query will be raised with Highways and Transport.

### **Community Budget**

Sarah outlined that £20,200.50 is available to allocate this financial year. This should be spent by March 2009. A query was raised by a Board member as to the use of the Community Budget as she would like to submit an application to purchase a laptop for her community group. The meeting sympathised with her as a hard-working member of the community and some expressed support for her purchase. Cllr Naitta confirmed that an application should be submitted.

### **Any Other Business**

Cllr Naitta reminded people about the forthcoming Fun Day on Saturday 6 September on King George V playing field.