

Time commenced – 6.30pm  
Time finished – 8.35pm

**AREA PANEL 1  
(CHADDESSEN, DERWENT, OAKWOOD AND SPONDON WARDS)  
12 JANUARY 2005**

Present: Councillors E Berry, P Berry, Bolton, Gupta, Latham,  
MacDonald, Redfern, Roberts, Smalley and West

Derby City Council and Derbyshire Constabulary Officers:

Richard Smail – Area Panel Manager  
David Gartside – Head of Traffic, Development and Cultural Services  
Alf Bousie – Principal Landscape Assistant, Commercial Services  
Ray Cowlshaw – Chief Executive  
Graeme Walton – Derby Homes  
Inspector Graham McLaughlin – Derbyshire Constabulary  
PC Buckley – Derbyshire Constabulary

32 members of the public were in attendance.

**36/04 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ahern and Brown.

**37/04 Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair**

Councillor Bolton reported that Chaddesden Carnival would take place on 12 June 2005 at Chaddesden Park.

**38/04 Declarations of Interest**

Councillors E Berry and P Berry declared personal prejudicial interests in minute no 45/04 as they were members of the Spondon Community Association. Councillor MacDonald declared a personal interest in minute no 45/04 as her husband was vice chair of governors at Meadow Farm Primary School.

**39/04 Minutes**

Agreed that the minutes of Area Panel 1 held on 27 October 2004 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**40/04 Corporate Plan and Budget**

Ray Cowlshaw, Chief Executive presented to the Panel out the Council's Vision and Priorities for 2005/06 and further priorities over a three year horizon. The presentation also included budget proposals, budget highlights, proposals for

Council Tax and details of a residents' survey. The Chair thanked Ray Cowlshaw for the informative presentation and invited questions from members of the public.

A member of the public asked about the reference to bedding plants and Ray Cowlshaw, Chief Executive, explained that the proposal was to replace bedding plants with perennial plants. It was noted that the budget figures were real increases and included inflation elements.

A member of the public asked if the increase in Council spending amounted to 6.8% and the Council Tax amounted to 4.5%, how the difference would be made up. Ray Cowlshaw, Chief Executive, explained that there had been a correction to the census in 2001 which had resulted in a further £2.2 million being made available to the Council by Government grants.

Councillor Bolton stated that it had been suggested to her that the Chaddesden Park Paddling Pool was little used and may be taken away as a facility and that there would be a reduction in play facilities. She asked if this would affect Area Panel 1 area. Councillor West, Cabinet Member for Leisure and Cultural Services, explained that the detailed budget would be considered at Overview and Scrutiny Commissions and that he would investigate the particular issue raised by Councillor Bolton.

Councillor Redfern stated that following the residents survey and the results of this, what people wanted to be increased, was not reflected in the budget proposals. Ray Cowlshaw, Chief Executive, explained that the residents' survey was part of the consultation and that the results would be taken into consideration when determining the budget.

**Agreed to note the report.**

## 41/04 Update on Progress regarding Community Issues raised at the Area Panel Meeting

The Panel considered an update report on progress on community issues raised at the last meeting. The report included details of issues raised and various progress to date and details of which Council Officer was responsible for these issues.

**Agreed to note the report.**

## Specific Issues

### **Vandalism around 145<sup>th</sup> Scout Building, Coniston Crescent, Derwent**

The Scout Leader reported that there had been an improvement in the situation since the last meeting. Anti graffiti paint had been received but they had not been able to put this up due to bad weather. She reported on two incidents which had occurred recently which involved a theatre group being verbally abused and herself and other members of the scout movement experiencing problems whilst putting up Christmas decorations. The police had been called to both incidents. Richard Smail, Area Panel Manager, reported that sources of funding for fencing around the

Scout Hut were being investigated. Applications were being considered by the Scout group for the small change fund and to New Deal.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour, Oakwood**

A member of the public asked why it had taken so long to get the community police station in Oakwood opened. Councillor Latham reported that the police had done everything within their power to have the station opened and that the delays had been with City Council Contractors. She had asked Ray Cowlshaw, Chief Executive to investigate the situation.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour, Mansfield Road at Croft Wood, Derwent**

A member of the public stated that the situation had improved in the area but he was concerned that it may start again in Spring, when there were lighter nights. Councillor Redfern reported that Sergeant Cooper and Carol Hardwick were investigating the possibility of finding somewhere else for the bikers to ride.

### **Speed Limit on Mansfield Road**

A member of the public requested quantifiable information about why the speed limit on Mansfield Road would not be reduced from 40 to 30 miles per hour. David Gartside, Head of Transport, explained that speed limits needed to be appropriate and that Mansfield Road was a key artery into the city and a balance needed to be made. The area was not majorly built up and guidance from the Department of Transport was that speed limits should not be swapped and changed over short distances. Surveys had shown that most vehicles travelled at approximately 40 miles an hour and that changing the limit would not necessarily change behaviour. Several residents reported incidents of difficulties in crossing the road. Councillor Roberts suggested that the situation be looked at more imaginatively and innovatively.

### **Pedestrian Crossing Request for Mansfield Road**

Councillor Redfern reported that a person living in the area was moving house, due to the difficulty in crossing the road. David Gartside reported that the right balance between vehicles and pedestrians needed to be met and that there would be a further survey of the area, which would be reported to the next meeting. Councillor Gupta asked that residents be involved in the new investigation to assess the need for a pedestrian crossing.

### **Community Facilities, Breadsall Hilltop, Derwent**

A member of the public asked why this issue was taking so long. It was reported that the land could not be adopted until it was up to a standard, suitable for maintenance. In respect of this particular piece of land, there were still a few issues to be resolved relating to trees and drainage. The developers, Crest Nicholson, needed to carry out works to bring the land up to standard and the Council could not force them to do this. The Council were encouraging the developers to complete the works. Councillor Roberts suggested writing to Crest Nicholson, asking why we had been waiting for six years and requesting a response. Alf Bousie, Principal Landscape Assistant, reported that a consultation exercise was to be carried out to see what the public wanted to do with the land so that works could commence as soon as the land was adopted. He reported that the Council could not do anything until the land was in the Council's ownership.

**Agreed:**

- 1. To ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to write to Crest Nicholson requesting an explanation of why the Council had been waiting so long for the works to be completed.**
- 2. To request the Scrutiny Management Commission to investigate the wider issue of land adoption across the city with a view to this situation being prevented in future.**

**Provision of Litter Bins, Derwent Ward**

A member of the public reported that the bin which had been in place for seven days, had been melted. The Council had removed the bin and not replaced it. The explanation for not replacing the bin was that it was little used. He felt that it was an unfair assessment to show how much the bin had been used if it was only in place for seven days. Councillor Roberts stated that there must have been a survey requiring a litter bin in this location in the first place.

**Agreed to ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to investigate the possible reinstatement of the bin.**

**Parking on Sitwell Street, Spondon**

Councillor P Berry reported that there was still a problem in the Spondon area generally, particularly with people parking on double yellow lines. He asked Inspector McLaughlin, if it was an offence to drive on pavements, because, if people were parking on pavements, then they must have driven on them. Inspector McLaughlin reported that tickets had been given out in Spondon area and one of the particular problems related to disabled drivers. Delivery times at the shops had been varied to prevent obstructions.

**Dog Waste Bins on Chaddesden Park, Chaddesden**

Councillor Bolton reported that local ward Councillors had been consulted about the location of dog waste bins and she had consulted with the executive of Friends of Chaddesden Park. In response to a request from a member of the committee it was confirmed that an officer would attend their meeting on 26 January 2005.

**Anti-Social Behaviour, Maryland Road Garages, Chaddesden**

It was reported that PC Matt Adams was being vigilant about this particular issue.

**Dog Owners, Chaddesden**

Inspector McLaughlin reported that the dog owner had been spoken to and the situation was being monitored.

**Car Parking on Nottingham Road and Surface Water on Reginald Road South, Chaddesden**

A member of the public reported that the heading for this update should read 'Car Parking on Reginald Road South' rather than 'Nottingham Road'. Councillor Roberts confirmed that the blocked drain had now been cleared.

### **Resurfacing Worcester Crescent, Derwent**

It was reported that works relating to the pot holes would be addressed and the grass issue would be addressed when the kerbs were replaced. This was due to be done by the end of March 2005.

**Agreed to ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to contact the resident direct with details of surface dressing.**

### **Recycling Cardboard, All Wards**

It was reported that there would be a full report on this issue at the next meeting.

### **Bus Services, Spondon / Chaddesden**

It was reported that Councillor Ahern had referred to the Albert Road estate and not the Asterdale estate, as stated in the update.

### **Sewer Installation in Oakwood**

A member of the public stated that at the last meeting he had been concerned that if sewer works were carried out in Oakwood, would they have to be repeated again in ten to 15 years' time, if there was development beyond the current boundaries of Oakwood.

### **Petition – Proposed Youth Facilities, Spondon**

Councillor E Berry reported that due to unforeseen circumstances, some funding for the project had been removed and there was now not enough money to fund any proposals for Gravel Pit Lane and therefore proposals would only affect the Willowcroft Road site. A member of the public from Gravel Pit Lane explained that the residents would be happy with this situation. A youth worker working in the area was concerned that young people had nothing to do and that a facility at Gravel Pit Lane would have helped with these problems.

## **42/04 Public Question Time**

The following questions were asked by members of the public:

### **Vandalism in Chaddesden Wood in Oakwood Ward**

A member of the public from Oakwood was concerned about fencing near the nature reserve, which kept being vandalised. Alf Bousie, Principal Landscape Assistant, reported that they were looking at hedge planting along the boundary. This would be a more sustainable boundary. It was hoped that the works could be completed this winter.

### **Post Offices**

A member of the public asked about the situation relating to post offices in the Area Panel 1 area. Councillor Bolton reported that she had received a letter, saying that the post office on Roosevelt Avenue would be closing on 22 January 2005.

### **Funding Consultation, Cowsley Road**

A member of the public asked if there was any feedback on the consultation for redevelopment on Cowsley Road.

**Agreed to bring an update to the next meeting.**

### **Street Lighting**

A member of the public asked who was responsible for fixing street lights and how long they could expect to wait to have a street light repaired. She reported that there was one by the Scout Hut and one by the senior citizens' bungalows in the Coniston Crescent area, which had been out for approximately four months and had been reported in the region of 15 times. Councillor Redfern reported that she had asked the Planning and Environment Commission to look at this issue as there were no time limits set for repairs.

**Agreed to ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to investigate the two lights concerned.**

## 43/04 Petitions

### **No New Petitions**

#### **Petition relating to bus services on Cornwall Road**

A report of the Assistant Director – Highways, Transportation and Waste Management was considered, which stated that a petition had been received regarding the operation of bus services along Cornwall Road, Chaddesden. The petition requested the removal of the service from Cornwall Road due to alleged damage to parked vehicles by passing buses. The service was operated under contract to Derby City Council and was funded using the government's Urban Bus Challenge, designed to improve access to employment and other services. The service had been running for 18 months. Consultation was currently taking place within Arriva and seeking their comments about the alleged damage and also the use of the service from the area.

**Agreed that further research would take place on the use of the bus service and a report be brought back to a future meeting.**

## 44/04 Health Briefing from Primary Care Trusts

A briefing on health services paper was considered.

**Agreed to note the information about health services, contained in the briefing paper.**

## 45/04 Area Panel Budget Proposal 2004/05

A report of the Assistant Director - Community Policy was considered which set out details of four applications for funding which had been received.

It was reported that the first application was from the Chaddesden Park Allotment Association. They were seeking a grant of £3,506 towards security fencing for the allotment site.

The second application was from Nottingham Road and District Allotments Association Limited. They were seeking a grant of £875 towards a potting shed for Meadow Farm School allotments.

The third application was from Derby and Sandiacre Canal Society. They were seeking £1,800 towards canal interpretation panels in Spondon.

The fourth application was from Spondon Community Association. They were seeking £2,500 towards Spondon in Bloom 2005.

### **Options considered**

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

### **Decision**

- 1 To award a grant of £3,506 to the Chaddesden Park Allotment Association towards security fencing for the allotment site.
- 2 To award a grant of £875 to Nottingham Road and District Allotments Association Limited towards a potting shed for Meadow Farm School allotments.
- 3 To award a grant of £1,800 to Derby and Sandiacre Canal Society towards canal interpretation panels in Spondon.
- 4 To award a grant of £2,500 to Spondon Community Association towards Spondon in Bloom 2005.

### **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 all residents.

(Councillors E Berry and P Berry left the meeting during the discussion and voting on the items relating to Derby and Sandiacre Canal Society and Spondon Community Association.)

## **46/04 Arrangements for the Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting would be held in the Spondon ward at West Park School, West Park Road, Spondon on Wednesday 9 March 2005 at 6.30pm.

Minutes End