

ITEM 6

**AREA PANEL ONE – UPDATE REPORT
FOR 12 JANUARY 2005
GATEWAY CENTRE, ST MARK'S ROAD**

**Area and Neighbourhood Unit
Richard Smail, Area Panel Manager, telephone 258505
Vickie Butler, Information and Communications Officer, telephone 258529**

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1. Ref: 103022 – Vandalism around 145th Scouts building, Coniston Crescent, Derwent – raised 03.09.03

Issue

This issue was raised on 3 September 2003, by a representative from the 145th Scouts, who reported that there was an issue with bottles, tins, dog fouling and graffiti around the scout hut. Also, the scout hut roof was being damaged because the gate behind the shops was not closed allowing people access to the scout hut roof.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To resolve the dog fouling issue Environmental Services have attached 'No dog fouling' signs onto lampposts in the area around the scout hut. The Community Watch Patrol included the scout hut as one of its 'hotspots' and make regular visits to the area.

The main ongoing concern was that the tenant at the takeaway shop is not closing the newly erected council security gates at the rear of the shops. Councillors, staff from Derby Homes and the Anti Social Behaviour team as well as local residents and Estates Section staff have contacted the tenant to ask him to keep the gates closed in the evening. It had been thought that action could be taken if the tenant was in breach of the lease. However, it was reported that the most effective way to resolve the matter is by talking and working together, but we rely on the tenant taking notice and changing what they do.

Legal Services have considered the issue and confirmed that because the lease does not refer to the new gates, the tenant has no legal obligation to close the gates. As there is no legal obligation, and the tenant is not the one directly causing the nuisance, there is also no legal action that can be taken against them.

The lease expires in 2011. However, case law suggests that because closing the gates are not in the existing lease it cannot be placed in the new one without the tenants consent. Even if something is included there would be a problem enforcing the covenant.

It was reported that a multi agency meeting was held on 30 September involving Councillor Redfern, Derby Homes, Derwent Community Team, the Scout Leader, the Area Panel Manager and local residents. The scout leader outlined the history of recent anti social behaviour issues. It was agreed to follow up with a number of possible solutions including, reporting all incidents to the Police, involving the Youth service to engage with the young people, keep the area as a Community Watch Patrol 'hotspot', investigate the application of anti vandal paint on the roof and investigate ways to protect the wall at the back with a fence or soft landscaping.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

The Scout Leader from Breadsall Hilltop informed the panel about a meeting she had attended at the Scout Headquarters, with residents from Mansfield Road and Councillor Redfern. She explained that suggestions had been made, including anti-graffiti measures and landscaping. She asked how the suggestions were progressing.

She explained that a parent was fixing the drainage pipes again – this had been done three times during the year. She emphasised that children aged of 6 to 16 years attend the scout hut, none of which have been in any trouble, or cause trouble. She felt that people at the meeting were only interested in what they could do for the youngsters who constantly cause trouble, and not those attending the scout hut, and behave themselves. She confirmed that all incidents are now being

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reported to the Police, but when they recently reported a young person for damaging the pipes the Police informed her it was not a priority..

Other residents expressed support for the Scouts and asked that they are given all the resources needed to erect a high fence.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Richard Small confirmed that a number of suggestions were made at the meeting. The Detached Youth Service has been asked to visit the area to assess who congregates there. They have not yet reported back on their findings.

He confirmed that it is still a Derby Homes Community Watch hotspot. He explained that when the idea of fencing was raised, it was questioned whether this would be effective. Area panel funds had been considered. He agreed to find out the progress to apply anti-graffiti paint.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To follow up progress with the suggestions made.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

The Anti Social Behaviour Team have provided the Scout group with anti vandal paint and warning signs for their roof.

The Youth Services have been asked to visit the site and to assess what support they can provide.

The Area Panel Manager is working with the scout leader to identify ways to fund a fence at the back of the scout hut. Estates have confirmed that they support the idea to install a fence but with certain conditions. The location of the proposed fence will be on land that the Scout group already provide a maintenance contribution for and therefore the Scout group will need to contribute to the maintenance responsibilities of any new developments on this land. While Estates hold the land, they do not have a maintenance budget to cover the long-term maintenance of the fence.

To keep maintenance costs low, provide effective security and to prevent vandalism the proposed fence should be a steel palisade fence. Clearly the initial costs are more expensive than timber, but the increased protection and maintenance savings would prove beneficial to the Scout group should they agree to the installation of a fence. In the short term, maintenance should be a relatively small cost.

The scout group are now considering sources of funding, getting quotes for fencing and whether to make an application for funding to the area panel in the next financial year.

Responsibility

Peter Matthews, Local Manager, Derby Homes, telephone 716564

David Finn, Head of Youth Services, Education Service, telephone 716956

2. Ref: 104011 – Anti Social Behaviour – Oakwood – raised 03.03.04

Issue

A member of the public raised this issue on 3 March 2004 concerned that vandalism has increased dramatically around where he lives on Porters Lane. Fences have been damaged costing hundreds of pounds to repair. He felt that Anti Social Behaviour Orders – ASBO – had not reduced the problem and asked what the police policy was for stopping vandalism. He asked what the Council is doing to support the police to take action. He felt reported incidents are not getting crime numbers because cases of petty vandalism are not treated as seriously as other incidents.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

The police have been putting considerable resources into this area as a direct response to complaints received. The problem is identifying those concerned. ASBO's are not the immediate answer and would not be granted by the Court until other measures have been tried. The Anti Social Behaviour team has been and will continue to work with Police to resolve the issues.

A resident of Porters Lane felt that vandalism and motorbike riding had continued. Another local resident felt that this was partly due to the lack of facilities in the area. It was recognised that it is not only children, and young people who are offending, but in some cases adults.

It was reported that there is now an Oakwood Policing website that has raised the profile of activities to reduce anti social behaviour in Oakwood. Details can be found on www.derbyshire.police.uk/who. There is information about crime warnings, the alcohol free zone that came into force on 22 May, burglary alerts and recent successes such as the impounding of scooters that were not being ridden sensibly. PC. Steve Buckley explained that he was making progress getting to know as many residents as possible. He urged residents to report crimes because unless he is aware of them he cannot take any action.

The new door for the Police base at the Community Centre was fitted in late August and the Police hope to move into the base in September. The new lighting around the community centre has also been installed and is expected to make a significant impact to reduce anti social behaviour.

Inspector Graham McLaughlin confirmed that anti social behaviour is not acceptable and as such will be dealt with positively by his team. It is with some regret that he announced that P.C. Steve Buckley has resigned from the Derbyshire Constabulary and is now employed elsewhere. He wishes Steve well for the future and wants to publicly record his thanks for the hard work he has put into the Oakwood community. Steve has been replaced by PC's Wendy Smith and Anita Phipps, both of whom are very capable officers and can be contacted on 07736 727183.

Progress on the Oakwood Community beat office has been painfully slow, despite lots of encouragement. There are some issues with lighting and internal decoration, but Inspector McLaughlin is confident that these will be resolved during October. He has confirmed that the Police equipment is ready to be installed as soon as the Council has completed their work.

In relation to the anti social behaviour, considerable efforts have been taken to stamp out the nuisance created by motorcycles, and Inspector McLaughlin will provide more information at the area panel meeting. Funding is being identified to reduce the access by motorcycles to Croft Wood. Inspector McLaughlin is confident this work will be completed before Christmas. He has also targeted extra resources to Oakwood to tackle the incidents of low level anti social behaviour. A number of local young people have been challenged and their parents contacted by the Anti Social Behaviour Team. The local beat officers have also made contact with a local school, whose pupils have been found causing a nuisance to the local community.'

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Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

None.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor Smalley informed the meeting that the Oakwood Police Office is still not open. He was taking action to make sure it opened as soon as possible. Inspector MacLaughlin confirmed that the police base at Oakwood Community Centre was not yet open because they were still waiting for the contractors to complete the building work.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Update on progress to open the base.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

Inspector McLaughlin reports that the Community office is still not open due to problems with Derby City Council contractors. It is frustrating but as it stands the Police cannot move in until the work has been completed. It is anticipated that the base will be ready for the Police by 1 February 2005.

There are now two beat officers for the Oakwood estate and they have been active in engaging with the youths that hang around the shops and working with the Youth Offending Service and the Anti Social Behaviour Team. Some of these youths are well known to the Police and they have been targeted to reduce the incidents of anti social behaviour.

Responsibility

Inspector Graham McLaughlin, Police Divisional Headquarters, telephone 613131
Andy Thomas, Anti-Social Behaviour Team, Community Safety Partnership, telephone 256910

3. Ref: 104019 – Antisocial behaviour Mansfield Road and Croft Wood, Derwent - raised 28.04.04

Issue

A resident from Mansfield Road first raised this issue on 28 April 2004 concerned about constant antisocial behaviour and motorcycle problems around Croft Wood. He felt that as Derby City Council and Erewash District Council owned the land they needed to make improvements to it because it is currently very neglected and motorbikers were using it.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

It was understood that there had been an agreement between the Council and Erewash Council that the railway line would be maintained. It was reported that there was an agreement made with Erewash District Council but it was to work together to remove abandoned vehicles when they were a major problem. The two Councils shared the cost of removal and put actions into place to prevent more vehicles being abandoned.

Councillor Redfern confirmed that she had spoken to the police, and although the bikes can be confiscated, the youths are able to buy new ones for £50. Inspector Stokes informed the meeting the problem is not just in this area, but all across Chaddesden. He stated that they had had some success, and had made arrests, but emphasised that it was very difficult to pursue bikes in this area. He added that they are aware of the problem and are continuing to tackle it.

The land along the old railway line is maintained by Parks however investigations are continuing with private landowners about who is responsible for other parts of the wood.

The Anti Social Behaviour team have recently received diary sheets, information and a booklet from a local resident. They are now assessing the information provided. While incidents had reduced during June and July there have been a number of more recent incidents of bikes in the wood. On 15 August Ilkeston Police responded to a complaint and on 22 August Derby North police responded to a complaint. On the first occasion the bikes drove off before they were caught and on the second occasion they had left by the time the Police arrived and therefore on both occasions they were unable to identify those responsible.

The Police are using the new powers provided by the Police Reform Act 2002 that allows them to confiscate bikes from individuals who have been warned and are witnessed again by the Police committing an offence.

The Anti Social Behaviour team are continuing to work closely with the police including asking the local petrol stations not to supply fuel to people on the trial bikes.

A multi agency meeting was held on 30 September involving Councillor Redfern, Derby Homes, Derwent Community Team, Janet Bailey Breadsall Parish Councillor, the Area Panel Manager and local residents. A local resident outlined the history of the issues involving motorbikes in Croft Wood. A summary of the recent action taken by the Police as part of Operation Throttle was provided. This included two exercises on separate weekends with dedicated resources. After the first weekend there were, three arrests, two motor bike seizures, 16 Section 59 notices issued, which allows bikes to be confiscated if they are caught again within the next 12 months and one PG9 Prohibition Notice issued. During the second weekend of the operation there were no sightings of any motorbikes. A local resident confirmed that this was the first 'quiet' weekend of the summer.

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The Police have also walked around the site to identify access points. Gaps have been found at:

- Paddock Pub Car Park
- Opposite Stratford Road – the mesh fencing has been removed
- Bridleway opposite Porters Lane

At the meeting additional access points were identified by Janet Bailey and it was agreed to liaise with Erewash District Council. A contractor has visited the original access sites and provided quotes for providing new fencing.

The police have also made door to door visits on 14/15 September to residents on Mansfield Road and Elmwood Drive and issued Victim Impact Statements to 17 residents, these will be collected and will give an indication as to whether the action taken has made an improvement.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

None.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

None.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Update on progress to provide fencing at the key points.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

The fencing work opposite Stratford Road, next to the Paddock Public House and a new barrier/gate on the bridleway next to the Windmill Public House has been completed. This has significantly increased the level of difficulty to access the land on a motorcycle. The contractors have done an excellent job and the number of incidents involving motorcycles has all but been eradicated.

A number of offenders have been reported for summons and will appear in the Magistrate's Court at some future date. On a personal note, Inspector McLaughlin states that he was very impressed at the real willingness of all those involved who rapidly came together, analyse the problem and put in sustainable solutions.

Responsibility

Andy Thomas, Anti-Social Behaviour Team, Community Safety Partnership, telephone 256910
Inspector Graham McLaughlin, Police Divisional Headquarters, telephone 613131
Andrew Morgan, Landscape and Development Officer, Commercial Services, telephone 715547

4. Ref: 104020 – Speed Limit on Mansfield Road, Derwent - raised 28.04.04

Issue

A resident from Mansfield Road first raised this issue on 28 April 2004 concerned about the narrow footpath that runs from Stratford Road to Meteor Centre. She stated that large lorries use this road, and it can be quite frightening for pedestrians. She asked if the road could be reduced from 40mph to a 30mph limit because it is a built up area.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Speed limits are based on the nature of the road, the character of the area through which the road passes and the likelihood that the speed limit will be respected by motorists. The guidelines for setting speed limits suggest that 30 mph speed limits are set on roads that have in-depth development of both sides of the road with properties directly fronting the carriageway. This is not the case on Mansfield Road. In the main the properties on Mansfield Road are well set back from the carriageway and are only present on both sides of the road sporadically. When assessing speed limits it is necessary to take all factors into account to make sure the restriction is appropriate and will be adhered to. These factors include the volume of traffic and where appropriate the presence of nearby facilities such as shopping and leisure.

These were taken into account when assessing the request for a 30mph restriction on Mansfield Road and when reassessing as requested by the area panel. The road width is good and the majority of motorists show good respect for the existing 40 mph restriction. The volume of traffic and the presence of the Meteor Centre off Mansfield Road do not affect the fact that a 30 mph speed limit would not be appropriate or realistic for this section of road.

At the Multi agency meeting held on 30 September 2004 the issue about the speed limit was raised along with the request for a pedestrian crossing – an issue that is responded to in Update item number 5. Those present at the meeting on 30 September confirmed that the review of the pedestrian crossing decision was the priority and they recognised the previous response from the Highway officers to retain a 40 mph limit. Officers from Development and Cultural Services have confirmed the decision to retain the 40 mph limit.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

A resident suggested that if officers cannot attend a panel meeting, they prepare a report and this is included in the papers for the meeting. Another resident suggested people submit their questions a week before the meeting, to allow the Council to make sure that the relevant officers attend.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor Roberts again expressed his concern about the lack of Officer representation at the meeting. He confirmed that officers had not spoken to the Derwent Councillors about the decision to retain the 40mph limit and was concerned that officers fail to consult with the councillors, before making a decision.

Councillor Ahern stated that he had asked for representation from Council departments, but had been informed that unless officers are specifically needed for a specific agenda item, then they will not attend. He expressed his support for the Derwent Councillors, and agreed that they should attend, when they have not consulted directly with the Councillors.

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Councillor E Berry agreed that councillors should be consulted, and requested that the officers attend the next panel meeting to explain this decision. She considered that Councillors need to take some responsibility by reading the papers in advance and if they need more information they contact the officers responsible for the issue or inform the Chair and Area Panel Manager.

Councillor Redfern responded, stating that officers had been asked to attend the last meeting and having read the papers ahead of this meeting she had been assured that officers would be present.

Councillor Smalley proposed that because officers are not attending the area panels suggests to Chief Officers that officers attend the meetings. He considered that it is not good when residents are asked to come along to the meetings and ask questions, but officers are not present to answer them.

Councillor Roberts stated that because the Police attend every panel meeting, and they are independent to the Council, then Council Officers should attend to explain their decisions, particularly when they are not in favour of the public request.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

The Derwent ward councillors asked for an officer to attend the next meeting to explain the decision not to reduce the speed limit.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

A Traffic Management Engineer provided more information to the three Derwent ward councillors about this issue. He has explained that the Department for Transport – DfT gives very clear guidance as to the correct use of speed limits. This is because experience has shown that where unrealistic speed limits, that don't match the character or geometry of the street, are imposed, there is likelihood for road users to ignore them. All traffic restrictions have to be self-enforcing to some degree, and the way to achieve this is to ensure that those restrictions are used responsibly and appropriately.

The DfT guidance describes a 30 mph limit as being suitable for roads which have development in depth on both sides, having properties, including schools, factories and recreation grounds, that have individual access to the road.

The A608, Mansfield Road is an important traffic route, which is only developed on one side, has few junctions along its length and its relatively few fronting properties are set back from the road. The DfT guidance suggests that a speed limit of at least 40mph is correct in this case.

Traffic management officers have investigated this for the Area Panel and have applied this guidance with their own experience to conclude that the existing limit is appropriate.

Responsibility

Adrian Martin, Senior Traffic Management Technician, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715031.

5. Ref: 104022 – Pedestrian Crossing on Mansfield Road, Derwent - raised 28.04.04

Issue

A resident from Mansfield Road first raised this issue on 28 April 2004 concerned about how difficult it is to cross Mansfield Road at its junction with Stratford Road. It was also requested that a pedestrian crossing is installed because this is an extremely busy road and very dangerous for young people and the elderly.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

The Council's Cabinet has approved guidelines determining the suitability of providing pedestrian crossings. This is based on a number of factors but is initially determined by measuring the conflict between traffic and pedestrians crossing the road.

The investigations have been completed and unfortunately the location does not meet the criteria for a new crossing. Adrian Astle, Signals and Projects Engineer, wrote to the resident on 21 July 2004. The following is an extract from the letter:

'My investigations are now complete and the results show that the site does not meet the requirements for a pedestrian crossing facility. Requests for the installation of pedestrian crossings are assessed using criteria based on national guidance. The guidance is used to assess all types of pedestrian crossing facilities and ensures budgets are used to target areas in greatest need.

Observations on site reveal that the low number of pedestrians at this location were able to cross safely using gaps in traffic. At busy times pedestrians had to wait for a short period for a gap in traffic.'

We carry out investigations in term time, on a weekday as it represents typical conditions. Exceptionally, we may examine issues on a weekend but on these days traffic flows are generally lower and the justification for facilities is weakened. In the case of Mansfield Road we would not expect significant increases in pedestrian movements at the weekend.

In line with the Cabinet approved criteria a site assessment was carried out on Mansfield Road on 13 July 2004. Observations were made between 8am to 9am and 3.30pm to 4.40pm. This showed few pedestrians crossed, ten in total in the morning hour. There were two adults, two unaccompanied secondary school children, and three secondary school children accompanied with three adults. Traffic flows were high, in the region of 1,400 vehicles an hour.

In light of the continued concerns, including those raised at the Multi Agency meeting on 30 September 2004, a full 12 hour survey will be undertaken along the length of Mansfield Road near Stratford Road and Bishop's Drive. There is currently a high demand for this type of survey across the city and no date has been agreed yet for this new survey. We will report progress at the next area panel meeting.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

None.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Richard Smail confirmed that a new survey will be conducted but the timing was dependant on existing workloads.

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Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Update on progress with new survey.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

A full survey has been requested. There is a backlog of pedestrian crossing requests from across the city. The survey will be done in the new year.

Responsibility

Adrian Astle, Signals and Projects Engineer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715018

6. Ref: 104023 – Traffic issues, Bishops Drive and Danebridge Crescent, Oakwood - raised 28.04.04

Issue

A member of the public first raised this issue on 28 April concerned that because there is more traffic in this area, parking is getting worse. There are more services being provided in the area and the pavement has been extended to accommodate this. They felt it was good to have the pedestrian crossing but cars are parking next to it on the pavement.

It was suggested that double yellow lines are installed along Bishops Drive or to consider moving the pedestrian crossing. She informed the panel that although there is a car park, people are not using it. If the car park was used, then pedestrians using Bishops Drive would be safer, and it would be easier to get out on the road from Danebridge Crescent.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

It was reported that a number of site visits have been carried out and discussions taken place with Officers in Traffic Control. The issue of installing waiting restrictions has been considered in the past, and in discussions with the Police it was considered inappropriate at this location. Due to limited resources it would not be possible for Police Officers to carry out the required level of enforcement and therefore any restriction would be open to abuse.

The pedestrian crossing was installed in December 2003 and at the current time it is considered that there are no improvements required at the crossing. On numerous site visits, we have not witnessed cars parking on the footway or violating the zigzags - visibility onto the crossing is, therefore, considered to be good.

The car park is privately owned and is the owners responsibility to encourage people to use it.

However, the section of Bishops Drive near to its junction with Danebridge Crescent, western arm, has been identified as an accident investigation site, because the number of accidents that occur at this junction is higher than normal. We will consider implementing accident remedial measures if appropriate.

We are investigating the road accident situation in the vicinity of the junction of Danebridge Crescent with Bishops Drive. We have not yet drawn any conclusions but aim to have completed our initial findings in September.

We have completed our investigation at Bishops Drive near to Danebridge Crescent. In the past three years seven road injury collisions have been reported to the police, five of these collisions took place in the wet. Skid resistance tests show that the surfacing is below standard. We have arranged for slippery road signs to be installed and the site will be considered for surfacing improvements next financial year.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

None.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

None.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Report on when the proposed work will be confirmed as part of next years work programme.

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Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

Cabinet have yet to approve next year's work programme. A decision is not expected for some months. The new Local Transport Plan work programme, once approved, will be reported back to the area panel.

Responsibility

Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715019

7. Ref: 104024 – Litter, Oakwood District Centre, Oakwood - raised 28.04.04

Issue

A member of the public first raised this issue on 28 April concerned that residents were not using the shops because of the amount of litter near to the shopping centre. They wanted to know what could be done to improve the area.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

It was confirmed that Oakwood Shopping Centre is privately owned by St Modwen Developments so does not fall within the responsibility of Derby City Council. The only area where the Council does have responsibility is around the recycling site in the car park, and is litter picked daily. We check the recycling site, before 9am and after 4pm, and also where possible after lunch.

A resident referred to Mansfield Council where they enforce on the spot £50 fines for people who drop litter. These funds are then used to improve the area. They asked if the Council could discuss this scheme with Mansfield Council.

We are not aware of any evidence to show that fines improve cleanliness. Fines would also be extremely difficult to enforce for a number of reasons. Firstly, if someone under the age of 16 drops litter, it is very difficult to bring a legal case against that person. Secondly, we do not have the staff resources. Thirdly, our staff do not have powers of arrest so cannot enforce the fine if the person dropping litter refuses to pay.

A meeting with Mansfield District Council has taken place. Enforcement requires specific funds for employing trained officers and for associated resources such as CCTV. In addition such schemes generally work in conjunction with legal services and the police. It would therefore be a major decision with resource implications. On that basis there are no plans to change the Council's current policy in the short term. Fining may be reviewed as part of a longer term enforcement policy providing resources become available.

The resolution to consider the enforcement of fines for people who drop litter and fund the provision of enforcement officers will be considered at Cabinet on Tuesday 19 October. The decision will be passed to Development and Cultural Services to action.

Officers in Development and Cultural Services are currently investigating the whole issue of enforcement procedures for a variety of waste issues including fly-tipping, graffiti and littering. It is clear that if the issue is to be addressed city-wide it requires a multi-agency approach. It is anticipated that a small team of dedicated enforcement officers would need to be appointed with the appropriate equipment including mobile CCTV. Officers intend approaching relevant agencies such as the Police, Environment Agency, city centre security agencies and legal services in the coming months to determine how the issue can be developed and what funding opportunities exist for the establishment of such a team.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

A resident, said that he was pleased to see that some action is being taken, but raised concern that it only refers to the coming months, and does not give timetabled action.

He also mentioned that in 2003, a Scrutiny Commission did some work on a 'social environment the physical environment, which included a summary report of 30 actions. He asked that this is brought to the panels' attention, particularly recommendation 27, which refers to employing litter wardens.

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Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Richard Smail confirmed that Cabinet considered a resolution on 19 October about the enforcement of fines for people who drop litter and funding enforcement officers. They agreed that the request is included in next year's budget and had referred the issue to the Planning and Environment Commission for consideration.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To update on progress to include litter enforcement officers in next years budget.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

We have entered a bid into a government-sponsored programme called the Local Public Sector Agreement 2. If successful it should allow us to appoint the necessary additional resource to start to address problems from people making a mess of our streets by fly tipping, graffiti and so on. We will know in April 2005 if our bid has been successful.

However, an Enforcement Team could not issue fines at the Oakwood Shops because they are private.

We carried out a monitoring exercise of the shops over a period of a week at different times of the day to assess the extent of the issue. The results showed that the area does not get dirty enough for us to take any action. St Modwen Developments are cleaning the area every day. We were on site when they were using their machines to clean up.

As the Council does not own the land, we cannot take any further action.

Responsibility

Neil Haslam, Waste Management Officer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 716351.

8. Ref: 104028 – Community Facilities, Breadsall Hilltop, Derwent - raised 28.04.04

Issue

A resident of Coniston Crescent first raised this issue on 28 April concerned about the lack of community facilities in the Breadsall Hilltop area. She wanted a facility for the young and old people in the area. She felt that the lack of facilities could be contributing to the constant vandalism in the area.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

When Crest Homes developed the land near to High View School two years ago, residents were told football pitches and a community hall would be provided. He asked the panel to find out if the facilities were still planned. Councillor Roberts informed the meeting that about £47,000 is held by the Council for work to be done on the Crest Homes site. He raised concerns about the level of vandalism at the Hilltop Youth and Community Centre on St. Andrews View and suggested that the money is used to make the current facilities more secure, before any new facilities are pursued.

It was reported that £46,400 was held by the Council for community facilities on the Crest Homes site, as a result of a section 106 agreement signed on 31 March 1998 with Crest Homes. This meant £129,000 was available to be spent towards developing the open space and/or education and community facilities on the development site. In 1998 the Council approved spending £82,600 for the Adult Education Centre on the site, which has all been spent, and allocating the remaining £46,400 to lay out the land, when it is adopted by the Council, for public open space.

This site has not yet been adopted by the Council and is being maintained by the developer. Derby Parks have notified the developer of the requirements to bring the open space up to an acceptable standard to enable the land to be adopted by Parks. Derby Parks will not adopt any open space until the developer has achieved the standard and they request Derby Parks to adopt the land. Derby Parks is continuing to ask for a response from the developer.

In response to a question about interest it was reported that the £46,400 does not accrue interest that can be used for the project. It does accrue interest but the Council uses it, along with other accrued interest, to offset the costs of borrowing money.

Derby Parks had a site meeting with Crest on 24 May 2004 when we asked for various outstanding items to be completed and for clarification of the boundary ownerships. We wrote to them on 20 August because we had had no response. We have now received a letter from Crest Homes stating they are investigating some issues about boundary ownership between the open space and neighbouring houses. The adoption cannot progress until this has been resolved.

Crest is continuing to maintain the site but residents use the site as a dumping ground and Crest will clear the site of rubbish and repair the eastern boundary when the boundary issues are resolved and the adoption of the land takes place. Crest will keep us informed as to when the outstanding work commences and the site is ready for adoption. Crest has not said when these issues will be resolved.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

A resident asked who in the Council is responsible for bringing the developers into line, and asked whether they would be at the meeting to respond.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor Roberts explained he was committed to getting improvements in the area, but despite nothing being delivered so far he will continue to push this issue.

Councillor Redfern noted that £47,000 back in 1998 wouldn't buy now what it would then and so the Council are losing money while the adoption is being delayed.

Councillor West asked if the adoption of this open space should be under planning. He confirmed it could not be laid out as public open space until it had been adopted. Richard Smail explained that because the land would be Public Open Space rather than highways, the land negotiations with the developer are done through Commercial Services.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To request that the relevant officer attends the next meeting to explain the process and why there have been delays in adopting and the land.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

Derby City Parks is in regular contact with the developer to try to sort out the remaining issues regarding adoption of this piece of land. Adoption cannot yet take place because of the difficulties encountered on this site. These are the same as many others to be laid out as public open space by a developer and then adopted by the Council and are:

- Developer not completing the work required and not completing the work to a standard acceptable for the Council to adopt.
- Developer not providing correct information in order for the Council to progress adoption - on this site we have requested information regarding boundary ownership and responsibilities and a plan showing the the development as built and the area of land to be adopted as public open space.

There have been approximately 20 meetings and site visits regarding this site and its adoption between early 1999 to middle of 2002. A number of these were with the developer, others involved site inspections to review progress of work done by the developer to complete the open space and bring the site up to a satisfactory condition for adoption.

Since 2003 we have been pushing the developer to provide the necessary information and while some has been provided this still remains inadequate for purposes of adoption. Estates has been instructed to progress adoption, but they are unable to do so until they have all the necessary information. The Council has few powers to enforce the developer to complete the work and handover the site - there is no bond or similar financial penalty attached to this site.

Progress on pushing completion and adoption of this site has been compounded due to a number of periods of long term sickness by the officer dealing with this project, which has meant that other staff have had to try and pick the project up as part of an already heavy workload.

The £46,000 is held by the Council in the capital reserve and has been allocated for capital works to this site once adoption of the site has been completed. It is proposed to carry out consultation with the local community on what the money should be spent on.

We are continuing to push for progress on adoption of this site, but remain very much in the hands of the developer in providing the information requested and completing work to our satisfaction.

Responsibility

Andrew Morgan, Landscape and Development Officer, Commercial Services, telephone 715547

9. Ref: 104030 – Provision of litter bins, Derwent Ward - raised 28.04.04

Issue

This issue was first raised on 28 April concerned that Derwent ward was not benefiting from any of the new 82 dog waste bins.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor E Berry informed the meeting that on 27 April Council Cabinet approved that 82 dual-purpose bins would be installed across the city, but unfortunately none were in Derwent ward. However, there would be an additional 100 dual-purpose bins replacing existing old bins and she believed that some were in Derwent ward. Councillor E. Berry confirmed that in total there would be 182 dual-purpose bins installed in Derby during the year.

It was also confirmed that Chaddesden Park would get five new dual-purpose bins. The 14 new dual purpose litter bins will be installed in Area Panel 1 during 2004/05.

Commercial Services have obtained quotes to manufacture and supply the new bins. Two companies have been selected who are making prototypes of the bins. These will be completed by the end of August and assessed by Parks staff on their ease of use, robustness and compliance with the specification. They will also be site tested for a short period. A decision will be made in September on which bin to select.

Commercial Services are also seeking quotes for the installation of the bins.

It is proposed to start installing the bins later in the autumn with completion of the first phase by the end of 2004.

Derby Parks cannot confirm the exact programme dates because we are having to modify the design of the proposed new dual purpose bin, to take on board comments about the prototype we had made. There was a variety of potential problems with finger traps, weight of lid, access by the public to the waste and this has pushed installation back by a few months. We now anticipate a possible start in January 2005. The revised design will have a lockable lid that has an opening in it for rubbish to be pushed through. The bins are then unlocked to empty the rubbish. This reduces the health and safety issues and the risk of people/children pulling out rubbish and dog waste and throwing it around.

There has been great demand for the installation of additional dog waste bins. To have bins exclusively for dog waste results in increased costs because there is inevitably a need for ordinary litter bins on site as well. In practice, the ordinary litterbins, most of which currently do not have lids and are open to the elements, are also used for dog waste disposal. By having dual purpose bins, with lids, we are reducing the potential smell and health hazard, as well as being able to fund more of the additional bins requested.

Emptying frequencies for most bins will be twice per week in the summer period - April to October and once per week in the winter period - November to March. There are a number of exceptions in high usage areas where bins are emptied daily in the summer and twice per week in the winter. Emptying frequencies are monitored and can be amended up or down as the need arises.

It is proposed that bins in or adjacent to play areas and cafes are painted in a different colour to the standard bin and clearly marked as being **not for dog waste**. In addition new and replacement bins will be located where they are visible but away from seats or benches so as to reduce any potential nuisance to people sitting. This will have the added benefit of removing the wasp hazard.

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Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

A local resident informed the panel that the new litterbin that had recently been installed on Mansfield Road near to the Paddock Public House, has been vandalised. Another resident asked why the bin was not for dog waste, as they had thought it would be for all waste types.

A resident from Derwent stated that more dog waste bins are needed in the area. She informed the panel that at the moment there were only two in Derwent. The large area of grass near Athlone Close and Pear Tree Court, off Perth Street, needs both dog and general waste bins.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Richard Smail explained that the new litterbins are called dual purpose, which means that they can receive all litter and dog waste, however there will be a litter only bin, because of health and safety issues, installed within play areas.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Update on replacement of the vandalised bin and clarify if it can be used for dog waste.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

The vandalised bin was positioned on the pavement by the highway and therefore was provided by Streetcare, part of Development and Cultural Services and not by Derby Parks in Commercial Services. Dog waste could have been put into this bin. The Streetcare cleaners noticed that before it was vandalised it wasn't being used and therefore they do not plan to replace it. The amount of litter along the road will continue to be monitored but initial observations indicate that nearly all of the litter is thrown from cars.

Responsibility

Richard Winter, Assistant Waste Management Officer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 716352

10. Ref: 104034 – Parking on Sitwell Street, Spondon - raised 07.07.04

Issue

A resident was concerned about the amount of parking on pavements on Sitwell Street in Spondon.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

It was felt that traffic wardens were needed around Sitwell Street to stop parking on pavements. It was noted that there used to be double yellow lines on Sitwell Street.

Inspector McLaughlin reported that the Police had tried increasing the use of Traffic Wardens in the past but it is only for a short term before they are moved to other areas. He explained that parking on the pavement is only an offence if it causes an obstruction.

Officers have investigated the lack of yellow lines on Sitwell Street and have issued an order for the yellow lines to be remarked.

The work has been completed.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

A resident confirmed that yellow lines had been reinstated.

An Oakwood resident felt that it has become a privilege for disabled people with blue badges to park on yellow lines and allows roads to be community parking for disabled people. This is defeating the object.

Another local resident stated that she had got double yellow lines outside her property, but nobody takes any notice.

There were a number of comments about parking on pavements and specifically about the frequency of deliveries to small shops. It was asked if this amounted to an obstruction or not.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Inspector MacLaughlin gave an explanation of what constituted an obstruction. He explained that if somebody is walking along a pavement and they can get by, then there is no offence, but if somebody pushing a double buggy for example and cannot pass by, then this is an offence.

Councillor P Berry considered that although the yellow lines are there, there is nobody to enforce them, which attracts more cars and makes the problem worse

Councillor Brown explained that blue badges do not qualify disabled people to park on yellow lines. There is a Council booklet informing where blue badges can park. This happens in many areas of Derby. He suggested that time restrictions are looked at for deliveries to the area. This has been done in other parts of the city.

Councillor Redfern asked that if it is not a problem to park on the pavements, because it doesn't cause an obstruction, then something should be looked at to make sure that pedestrians are safe on the pavements.

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Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To request that the Police consider more traffic wardens patrolling this area.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

Inspector McLaughlin has directed both the Derby North Traffic Wardens and the Spondon beat Constables to Sitwell Street to raise the profile of the problem. A number of fixed penalty notices have been issued. The beat Constables have been tasked to continue to pay attention to this location to educate drivers, deter offences and prosecute those motorists who continue to disregard the double yellow lines.

Responsibility

Stewart Corbett, Highway Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715008.
Inspector Graham McLaughlin, Police Divisional Headquarters, telephone 613131

11. Ref: 104039 – Dog Waste bins on Chaddesden Park, Chaddesden - raised 01.09.04

Issue

A resident raised a concern on 1 September about the introduction of the new dual-purpose bins for the collection of dog waste. She felt that this was unhygienic. She was also concerned about the frequency of the collection of waste from the designated dog waste bins, which are often full of smelly waste. She wanted an assurance that the new bins will be installed after consultation with local residents and said that she did think that it was appropriate to install dog waste bins near seats, cafes or children's play areas.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

There has been great demand for the installation of additional dog waste bins. To have bins exclusively for dog waste results in increased costs because there is inevitably a need for ordinary litter bins on site as well. In practice, the ordinary litterbins, most of which currently do not have lids and are open to the elements, are also used for dog waste disposal. By having dual purpose bins, with lids, we are reducing the potential smell and health and safety concerns, as well as being able to fund more of the additional bins requested.

Emptying frequencies for most bins will be twice per week in the summer period - April to October - and once per week in the winter period -November to March. There are a number of exceptions in high usage areas where bins are emptied daily in the summer and twice per week in the winter. Emptying frequencies are monitored and can be amended up or down as the need arises.

It is proposed that bins in or adjacent to play areas and cafes are painted in a different colour to the standard bin and are clearly marked as being **not for dog waste**. In addition, new and replacement bins will be located where they are visible but away from seats or benches so as to reduce any potential nuisance to people sitting down. This will have the added benefit of removing the wasp hazard.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

A local resident stated that at the Friends of Chaddesden Park meeting that morning, there had been concerns expressed about the waste bins around the playground and in front of the café, as people are putting dog waste in them. These bins should also be for litter only. She informed the panel that they hope that coloured bins are installed. She requested that consultation take place with the committee, and stated that in the minutes of the last area panel meeting it stated that an officer would consult with the committee, but has yet nobody had.

Another member of the public stated that the bins on Chaddesden Park state that they are for general and dog waste.

A young resident was concerned that people do not always clear up their own dogs' waste and signs needed to be put up to encourage people to clean up after their dogs.

Jack Andrews, Oakwood resident, explained that it is essential that dog waste is removed within three days, as it can cause eye conditions, and ultimately blindness.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor West explained that he had had a briefing meeting with Steve Medlock, from Derby Parks, and he stated that he would be attending the Friends of Chaddesden Park Committee Meeting.

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Councillor Ahern thanked Jack Andrews for his comment, and asked that these bins are emptied on a daily basis. He confirmed that the issue of dog waste is one of the topics being covered in the new year by the Planning and Environment Scrutiny Commission.

Richard Smail confirmed that Derby Parks would be consulting with the Friends of Chaddesden Park Committee at their next meeting.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To request that the dog waste bins are emptied on a daily basis. To request that the Friends of Chaddesden Park are consulted about the location of bins on the park.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

We will be attending the next meeting of the Friends of Chaddesden Park on 26 January 2005 and taking the plans showing the proposed locations for the five new bins planned for Chaddesden Park. We have also consulted the Local Ward Councillors on the location of new bins in Chaddesden Park. We aim to install the new bins in February 2005 after the consultation has been completed.

There has been great demand for the installation of additional dog waste bins. To have bins exclusively for dog waste results in increased costs because there is inevitably a need for ordinary litter bins on site as well. In practice, the ordinary litter bins, most of which currently do not have lids and are open to the elements, are also used for dog waste disposal. By having dual purpose bins, with lids, we are reducing the potential smell and health hazard, as well as being able to fund more of the additional bins requested.

Emptying frequencies for most bins will be twice per week in the summer period - April to October - and once per week in the winter period - November to March. There are a number of exceptions in high usage areas where bins are emptied daily in the summer and twice per week in the winter. Emptying frequencies are monitored and can be amended up or down as the need arises.

It is proposed that bins in or adjacent to play areas and cafes are painted in a different colour to the standard bin and clearly marked as being not for dog waste. In addition new and replacement bins will be located where they are visible but away from seats or benches so as to reduce any potential nuisance to people sitting. This will have the added benefit of removing the wasp hazard.

Responsibility

Andrew Morgan, Landscape and Development Officer, Commercial Services, telephone 715547

12. Ref: 104041 – Antisocial behaviour, Maryland Road Garages, Chaddesden - raised 27.10.04

Issue

Two young residents raised concern about teenagers making lots of noise by banging on the Maryland Road garage doors at night preventing local people getting to sleep.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

None.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor Bolton explained that she is aware of the issue and that two of the garages have been removed and a new fence put up around the area. She confirmed that the police regularly visit the area as a hot spot.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To ask Derby Homes to monitor the area.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

Derby Homes have requested that Community Watch Patrol visit the garages on a nightly basis, and report back on any anti-social behaviour they witness. The Beat Officer for Chaddesden is also aware of the problem and is in the process of trying to identify the perpetrators.

Responsibility

Peter Matthews, Local Manager, Derby Homes, telephone 716564

13. Ref: 104042 - Dog owners, Chaddesden - raised 27.10.04

Issue

A young resident raised a concern about a local resident who lets their dog out for about 20 minutes on its own, and it chases the local children and tries to attack them.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

None

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor Ahern requested that Inspector McLaughlin took details from the resident after the meeting.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Inspector McLaughlin to contact the resident after the meeting.

To ask Derby Homes to investigate the problem.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

Derby Homes have spoken to the young resident who came to the meeting. Unfortunately he doesn't know the actual address where the dog owner lives. Derby Homes have agreed to take appropriate action when they receive information about the exact address of the dog owner.

Responsibility

Peter Matthews, Local Manager, Derby Homes, telephone 716564
Inspector Graham McLaughlin, Police Divisional Headquarters, telephone 613131

14. Ref: 104043 - Logs in Chesapeake Road Wood, Chaddesden - raised 27.10.04

Issue

A young resident asked if the logs in the wood by Chesapeake Road could be removed, because people are setting fire to them.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

None.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor Bolton thanked the children for raising the issue at the meeting.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To ask Derby Parks to investigate and respond.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

The concerns have been passed onto the Arboricultural Section and Grounds Maintenance who have investigated the situation.

The logs are part of a seating area that has been purpose built with the logs attached to the ground. There is evidence that a fire has been made against one of the seats, but the damage is not sufficient to need the seats removing. It is proposed to take no further action at the moment but if there are further incidents reported we will review our decision.

Responsibility

Andrew Morgan, Landscape and Development Officer, Commercial Services, telephone 715547

15. Ref: 104044 - Pavement on Chesapeake Road, near Chesapeake Community Centre, Chaddesden - raised 27.10.04

Issue

A young resident informed the area panel that the pavement near to Chesapeake Community centre has been dug up but it is not yet finished. When will it be completed?

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

None

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor Ahern agreed to get details after the meeting.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To investigate the reason for the work and when it will be completed.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

This work is being carried out by Transco. The areas left open are vent holes for maintenance work to their service. These should be closed fairly shortly. We have asked the street works inspector to ensure they are closed and reinstatements completed as soon as the tests are complete.

Responsibility

John Edgar, Maintenance Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715067.

16. Ref: 104045 - Car Parking on Nottingham Road and Surface Water on Reginald Road South, Chaddesden - raised 27.10.04

Issue

A resident from Mayfield Road raised a concern over the parking along Nottingham Road up to the Oaktree Nursery. He stated that the parking had ruined the road in the past, and during the half term week, there have been no cars parked outside the nursery and it had been great. He asked for no parking on this side of Nottingham Road.

He was also concerned about the deep puddle on the corner of Reginald Road South and Reginald Road North. He felt a blocked drain causes it and that it had been blocked for over four years. Now the road colour had changed, it was very difficult to see the puddle when driving. He also thanked the Council for the work recently completed on Reginald Road South.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

None.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor Bolton confirmed that the Reginald Road South had been completed three days ahead of scheduled, and stated that she had received letters from the public about the great work.

With regard to parking at Oaktree Nursery, she stated that this issue had already been raised. She informed the public that an application to increase the children at the nursery had been turned down, and confirmed that there will be a traffic survey carried out in the area.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To investigate the request for restricting parking on Nottingham Road.

To investigate the cause of the puddle.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

Car parking and road safety on Reginald Road South are issues which have been looked at several times in the past, following complaints by residents and difficulties experienced by the bus operators. The introduction of further waiting restrictions in the area is not something that has been felt appropriate for a number of reasons:

- the nature of some of the parking around the nursery is very short term with parents dropping off children; any double yellow lines are likely to be ignored at this time.
- although some parking does occur throughout the day on both sides of Reginald Road South near the Nursery, the existing double yellow lines are well observed and provide about 15 metres of protection for vehicles turning into Reginald Road South or exiting onto Nottingham Road.
- this parking can cause some inconvenience to other highway users, particularly buses, but it is not considered to be a road safety problem. In fact, the parked vehicles help to slow

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vehicles down in this area by narrowing the available carriageway. Removing parked cars is likely to result in an increase in vehicle speeds and bring about road safety problems.

One option that now presents itself, because of changes in the Traffic Signs Regulations, is the introduction of a Bus Stop Clearway at the two bus stops close to the nursery, there are more restrictive than double yellow lines and only being of a relatively short length tend to be better observed. This should improve the situation for the bus operators as well as providing some additional gaps in the parked cars for other drivers to use when negotiating this end of Reginald Road South. However, before introducing a 24-hour no loading and waiting restriction at the bus stops some consultation will be required.

The blocked drain at Reginald Road South/Reginald Road North is under investigation. We had hoped to have the jetting unit and camera survey completed by Christmas but it looks likely to be mid January. Once the cause of the problem has been established remedial work will be carried out to remedy the problem.

Responsibility

John Edgar, Maintenance Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715067.
Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715019

17. Ref: 104046- Resurfacing Worcester Crescent, Derwent - raised 27.10.04

Issue

A resident from Derwent, explained that the resurfacing on Worcester Crescent was awful, and that it had only taken two hours to be done. She confirmed that they had received letters stating that the road would be 'resurfaced'. She asked that somebody clarifies what 'resurfacing' actually means, because the work had only involved putting a thin spray of tar and chippings over the surface. This means all the potholes and grass are still there. Whereas on Reginald Road South, which had been resurfaced, the old tarmac had been taken off and a new layer put on.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

None.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor P Berry explained that this had also happened in Spondon, and is a surface top dressing, and not resurfacing.

Councillor Redfern agreed with the resident, and considered that the letter suggested that it would be resurfaced. She asked that an officer attend the next meeting to explain the differences between surface dressing and resurfacing.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To ask for the work to be investigated and to clarify the meaning of 'resurfacing'.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

The standard of the work completed by the contractor is still under investigation.

On a related issue, in addition to the carriageway surfacing dressing on Worcester Crescent there is a footway scheme to be carried out in the new year.

Responsibility

John Edgar, Maintenance Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715067.

18. Ref: 104047 – Recycling Cardboard, All wards - raised 27.10.04

Issue

A resident from Derwent Heights stated that the kerbside recycling scheme recently started in the area, had proved very successful. However, he questioned why there were no facilities to recycle cardboard. Could it be introduced in the near future?

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Another resident suggested that it was because there were no contractors to collect cardboard from the kerbside.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor Ahern noted the request.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To provide a response for the next meeting.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

The Rethink Rubbish scheme, which is part of the Council's Recycling Plan, is now successfully recycling over 40% of all household waste in parts of Oakwood and Chaddesden as well as Chellaston, Mickleover, Littleover and Allestree. On 9 November 2004 the Council Cabinet approved, subject to budgetary confirmation, the further roll out of this service into the remaining areas of Oakwood and Chaddesden, all of Spondon, as well as Chester Green and Darley Abbey in 2005.

The scheme operates on an alternate week basis and is a partnership between residents and the Council to divert large proportions of the domestic waste including garden waste, cans, glass, plastic bottles, paper, magazines and textiles for recycling. All residents in the new areas will be advised of the scheme by post and invited to attend exhibitions in advance of the first collections. A Project Summary document has been produced to provide fuller details of the scheme.

A presentation about the introduction of the scheme to the remaining areas of Oakwood and Chaddesden and all of Spondon will be made at the **Area Panel 1 meeting on 9 March 2005**. Information about the exhibitions for residents in Oakwood and Chaddesden will be available at the meeting on 12 January 2005. The scheme will be rolled out over a number of months with start dates shown in the table below:

Area and name of Collection Round	Date Rethink Rubbish Collections start
Round G – Oakwood and Chaddesden	21 March 2005
Round E - Spondon	9 May 2005
Round N – Chaddesden, Chester Green and Darley Abbey	11 July 2005

We are continually improving our recycling schemes and hope to be able to collect cardboard in the future. At present cardboard cannot go in the paper bag because:

- It is very bulky and we'd have to get larger and more expensive vehicles and
- The material is only worth about £5 a tonne whereas just newspaper is worth £35 a tonne.

We are currently putting together a new composting plant so that from next year cardboard can be recycled through the Brown bin scheme. We also have the cardboard banks at most of the supermarkets, including Morrisons where cardboard can be recycled into cardboard.

Responsibility

Neil Haslam, Waste Management Officer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 716351.

19. Ref: 104048 - Grass on pavement, Taddington Road Surgery, Derwent - raised 27.10.04

Issue

The Chair of the Sussex Circus Community Panel had received a complaint from a resident who had slipped on the grass on the pavement outside the Taddington Road Surgery. He asked who is responsible for removing grass cuttings from this pavement, who should be contacted in future to remove the cuttings and who should be contacted if someone is injured from slipping on grass cuttings.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

None.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

The resident was handed the Grass Cuttings leaflet that includes information about grass cuttings.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To investigate who should remove the cuttings, who should be contacted and who to contact in case of injury.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

Other than on warden controlled Council housing areas, the specification for grass cutting does not include clearing the grass from footpaths. Reported accidents of this nature have been very few. A recent review of grass cutting by the Council's Planning and Environment Commission agreed this policy.

If a resident suffers an injury on the road or pavement they should contact Streetcare on 715000.

The Council Grass Cutting leaflet sets out more information about grass cutting in Derby. Complaints or comments regarding grass cutting should be made by phoning 01332 715538 or emailing grass.cutting@derby.gov.uk

Responsibility

Andrew Morgan, Landscape and Development Officer, Commercial Services, telephone 715547

20. Ref: 104049 - Bus services, Spondon/Chaddesden - raised 27.10.04

Issue

A Spondon resident raised a concern that the Number 9 bus service through Chaddesden and Spondon to Ockbrook and Borrowash is was being withdrawn after 6 pm and that other day time bus services in Spondon were reducing to a 2 hour service in non-peak time, and a 1 hour service during peak time. He felt that with the reduction in number of the post offices in the area, more bus services are required for Spondon. Could the Urban Bus Fund be used to pay for bus services in Spondon?

When will the electronic bus information at bus stops be provided in Spondon?

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

The Chair of the Chaddesden Links Community Panel, explained that the Albert Road Estate has similar problems with no bus service at all. She asked that the number 9 bus service is redirected through the estate. There are already six bus stops, and the estate can be driven round in four minutes. She raised her concern that there is no bus service, the post office is subject to closure, there is a possibility that the housing office could close and the local telephone box removed. She explained that there is a primary school on the estate, a lot of both elderly and very young people and the nearest useable bus stop is now nearly three quarters of a mile away – up a hill.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor P. Berry stated that he had asked whether more bus services could be provided in Spondon because of the post office closures. He explained that the issues regarding bus services were ignored by the Post Office, and he had also been informed that the bus companies were planning to reduce more services in Spondon. He reported that the issue relating to post office closures, had brought to light many other issues.

Councillor Ahern informed the resident that he will continue to argue for the reintroduction of buses for the Asterdale Estate.

Councillor Roberts reported that he attends frequent meetings at the Bus User Group that involves Council officers and the local bus companies. Arriva attend but Trent rarely attends. He informed the meeting that there is a bus service that is sponsored by Derwent Community Team– Numbers 101 and 102 – that go through the Derwent ward to Morrisons and Sainsburys. These services are being extended to Scarborough Rise. He explained that he had asked if they would consider servicing Asda, and go through the Waterford Drive Estate. This would provide at least an hourly service. He agreed to provide an update of this at the next meeting.

Councillor Bolton reported that the possible closure of the Local Housing Office at Roosevelt Avenue was still out for consultation.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To investigate the reduction in bus services and respond to the suggestion to use the Urban Bus Fund.

To update on progress to install electronic bus information for Spondon.

Area Panel 1 Update Report – for 12 January 2005

Councillor Roberts to provide an update on the proposal to extend the Derwent Community Team sponsored bus service.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

Urban Bus Challenge funding no longer exists. It ended in 2003 and was due to be replaced with a combination of funds that include the former Rural Bus Challenge, but, so far, Department of Transport have not announced anything.

The operator who was running the contract for Service 9 in the evening - jointly funded by the County Council and City Council, and managed by County - decided not to continue with it. Only one operator, Stagecoach, put in a bid for the contract, but their price was so high that neither the County nor the City Council had enough budget to pay for it.

Electronic bus information known as RTI – Real Time Information will be installed in Spondon, on the Spondon Flyer route during the current financial year. This is paid for by Capital funding, unlike the service 9 which would have to be paid for from Revenue funding.

Responsibility

Peter Price, Transport Policy Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715034

21. Ref: 104050 - Railings, Chaddesden Park Allotments, Chaddesden - raised 27.10.04

Issue

A Chaddesden resident asked for an update on the railings around Chaddesden Park Allotments.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

None.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor Bolton explained that she was aware that there are issues that need addressing, and aims to set up a meeting with the Chair and Secretary of the Allotments Society. She agreed that the fencing is not adequate. Hopefully a report will be available at the next meeting.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To update on progress to improve the railings.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

This site is leased by the City Council to the Allotments Association. The terms of these leases usually make the Association responsible for maintaining the site, including boundaries, an arrangement which applies on most allotment sites across the City. Parks has contacted Estates and requested confirmation of the details of the lease that applies to this site.

The Allotments Association has submitted a funding application to Area Panel 1 and Parks has obtained two prices, one for 21 linear metres of Heras Fencing and one for 40 metres of temporary post and rail with reinforcing mesh and chestnut pale for using to cover weak spots in the existing fencing where break-ins were occurring.

Parks is currently looking at what other funding is available to pay for the fencing. Any new fencing would require the Allotments Association to be responsible for future maintenance, which they are reluctant to agree to unless it is good quality fencing that is erected.

A site visit took place with the association on 17 December to consider alternative solutions to the original fencing proposals. A new solution has now been agreed that will involve Derby Parks clearing the undergrowth from the area that was due to be fenced off and including it within Chaddesden Park. Meanwhile the Association will gather more quotes to provide steel palisade security fencing on the inside their boundary hedge. They recognise it is a costly project and will add to it year on year if other potential external funding could be sourced. This would be a largely maintenance free option.

Responsibility

Andrew Morgan, Landscape and Development Officer, Commercial Services, telephone 715547

22. Ref: 104051 - Area Panel Agendas and Reports, All wards - raised 27.10.04

Issue

A Chaddesden resident raised a concern over the new procedure that means only the area panel agenda is sent to residents and it will cost £2.50 for anyone requesting copies of the area panel minutes. He asked the area panel to review the decision, so that residents can continue to receive them through the post at no cost. Residents are not paid to attend the meeting, so why should they have to pay for the papers.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

The resident confirmed that when he visited the Council House reception, he was told he could view the minutes, or have a copy and take them away for £2.50. He felt this was undemocratic. He questioned that if the Council are continuing to pay for postage when sending out the agenda, then why can't the minutes be included in that.

Another resident asked why you have to pay in advance, but they are free of charge at the meetings. Does the public charge include the councillors and officers.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Richard Smail informed the meeting that a letter had been sent out to residents on the area panel mailing list, explaining the new procedure – a copy of which had been sent to all Councillors. Some Councillors present at the meeting reported that they had not seen the letter. He apologised if the members of the panel had not had the opportunity to read the letter. He explained that the information now distributed is the actual agenda, but not the whole set of papers. He confirmed that the £2.50 charge is for a copy of the minutes, but if a copy of the entire papers is required, it will cost £5. He explained that this process and charges are in line with the process and charges for other Council committee papers.

Councillor Roberts felt that it was an extortionate cost for the public. Councillor Ahern asked who had made this decision.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To request that the decision is reviewed.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

A motion was considered by Council on November 24 to reintroduce the original process for the distribution of agenda papers. Council agreed to an amendment to make 40 copies of each agenda available free of charge at the Council House to anyone who collected it. One copy for each person. Anyone attending the area panel meeting will receive a copy if the allocated 40 sets have not all been distributed.

Improvements have been made to the front page of the agenda to include the title of all community issues in the Update report and the name of each funding application.

Responsibility

Richard Smail, Area Panel Manager, Policy Directorate, telephone 258505

23. Ref: 104052 - Sewer Installations in Oakwood, Oakwood - raised 27.10.04

Issue

An Oakwood resident informed the panel that over the past few weeks, there had been disturbances due to roads work to allow larger sewers to be installed. He asked if this was because there are plans for further urban sprawl beyond the boundaries of Oakwood.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

None.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor Latham understood the concern, especially as there is a nearby farm up for sale. However, she was not aware of any developments. She explained the land is outside Derby City and falls within the responsibility of Erewash Borough Council and much of it is Greenbelt.

Councillor West stated that he understood the work was as a result of problems with flash floods at the junction of Springwood Drive.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To investigate reason for sewer work.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

Severn Trent Water has informed us that this is a flood alleviation scheme. The purpose of the scheme is to upgrade the highway and surface water drainage in the local area. It is part of a programme that includes works in various areas of Derby that should all be completed over the next two years.

Responsibility

John Edgar, Maintenance Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715067.

24. Ref: 102007 – Petition - Proposed Youth Facilities – Spondon – raised 29.05.02

Issue

This issue was first raised on 29 May 2002, by a member of the public who questioned how proposals for youth facilities including a skateboard/bmx park in the area were progressing. Inspector Gibson reported that the Police had donated £2,000 to this scheme. A petition was submitted to the meeting on 7 July 2004 opposing the proposals to install youth facilities on Willowcroft Road recreation ground

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

The application to the Small Change Fund from Spondon Youth Initiative was successful and £30,000 was approved subject to providing details of any variations that are made as a result of the consultation exercise.

It was reported that the first consultation event was held on Wednesday 26 May to identify what pieces of equipment the young people would like on site. They were particularly keen on a sports wall and skateboarding equipment. The second event was held on Wednesday 2 June for local residents. They highlighted some concerns about the type of equipment preferred and potential problems.

It was agreed that the consultation period would be extended and that the Landscape Section of Parks would draw up some options for consideration at another local meeting in July. A leaflet explaining the options will also be circulated widely to residents surrounding the open space.

As part of the agreed extension to the consultation exercise, over 400 questionnaires were sent to homes around Willowcroft Road Recreation Ground and over 300 more were sent to shops, libraries and people who had attended previous exercises.

Parks Officers also arranged another exhibition on Willowcroft Recreation Ground and displayed the proposals for residents to view between 4 and 7 pm on Monday 2 August. Over 30 young people and residents attended and gave their views.

The closing date to return the questionnaires was Monday 16 August and 65 were returned. The views given at the exhibition, the results of the questionnaires and the information received in the petition are now being assessed.

A full report on the proposals for youth facilities will be presented at the area panel meeting on 27 October 2004.

A full report is included in Item 7, the Petitions part of the main agenda on 27 October.

The report recommends that:

- a sports wall is installed, the old playground removed and replaced with a new one in a central location and the football pitch moved slightly to allow the construction of the new play area and that
- no wheeled sports facility is located on Cambridge Street/Willowcroft Recreation Ground.
- we carry out further consultation with residents around Gravel Pit Lane Recreation Ground with a view to installing a sports wall on that site.

It is also proposed that Parks will look at the provision of wheeled sports facilities as part of the strategic provision of outdoor youth facilities in the City to be presented as a report to Cabinet.

Area Panel 1 Update Report – for 12 January 2005

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

A member of the public thanked the panel for the Skateboarding facilities in the park, but asked if there would be any further consultation about works happening on the park.

She asked if the new young persons play area would be locked, as there had been instances when equipment had been set alight. She also asked if the fence could be made higher.

A resident of from Bendall Green in Littleover, felt that residents across the city do not have faith in the consultation process. His own experience was like the Spondon experience and he had been giving his local residents support. He explained that he was pleased that the Council had listened to the Spondon community.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor E Berry confirmed that there would be no further consultation, and that the new equipment would be installed in the position outlined in Option A. The majority of residents agreed this. She explained that the sports wall would be where the current play area is now, and that the young children's play area would be where the canopy was sited at the consultation event. She confirmed that this would be fenced off with a waist high fence, so that parents could see their children playing, but it would not be locked.

She confirmed that a letter will be sent out to everybody who took part in the consultation, to inform them of the locations.

Councillor Ahern asked the panel if they accepted the recommendations, and thanked everybody who took part in the consultation and the lead petitioners.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

To note the report and to accept the recommendations. These are to:

- Install the sports wall, replace the old playground with a new one in a more central location and move the football pitch.
- Not to install wheeled sports facilities on Cambridge Street / Willowcroft Road recreation ground.
- Conduct further consultation with residents around Gravel Pit Lane recreation ground, with a view to installing a sports wall on that site..
- Write to the lead petitioner and all the people who had contributed to the consultation, to provide an update and confirmation of a decision.

To note that Commercial Services propose to look at the provision of wheeled sports facilities as part of the strategic provision of outdoor use facilities in the City and that it will be presented as a report to Council Cabinet.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

A planning application has been submitted for the sportswall and relocation of the play area at Cambridge Street/Willowcroft Road Recreation Ground.

The work will be tendered in January 2005 with a start on site to be made in March 2005.

Responsibility

Andrew Morgan, Landscape and Development Officer, Commercial Services, telephone 715547

25. Ref: 104040 – Petition – Elmwood Drive, Derwent - raised 01.09.04

Issue

A petition signed by 20 residents was received by Development and Cultural Services in June 2004 concerned that the road and pavements in Elmwood Drive needed resurfacing and the drains emptying.

Action reported at the meeting on 27 October 2004

A report was presented to the area panel meeting in response to the petition.

The gullies have now been cleaned out and have been placed on the cleansing schedule to ensure that they are cleaned on an annual basis.

An inspection of the carriageway and footways has been carried out and it is accepted that major maintenance works are required. This year's programme of major works is already established therefore we will include the necessary works in the 2005/06 programme. In the meantime, the roads and footways will be inspected and any minor repairs to maintain them in a safe condition will be carried out.

Elmwood Drive, from Mansfield Road to the end, is proposed for a footway reconstruction scheme for the 2005/06 maintenance programme. The issue of the recessed parking bays will be considered at the design stage. Engineering Design will look to develop the scheme around February/March 2005.

Public response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

None.

Council response at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Councillor Redfern confirmed that she would be speaking to residents about the idea to install parking bays and that a salt box would also be provided as part of the improvement work.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 27 October 2004

Update on progress.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 12 January 2005

Both the footway and carriageway are in next years programme of works. This assumes the budget allocation will be similar to this year. The design for the scheme will probably start around February with the intention to start on site about May 2005.

Responsibility

John Edgar, Maintenance Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715067.