

ITEM 5

AREA PANEL ONE – UPDATE REPORT

FOR 1 SEPTEMBER 2004

PARKVIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL, SPRINGWOOD DRIVE, OAKWOOD

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 7 July 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.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Councillor Redfern asked when the lease would expire.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

To find out how long the lease has to run.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

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.

Responsibility

Peter Matthews, Local Manager, Derby Homes, telephone 716564
Mike Dawson, Valuer, Corporate Services, telephone 255556

2. Ref: 104006 – Safer Routes to School – Chaddesden Park Infant and Junior School, Chaddesden – raised 03.03.04

Issue

A member of the public asked at the meeting on 3 March if a shelter could be installed on Chaddesden Park car park to provide cover for school children waiting to join the walking bus in the morning. As a governor of Chaddesden Park Infant and Junior School he thanked the Council for the physical improvement work currently taking place on Maine Drive, but felt some protection from the weather would encourage more children to support the walking bus initiative.

Action reported at the meeting on 7 July 2004

It was confirmed that the shelter idea is still under discussion but there has been some debate about whether it would encourage vandalism. There had been progress in other areas as follows:

- The school piloted a 'walking bus' from the park in early May. 10 children enrolled.
- The school participated in National Walk to School Week 24 - 28 May.
- A second 'walking bus' from the Wilmot Pub is to be piloted. The route has been risk assessed by Council officers and Forum members. The pub has also agreed that its car park can be used as the starting point.
- The travel plan forum is looking to promote the two pilots as 'Feet First Fridays' throughout the summer term.
- The school will be promoting the travel plan initiatives at meetings for new parents

A site visit, in response to concerns about emergency vehicle access, has shown that the central refuge on Maine Drive does not obstruct access to Rainier Drive. Now that building work is complete there is also sufficient access for emergency vehicles.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Noted that traffic speeds have been reduced on Maine Drive.

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Councillor Bolton reported that lines will be painted on Maine Drive in response to complaints about cars parking near the central refuges.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Update on plans to mark the road to prevent parking near the refuges. Update on proposal to install a shelter.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

White lines and "Keep Clear" markings have been installed on the road on either side of the refuge on Maine Drive. We are confident that this will further improve the situation. When we meet with the Travel Forum in the new term, we will take stock of progress and find out whether there have been any developments regarding the shelter.

Responsibility

Stan Werbinski, Road Safety and Travelwise Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715022
Councillor Sara Bolton, telephone 256198

3. Ref: 104009 – Roe Farm Community Centre toilets, Derwent – raised 03.03.04

Issue

A member of the public raised this issue on 3 March 2004 concerned about the condition of the toilets at the Roe Farm Community Centre.

Action reported at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Councillor Redfern was aware of the poor condition of the toilets at the Community Centre. It was reported that they had submitted a funding application to the area panel for £2000. The Area panel approved the application on 3 March. Other applications had been made to Derwent Community Team, however there was some reluctance from them to fund improvements because there are future plans to bid to Derwent Community Team for a new building. On 6 April, Council Cabinet approved CHADDO Community Associations application for £4,000 to contribute to the toilet improvements.

Their application to Derwent Community Teams Community Initiative Fund was considered on 25 March but was deferred pending the submission of more estimates for the work. It will be reconsidered when the estimates have been supplied.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Update on funding from Derwent Community Team.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

Derwent Community Team have received more quotes and have agreed to fund CHADDO Community Association £8,000 towards the cost of the toilet improvements project. The Association will now be able to start the project and improve the facilities at the community centre.

Responsibility

Sarah Wheatley, Community Development Officer, Education Service, telephone 715656
Richard Smail, Area Panel Manager, Policy Directorate, telephone 258505

4. 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 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 7 July 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.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

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. Councillor Smalley praised the work of the Police in the area. It was reported that the Police were aiming to open their base at the community centre in August.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

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.

The Anti Social Behaviour team have not received any more recent reports.

Responsibility

Inspector Graham MacLauglin, Divisional Headquarters, telephone 613131

Andy Thomas, Anti-Social Behaviour Team, Community Safety Partnership, telephone 256910

5. Ref: 104017 – Dropped kerbs, Chaddesden – raised 03.03.04

Issue

A written question was submitted after the meeting on 3 March 2004, regarding the provision of dropped kerbs in the Chaddesden area. The particular area of concern relates to Oregon Way, Lexington Road, Boston Close and Acorn Way. It was noted that the pavements on Boston Close are broken, and this is causing difficulties for mobility scooter users.

Action reported at the meeting on 7 July 2004

A letter was sent to the member of public, informing them that seven junctions along Oregon Way, which includes the Boston Close junction required dropped kerbs and that they would be included on the emerging 2004/05 Dropped Kerb Programme, with installation around May/June.

No additional dropped kerbs are proposed at present on Lexington Road or Acorn Way. Acorn Way junction with Derby Road already has dropped kerbs, and there has been no request for additional drops on Lexington Road.

In response to a comment about the need for dropped kerbs on Stratford Road it was reported that over the next few months six dropped kerbs are being installed on Stratford Road. Two of the drops are at the junction of Stratford Road and Coniston Crescent. Also there will be a site visit to establish whether any more dropped kerbs are required on Coniston Crescent. Any additional dropped kerbs would be included within the programme for the 2005/06 financial year.

The Dropped Kerb Programme for the 2004/05 has only been allocated £10,000. While this will be sufficient to install 70/80 crossings, there were 211 requests for dropped kerbs by March 2004. This amount of funding is therefore unsatisfactory and we are trying to secure more funding, but have been unsuccessful to date.

Members of the public who would like a dropped kerb to be installed in their area are invited to telephone Mick Watts, Access Officer at Derby City Council, on 01332 255925, to discuss their request.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Update on progress to install seven dropped kerbs on Oregon Way including Boston Close

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

The information reported to Area Panel 1 in April requires a further update. The 2004/05 Dropped Kerb Programme was due to begin in May/June 2004 but was delayed. At the moment there is insufficient funding to install the dropped kerbs on Oregon Way and Boston Close during the 2004/05 financial year. The date to install these dropped kerbs is dependent on funding levels. If additional funding is provided these kerbs will be installed within the 2004/05 programme, but if additional funding does not become available, they will be installed during 2005/06.

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The resident who requested the dropped kerbs has been contacted by Mick Watts to explain the situation.

The site visit to Coniston Crescent has taken place and four additional dropped kerbs are required. These will be placed on the 2005/06 Dropped Kerb Programme.

Responsibility

Mick Watts, Access Officer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 255925.

6. 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 7 July 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 been in contact with local residents and have sent out diary sheets to record antisocial behaviour. They are also investigating whether it is a suitable location to use mobile CCTV.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

The Police confirmed that they have confiscated motorbikes and are working with the farmer who owns the land.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

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.

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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.

Responsibility

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

7. 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 7 July 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. The road width is good and the majority of motorists show good respect for the existing 40 mph restriction.

However, as part of the current assessment of the pedestrian crossing request for Mansfield Road, the Traffic Control department will assess the possibility of carrying out localised footway improvements on Mansfield Road.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Councillor Redfern considered that as the road is now used by more traffic, the speed limit should be reduced and should be considered as a special case.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

To ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to reconsider lowering the speed limit on Mansfield Road.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

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. In this instance, when taking all the other factors into consideration, the volume of traffic and the presence of the Meteor Centre off Mansfield Road does not affect the fact that a 30 mph speed limit would not be appropriate or realistic for this section of road.

Responsibility

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

8. Ref: 104021 – Litter 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 food and litter that is dropped and left on Mansfield Road footpath above the Paddock Pub. She felt it is attracting rats to the area. She asked if something could be done to reduce the litter.

Action reported at the meeting on 7 July 2004

It was reported that litterpicking takes place on Mansfield Road every fortnight on a Tuesday. The road and pavement were fairly clean when checked by an inspector on 17 May - the day before the litterpick was due. With present budgets it seems unlikely that the frequency of litterpicking could be increased because it would require us to cut the frequency of collection in other areas. However, we have spoken to a local resident, and can confirm that we are putting a litter bin near The Paddock Pub House.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

The installation of the new litterbin was welcomed. However Councillor Redfern asked that the litter is picked up more frequently because it is near to food outlets.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

To report back on the frequency and priorities for litter picking in the city.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

The Council has a duty under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 – EPA - to keep its public highways and relevant land clear of litter and refuse, so far as is practicable. A Code of Practice issued under section 89, defines national cleansing standards and gives practical guidance to authorities. A copy of the code can be found at www.defra.gov.uk/environment/localenv/litter/code

The Code of Practice defines various zones. Those that relate to Derby are as follows:

- Zone One = Town centres, major transport centres, shopping centres, central car parks, other busy public places.
- Zone Two = High density residential areas (terrace), busy recreational areas, suburban car parks, industrial estates with a high density of premises.
- Zone Three = Low density housing (detached/semi-detached), other transport centres, industrial estates with a low density of premises, high technology business parks.
- Zone Six = Strategic routes.

In Derby, Zone One areas are the City Centre, Pear Tree Road, Normanton Road and various district shopping centres including Mickleover and Allenton. Zone Two includes Normanton, California, Markeaton and roads in the immediate vicinity of the station. Everywhere else is Zone Three. The main routes in and out of the City run through a number of zones but are primarily Zone Six.

The Code of Practice also defines various grades of cleanliness as follows:

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Grade A = no litter or refuse

Grade B = predominantly free of litter or refuse apart from small items

Grade C = widespread distribution of litter and refuse with minor accumulations

Grade D = heavily littered with significant accumulations

The zoning system provides local authorities with guidance on how quickly a road needs to be cleansed in order to return it to Grade A standard. For example, if a road in Zone 3 falls below Grade B, the Code of Practice states that it must be restored to Grade A standard within two weeks. This information, in conjunction with local knowledge about the cleanliness of a particular road or area, enables the Council to determine the frequency of cleansing. Other factors are also included in the decision-making process, such as how regularly pedestrians use a road, as litter tends to be generated more frequently by pedestrians than by people in cars. Frequency of cleansing varies according to the particular road and can be anything from daily to weekly, or even every eight weeks.

If details about litter picking on a specific road are needed please contact Richard Winter, Assistant Waste Management Officer on 716352

The order for the litterbin near The Paddock Public House has been placed.

Responsibility

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

9. 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 7 July 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. We will investigate this site and report our findings back to the Area Panel. As we currently have a backlog of crossing requests this may take a number of months but we aim to have completed our investigations in August 2004.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

To report back the result of the investigations.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

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.'

Responsibility

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

10. 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 7 July 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. This study will be carried out over the next couple of months. We will consider implementing accident remedial measures if appropriate.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Update on the study to investigate traffic around Bishops Drive.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

We are continuing to investigate 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.

Responsibility

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

11. 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 7 July 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.

With regard to the Mansfield Council scheme, 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.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

A resident commented that the Council should enforce fines.

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Neil Haslam explained that the Council prefers education rather than enforcement. However a meeting has been arranged with Mansfield District Council to discuss their way of working.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Update on the result of the meeting with Mansfield District Council.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

The 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.

Responsibility

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

12. Ref: 104025 – Damage to Pavements on Haydn Road, Derwent - raised 28.04.04

Issue

A member of the public first raised this issue on 28 April and congratulated the panel on the work to the pavements, but informed the panel that damage had been caused to the paving slabs because workmen put equipment on them. He wanted to know what action had been taken to correct the damage.

Action reported at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Having investigated this issue, it is understood that kerbs were stacked on paving flags in Mercaston Road for the works in Haydn Road, causing damage to some of the flags. Mercaston Road footways are programmed to be reconstructed this financial year and so the repairs will be carried out as part of these works. These works are scheduled to start on or around 23 June.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Update on progress to repair the damage.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

The repairs to the damaged pavement have been completed as part of the Mercaston Road footway improvements

Responsibility

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

13. Ref: 104026 – ‘No ball games’ sign, Welshpool Road, Derwent - raised 28.04.04

Issue

A member of the public first raised this issue on 28 April concerned that the ‘no ball games’ sign taken down in November 2003 when the pavements were being replaced, has not been put back up. Young people are constantly playing ball games on the green. They had spoken to Derby Homes but nothing has been done. They wanted to know when it would be re erected.

Action reported at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Derby Homes have ordered a new post and sign and will install it on the green when it arrives.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Councillor Redfern asked how long it would be before the sign arrives.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Update on progress to reinstate sign

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

Derby Homes have confirmed that the sign has been ordered but there has been a problem with the manufacturer. Once this is resolved the sign will be erected as a priority.

Responsibility

Peter Matthews, Local Manager, Derby Homes, telephone 716564

14. 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 7 July 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 £47,000 is held by the Council for work to be done on the Crest Homes site. As yet no plans have been seen for this work. 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.

Regarding the £47,000 held by the Council for community facilities on the Crest Homes site, a section 106 agreement was 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. We are in negotiations with the developer to adopt the land. The £46,400 will then be used to lay out and improve the open space for the benefit of the whole community.

Councillor Gupta informed the meeting that she understood New Deal for Communities had plans for community facilities in this area and that there had been two public consultation meetings. In response it was confirmed that consultation was originally done during Phase 2 of the New Deal for Communities project, which was a few years ago and before money was identified for the Derwent area. The only recent consultation in the area, done by Derwent Community Team, has been around 'The Green' at the rear of Roe Farm Community Centre by Sussex Circus. The majority of the Breadsall Hilltop area is not in the Derwent Community Team boundary. Their boundary excludes the Crest Homes land and properties around Scarborough Rise and everywhere north of the recreation ground between Perth Street and St. Andrews View. It does include High View School and its playing fields. Therefore there is no funding available from the Derwent Community Team for community facilities in the Breadsall Hilltop area.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Councillor Redfern asked why it was taking so long to adopt the land and whether any interest had accrued.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Area Panel 1 Update Report – for 1 September 2004

To ask the Director of Commercial Services to report back to the next meeting on progress to adopt the open space and the financial situation.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

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.

The £46,400 does not accrue interest that can be used for the project. It does accrue interest but it is used by the Council, along with other accrued interest, to offset the costs of borrowing money.

Responsibility

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

15. 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 7 July 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 this financial year.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Councillor Redfern was very disappointed that no more bins were being installed in Derwent. She felt the public should have been consulted as well as the Park Rangers.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Update on progress to install new bins.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

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 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.

Responsibility

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

16. Ref: 104031 – Offer to tour Spondon, Spondon - raised 07.07.04

Issue

The area panel was invited to tour Spondon to see how Spondon Community Association has put the Area Panel funding to good use.

Action reported at the meeting on 7 July 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

The invite was welcomed by the area panel.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

A suitable date would be arranged for the visit.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

It proved very difficult to find a time when everyone was available. In the end the tour, which included the history trail and lamppost planters, took place for three members of the area panel on Tuesday 3 August.

The Community Association are willing to take round any other members who were unable to attend.

Responsibility

Spondon Community Association

17. Ref: 104033 – Lighting on jitty between Mayfield Road and Suffolk Avenue, Derwent - raised 07.07.04

Issue

A resident was concerned that the new lighting along the jitty was not working.

Action reported at the meeting on 7 July 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Councillor Redfern explained that while new lighting was installed the underground cables were faulty and that the Council Streetcare section was aware of the problem.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

To ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to investigate the matter and report back to the next meeting.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

The lights along the jitty were repaired in mid July. Streetcare officers believe that the problems were due to vandalism.

Responsibility

Rab Singh, Senior Lighting Technician, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715047.

18. 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 7 July 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 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.

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

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.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Inspector McLaughlin agreed to target the area with traffic wardens.
To investigate the yellow lines on Sitwell Street.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

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

Responsibility

Stewart Corbett, Highway Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715008.

19. Ref: 104035 – Pedestrian crossing on Dale Road, Spondon- raised 07.07.04

Issue

A resident wanted to know what criteria Dale Road failed to achieve when the request for a pedestrian crossing was turned down while Willowcroft Road will be getting a Puffin crossing.

Action reported at the meeting on 7 July 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Councillor E. Berry confirmed that when the new criteria was introduced in 2003 the request for a crossing on Dale Road was unsuccessful.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

To investigate why the request for a crossing on Dale Road was unsuccessful.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

Pedestrian movement on Dale Road is generally much lower than on Willowcroft Road, and the traffic flow is also lower. A comparison between the two sites shows the greatest amount of conflict recorded at Willowcroft Road occurring between 8 am and 9 am. At this time over 90 pedestrians crossed the road when nearly 1000 vehicles used the road. During the same hour surveys undertaken on Dale Road near to Huntley Avenue showed eight pedestrians crossed the road when just over 600 vehicles used the road.

This is why the Council Cabinet decided not to approve the crossing request. On a more positive note, it is felt that the introduction of safety cameras on Dale Road has helped to control excessive vehicle speeds and made it safer for pedestrians to cross.

Responsibility

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

20. Ref: 104036 – Street light, Dale Road, Spondon - raised 07.07.04

Issue

A resident was concerned that a street light had not been working since 23 April 2004 even though it had been reported as faulty. He was concerned that there was an accident in June involving a cyclist and a lorry where the light was not working.

Action reported at the meeting on 7 July 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

To investigate the fault and make sure the light is working.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

Officers checked the light twice during July and on both occasions it was found to be working.

Responsibility

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

21. Ref: 104032 – Springfield Wood, Spondon- raised 07.07.04

Issue

Residents on Marina Drive were concerned about an idea to develop a wood on land no longer required by Springfield School. They wanted to know what the Council plans were for the open space and they handed in copies of letters they had sent to various organisations expressing their concern about the development of a wood on the land.

Action reported at the meeting on 7 July 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

It was noted that this was not a Council initiative, but a proposal that had been developed by a sub group from Spondon Community Association. It was reported that the proposals were in their infancy and that land was currently held for education purposes and it needed to be re-appropriated to Derby Parks before any development could take place. A member of Spondon Community Association explained that members of the public would consider the proposal. They had arranged a meeting for 19 July 2004 at the Parish Rooms at 7.30 to discuss proposals. The idea was not to set the land out as a wood, but to have trees in the area. A feasibility study needed to be carried out and there was no definite design plans on the table at present. Discussions were taking place with Spondon Community Association, Education and Derby Parks.

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Councillor Brown noted that this was not a Council Initiative but that Derby Parks and Education will be involved if the proposal develops.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

To provide an update on the proposal.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

The meeting took place on 19 July where local residents raised their concerns. Two residents who live near to the site have since been invited to join the Spondon Community Association committee that is developing the proposal.

Spondon Community Association is keen to continue working with residents to develop a proposal that will benefit everyone. The feasibility study has begun and one of the main issues is funding the long-term maintenance costs of the proposed area. This will be the responsibility of Derby Parks and until it is agreed how the land will be laid out the costs cannot be confirmed. This is a long-term project and more consultation will take place. When the proposal has developed it will require planning permission to approve the change of use from school use to public open space.

Responsibility

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

22. Ref: 104037 – Flyposting, Oakwood - raised 28.04.04

Issue

A resident was concerned that protest notices erected by petitioners on traffic islands and lampposts, were being ripped down and were becoming a litter problem in the area. He requested that when petitioners put protest notices up, that they remember to remove them, rather than allowing them to become litter.

Action reported at the meeting on 7 July 2004

It is an offence to post notices on lamp posts and the like under Section 224 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Fixing advertisements to highway structures is also an offence under the Highways Act 1980. The penalty on conviction is a fine under section 53 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 up to £2500 for each offence. The Council must not ask people to remove them afterwards as this implies that they can be put there to start with. The only advice that we can give is not to do put them up in the first place.

The appropriate action is either the "light" one of Council officers removing them or the "heavy" one of prosecuting those responsible. The practice of using the highway as free advertisement space is irresponsible and contributes to a general lowering of civic pride in an area. It is a serious problem in the City centre and any tendency for it to spread to the suburbs would go against one of the Council's core objectives, to make Derby a pleasant place to live.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

A resident asked if ONYX informs the Council of the names of organisations who displayed the posters.

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Neil Haslam explained that ONYX is the contractor that removes posters as requested by the Council.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

To investigate whether the Council issues warnings to organisations that fly post.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

ONYX visits the regular fly posting hot spots each week. They report regular offenders to the Council and Planning Enforcement officers will write to them requesting that they stop displaying the posters.

If you have a complaint about fly posting please contact the Streetcare section on 715000.

Responsibility

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

23. Ref: 102021 – Petition - Foyle Avenue and Howth Close, Chaddesden – Parking Issues – raised 02.10.02

Issue

A petition received on 2 October 2002, signed by 74 residents, expressed concern about parking on match days and by parents accessing Meadow Farm Primary School, which created access and road safety problems.

Action reported at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Several meetings have taken place with the last on 5 May 2004. The School Travel Plan was submitted to the Department for Transport and the Department for Education and Skills to be signed off. The school council are now sending a representative onto the Travel Forum. It has been agreed to install cycle storage as part of a cycle permit scheme during the next financial year 04/05 to encourage more cycling on school journeys.

It was reported that the trial Park and Stride in March was not a great success due to too many parked cars on Waterford Drive. The Forum has distributed leaflets to ease the problem, and discussions are taking place with the Police to trial placing cones down one side of the road.

On a more positive note the school has promoted the travel plan initiatives at meetings for new parents.

It also enrolled in National Walk to School Week from 24 to 28th May. One of the infant classes was sponsored and walked the equivalent of 10km.

Year 6 cycle training is planned for September 2004, with dates still to be arranged.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Councillor Bolton confirmed that councillors had been working with the Police to put cones along the road.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

To provide an update on travel plan.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

There is nothing further to report at this time. When we meet with the Travel Forum in the new term, we will be assessing progress.

Responsibility

Stan Werbinski, Road Safety and Travelwise Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715022
Councillor Sara Bolton, telephone 256198

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 7 July 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. The date and venue have not yet been agreed.

A leaflet explaining the options will also be circulated widely to residents surrounding the open space.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

A petition with 115 signatures was presented opposing the youth facilities proposed for Willowcroft Road recreation ground.

A number of residents expressed their concern about the proposals and said that they did not feel they have been consulted because they felt the decision had already been taken to locate youth facilities on Willowcroft recreation ground. A suggestion was made to put the facilities on Dale Road open space. Residents explained that they felt that young children would feel intimidated by older children who would be using the facilities for skateboarding.

A number of young residents stated that they felt residents were not taking their needs into consideration and were unfairly being labelled as anti social.

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

It was reported that consultation on new facilities in the Spondon had been extended to allow a consultation meeting to take place at the beginning of August. There would be a site visit and all responses received would be considered.

Councillor E. Berry explained that the funding for the project required that the scheme is located within the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund area known as Asterdale estate and therefore Dale Road cannot be used. The Asterdale estate boundaries extended to Stoney Lane and South Avenue, which includes Willowcroft Road recreation ground. Various other pieces of open space had been considered, but they were either outside the funding area or in the case of South Avenue recreation ground there were difficulties with the angle of the land and security implications. One of the requirements of the funding was that the anti-social behaviour team and the police needed to be able to access the land quickly to monitor any problems.

Area Panel 1 Update Report – for 1 September 2004

It was reported that the facility would include toddler age play equipment range and that plans of the proposals would be shown at the consultation evening. The consultation would focus on what facilities would be provided rather than the specific location.

Councillor E. Berry reported that consultation had begun three years ago and had asked young people what facilities they wanted. More recent consultation had included young people and local residents. It was reported that funding for the project had not been secured until February 2004.

Councillor E. Berry confirmed that the consultation would be extended to gather more views.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

To extend the consultation period and inform local residents of the new dates.
To ask the Director of Commercial Services to respond to the petition and provide an update.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

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.

Responsibility

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

25. Ref: 102024 - Petition - Parking Issues, Newstead Avenue / Oakleigh Avenue, Chaddesden – raised 02.10.02

Issue

A petition received on 2 October 2002, signed by 77 people, referred to the persistent problems at school times at St. Albans School with cars parking in the middle of the road and vehicles having to reverse over 50 yards. This had implications for elderly and disabled people.

Action reported at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Several meetings have taken place and the School Travel Plan was submitted to the Department for Transport and the Department for Education and Skills to be signed off. Several initiatives have taken place including a Park and stride pilot in March from Chaddesden Park Library car park. This had approximately 30 children taking part, and it has since transpired that parents also used the Nottingham Road shops as a second park and stride start point. The school council now sends a representative onto the Travel Forum, and there has been a recruitment drive for new parents to join the forum.

The Park and Stride pilots were successful in raising awareness. However, the Forum is looking to recruit new parents to consolidate any future initiatives. The school will be promoting the travel plan to new parents during summer term.

In addition to enrolling on this year's Walk To School Week, the school will be running frequent Walk Safely to School Days throughout the summer term. The Forum will be looking to recruit volunteer cycle instructors to assist with year 6 training to commence next school year.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

Councillor Bolton reported that the school governors had written to parents about the issue of safety.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

To provide an update on progress with travel plan

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

There is nothing further to report at this time. When we meet with the Travel Forum in the new term, we will be assessing progress.

Responsibility

Stan Werbinski, Road Safety and Travelwise Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715022
Councillor Sara Bolton, telephone 256198

**26. Ref: 104037 – Petition – Acordis Emergency Planning Exercise, Spondon- raised
07.07.04**

Issue

A resident had previously presented a petition to the local ward councillors about the reasons for the fire on 2 May 2004 and concerns about safety issues and emergency planning at the Acordis site.

Action reported at the meeting on 7 July 2004

New item.

Public response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

None

Response at the meeting on 7 July 2004

The ward councillors had already forwarded the petition to Acordis who had responded to the ward councillors and the lead petitioner. The petition would also be sent to the Council Emergency Planning Officer for comment.

Actions agreed at the meeting on 7 July 2004

To ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to investigate the petition from an emergency planning point of view and report back to a future meeting.

Updates on agreed actions to feedback to the meeting on 1 September 2004

On 2 May a fire started in an area occupied by five pumps within the Acetate Products Ltd site. A bearing in one of the pumps had failed causing the shaft seal to fail and allowing benzene to leak from the pump. The hot surface of the failed pump provided the ignition source.

The rebuilt pump station is being designed to address all of the factors arising from the incident investigation. Acetate Products Ltd is carrying out further risk assessments to improve on-site capabilities. Any action considered necessary in relation to the voluntary off-site plan will be addressed in the review of the plan which will be co-ordinated by the Chief Emergency Planning Officer as part of his Service Level Agreement with the City Council. No further action is considered necessary.

The full report, 'Response to Petition regarding Acordis Fire', is in Item 7 on the agenda for 1 September 2004.

Responsibility

Mike Kaye, Assistant Director – Development, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 255974