

ITEM 5

**AREA PANEL ONE – UPDATE REPORT
FOR 9 MARCH 2005
WEST PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL, SPONDON**

**Area and Neighbourhood Unit
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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 12 January 2005

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.

To resolve the issue of the takeaway shop tenant not closing the council security gates at the rear of the shops many people have contacted the tenant. Councillors, staff from Derby Homes, Estates, the Anti Social Behaviour -ASB team as well as local residents have spoken to or written the tenant to ask him to keep the gates closed in the evening. 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 has been recognised 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.

A meeting was held on 30 September 2004 involving Councillor Redfern, Derby Homes, Derwent Community Team, the Scout Leader, the Area Panel Manager and local residents. Agreed to follow up 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.

The ASB 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. Richard Smail 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.

The scouts are considering erecting a fence at the back of the scout hut. Estates have confirmed that they support the idea but with certain conditions because the proposed fence will be on land that the Scout group already provide a maintenance contribution for. The Scout group will need to contribute to the maintenance responsibilities of any new developments on this land.

To keep maintenance costs low, provide effective security and to prevent vandalism the proposed fence should be a steel palisade fence. 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.

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Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

The scout leader explained that the situation has improved recently, but there have still been seven occasions when people using the Scout hut have suffered from anti social behaviour. She thanked the Police Inspector for meeting with her, but was not aware if the Youth service has visited the area yet. She explained that the anti vandal paint needs to be put on in dry weather. She confirmed that they are planning to apply to the area panel for funding for a security fence to help improve the situation.

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Councillor E. Berry was pleased that the situation had improved. Inspector McLaughlin suggested asking Derwent New Deal for support with the fence and Richard Smail explained that the scout group were also enquiring about Small Change funding.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Investigate progress with Youth Service involvement.
Scout group to develop their plans for a security fence.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

The Scout Leader is planning to apply to the area panel in June 2005 for funding for security fencing. The Scout Leader proposes that the scout group will maintain the grassed area inside any new fencing installed.

The guttering around the building has been ripped down three times since September 2004 and the Scout Group is leaving the repairs until the area is made secure. The front door and sidewall still suffer from graffiti.

Youth Services have identified a number of young people who were in the Coniston Crescent area. They are mainly 14 to 16 year old pupils from Da Vinci and Leesbrook schools. Youth workers are now working with staff in the schools and have referred the issue to the Anti Social Behaviour Team.

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 12 January 2005

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. Inspector McLaughlin confirmed that anti social behaviour is not acceptable and will be dealt with positively by his team. PC's Wendy Smith and Anita Phipps can be contacted on 07736 727183. The Anti Social Behaviour team has been and will continue to work with Police to resolve the issues.

The new lighting around the community centre has also been installed and is expected to make a significant impact to reduce anti social behaviour.

Considerable efforts have been taken to stamp out the nuisance created by motorcycles, including reducing access by motorcycles to Croft Wood. Extra police resources have been targeted in 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.

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. He confirmed that the Police equipment is ready to be installed as soon as the Council has completed their work. 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.

Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

There was a lot of concern about why it was taking so long to get the Police base open in the Community Centre.

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Councillor Latham expressed her concern over the delays and had asked the Council Chief Executive to investigate. She also confirmed that she had asked the Chief Executive about improved barriers being installed on some of the pathways in Oakwood.

Councillor Smalley explained that one reason for the delays was a problem with the installation of a special security door.

Area Panel 1 Update Report – for 9 March 2005

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Investigate reasons for the delay in opening the Police Office base and report on progress.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

The works to the police office were completed by 1 February 2005. The delays were mainly due to the installation of the new door and misunderstandings over the specification and extent of works required. At the time of this update the police were equipping the office and preparing to take occupation.

It is anticipated that funding will be made available from the Council Public Priorities fund for replacement windows and window security. Oakwood Community Association has also applied to the area panel for funding to support the improvement project. Planning permission is required, the windows will need to be custom made and the walls beneath the windows will need to be rebuilt. The works will not be completed for some months.

Responsibility

Julie Basford, Property Review Officer, Chief Executives, telephone 255545
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 12 January 2005

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. The Anti Social Behaviour team are working closely with the police and local petrol stations have been asked not to supply fuel to people on the trial bikes.

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.

Operation Throttle was started by the Police in September 2004 and included two exercises on separate weekends. After the first weekend there were, three arrests, two motorbike 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 number of offenders have been reported for summons and will appear in the Magistrate's Court at some future date.

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. 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

A meeting was held on 30 September 2004 involving Councillor Redfern, Derby Homes, Derwent Community Team, Janet Bailey Breadsall Parish Councillor, the Area Panel Manager and local residents. Janet Bailey identified additional access points 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.

In December 2004 fencing was erected opposite Stratford Road, next to the Paddock Public House and a new barrier/gate on the bridleway next to the Windmill Public House. This has significantly increased the level of difficulty to access the land on a motorcycle Inspector McLaughlin stated 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.

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Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

A local resident expressed his appreciation for the new fences. However, he was anticipating a reoccurrence of the problems in the spring with the lighter nights. There was evidence that some bikes are still using the area.

He confirmed that he was willing to support any projects that are set up to find alternative sites for the motorbikes.

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Councillor Redfern reported that she had been working with Sergeant Mick Cooper, Carol Hardwick from Derwent Community Team and some of the motorbike users to look for alternative sites.

Inspector McLaughlin confirmed the Police would take further action if the motorbikes returned.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

None.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

Local residents have applied to the area panel for funding to install two signs and to install a stile on a footpath to prevent access by motorbikes.

Responsibility

Andy Thomas, Anti-Social Behaviour Team, Community Safety Partnership, telephone 256910
Inspector Graham McLaughlin, Police Divisional Headquarters, telephone 613131
Carol Hardwick, Derwent Community Team, telephone 256383

4. 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 12 January 2005

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.

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.

These results meant the location did not meet the criteria for a new crossing. Observations on site revealed 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.

In response to the decision not to install a crossing the Area Panel requested a further investigation at a different time. It was reported that investigations are done in term time and on a weekday as it represents typical conditions.

In October 2004 Officers agreed to undertake a full 12 hour survey 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 the survey will be done in the new year.

Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Residents asked about the progress regarding the pedestrian crossing request. There were particular problems mentioned for people crossing Mansfield Road after getting off the H1 bus after 5pm, for the scouts crossing the road and residents of Elmwood Drive crossing where visibility is poor.

The scout leader asked if an officer could join her when they are trying to cross the road.

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

David Gartside confirmed that the new survey is being completed and that there will be a report at the next meeting. He explained that the previous survey had not identified an issue and he would wait until the next results are known before discussing possible options.

Councillor Gupta asked that residents are involved in the new investigation to assess the need for a pedestrian crossing.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

To report back on the results of the new survey.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

A full 12-hour traffic survey was carried out on 23 November 2004. The surveys were broken down into four sections of approximately 50 metres each between south of Stratford Road and north of Bishops Drive. In total the greatest number of pedestrians crossed in the section south of Stratford Road and the least crossed north of Bishops Drive. In total 480 pedestrians crossed in the 12 hour period.

The highest hourly level of pedestrians crossing the road took place between 7 and 8 am also in the section south of Stratford Road . During this hour 41 pedestrians crossed, 25 were adults and 16 were unaccompanied school children. Traffic flows were high in the region of 1,400 vehicles an hour.

The site now meets the Council's criteria for a pedestrian crossing facility and will be put forward into the preparation pool of schemes for next financial year. Whilst additional funding for new crossings totaling £200,000 has been approved by Cabinet for next financial year this is insufficient to fund all the schemes in the preparation pool. A priority programme will be drawn up before April 2005 in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Environment. Any schemes not being funded next year will remain as reserve schemes to be funded in future financial years or if additional resources are made available within the year.

The situation at Mansfield Road is complex. The most desirable location for pedestrians to cross is south of the Stratford Road junction. A crossing at this location will impact on the current bus stop location and a private access and there may be safety considerations due to the close proximity of the junction. Officers are looking at the options and will report their findings to the next panel meeting in June 2005.

Responsibility

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

5. 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 12 January 2005

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.

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 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.

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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.

Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

A resident asked why the process had taken so long and that the Council should be contacting them weekly. They recognised the need to make sure the land is properly maintained before adoption.

It was suggested that the Council stops working with Crest in future. Another resident suggested that any shareholder could attend the Crest annual general meeting and ask their Chief Executive why work has not been completed.

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Alf Bousie from Derby Parks confirmed that the Council would only adopt the land when it was fit to do so. There are some minor outstanding issues with trees, drainage and boundaries and that he has been in contact regularly with Crest Nicholson. He explained that the Council cannot make the developer do the work even though the items are minor and in his view could be completed by the end of spring 2005. In the meantime Crest Nicholson are maintaining the site.

Alf Bousie confirmed that the Council are prepared to start the consultation with residents about use of the land as soon as the adoption is completed.

Councillor Roberts suggested writing to Crest Nicholson to complain.

Councillor Gupta recognised that the issue of adoption of open space has a wider impact because other residents across the city are suffering similar problems. She suggested referring the issue to Scrutiny Management Commission.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

To request the Scrutiny Management Commission to investigate the wider issue of land adoption across the city with a view to this situation being prevented in future.

To ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to write to Crest Nicholson Chief Executive requesting an explanation of why the Council has been waiting so long for the works to be completed.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

Scrutiny Management Commission - SMC considered this on 31 January and they referred it to the Planning and Environment Commission to investigate and report back to SMC.

The plans showing the area to be adopted have now been received from Crest Nicholson. Estates Section is now progressing negotiation with Crest Nicholson to secure the adoption.

Parks are waiting for Crest Nicholson to provide dates of when the remaining work will be completed to bring the site up to a satisfactory standard.

The Director of Commercial Services has written to Crest Nicholson.

Responsibility

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

6. 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 12 January 2005

In April 2004 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 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 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.

Derby Parks have obtained quotes to manufacture and supply the new bins but cannot confirm the exact programme because they are having to modify the design of the new dual purpose bin, to take on board comments about the prototype made. They 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. 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.

The recently vandalised bin on Mansfield Road 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.

Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Residents requested that the bin should be replaced.

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

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Councillor Roberts agreed with the residents and commented that the short period, possibly as little as seven days, that the bin had been in place was not long enough to test if it was needed. He considered that the evidence used to justify a bin in the first place should still apply.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

To ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to investigate and consider re instating the bin.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

We have many litter bin priorities in the city on a very limited budget. The replacement of the litterbin on Mansfield Road is not a high priority. As this bin was set on fire, it is not on our list of sites that will receive a bin in the foreseeable future. Should circumstances change and the amount of litter increase, then we would be happy to review the situation.

Responsibility

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

7. 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 not think that it was appropriate to install dog waste bins near seats, cafes or children's play areas.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 January 2005

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.

The Friends of Chaddesden Park expressed concern 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.

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.

The Friends of Chaddesden Park group were concerned that an officer was meant to attend their October meeting and consult with the committee, but had not attended. It was reported that Derby parks will be attending the Friends of Chaddesden Park meeting on 26 January 2005 and taking the plans showing the proposed locations for the five new bins planned for Chaddesden Park. Local Ward Councillors have been consulted 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.

Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

A member of the Friends of Chaddesden Park group requested that an officer attends their next meeting to discuss the locations and also clarifies the way that the new dual purpose bins will be used.

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Councillor Bolton confirmed that the local ward councillors had been consulted about the location of the bins on Chaddesden Park.

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Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Derby Parks officers to attend the meeting on 26 January

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

A Derby Parks officer attended the Friends of Chaddesden Park meeting on 26 January. While the installation of the dual purpose bins was discussed, there was no specific discussion about their location. The installation of the new bins has been postponed until further consultation has been completed and an officer is meeting the group again in March to gather views about the locations.

Responsibility

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

8. Ref: 104045 - Car Parking problems 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 Reginald Road South caused by 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 12 January 2005

Councillor Bolton reported that the parking issue at Oaktree Nursery had been raised previously. She explained 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.

In January 2005 it was reported that 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 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.

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Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

A resident clarified that the issue was about car parking on Reginald Road South and not Nottingham Road.

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Councillor Roberts confirmed that the blocked drain on Reginald Road South has been cleared.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

None.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

An investigation was carried out of the drain in this location. It was found that the drain had clogged up with silt. The blockage was cleared by jetters. We will be returning to the drain in the near future for a follow-up routine survey when the drain will be re-jetted and a camera will be used to ensure that no further blockage has occurred.

The bus clearway proposal is being developed and will be done in the next few months.

Responsibility

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

9. 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 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.

Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

A resident from Worcester Crescent asked about the details regarding the resurfacing, potholes and quality of work as well as the meaning of resurfacing.

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Richard Smail reported that surface dressing process aims to provide a longer life to the road surface, improve skid resistance and improve protection to the surface to reduce potholes. He confirmed that the potholes should have been filled in and grass removed before the surface dressing took place. Officers are aware of the problem and have asked the contractor to fill in the potholes.

The grass will be removed when the new kerbs are installed as part of the Worcester Crescent footway improvement scheme that will be completed by March 2005.

Richard Smail confirmed that an officer will contact the resident to discuss the other detailed questions that were raised.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

To arrange for an officer to contact the resident to discuss the other details that she wanted to raise about the surface dressing.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

We have spoken to the resident and explained that the contractor has been instructed to fill the potholes. The resident reported that there were some remaining potholes and as a result the area will be inspected again and any potholes found will be filled. We also explained that we use surface dressing as a way of prolonging the life of the road surface and improving the water proofing, which in turn helps to prevent potholes forming.

The contractors will be returning to undertake remedial work to the resurfacing in May.

Responsibility

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

10. 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 12 January 2005

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. Councillor Ahern informed the resident that he will continue to argue for the reintroduction of buses for the Albert Road estate.

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 Roberts reported that there is a bus service that is sponsored by Derwent Community Team– Numbers 101 and 102 – that goes 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 Albert Road Estate. This would provide at least an hourly service. He agreed to provide an update of this at the next meeting.

In January 2005 it was reported that 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.

Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

None.

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Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

None.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

None.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

No new information to report.

Responsibility

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

11. 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 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.

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. 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.

Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Councillor Bolton reported that it would be discussed as part of Item 10 when the funding application would be considered.

The area panel agreed to allocate £3,506 to the Association to improve their boundary security. The Association have met with Derby Parks to seek a solution to the problems around the unused part of the original allotments. Derby Parks now propose to clear the undergrowth from the site and bring the area back into use in Chaddesden Park. This will allow the Association to allocate all £3,506 towards improvements to their boundary. They propose to install about 70 metres of 1800mm high metal palisade security fencing that they will maintain.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Update on progress to clear the unused allotment area.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

The unused allotment area has been cleared.
The Allotment Association has obtained quotes for their security fencing.

Responsibility

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

12. Ref: 105001 – Fencing Around Chaddesden Wood – Oakwood - raised 12.01.05

Issue

This issue was first raised on 12 January 2005 by a resident who was concerned about the vandal damage to the fence around Chaddesden Wood and nature reserve. He wanted to know what action was proposed to repair it.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 January 2005

New item

Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Alf Bousie explained that he was aware of the current damage and that there had been previous cases of damage as well. He reported that Derby Parks proposes to repair the boundary by providing planting with prickly plants because this would be a more sustainable solution than timber fencing.

It was planned to complete the planting this year.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Update on progress.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

The hedge will be planted in March 2005.

Responsibility

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

13. Ref: 105002 – Post Office Closures in Area Panel 1 – all wards - raised 12.01.05

Issue

A resident asked about the latest information regarding the proposals to close post offices in the area.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 January 2005

New item

Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Councillor Bolton expressed her disappointment that the Roosevelt Avenue Post Office would be closing on 22 January.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Update on closure of post offices in Area Panel 1.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

The Post Office confirmed that it would close 16 Post offices in Derby including three offices in Area Panel 1. The offices at 42 Nottingham Road, Spondon and 8 Scarborough Rise closed in December 2004. The post office at 35 Roosevelt Avenue, Chaddesden closed on 22 January 2005.

Responsibility

Richard Smail, Area Panel Manager, Chief Executives, telephone, 258505

14. Ref: 105003 – Cowsley Road Visions Consultation event – Derwent - raised 12.01.05

Issue

A resident asked for a progress report about the Cowsley Road consultation project, especially because it has received funding from the Area Panel.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 January 2005

New item

Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Richard Smail confirmed that an update would be provided at the next meeting.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Provide an update on progress

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

The original date for the feasibility study was moved from the end of December to 31 March, because there had not been a large response to the consultation. The steering group felt that this was because of the time of year. Consultation is now taking place in February and March 2005 on the use and design of the Cowsley Road site.

Funding experts will also be looking at the feasibility of funding people's preferred options to make sure that any decision reached is possible and sustainable in the long term. A group of residents has been recruited who live near the site and they are meeting on a regular basis to progress the project with support and help from relevant agencies and the consultants.

Awareness raising, promoting the consultation exercise at existing groups, knocking on people's doors and carrying out a survey will take place until the end of February.

The steering group will be meeting to discuss the results of the consultation and establish the use of the site on Monday 28 of February. This will take into account the findings of the funding research, which is on going.

March will see the group design the site. A design, cost appraisal and business plan will be completed by 31 March. Progress will be brought back to the steering group and area panel and designs will also be published in the newsletter.

Responsibility

Krissi Spinoza, Derwent Community Team, telephone 256373

15. Ref: 105004 – Lighting Around Scout Hut on Coniston Crescent – Derwent - raised 12.01.05

Issue

A resident asked who is responsible for repairing streetlights. She has reported that street lights need repairing on Coniston Crescent for four months and they have not been repaired. She explained that they were near to the Scout Hut and the sheltered housing scheme bungalows and had been reported about 15 times.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 January 2005

New item

Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Councillor Redfern considered that there were other instances when repairs were not completed soon enough and there should be a time limit to repair street lights. She suggested that the Planning and Environment Commission should consider this issue.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

To contact the resident to confirm the details of the streetlights concerned.
To provide an update on the repairs to the lights.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

Development and Cultural Services are not responsible for the maintenance and repair of the lights identified by the resident because they are not streetlights by the highway. The complaint was referred to Derby Homes who are responsible for maintaining these lights and they have been repaired. The resident has been informed that Derby Homes is responsible.

Responsibility

Peter Matthews, Local Manager, Derby Homes, telephone 716564

16. Ref: 105006 – CCTV Cameras and Anti Social Behaviour in Derwent – Derwent - raised 12.01.05

Issue

A written question was received at the Area panel meeting in January 2005. A resident was concerned about the amount of anti social behaviour in the Derwent area and that there is only one CCTV camera in place to tackle it. They believe a scheme of 20 fixed cameras is needed to help tackle issues of vandalism, drugs, burglary, graffiti and other anti social behaviour. They consider that mobile cameras are not effective because they are too visible.

The resident is disappointed that with little money remaining from the New Deal for Communities funding, more cameras other than those around the new Gateway centre, will not be provided.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 January 2005

New item

Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

None

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

None

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Respond to the issues raised in the written question.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

The Derby Community Safety Partnership does not consider that the request for 20 fixed CCTV cameras in Derwent is the answer to reducing Antisocial Behaviour - ASB in Derwent.

CCTV, on its own, is unlikely to reduce crime and ASB. It will cost about £20,000 for each camera post and an additional on-going cost of £100,000 per year to have them monitored. Such a project would not be an effective use of much needed resources which could be more effectively used elsewhere.

In addition, any CCTV system must by law be overt and advertised in the area in which it is being used. This is due to privacy and human rights legislation. There is no evidence to suggest that mobile cameras are ineffective because they are visible. The ASB Team within the Derby Community Safety Partnership has a number of mobile CCTV cameras that are moved around the city to where they are most needed. They have always had a significant impact on reducing ASB and crime in every location used without exception. In some cases, mobile CCTV has reduced calls for police attendance from 50 a week to only 2 calls for the whole of the following month. Mobile CCTV are highly effective because of their visibility and exceptional record of identifying offenders.

Recorded crime, within the Derwent area, has reduced significantly since April 2004 as those attending Police Liaison Meetings will be aware. The Derwent area is becoming an increasingly safer place to live. This is mainly down to the hard work of a small number of dedicated police

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officers working from Roe Farm Police Station working in partnership with other agencies to target the most prolific offenders combined with the use of new legislation.

The ASB Team will continue to work closely with Police, Derby Homes, the Youth Service and most importantly the community to reduce ASB and crime in Derwent. Partnership working and co-ordination of resources reduces crime and the fear of crime and not the installation of CCTV.

Derwent Community Team, Derby Homes, the police and Derby Community Safety Partnership have worked hard together to reduce crime in the area and the fear of crime within Derwent has been reduced by 9%. We have Neighbourhood Wardens, more youth outreach, proposals to improve streetlights and an appraisal panel at Derwent Community Team has just approved a new ASB worker for the area.

The work will continue and a programme of action to combat the graffiti artists has been drawn up and action is being taken against the perpetrators. Plans are also in place to erect poles, in different locations in Derwent, where portable mobile CCTV cameras can be mounted to identify the perpetrators, this action, together with the work of the police neighbourhood wardens, derby homes staff and the soon to be introduced community safety officers, should ensure that the downward trend of crime in Derwent is continued.

The resident asking the written question has received a written response.

Responsibility

Carol Hardwick, Derwent Community Team, telephone 256383
Peter Matthews, Local Manager, Derby Homes, telephone 716564
Andy Thomas, Derby Community Safety Partnership, telephone 256910

17. 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 12 January 2005

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.

In July 2004 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.

In October 2004 a full report was presented to and approved by Area Panel 1.

The report recommended 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.

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A member of the public thanked the panel for the new facilities in 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.

Councillor E Berry confirmed that there would be no further consultation, and that the new equipment would be installed in the position that the majority of residents preferred. 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.

In January 2005 it was reported that a planning application had been submitted for the sportswall and relocation of the play area at Cambridge Street/Willowcroft Road Recreation Ground. It was planned to start on site in March 2005.

Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Two residents from Gravel Pit Lane expressed their approval that there would be no plans to install any new facilities on the recreation ground.

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Councillor E Berry reported that because the funding that would have been used was no longer available, there were now no plans to develop new facilities on the Gravel Pit Lane recreation Ground.

A Council youth worker expressed their disappointment that there would now be no new facilities at Gravel Pit Lane.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

Update on progress to develop the new facilities on Willowcroft Road.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

Planning Permission is expected in early March 2005

Tenders have been received. Order to be placed with work programmed to commence in the middle of March and completed by May 2005.

Responsibility

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

18. Ref: 105005 – Petition –Cornwall Road Bus service – Derwent - raised 12.01.05

Issue

A petition signed by 48 residents from Cornwall Road had been received in October 2004 outlining residents concerns about damage caused to vehicles on Cornwall Road by large buses. The petitioners are requesting the removal of the bus service.

Action reported at the meeting on 12 January 2005

New item

Public response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

None.

Council response at the meeting on 12 January 2005

An initial report was presented to the area panel that explained that the service has been operating for about 18 months and was designed to improve access to employment and other services.

Officers in Development and Cultural Services are continuing to investigate the complaint and are consulting with the bus company Arriva. A further report will be presented to the next meeting when the research has been completed.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 12 January 2005

To provide a report to the meeting on 9 March.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 9 March 2005

A report responding to the petition is included on the agenda for the meeting on 9 March 2005.

Responsibility

Peter Price, Transport Policy Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715064