

ITEM 4

Time commenced : 6.30 pm
Time finished : 9.05 pm

AREA PANEL 2 (ALVASTON, BOULTON, CHELLASTON AND SINFIN WARDS) 15 JUNE 2005

Present: Councillor Chera (Chair)
Councillors Bayliss, H S Dhamrait, Graves, Jackson,
Leeming, Liversedge, Tittley, Willitts and Wynn

In attendance: Councillor Samra

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

Faye Brown	-	Local Manager, Derby Homes
David Gartside	-	Head of Traffic
Inspector Gascoigne	-	Derbyshire Constabulary
Jody Kirkpatrick	-	Constitutional Services Assistant
Bill Reed	-	Area Panel Manger
Trevor Sherwin	-	Station Manager, Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service
Sarah Turner	-	Constitutional Services Officer
Lesley Walker	-	Area and Neighbourhood Manager

51 members of the public were in attendance.

01/05 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Blanksby and Turner.

02/05 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

The Chair announced that British Telecom was consulting on payphone kiosk closures in the Area Panel 2 area and that the closing date for representation was 3 August 2005. He encouraged residents to make representation about the proposed closures.

03/05 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Bayliss declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Minute Number 13/05 as he is the Chair of Governors at Boulton Primary School.

04/05 Minutes

Agreed that the Minutes of the Area Panel 2 meeting held on 16 March 2005 be confirmed as a correct record.

05/05 Derbyshire Fire and Rescue

The Panel received a presentation on the activities of the Derbyshire Fire and Rescue service from Trevor Sherwin – Station Manager at Ascot Drive Fire Station. Trevor gave a brief overview of the service advising the way forward. He said that the main aim of the service was prevention followed by protection and intervention.

In conjunction with the police, the fire service were assessing data of deliberate secondary fires and deliberate car fires to look for trends and see if they can do anything to prevent these happening again.

Trevor went on to advise that as part of the community fire safety initiative they were giving home risk assessments which involved free safety checks and the installation of smoke alarms, they work closely with Derby Homes on this. The fire service also visited schools giving educational talks on fire prevention. They gave talks to community groups and had monthly initiatives. There was a Firesafe counselling service for young offenders.

The fire service worked heavily with partnership organisations such as other emergency services, area panels, community panels, Derby Homes and other housing providers. Trevor completed his presentation with a video clip of a deliberate car fire and the consequences of this.

Councillor Leeming asked if there was an inter county policy for any issues that arose at Nottingham East Midlands airport. Trevor responded that all major risks had a major incident plan which detailed how many fire engines and from which station would be needed for a particular level of incident. Other emergency services had a similar sort of arrangement.

06/05 Petitions – New Petitions

- a) Petition requesting an analysis of usage on St Peter's Road, Chellaston**
The Panel noted that a petition had been received from residents of Chellaston requesting an analysis of the usage on St Peter's Road, Chellaston.

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

Petitions received since the Last Meeting:

- b) Petition requesting a pedestrian crossing - Derwent Parade**
The panel noted that a petition had been received from individuals working at businesses on Pride Park asking that the Council provide a pedestrian crossing on Derwent Parade outside Derby County Football Stadium between islands 1 and 2 or close to.

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

c) Petition requesting 'access only' signs on the service road to properties on Derby Road, Chellaston.

The panel noted that a petition had been received from residents of Derby Road, Chellaston requesting 'access only' signs on the service road to properties on Derby Road. The lead petitioner advised that he had received a response through Mark Todd – MP stating that the Council had said there was nothing that could be done about this issue. He was not happy with this response as cars park very close to the junction. Councillor Tittley added that this had been an ongoing issue for a number of years and was compounded by the development at the end of Derby Road. Looking at plans of these houses if there was more than one car per household there would not be a place for them to park. Something should be done about this and it should be looked at in a more pragmatic light. Mark Todd and Councillor Tittley were in favour of this.

Agreed to ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to investigate this matter and report back to the next meeting

d) Petition regarding the junction of Station Road and Derby Road, Chellaston

The panel noted that a petition had been received from residents of Chellaston regarding the junction of Station Road and Derby Road. The lead petitioner addressed the panel advising that the current timing of the traffic lights at the junction made turning out hazardous as it took too long to pull out onto the A514. The lead petitioner asked that a mini roundabout be considered. Bill Reed responded that investigations were already underway and he had had a commitment that a report would be brought to the next meeting.

Agreed to ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to continue his investigations and report back to the next meeting.

Responses to Petitions Received

e) Petition requesting the installation of some form of pedestrian crossing on London Road – Burnaby Street/Meadow Lane, Alvaston

The Panel considered a report from the Assistant Director Highways, Transportation and Waste Management advising that following observations on this site the proposed action was to refuse the request for a pedestrian crossing facility on London Road. Bill Reed added that the result of the investigation did not suggest there was a need for a crossing. Councillor Bayliss asked that some elements be re-considered as he believed the figures of the traffic flows and pedestrian movements were misleading. This was the widest part of London Road with a post box and recycling bins near by. There was a blind bend and putting in a pedestrian crossing would reduce traffic speeds. He asked that officers revisit this site. In addition, the new build of Lakeside Primary School would mean that more people would cross here as this was where the school entrance would meet London Road.

The petitioner advised that since the petition had been submitted to the Council further signatures had been received and there were now 369 signatures on the petition. This area was perceived as a black spot and urged the panel to reject the officer's recommendations.

David Garside, Head of Traffic, advised that a report went to all Area Panels about 18 months ago detailing the policy document for reducing the criteria for pedestrian crossings. He understood that London Road was very busy but there were other crossings near to this site. He suggested that the Council could consider the provision of a central refuge as part of the local transport plan in next year's budget, but this would have to be considered along with other priorities. Councillor Bayliss responded that Panel Members should accept the proposal for a central refuge with the understanding that it would be in next year's budget.

Agreed to ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to consider the installation of a central refuge on this site with the understanding that it would be considered in next year's budget, and to ask that the Director provide costings for the central refuge to see if this could be funded through Area Panel budget.

f) Petition requesting a fenced off out door facility at Chellaston Community Centre

The Panel considered a report from the Director of Commercial Services advising that this proposal while benefiting one part of the community was not in line with Council policy regarding loss of public open space. The report suggested that the petitioner should submit a planning application for the proposed fence and change of use. The application will be dealt with as part of the normal planning process.

Councillor Tittley stated that there had been serious issues for the people at the Community Centre as young people hung around the area causing a disturbance. About a year ago the Community Centre did put in a planning application that was refused as the Parks department were not happy with it. The petitioner added that they had tried to contact Andrew Morgan from the Parks department on a number of occasions without success.

Councillor Willitts commented that the land would be better used as part of the Community Centre than currently as a bit of waste land.

Agreed to note the report.

g) Petition regarding parking outside Moorhead Primary School

The panel considered a report from the Director of Education detailing the proposed action in relation to the petition.

Bill Reed advised that Officers would work with the School to develop a travel plan and would arrange a meeting between Moorhead Primary and Merrill College, the Education Service and the Travel Plan Team to discuss short term measures and initiatives to address the situation.

A representative from Moorhead Primary School reported that the problem was not just cars parking outside the school but the movement of lorries to the Merrill site. Councillor Jackson advised that she had spoken with a representative from da Vinci – the developers – and thought that the issue with the movement of lorries had been resolved. She advised that she would take up this issue again with da Vinci.

Agreed to note the report.

h) Petition objecting to the closure or replacement of Allenton Market

The Panel considered a report from the Director of Corporate Services advising that although the Council had been approached by a developer who was seeking to assemble a site for a potential retail superstore. The Council had no plans of its own to close Allenton Market. In preliminary discussions held with the developer it had been made clear that if the Council were to consider including the site of the market in any future re-development, a replacement market must be provided within that re-development. The developer had been asked to come back to the Council with a proposal that addressed these issues.

The lead petitioner stated that they had waited three months for this reply. The Council had currently spent £2million on the re-development of the shopping centre in Allenton and allowing large retail companies to trade in the area would go against the small businesses and traders, it would also increase pollution in the area. The lead petitioner asked why the Council did not have any signs directing people to Allenton Market and that this should be considered to promote the market. Bill Reed advised that he would liaise with Dennis Wardle, Markets Officer, to arrange a meeting with local residents and market traders.

Agreed to note the report

i) Petition requesting pedestrian crossings on Pride park, Derby

The Panel considered a report from the Assistant Director Highways, Transportation and Waste Management regarding a petition received on 27 October 2004 requesting the provision of pedestrian crossings on Royal Way and Pride Parkway between Derwent Parade and Royal Way.

The proposed action was to approve the installation of a pedestrian refuge on Royal Way and to refuse the request for a pedestrian crossing facility on Pride Parkway.

Agreed to note the report.

07/05 Public Question Time

The Public raised the following issues during Public Question Time:

Closure of Jitties

A member of the public asked that as new legislation had been introduced which allowed Council's to introduce Gating Orders to prevent problems in

jitties, could residents re-submit petitions requesting closure of certain jitties to the Council? The member of the public was particularly interested in the jitty between Beech Avenue and Raynesway. Councillor Bayliss responded that he had surveyed everyone on Beech Avenue and in the surrounding area to find out if they wanted the jitty closed and although everyone on Beech Avenue had said they wanted to close the jitty, people in the surrounding area still wanted to keep it open. He suggested that the Council look at this once the jitty between Baker Street and Shardlow Road had been sorted out.

Tree Pruning on Newbridge Crescent

A member of the public advised that an elderly neighbour living in Newbridge Crescent had a tree that needed pruning and when would the Council be able to do this. Councillor Tittley responded that the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Commission were currently conducting a review of the tree management policy and the recommendations would go to Council Cabinet for their approval. At a recent Council Cabinet meeting a recommendation had been considered to give extra money to Area Panels to fund issues such as this. Council Cabinet had agreed to trial this in Area Panel 5. Councillor Tittley was not happy with this decision and would continue lobbying until a suitable decision was reached. Councillor Willitts added that on behalf of himself and Councillor Liversedge they would take the issue back to their group.

Bill Reed stated that if any of the trees on Newbridge Crescent were deemed contrary to the current tree management policy then they would be pruned, additional money would not change this.

New Trees – Chellaston

A member of the public advised that new trees had been planted near his home in Chellaston and some of the residents were concerned that these had been planted over sewers. Residents wondered whether they would be responsible for damage to sewers caused by the trees. David Garside responded that if a Council planted tree damaged sewers then the Council would be responsible for any repairs.

08/05 Rolling out Re-Think Rubbish in Alvaston

The Panel considered a report from the Assistant Director, Highways, Transportation and Waste Management giving details of the proposed time table for implementing the Re-Think Rubbish Scheme in 2005; this included a round for Alvaston that would commence on 26 September 2005. Briefings would take place during July informing residents and the local media about the scheme. Councillor Bayliss commented that he welcomed the report and that Alvaston residents had been waiting a long time for this service. Councillor Dhamrait asked for clarification of when Sinfin would join the scheme. Bill Reed advised that Sinfin would join the Re-Think Rubbish Scheme during the next financial year.

09/05 A514 Chellaston Road, Congestion Around the District Centre

The Panel considered a report from the Assistant Director, Highways, Transportation and Waste Management proposing a review of the problems and issues on the A514, Chellaston Road, around the High Street junction area and the district centre. The review would seek to find solutions to ease the congestion through this busy part of the city.

David Garside, Head of Traffic, advised the Panel that if they agreed to the review of the problems in this area, and that it should be a high priority then the review would commence immediately and he would hopefully report back to either the next or subsequent area panel meeting. If the review was to proceed then other issues, including some raised by Area Panels would not be attended to in the immediate future.

Councillor Willitts commented that the traffic along the A514 needed to flow and that vehicles delivering to shops along the A514 should ensure that they can be clear of the road when loading and unloading. He suggested putting steel fences between the road and pavement and also reducing the size of the pavement on the British Legion side of the road as buses could not get round to go up High Street and that the bus stop along the A514 should be recessed to keep traffic flowing. Councillor Liversedge added that there used to be a traffic island at this junction and he had no doubt that the traffic lights had made the situation worse and suggested that the traffic lights should be removed and a traffic island re-installed. He also supported the suggestions made by Councillor Willitts. Councillor Tittley stated that he would support a review of the problems and issues on the A514 Chellaston.

Councillor Bayliss advised that he agreed that the work needed doing on the A514 but needed to know which issues would not be dealt with. David Garside responded that his department put resources into their timetable to look at Area Panel issues. This review would take up much of that time, although it would not stop anything that was currently in this system but might affect issues that come up in the future.

Councillor Wynn endorsed pedestrian fencing to stop parking on the pavement and side of the road. He also stated that Councillors in Alvaston had already asked for Alvaston Shopping Centre to be looked at and work needed to be started here. Unless the Alvaston shopping centre work was done the Alvaston Councillors would continue to campaign as they believed that this was a priority, it was badly overdue and had been delayed in the past.

Councillor Tittley stated that provided this review would not delay work to the Alvaston shopping centre then it should go ahead. He asked that a scoping report be brought to the next meeting. Councillor Tittley informed the Panel that he had spoken to the manager at Tesco's asking them to use smaller lorries and deliver at different times of the day.

David Garside advised that he wanted to debate some of these issues and meet with local councillors and residents in some other forum to be arranged.

Agreed that a review of the problems on the A514, Chellaston, were a high priority, provided it did not delay work to the Alvaston shopping centre.

10/05 Health Briefing from the Primary Care Trust

A Briefing Paper on health services was considered.

Agreed to note the information about health services contained in the Briefing Paper.

11/05 Area Panel Review

The Panel considered a report from the Assistant Director – Community Policy which stated that there was to be a review of Area Panels. Area Panels have been meeting since January 2002 and they were holding their 100th meeting on the 29 June 2005. There was increasing evidence that the public and Council partners were showing an interest in the development of the area panels. It was good practice to review the area panels and actively seek the views of stakeholders. Details of the review were set out in the report.

Councillor Bayliss suggested looking at area panel agenda distribution and issues with localised funding. He asked that whatever changes were agreed, officers needed to ensure that they were driven by members of the public. Councillor Bayliss added that he also felt strongly about data protection issues and asked that a box be included on the attendance form that members of the public could tick if they wanted their details passed on to their local Councillors. He also suggested that members of the public should be able to identify substantive agenda items.

Councillor Graves commented that he thought area panels should be funded more than they were now. He also suggested that there should be one area panel manager per area panel.

Lesley Walker commented that this might seem a long review but it was important than residents used this opportunity to feed into local councillors.

There were a lot of people who did not attend area panels who ought to. She asked members of the public to consider why people did not attend area panels.

Councillor Tittley thought that not sending out full agenda papers had reduced the service. Also the panel were going to continue providing funding for projects and it should be the panels decision alone whether to agree this or not.

Agreed to note the report.

12/05 Outturn Report

A report of the Director of Policy was considered which stated that in 2004/2005 Area Panel 2 was allocated a budget of £29,000. The Panel also had an additional budget of £6,441 carried forward from 2003/2004 which meant that a total budget of £35,441 was available for allocation to projects during 2004/2005. The panel allocated £24,132 giving a carried forward budget of £11,309 to allocate to projects in 2005/2006. Details of the budget allocations during the year were set out in the report.

Resolved to note the report.

13/05 Area Panel Budget Proposals 2005/06

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

1. To consider whether to support the application received from Alvaston Street Neighbourhood Watch – Alvaston Ward, funding for Green Lane improvements. Grant requested – £5,000.
2. To consider whether to support the application received from Derby City Council Sport Development Team – Area Wide, funding for an Area Panel 2 football tournament. Grant requested – £344.
3. To consider whether to support the application received from Elvaston Guides – Alvaston, funding to purchase tents and camping equipment for Peak 2005. Grant requested – £1,200.
4. To consider whether to support the application received from Little Rockers Mother and Toddler Group – Alvaston Ward, funding for toys, crafts etc for children aged birth – four years and safety equipment. Grant requested – £300.
5. To consider whether to support the application received from Merrill Way Allotment Association – Chellaston, Sinfin and Boulton Wards, funding for allotment recycling. Grant requested – £600.
6. To consider whether to support the application received from Sinfin Lane Allotment Association – Sinfin Ward, funding for improved security. Grant requested – £1,081.
7. To consider whether to support the application received from Sinfin Moor Church – Parent and Toddler Group – Sinfin Ward, funding to replace and upgrade toys and equipment. Grant requested – £700.
8. To consider whether to support the application received from SUPORT Ltd – Sinfin Ward, funding for improved security. Grant requested – £3,000.

Having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following application Councillor Bayliss left the meeting during its consideration.

9. To consider whether to support the application received from Boulton Breakfast Club – Boulton Ward, funding for a breakfast club. Grant requested – £725.
10. To consider whether to support the application received from Enthusiasm – Boulton Ward, funding for Event in the Tent. Grant requested – £2,000.

Options Considered

The Panel assessed each application for funding against the agreed criteria and priorities.

KEY DECISION

To award funding to the applications as follows:

1. Alvaston Street Neighbourhood Watch for funding for Green Lane improvements – Grant £5,000.
2. Derby City Council Sport Development Team for funding for an Area Panel 2 football tournament – Grant £344.

This grant is dependent on funding being agreed by the other Area Panels.

3. Elvaston Guides for funding to purchase tents and camping equipment for Peak 2005 – Grant £1,200.

This grant is dependent on the group operating within the Alvaston Ward.

4. Little Rockers Mother and Toddler Group for funding for toys, crafts etc for children aged birth – four years and safety equipment – Grant £300.
5. Merrill Way Allotment Association for funding for allotment recycling – Grant £600.
6. Sinfin Lane Allotment Association for funding for improved security – Grant £1,081.
7. Sinfin Moor Church – Parent and Toddler Group for funding to replace and upgrade toys and equipment. Grant £700.
8. SUPORT Ltd for funding for improved security. Grant £3,000.
9. Boulton Breakfast Club for funding for a breakfast club. Grant £725.
10. Enthusiasm for funding for Event in the Tent. Grant £2,000.

Reasons

1. The applications meet the criteria for Area Panel funding.
2. The applications provided evidence of needs, both in terms of enabling residents to participate in activities within their community and providing a service in response to the needs of local residents and which would provide a benefit to residents.

14/05 Update Report

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

Dropped Kerbs, Newbridge Crescent

A resident of Newbridge Crescent conveyed her thanks on behalf neighbours and herself to all councillors, officers and contractors as the work that had been completed so far was very satisfactory and the contractors were most courteous and polite.

Jitty, Baker Street to Shardlow Road

Councillor Graves stated that he had written to Margaret Beckett MP about this situation, who had advised that the commencement order and regulations were now in force. Bill Reed responded that he would seek clarification from planning officers and report back to the next meeting.

Petition – T Mobile Phone Mast, Shelton Lock

Councillor Tittley advised the Panel that T Mobile had written to Mark Todd, MP advising that they had surveyed the area near the railway line but there was not a sufficient signal in that area. It looked like the Welcome Service Station would be their best option. Councillor Tittley advised that there would be a site meeting arranged shortly.

Parking Restrictions, High Street, School Lane, Chellaston

Councillor Willitts advised that this issue was a question of enforcement and he suggested that the police and highway enforcement officers be approached to see if they would be in favour of double yellow lines.

15/05 Arrangements for Future Meeting

Resolved to appointment Chairs for future meetings of the panel.

21 September 2005 – Chellaston Ward – Councillor Tittley

9 November 2005 – Alvaston Ward – Councillor Wynn

11 January 2006 – Boulton Ward – Councillor Jackson

MINUTES END