

Time Commenced - 6.30 pm  
Time Finished - 8.40 pm

**AREA PANEL 4  
(LITTLEOVER, MICKLEOVER & BLAGREAVES WARDS)  
21 JANUARY 2004**

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

Derby City Council Officers and Derbyshire Constabulary Officers

Gemma Barlow	-	Members Services Officer
Paul Dransfield	-	Director of Finance
Patricia Hatton	-	Derby Homes
Jody Kirkpatrick	-	Members Services Assistant
Inspector Gary Parkin	-	Derbyshire Constabulary
Neil Haslam	-	Waste Management Officer
Lesley Walker	-	Area and Neighbourhood Manager
Richard Smail	-	Area Panel Manager
Paramjit Oberoi	-	Greater Derby Primary Care Trust

31 Members of the public were in attendance

**38/03 Apologies**

No apologies for absence were received.

**39/03 Late Item Introduced by the Chair**

There were no late items.

**40/03 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**41/03 Minutes**

Agreed that the minutes of Area Panel 4 held on 3 December 2003 be confirmed as a correct record.

**42/03 Budget Presentation**

Councillor Carr, Cabinet Member for Personnel, Equalities and Direct Services and Paul Dransfield, Director of Finance, presented to the Panel the Council's themes and priorities within the Corporate Plan and the budget proposals for

2004-2005. A short video was shown which outlined the huge variety and extent of Council services.

Concerns were raised about the large increase in Police tax rates. Paul Dransfield noted that the Police Authority were responsible for their own budget. Inspector Gary Parkin considered that the public were paying for a service. The rates were decided by assessing the policing needs of Derby and Derbyshire, including; improving IT equipment, additional telephone and vehicle support. A member of the public asked how much of the budget was allocated to traffic calming measures? Gary Parkin reported that traffic calming was a separate entity and was self-financing; money received from speed fines was used to pay for the Safety Camera Partnership

Members of the public were circulated with a Derby Pointer Questionnaire, which they were asked to complete and return at the end of the meeting. The Chair thanked both Councillor Carr and Paul Dransfield for their informative presentations and invited members of the public to return the questionnaires with comments on the points covered in the presentation.

**Agreed to note the presentation.**

## 43/03 Update on Progress Regarding Community Issues Raised at the Last Area Panel Meeting

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

### **Air Traffic Noise**

It was reported that the Director of Corporate Services had written to the East Midlands Airport Independent Consultative Forum – EMAICF to again request a seat on the Forum from March 2004. The response from the forum was that there was no opportunity for Derby City Council to hold a seat. It was noted that the Leader of the Council, Maurice Burgess had also written to the EMAICF to request a seat, but a response had not yet been received.

### **Replacement of Vicarage Road Park Pavilion**

It was reported that no more information on the item would be available until the 2004/05 budget had been considered at Council on 1 March 2004.

A member of the public asked what were the costs of the original application? This had been previously requested but not received. Richard Smail would follow up the request.

### **Land Adjacent to Entrance to Park on Havenbault Lane**

Patricia Hatton from Derby Homes reported that she had been in contact with the member of the public that raised concerns at the last Area Panel meeting, and the issues had been addressed.

It was noted that the Village Community Panel had submitted a bid to Derby Homes, City Housing Improvement Plan 2004/05, to improve the access road, provide fencing and install a footway to housing at a cost of £20,750. A member of the public commented that they were satisfied with progress made and action had been taken to secure funding for the works.

### **Sports Facilities Strategy**

A member of the public commented that he had spoken to a gentleman involved with the Local Football Partnership who suggested there was no Council run football pitches in Mickleover.

It was noted that Marc Birkett – Sports Development Officer – was working in the area with the aim to improving the sporting opportunities for the young people of Mickleover; he wanted residents to contact him for advice or to raise any specific issues.

### **Provision of Park, Chain Lane, Burton Road and Uttoxeter Road Area**

A member of the public asked if there would be any opportunity for the Council to put aside money for capital funding for a scheme, such as for the provision of a park? Possible sites suggested for purchase included the Severn Trent Water site on Constable Drive.

Paul Dransfield reported that £70 million was spent each year on capital investment. The most significant areas of expenditure were in Council Housing, Highways and Schools. It was confirmed that there was no specific provision for speculative funding; the policy was to consider purchasing open space if possible when it was needed. It was noted that from April 2005 the government were changing the rules on funding, to include a 'spend to save' approach.

### **Grass Verges**

Inspector Gary Parkin reiterated that it was not an offence to park on grass verges unless an obstruction was being caused. It was reported that a number of tickets had been issued around the schools in Littleover in response to requests from residents and problems were being addressed. It was hoped that members of the public would continue to be educated on the problems and damaged caused by parking on grass verges.

### **Adoption of Roads and Open Space in Heatherton**

It was reported that Millers, who were the agents for the land around Hollybrook Way, had agreed to revisit the site and clear up the litter. Councillor Carr reported that Millers had undertaken one clear up and that Councillors were coordinating a voluntary litter pick to help clear the site.

### **Bus Shelter on Blagreaves Lane**

It was reported that the broken glass had been removed from the site after it

had been reported to Adshel who were responsible for repairs. The new glass had now arrived and would be fitted week commencing 26 January 2004.

A member of the public asked if a stronger plastic could be used to prevent the damage from recurring? Councillor Care reported that if a hardwearing plastic were used, people would burn the material, which would look unsightly. There was a beige plastic material that was sometimes used, but as the material was not transparent members of the public feel unsafe.

### **Footpath No 6 Willson Road, Littleover**

It was reported that officers had contacted the lead petitioners to keep them up-to-date with progress being made. It was believed that the footpath was still the property of the original housing developer. A report on the petition submitted would be considered at the next Area Panel meeting on 24 March 2004.

A member of the public raised concerns about a recent mugging in a footpath in Littleover and considered that this showed the need to close the Willson Road footpath. Inspector Gary Parkin considered that although there were a large number of offences, they were due to a small number of offenders. It was noted that since the number of burglaries and muggings had increased 3 people had been arrested.

## **43/03 Public Question Time**

The following issues were raised by the public during public question time: -

### **Bus Stop outside the Vine Public House – Uttoxeter Road, Mickleover**

A member of the public raised concerns that the bus shelter roof was overhanging leading to cars and buses hitting it.

Councillor Hird reported that the damaged bus shelter had been removed and a new bus shelter had been ordered, that had been purpose built for the Uttoxeter Road site.

### **Litter on King George Park**

A member of the public raised concerns about the large amount of litter along the edges of King George V Park playing fields between the tennis courts and the children's play area.

Councillor Carr asked if the site was on adopted land? If so, it was considered that park staff should collect the litter. If the land was un-adopted it was suggested that a voluntary litter pick, as planned in Hollybrook Way in Heatherton, should take place.

**To ask the Director of Commercial Services to investigate the site**

## **Consultation with Young People**

A member of the public asked what youth work provision was available?

Councillor Care reported that the City has a Youth Forum, which was being consulted on the budget process. It was noted that there was detached youth work in the area that usually responded to where the young people were gathering. There are a number of organisations that provided youth clubs on a voluntary basis and Guides and Scouts, but none organised by the Council.

## **Standard of Road Repairs**

A member of the public raised concerns about the standard of road repairs around the City particularly in Littleover. It was considered that the utility companies should be made liable for the repairs they complete, if they were not to a satisfactory standard.

Councillor Care considered that it was a problem that the same areas of road could be repeatedly dug up and repaired, however all of the companies, such as Severn Trent and British Gas had the right to do so. It was noted that there was a national standard for repairs and that there was a period of time that the Council could request the work was completed in. It was noted that the Council received a capital grant for significant highways repairs, however the amount was only half of what authorities such as Birmingham and Nottingham received.

## **Revaluation of Properties**

It was noted that the Government was consulting with Local Authorities about re-banding rateable value, in 2007. It was considered that some areas would benefit from re-banding as the Government provides more grants to Local Authorities with low rateable values as they cannot raise as much money. It was noted there is growing concern about Council Tax for those on low incomes and the Government is considering alternatives.

## **Safety Camera on Burton Road and Income from Speeding Fines**

A member of the public asked what was the purpose of the camera on Burton Road and where does the income from fines go to?

It was noted that the permanent camera was sited on Burton Road pointing towards Farley Road as a safety initiative. It was confirmed that all the income from speeding fines contributes to the costs of the Safety Camera Partnership.

## **44/03 Petitions**

There were no new petitions.

## **45/03 Rolling Out Rethink Rubbish Recycling**

Neil Haslam presented a report on the ongoing development, implementation and monitoring of the Rethink Rubbish Recycling Project. The scheme had

been piloted in Chellaston in 2003 and with the approval of Council Cabinet on 16 October 2003 the scheme would now roll out into parts of Littleover and Mickleover in 2004. It was reported that different coloured boxes and bags would be provided free of charge for the different types of household waste, including paper, textiles, plastic and garden waste. It was noted that collections would happen on alternate weeks.

There were concerns that the black, food waste bins would smell if there was only fortnightly collections. It was considered that this would not be a problem if food waste was wrapped up and the lid on the bin closed.

It was noted that promotion of the scheme would be carried out through schools, local businesses, local radio and exhibitions.

Councillor Hird asked if the current recycling sites would remain in addition to the new household bins, boxes and bags. It was noted that the sites would remain as they were still being well used in areas where the scheme had already been rolled out.

Concerns were raised about disabled people having problems with putting the bins and bags out for collection. It was noted that there were exemption facilities available and the refuse collectors would collect the waste from where it was kept by the residents.

The Chair thanked Neil Haslam for a very useful and informative presentation.

**Neil Haslam to present a further report to Area Panel 4 on 24 March 2004.**

## 46/03 Primary Care Trusts

Paramjit Oberoi, a non-executive Director of the Primary Care Trust -PCT, attended the meeting and explained her role on the PCT board. It was noted that the PCT produced regular newsletters that outlined what the PCT involved. Its aims included educating people in healthy eating, health protection and immunisation. Paramjit explained that her role was to identify any concerns raised at Area Panels and feed back to the PCT. It was noted that the PCT office was on Stuart Street and members of the public were welcome to call in or provide feedback at any time.

**A leaflet on the Primary Care Trust would be circulated with the next Area Panel 4 agenda.**

## 47/03 Area Panel Budget Proposals 2003/4

A report of the Assistant Director of Community Policy was considered which set out details of Area Panel funding still available for 2003/04. The total budget remaining was £7357. No new applications for funding had been received.

Councillor Care suggested that a report should be produced showing all the groups and organisations that have been given Area Panel Grants.

## 48/03 Arrangements for the Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held at Newmount Methodist Church Hall, Blagreaves Lane on 24 March 2004 at 6.30 pm.

**Agreed that Councillor Crosby be appointed Chair for the next meeting.**

Minutes End