

Time commenced : 6.30 pm
Time finished : 9.15 pm

**AREA PANEL 4 (BLAGREAVES, LITTLEOVER AND MICKLEOVER
WARDS)
30 MARCH 2005**

Present: Councillor Care (Chair)
Councillors Allen, Carr, Hird, Jones, Marshall, Winter

Derby City Council, Derbyshire Constabulary and Derbyshire Fire and Rescue
Service Officers:

Sgt Nick Daines	-	Derbyshire Constabulary
Ray Dring	-	Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service
Rachel Levy	-	Constitutional Services Assistant
David Romaine	-	Overview and Scrutiny Coordination Officer
Richard Smail	-	Area Panel Manager
Sarah Turner	-	Constitutional Services Officer

55 members of the public were in attendance.

45/04 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Skelton and Troup, and
Inspector Gary Parkin.

46/04 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

47/04 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Care declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Minute Number
52/04 - Petition Requesting Privileged Parking on Heath Avenue, as her
parents lived on the Street.

48/04 Minutes

Agreed that the Minutes of the Area Panel 4 meeting held on 19 January 2005, be confirmed as a correct record, subject to the following amendment:

Minute number 40/04 - Update on Progress Regarding Community Issues Raised at the Last Meeting

Stenson Road Roadwork's, Blagreaves

To amend paragraph two to read: '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, **although** the traffic management for the area was **not** set with this in mind.'

49/04 Planning and Environment Commission Work plan Topic Reviews 2004/05

A report of the Chair of the Planning and Environment Commission was considered which stated that the Commission's review of the Council's Tree Management Policy was completed in November 2004, and was reported to Council Cabinet on 21 December 2004. The Commission was awaiting a response from Council Cabinet to its recommendations. An executive summary detailing the outcome of the Commission's review of the Tree management policy was attached to the report. The Commission had now started its review of dog control and enforcement of the dog fouling legislation. David Romaine, Scrutiny and Complaints Manager, stated that the Commission would like to hear about locations in the area where people considered there was a problem with dog fouling. He asked members of the public to contact members of the Commission or himself on 255598. Later in the year the Commission would be holding a workshop session with Derby residents to discuss the possible solutions to the problems of dog fouling and dog control.

Resolved

- 1. to note the report**
- 2. to inform Councillor Ahern, or Councillor P Berry, Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission or David Romaine, Scrutiny and Complaints Manager, if anyone would like to take part in the workshop or had areas which needed to be considered.**

50/04 Update Report

The Panel considered an update report on the progress of Community issues raised at the last meeting. The report included details on the issues raised, the proposed actions, progress to date and the City Council or partner organisation officer responsible.

Re-development of University of Derby Mickleover Campus, Mickleover

A member of the public asked if the Development went ahead, would the pool be replaced, and could the Council compel the developers to knock down the pool. Councillor Care responded that one scenario was to knock down the pool as the Council suggested or they could knock down the pool and re-build as suggested by the inspector. Councillor Care added that whatever the decision by the Planning Control Committee, the developer could go to appeal and would have to give reasons for his appeal.

Councillor Carr commented that if the development went ahead the Council could put conditions on the pool, football pitches or whatever other details they wished but if the site was not developed then the pool and pitches would be lost.

Alcohol Free Zone, Mickleover

A member of the public was concerned and disappointed that the Council had not been able to provide the capacity to start this order earlier. They felt that this was particularly important as the Council were building the pavilion on the park and would not have the additional powers for police to use when it opened. Councillor Jones responded that it was disappointing that Mickleover Alcohol free zone had gone down the list slightly but the City Centre's alcohol free zone needed to be renewed and must come first. It was a question of priorities.

Sergeant Danes advised that officers in Mickleover had put together a Section 30 order and if there were groups of more than two people in the area, they could be told to disperse. Police would have additional powers that would hopefully alleviate some alcohol problems in the area. A member of the public commented that they understood that Section 30 orders and alcohol free zones were complimentary and that the section 30 order would only be in place for three months from April. Sergeant Danes responded that Section 30 orders could only be authorised for an absolute maximum of 6 months. The Mickleover section 30 order would be monitored and if it was working then police officers in the area would be applying for a renewal.

Planning Application at East Midlands Airport , all wards

A member of the public stated that he understood the tolerance on the flight path on the west side of Derby was being tightened. The ICC had reported it being reduced by 300m which would still mean the new development at Rykneld Road, Littleover would be within the area. Was there anything the Council could do to ensure that flight paths could be put on the local plan.

Councillor Care responded that there would be nothing we could do at this stage with the Local Plan'. Therefore there is no action to take.

Kerb on City Hospital Island, A516, Littleover

A member of the public asked how it was possible that the NHS could ignore safety issues for two years without doing anything about it and were there any penalties that could be put on them for this.

Councillor Care responded explaining that pre-construction conditions would have been included in the initial design of the contract.

Stenson Road Roadworks, Blagreaves

A member of the public commented that they had heard a rumour that the work would not be completed until the end of June. Councillor Care responded that the completion of works was dependent on other roadworks and the weather. A member of the public commented that Stenson Road was in very poor condition between Mark's Close and Blagreaves Lane. In some places it was like a track with potholes everywhere. Councillor Marshall commented that nothing could be done until the works were completed at Stenson Road bridge. Councillor Care added that they didn't want to do anything about resurfacing until the digging up by the utilities had finished and resurfacing would only inconvenience people even more.

A member of the public asked if there were any more works planned for Stenson Road. Councillor Care advised that by law further works could not be carried out 12 months after a major resurfacing.

Petition – Bendall Green Play Area, Blagreaves

A member of the public commented that the play area had been well used by the community although some concerns had been raised with Andrew Morgan. They considered that signs needed to be displayed by the fenced area, advising no dogs allowed and a no ball games sign needed to be sited in the same area. There was also concern over the siting of a dog waste bin close to a residents property and a request had been submitted for this to be moved further away. A pathway that had been laid was already cracking due to weeds coming up through the surface. Motorbikes were also using the footpath for a short cut, could a barrier be installed to stop this happening. Councillor Marshall advised that he would speak to Andrew Morgan about the path and these other issues raised.

Petition – Road Safety on Havenbault Lane, Littleover

A member of the public was concerned that this item had been deferred to the next meeting, five months was far too long to get a response on this issue. Councillor Care responded that the area deserved a full investigation and not just a quick solution. The junction at Rykneld Road was also being redesigned so the teams involved would have to work together.

A member of the public asked if safety camera vans could visit Havenbault Lane as these were regularly sited on Burton Road monitoring speeds. Sergeant Daines advised that the safety cameras only went to specific sites that were approved by the Derbyshire Safety Camera Partnership. They were only designated as a mobile safety camera site when accident and casualty data is analysed, a speed survey has been completed and the road surveyed to check it is suitable. He noted that there was a backlog to get new road surveys done.

51/04 Public Question Time

The following questions were asked by members of the public:

Changes to the Road Layout – Uplands Avenue

A member of the public raised concern over road changes that had taken place in Uplands Avenue due to safer routes to school. They considered the original plans had been changed and had not been consulted on. Another member of the public added that they'd written to local councillors, the police and their local MP whose letter was currently with Jonathan Guest of Development and Cultural Services to ask where they stood with this issue.

Other concerns were that buses had been given little space to turn at the end of the road and when buses go back up the road, traffic gets stuck. A turning circle would have been much better than what had been provided already. Councillor Care responded that she'd spoken to the officer involved with the design and work and the consultation. Councillor Care understood that the designs she had seen were what had been proposed and consulted on, but would check whether there were any earlier designs. Councillor Marshall added that he had not been aware of any changes to the design. Councillor Care advised that a major factor in the improvements would be the education of parents, children and staff at the school on the new arrangements. A letter would be going out to all parents at the start of the summer term. Sergeant Daines added that it was a real issue educating parents on how to get their children to school. Councillor Care added that the school would have to be very firm with parents and highways officers would be on hand initially to help with issues. She asked that people give this new procedure a chance. If the system was not working, it would have to be looked at again.

Councillor Care advised that if people were interested, they should get involved in the School Travel Plan Forum.

Speed Checks on Blagreaves Lane

A member of the public asked Derbyshire Constabulary if there were any statistics from the speed checks on Blagreaves Lane. Sergeant Daines responded that statistics were not yet available and these would be forwarded to Richard Smail for the updates.

Cameras on Osmaston Road

A member of the public asked what the new cameras installed near Royal Crown Derby on Osmaston Road were for. They were advised that these were for a traffic master system to inform drivers, with the system in their cars, about delays with the traffic flow into and out of the City.

Information Supplied to Neighbourhood Watch Groups

A member of the public advised they had been told that due to the Data Protection Act neighbourhood watch groups could no longer have details of incidences that had taken place in their area, and asked for clarification on this. Sergeant Daines responded that this was due to the ability to identify individuals from this information and under the Data Protection Regulations this was not allowed. A member of the public added that they never received information with the street number only the area that the incidents had happened. They had been told at the Littleover and Mickleover police liaison meeting that they couldn't even give road names now. How could neighbourhood watch groups be effective if they could not protect their neighbours and know what's going on in an area.

Parking on Devonshire Drive and East Avenue

A member of the public raised concern that parents were parking on double yellow lines on Devonshire Drive and East Avenue when picking children up from school. They asked if police could be present during this time. Sergeant Daines responded that it depended on where the cars were parked, if they were on a private area owned by the shops then the shopkeepers are responsible for stopping them. If they were obstructing the highway or pavement then they could be committing a crime and could be prosecuted by way of a fixed penalty. Councillor Hird added that this issue had been taken up with beat officers and they were going to look into it. Sometimes cars were double or treble parked in front of the shops.

Work on Mulberry Court

A member of the public advised that they had received an email to say that work had been completed to stop the ponding on the footpath near to Mulberry Court. They asked for clarification of what work had taken place.

52/04 Petitions

To receive New petitions

Petition regarding the amount of traffic using Church Street, Littleover

A petition was received regarding the amount of traffic using Church Street, Littleover.

Agreed to ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to investigate the petition and report back to a future meeting.

To Consider Petitions Received Since the Last Meeting

Petition Regarding Improved Lighting and Car Parking - Trusley Gardens, Littleover

The Panel noted that a petition had been received that requested improved lighting and car parking on Trusley Gardens, Littleover. Richard Smail advised that Derby Homes were trying to contact the lead petitioner to discuss this further.

Resolved to ask Derby Homes to investigate the petition and report back to a future meeting.

Having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following item, Councillor Care left the meeting and Councillor Hird took the Chair for this item.

Petition requesting privileged parking on Heath Avenue, Littleover

The Panel noted that a petition had been received from residents of Heath Avenue, Littleover requesting privileged parking. The lead petitioner addressed the panel, advising that 76% of the residents on Heath Avenue agreed that they would like privilege parking. He considered that other streets in the area had resident only parking. Residents were not bothered with shoppers using the shopping area across the road, parking on the street, but were bothered about employees from surrounding businesses parking there all day, sometimes from 7.00 am to 10.00 pm. Residents were finding it difficult to park in front of their own homes. If resident only parking permits were not possible then residents would like to look into unadopting the road.

Resolved to ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to investigate the petition and respond to a future meeting.

Responses to Petitions Received

Request for removal of sycamore trees on Willson Avenue

The Panel considered a report from the Director of Development and Cultural Services responding to the request to remove the sycamore trees on Willson Avenue and replace them with a more appropriate species. The report proposed that the condition of the trees and footways is monitored and that fallen leaves will be cleared as necessary.

The lead petitioner advised that in the fortnight since Councillors Care and Marshall had visited her, hundreds of sycamore plants had started growing in her garden. Residents had had to make claims against the Council for damage to a wall which was surely a reason to do something about these trees. The trees had not been pruned in at least eight years. Councillor Marshall commented that he visited the site the day before the meeting. There were a couple of trees that looked like they needed pruning as branches were going into telephone cables. Roots were certainly coming up on the pathway and he asked that the Arboricultural officer revisit this site with him. Councillor Care added that the report had been written to the standards of the current tree management policy which was something Council Cabinet would consider in the future. They could ask the Arboricultural Office to look at dead or diseased branches. Then it would be better to wait for the response from Council Cabinet on the revision of the tree management policy and then perhaps something could be done about the trees.

A member of the public commented that they were not objecting to trees on the street but to the type of trees. It was requested that a site meeting take place with Blagreaves Ward Councillors and other Area Panel Four Councillors who wished to attend and ask that John Booth – Arboricultural Officer, also attend.

Agreed to defer the decision on the report until Scrutiny Commission consider the response made by Cabinet to the Tree Policy and the site visit takes place.

Request for the Completion of the play area off Woodcote Way, Heatherton, Littleover

The Panel considered a report of the Director of Commercial Services advising that the Council was now in the process of agreeing with the developer the final design of the play area and open space with a view to having the work completed as soon as possible. Comments regarding safety of children around the brook area had been taken into account.

Agreed to note the report.

Request for a pedestrian crossing on Station Road, Mickleover

The Panel considered a report from the Director of Development and Cultural Services on the proposed action to be taken following investigation into the request for a pedestrian crossings on Station Road, Mickleover.

A member of the public stated that they were disappointed that pedestrian crossings were not being considered as there was no safe place to cross the road in this area. Richard Smail responded that following surveys carried out in the area these sites did not meet the relevant criteria.

Councillor Winter expressed her disappointment in the decision not to consider pedestrian crossing on Station Road, as a lot of people did prefer to drive than to attempt crossing the road at the moment. The crossing at the other end of Station Road near to Jacksons shop worked very well. Councillor Hird encouraged the Council to consider putting in a central refuge along this part of Station Road if possible.

Councillor Hird suggested that parents work with the schools to start a Safer Routes to School campaign. She stated that more children would be attending Murray Park next year so a review should be done sooner than suggested in the report. Councillor Hird suggested that local people could write to schools encouraging them to look into devising a travel plan.

Agreed:

- 1. to request a review for both pedestrian crossings between September and December 2005**
- 2. to consider installing a central refuge near Onslow Road and Mill Hill.**

53/04 Health Briefing from Primary Care Trusts

A briefing paper on health services was considered.

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

54/04 Area Panel Budget Proposals 2004/05

A report of the Assistant Director of Community Policy was considered which set out details of eight applications for funding which had been received. These were:

1. To consider whether to support the application received from Bendall Green Neighbourhood Watch - Blagreaves Ward, for funding for lighting and junior goals for Bendall Green. Grant requested – £3,528.
2. To consider whether to support the application received from Blagreaves Neighbourhood Care Group, Blagreaves Ward, for funding running costs. Grant requested – £800.
3. To consider whether to support the application received from Councillor Troup, for funding for lighting for footpath by Aston Road. Grant requested – £750.
4. To consider whether to support the application received from Derby Moor Fives Club – Littleover and Blagreaves Wards, for funding to raise awareness of Derby Fives game. Grant requested – £1,810.
5. To consider whether to support the application received from Gayton School Luncheon Club – Blagreaves Ward, for funding for transport costs. Grant requested – £500.
6. To consider whether to support the application received from Littleover Table Tennis Club – Littleover and Blagreaves Ward, for funding to increase membership to Littleover Table Tennis Club. Grant requested – £1,395.
7. To consider whether to support the application received from Mickleover Gymnastic Club – Mickleover, Littleover and Blagreaves Wards, for funding to purchase gymnastics equipment. Grant requested – £4,025.
8. To consider whether to support the application received from St Andrews Mother and Baby / Toddler Group – Blagreaves Ward, for funding to purchase equipment and toys. Grant requested – £625.

Options Considered

The suggested recommendations from the Area Panel Grant Appraisal Panel were to approve the applications except the application from Councillor Troup for a light for the footpath by Aston Road. The Appraisal Panel considered that all the proposals, except the application from Councillor Troup, met the criteria for area panel funding.

KEY DECISION

To award funding to the applications as follows:

- Bendall Green Neighbourhood Watch – Grant £3,528.

Reasons

1. The application met the criteria for Area Panel funding.
2. The application contributed to environmental improvements, which would provide a benefit to local residents.
3. The application provided a service in response to the needs of local residents.

- Blagreaves Neighbourhood Care Group – Grant £789

Reasons

1. The application met the criteria for Area Panel funding.
2. The application would improve access for local people to existing services.
3. The application would enable residents to participate in their community or at Area Panels.

- Derby Moor Fives Club – Grant £1,787.

Reasons

1. The application met the criteria for Area Panel funding.
2. The application would improve access for local people to existing services.
3. The application provided a service in response to the needs of local residents.

- Gayton School Luncheon Club – Grant £493.

Reasons

1. The application met the criteria for Area Panel funding.
2. The application would improve access for local people to existing services.
3. The application would enable residents to participate in their community or at Area Panels.

- Littleover Table Tennis Club – Grant £1,377.

Reasons

1. The application met the criteria for Area Panel funding.
2. The application would improve access for local people to existing services.
3. The application would enable residents to participate in their community or at Area Panels.

- Mickleover Gymnastic Club – Grant £3,974.

Reasons

1. The application met the criteria for Area Panel funding.
 2. The application would improve access for local people to existing services.
 3. The application would enable residents to participate in their community or at Area Panels.
- St Andrews Mother and Baby / Toddler Group – Grant £617.

Reasons

1. The application met the criteria for Area Panel funding.
2. The application would improve access for local people to existing services.
3. The application would enable residents to participate in their community or at Area Panels.

To decline funding for the following application:

- Councillor Troup, for funding for lighting for footpath by Aston Road

Reason

The Panel felt that this project should be funded through Development and Cultural Services mainstream resources, as recommended by the Appraisal Panel.

55/04 Arrangements for the Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held in the Littleover Ward on Wednesday 29 June 2005 at 6.30 pm at Littleover Methodist Church Hall, Burton Road, Littleover, Derby. Councillor Marshall to be the chair.

MINUTES END