

### **DPDF – Project Group Minutes 12 April 2010**

#### **Present**

Richard Williams  
Noel Walsh  
Lynn Gilbey  
Marta Hancock  
Janet Warner  
Judi Bateman  
Nancy Pountain  
Angela Neill  
Andrew Hare  
David Gartside – DCC  
Ann Webster – DCC  
Mick Watts – DCC

#### **Apologies**

Councillor Hird  
Pat Fletcher

#### **Minutes of previous meeting**

Agreed

#### **Matters arising**

Mick and Roy Jones from Camtad have met with Derby Live representatives to discuss sound enhancement systems at Derby Live venues and a full report on the meetings outcome would be presented to DPDF at the next meeting.

It was reported that it had not been possible to organise a pre-opening visit to the bus station. This was mainly due to the building temporary ramped approach not being completed until shortly prior to the opening.

The EIA for the shopfront grant scheme was still to be undertaken and Mick undertook to organise necessary assessment.

The Morledge EIA had now been posted on the Council's website.

Letter still to be sent to operators of premises on London Road regarding accessibility concerns.

It was confirmed that contact had been made with a local bus operator about the apparent inadequacy of temporary bus stop facilities in the Littleover area during major road works. The company had agreed to re-visit the stop locations and amend if possible.

### **Railway station public realm work**

Item not discussed but members agreed to forward any comments to Mick by email.

### **The Spot area TRO feedback**

David briefed members of the outcome of the temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) put in place in November last year around the Spot. He felt that the orders had generally had a positive impact on disabled people's parking and traffic movements in general.

Members generally agreed that the arrangements had delivered more structure to the disabled people's parking. There was still however concerns about the opportunity for pick up and drop off and problems continue in relation to sight line and safe pedestrian crossing facilities on London Road.

A commitment was given to consider these issues further as part of perhaps making the temporary arrangements permanent. If permanent modifications to the current orders were proposed then an undertaking was given to consult the group again.

### **Bus station feedback**

Mick expressed regret that no members of the group or indeed the forum received an invitation to the official opening of the bus station. An apology had been received about this omission with an undertaking that the council would do better in the future.

Feedback discussed:

- Priority access to wheelchair users waiting in the designated bay space – To be discussed with bus operators.

- Disabled people's access to centrally located bus lifts  
– Options to be discussed with operator.
- Signage
- Public telephone
- Pick up and drop off facilities
- Travel distances to and from coach facilities

It was agreed that representatives of the council and the group would undertake an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) of the new facility. The assessment process would identify any issues with an equality dimension which perhaps needed to be considered and evaluated further.

Members agreed that progress had and continued to be made in bus and transport infrastructure. This was illustrated by the fact that three wheelchair / scooter users on the group now travel by bus from the bus station.

### **Wayfinding structures draft EIA**

Circulated was the first draft of the wayfinding structures EIA. It was confirmed that a single tender had been received to undertake the project which would be assessed over the coming weeks. If members had any comment / feedback on the assessment they were asked to forward this to Mick.

### **Shopfront grant scheme update**

It was confirmed that the EIA for the shopfront grant scheme had not been undertaken, Mick would chase.

It was reported that the planning application for a new shopfront at 20 The Strand had been refused by the Planning Committee because in their view reasonable levels of access for disabled people had not been provided.

### **Any other business**

David stated that he had met with Councillor's Hird and Ingall to discuss issues around the dangers caused by cycling in pedestrianised areas. It was accepted that the Police are the only people who could effectively enforce the existing restrictions, and that they had requested additional signage to help undertake additional enforcement.

It was confirmed that the existing signage does comply with the relevant legislation but it acknowledged that something needed to be done to lesson / remove the risk.

It was proposed that a more holistic approach based on an educational campaign and further engagement with the Police should be developed. The Police, Cycle Derby, and the Derby & Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership were signed up to this approach and activities started to be planned in more detail. Members supported the approach and asked to be involved as the initiative developed.

Marta asked why the council were still holding events in the Council Chamber when certain access difficulties were well know and longstanding. Ann commented that meetings public meetings particularly those targeted towards disabled people's issues shouldn't be held in the chamber. As soon as this became know action was taken to re-locate the meeting in a more accessible venue.

**Date, time and place of next meeting**

14 June 2010 at 2:00pm in Meeting Room 2, Council House.