

Time commenced : 6.35 pm  
Time finished : 9.15 pm

**AREA PANEL 4 (LITTLEOVER, MICKLEOVER and BLAGREAVES  
WARDS)**

**19 MAY 2004**

Present: Councillor Troup (Chair)  
Councillors Allen, Care, Carr, Crosby, Hird, Jones,  
Skelton and Winter

Derby City Council and Derbyshire Constabulary Officers:

Andy Morgan	Landscape & Development Officer
John Hansed	Head of Street Care and Waste Management
Gemma Barlow	Members Services Officer
Inspector Gary Parkin	Derbyshire Constabulary
Richard Smail	Area Panel Manager
Helen Couperthwaite	Members Services Officer
David Finn	Head of Youth Services
Maggie Fennell	Supporting People Officer
Faye Brown	Derby Homes Local Manager

37 members of the public were in attendance.

**61/03 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**62/03 Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Jones declared a personal interest in minute number 71/03 as she was a former member of the Allotments Association.

**63/03 Late Items Introduced By The Chair**

There were no late items.

**64/03 Minutes**

Agreed that the minutes of Area Panel 4 held on 24 March 2004 be confirmed as a correct record.

## 65/03 Update on Progress Regarding Community Issues Raised at the Area Panel Meeting

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.

### **Dog Waste Bins – Bendall Green**

A member of the public reported that they had had consultation with Councillors Crosby and Skelton about this issue. It was reported that the bins had been emptied over the weekend, but by Monday were overflowing with litter and dog waste.

Andy Morgan - Landscape & Development Officer - reported that the bins were emptied twice a week.

Councillor Allen asked if an extra dog waste bin could be located on Bendall Green?

Andy Morgan reported that there had been a review across the city on litter and dog waste bins. The Council had obtained funding for 82 dual use lockable bins for dog waste and litter and planned to replace a further 100 litter bins. It was noted that it was planned to provide Bendall Green with a dual bin and an extra litter bin. The earliest the work would take place would be in Autumn 2004.

### **Parking and Traffic at Local Schools**

A member of the public raised further concerns about parking on corners near to schools.

Inspector Gary Parkin reported that although there were 5 beat officers working in the area, it was considered that other issues and priorities had to be taken into account. It was noted that the police were working with schools to try to adhere to the school travel plans, but considered that the issues were a social problem as well as a legal problem.

### **Standard of Road Repairs**

A member of the public asked if the inspectors, who determined sub-standard road surfaces, checked if the roads were suitable for bicycles and motorcycles? Another member of the public asked if accidents recorded for statistical purposes were due to speed or bad road repairs?

Councillor Care advised that the Safety Camera Partnership recorded the number of accidents that occurred across the city, and significant number of those recorded were due to speed.

Inspector Parkin considered that safety/speed cameras were positioned according to need and were there to save lives. He reiterated the point that all funds collected from fines were put to use to buy more cameras.

### **Alcohol Free Zone in Mickleover**

It was reported that the Chief Legal Officer had confirmed that he would be coordinating the process of assessing whether an alcohol free zone would be designated in Mickleover. However there was a waiting list from designation of alcohol free zones in Derby.

Inspector Parkin noted that structured reasons were required to consider designating alcohol free zones and was a specific response to need.

A member of the public considered that underage drinking was a cause of many problems.

Inspector Parkin considered that there was a range of things that could be done to deter underage drinking and education young people.

Councillor Allen reported that a report from the Planning and Environment Commission had been presented to Council Cabinet that recommended issuing proof of age cards to young people.

### **Firework Noise**

It was reported that new legislation to deal with firework noise was to be adopted by the Government later this year.

A member of the public raised further concerns about homemade firework devices. It was asked what measures had been taken in Derby.

It was reported that until the new legislation was adopted, alternative powers are available to Environmental Health and Trading Standards to take action against persons causing a noise nuisance.

### **Repainting Blagreaves Lane Library**

It was reported that the peeling paintwork had been investigated and had concluded that the paint had reacted with the chemical make-up of the old paint surface. It had been decided that the existing paint would have to be stripped and then repainted. The job would be considered for inclusion in the 2004/05 work programme.

A member of the public raised concerns about having to pay for the repainted twice and considered that the contractors should have been aware of the problem.

## **66/03 Public Question Time**

The following questions were asked by members of the public:

**Speeding, Blagreaves Lane / Stenson Road**

A member of the public suggested having 30mph repeater signs, or on the road, as a way to reduce the speeding on Blagreaves Lane and Stenson Road. It was also suggested using flashing signs that indicate when the speed limit is being exceeded – as currently located on the A38.

A member of the public advised that a consultation exercise had been carried out about two years ago relating to speeding on Blagreaves Lane, but were unaware of anything that had happened as a consequence of the exercise.

**To ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to investigate options available to highlight the speed limit on the roads.**

**Dog Waste Bins, Sunnydale Park**

A member of the public raised concerns about dog waste being put into ordinary litter bins, on Sunnydale Park, causing contamination.

Councillor Crosby advised that Sunnydale Park was on the list of proposed sites for new dual bins, but had been listed as Hillcross open space. It was reported that 1 new dual bin would be installed and at least 2 of the existing bins would be replaced.

**School Crossing Patrol, Blagreaves Lane**

A member of the public raised concerns about the need for a school crossing patrol on Blagreaves Lane. She advised that due to the vacant position children were dodging traffic, or being assisted by construction workers.

Councillor Allen agreed that the road was dangerous, but advised that crossing patrol was in place based on evidence of need, and also highlighted that it was difficult to get replacement patrols.

Councillor Care advised that although there were mobile patrol officers to cover short-term vacancies and sickness, there were not enough permanent staff to cover the demand and it was difficult to recruit people into the role.

**To ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to investigate the possibility of a crossing patrol at this site.**

### **Cleaning Footpath, Willson Road**

A member of the public asked what provision there was for regular cleaning and maintenance of footpath no. 6, Blagreaves Lane to Willson Road, in light of the Councils' decision to keep the path open?

Councillor Troup advised that he was not aware of any provision that was made for such maintenance. The member of the public considered that if no maintenance work would be carried out then the path should be closed.

### **Consultation on Planning Applications**

A member of the public asked if an application had been received or approved for a nursery on Blagreaves Lane? It was asked how wide the consultation for planning applications was?

Councillor Skelton confirmed that she had no knowledge of an application but would find out and confirm with the member of the public.

Councillor Carr explained that the consultation process for planning applications was only carried out around the surrounding area. However information on new and current planning applications was available at Roman House and were advertised in the Derby Trader and the Derby Evening Telegraph.

### **Noise Impact, East Midlands Airport**

A member of the public requested that the Council respond to the East Midlands Runway Extension, giving consideration to the need for 'stringent noise controls' and local route variations. It was also requested that the Council consider a permanent 'watching brief' on East Midlands Airport developments regarding possible adverse impact on Derby residents.

Councillor Care confirmed that she had spoken to the officer in charge of the application and a response would be produced on behalf of the Council.

Councillor Allen reported that he had conveyed Littleover residents' concerns about the application to Environmental Health and to East Midlands Airport, but considered that it would be difficult to enforce changes as the Council were not a statutory body.

### **Police Helicopter**

A member of the public asked if the Council had any controls or responsibilities over police helicopters?

It was noted that the Council did not have any authority over Police helicopters and were the responsibility of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Constabulary.

**Recycling site, Oaklands Avenue Shops**

A member of the public asked if the Oaklands Avenue recycling was tidied regularly?

Councillor Crosby advised that the site was cleaned once a week.

John Hansed considered that the use of recycling sites had not decreased due to the introduction of re-think rubbish.

## 67/03 Petitions

### **Petitions Received Since the Last Meeting**

Opposition to a youth shelter on Bendall Green open space

The panel considered a petition that had been received since the last meeting relating to the opposition to a youth shelter on Bendall Green.

Andy Morgan reported that there had been an extensive consultation exercise in April 2004, to ask the residents what they wanted for the area and had worked closely with the Bendall Green Action Group. He noted that 215 questionnaires had been sent out on two separate occasions, the first having 100 responses and the second 89.

Donna Stevenson, the lead petitioner and the area co-ordinator of the Bendall Green neighbourhood watch, addressed the panel and expressed concerns about the proposal for a youth shelter on Bendall Green. It was considered that Bendall Green was not a large enough area for all of the activities that were being proposed. It was considered that the consultation had been insufficient, as many residents had not received the initial questionnaire and the majority of those consulted were teenagers through pizza evenings.

It was reported that the Bendall Green Action Group would be holding it's next meeting on Wednesday 2 June 2004 – Andy Morgan was invited.

**Agreed to ask the Director of Commercial Services to investigate this matter and report back to the next meeting.**

### **Responses to Petitions Received**

Opposition to a youth shelter on Vicarage Road

It was reported that a meeting was to be held with the lead petitioners. It had been identified that the residents would like to have a sports wall on the park.

**Agreed to ask the Director of Commercial Services to bring a report to the next available meeting of Area Panel 4.**

## 68/03 Street Lighting Provision Within Derby

A report of the Assistant Director - Highways, Transportation and Waste Management was considered, which stated that there were approximately 30,000 lighting columns in the city. A high proportion of these were now older than their design life, but with ongoing restrictions in finance meant that, especially in recent years, it had not been possible to carry out any planned replacement programmes. The number of lights was growing each year, as new developments were built and adopted. The level of lighting provided throughout many parts of the city was currently less than that set out in national and European standards. This meant that additional lights would be provided in a new position normally in response to an expression of public concern regarding safety and security. It should be noted however, that the current level of finance for providing additional lighting was low. The Government had stated that there was to be no special funding for street lighting improvements. It was made clear that having such improvements should be progressed through Private Finance Initiatives (PFI). The Council was currently pursuing this course of action. The Department of Transport had announced that the Council's bid for £ 32.47 million pounds of PFI credit had been fully approved. This would replace 76% of the current lighting columns over a 5 year period, improve the service levels and maintenance of infrastructure at that level for the period of the contract (25 years). The Council needed to move forward to the next stage of the process, which was to prepare an outline business case for submission to the Department of Transport in summer 2004. In order to broaden the scope of the project, a questionnaire was circulated to enable interested people to submit their comments and suggestions on the issue of street lighting. Comments should be submitted to Martin Follows, the Street Lighting PFI Project Manager, by 18 June 2004.

## 69/03 Youth Service Activities

David Finn, Head of the Youth Service, along with Tina and Zeal , gave a presentation on work of the Youth Service in the Area Panel 4 area. The Youth Service covered the 12 to 25-age range, with the key age range being 13 to 19. They gave details of groups that met at various locations throughout the Area Panel 4 area, as well as specialist city-wide provision, at The Space, Outdoor Education, Front of House, The Edge, Derby Runaways, Oasis, Duke of Edinburgh Awards and AMP recording studio.

**Agreed to note the presentation.**



## 70/03 Developing a Five Year Strategy

A report from the Assistant Director – Housing and Advice Services was considered that detailed a consultation exercise for developing a five-year strategy for Supporting People.

Maggie Fennell reported that 'Supporting People' was introduced in April 2003 and was a new initiative that brought all the old sources of funding for supported housing together into a single 'pot', for which the Council acts as the administering authority.

The supporting People Team are required to submit a five-year Strategy for Supporting People in March 2005. To complete this they would consult the public to learn people's views about the services that it provides and how they could be improved. The consultation would include holding conferences, attending a wide range of groups and forums, using suggestion boxes and questionnaires. Questionnaires would be sent by post to people who have experience of receiving supported housing services. The questionnaire would also be on the Council's website, [www.derby.gov.uk](http://www.derby.gov.uk). Views could also be conveyed by contacting Maggie Fennell, the Supporting People Officer, on 01332 255320 or write to The Supporting People Team, Council House, Corporation Street, Derby.

## 71/03 Area Panel Budget Proposals 2003/04

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

1. To consider whether to support the application received from Littleover Lane Allotments Association for funding for a new toilet block. Grant requested - £600.
2. To consider whether to support the application received from Mickleover Community Association for funding for two new notice boards. Grant requested - £200.
3. To consider whether to support the application received from 118<sup>th</sup> Scout Group for funding to contribute to an extension to 118<sup>th</sup> Scout Group Headquarters. Grant requested - £2000

### **Options Considered**

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

### **Decision**

To award funding to the following applications:

- Littleover Lane Allotments Association – Grant £600
- Mickleover Community Association – Grant £200

### **KEY DECISIONS**

To award funding to the following application:

118<sup>th</sup> Scout Group – Grant £2000

## **Reasons**

1. The application met the criteria for Area Panel funding.
2. The application showed evidence of need.
3. The application promoted a strong and positive neighbourhood.
4. The proposal would improve children's and young people's prospects.
5. The application promoted education.

72/03      **Arrangements for the next meeting**