



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

AREA PANEL 2
13 June 2007

Report of the Head of Stronger and Safer Communities Unit

Area Panel 2 Community Issues Update Report

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Item No	Issue	Recommended panel action
Alvaston ward		
1.1	Petition – Alvaston Park	Note
1.2	Petition – Refurbishment of the Alvaston District Centre	Note
Boulton ward		
1.3	Blocking either end of Bentley Street, Allenton	Note and close
1.4	Petition - Crossing for school children, Crayford Road	Note
1.5	Open green area on Holloway Road	Note
1.6	Anti-social Behaviour by Pupils from Noel Baker School	Note
Chellaston ward		
1.7	Traffic issues	Note
1.8	Dog bins	Close
1.9	Library building at Chellaston	Note and Close
1.10	Right of way, Woodminton Drive	Close
1.11	Weight restriction signs, A514, Alvaston and Chellaston	Note and Close
1.12	Congestion Charging	Note
1.13	Grass cutting on Pit Close	Note and Close

1.14	Installation of bins outside Shelton Infant School	Note and Close
Sinfin ward		
1.15	Glossop Street redevelopment	Note
1.16	Petition – Installation of cycle path on Osmaston Park Rd	Note and close
1.17	Petition – Residents Parking, Nightingale Road	Note and close
1.18	Grass verges on Victory Road	Note and refer to Neighbourhood Forum
1.19	Condition of Sinfin Recreation Ground	Note and close
All wards		
1.20	Alleyway Issues	Note
1.21	Tree issues, all wards	Note
1.22	Protection of hedgerows beside the Canal	Note and close
1.23	Outstanding Issues	None

1.1 Petition – Alvaston Park - received 08.11.06

Issue: A petition had been received in October 2006 signed by 30 people who are regular users of Alvaston park who are concerned about the run down state of the ground and facilities. They are concerned about keeping the grounds clean, regular litter picking and a higher profile for the Rangers. No one seems to be taking pride in the park and they are asking for something to be done now.

Actions: Note the response and leave issue open to enable future reports on the work of the Friends group.

Update: Verbal update to be provided by Councillor Bayliss

Note.

Further information: Alf Bousie, Environmental Services, ☎715778

1.2 Petition – Refurbishment of the Alvaston District Centre - received 15.03.06

Issue: A petition signed by approximately 880 people was presented to the panel, requesting that the Council provide funding for the Alvaston District Centre scheme for the refurbishment of the shopping area, including better lighting, parking, pavements and CCTV.

Actions: To update on consultations.

Update: We recently held an exhibition outside Alvaston Library showing how we aimed to improve the District Centre. Residents and shoppers were able to talk to ward councillors and officers about the proposals and make their views known.

The exhibition was also advertised in the AORTA community magazine, this was subsequently delivered to around 13,000 households in the area.

As a result many questionnaires have been returned and these are being collated. We aim to report our findings and future progress later in the summer. Further information is available on the Council's web site.

Note.

Further information: Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer, Regeneration and Community, ☎ 715019

1.3 **Petition – Blocking either end of Bentley Street, Allenton – received 06.09.06**

Issue: A petition signed by 33 people was received requesting the one end of the street be permanently blocked off, due to the ongoing traffic problems faced on Bentley Street.

Actions: Report back in response to petition.

Update: Following the report to the Area Panel in September regarding the request to close one end of Bentley Street. Letters were sent out to all residents of Bentley Street asking whether they would like Bentley Street to be closed at either end, or whether they were happy with the layout as it was. Following this consultation a reminder was sent to residents that hadn't already replied, asking them again for their views.

In the end 75% of the residents of Bentley Street responded. 50% of the residents of Bentley Street were in favour of the closure. The other 50% being made up of residents wanting no change to the existing layout or not responding.

At this moment in time as there seems to be no clear majority in support of the closure, we will not be carrying out a closure to either end of Bentley Street.

Note and close.

Further information: Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer ☎ 716090

1.4 **Petition - Crossing for school children, Crayford Road – received 06.09.06**

Issue: A local resident informed the panel that she has attended four assemblies at Noel Baker School to discuss a 'keep your school safe' campaign. She reported that the children had highlighted that they need a crossing to help them to cross Crayford Road safely. A petition was submitted on 8 November 2006 requesting the installation of a crossing on Crayford Road.

Action: Officers to re-investigate and report back.

Update: A report went to the Planning and Cabinet Member meeting on 4 April. It was resolved to refuse the request for crossing facilities at this point but to consider installing road markings to raise the conspicuity of the pedestrian desire line and take a report to the Area Panel to request the funding for the road markings.

Officers have considered the most appropriate means of raising the conspicuity of the pedestrian desire line and in order to raise the visibility of school children crossing near

the junction of Crayford Road and Holbrook Road, we suggest that the Area Panel consider two options.

The first option involves the installation of three school warning triangular markings on the road. These depict the standard school warning sign, which is triangular with red border and a picture of two children. These road markings have been used at schools such as Cavendish, Portway, Walter Evans and more recently Silverhill. The costs of these works are estimated at £1,500.

Alternatively, the second option is to erect school warning signs on new posts and flashing amber units. The signs would be erected on Crayford Road, on the approaches towards Brackens Lane and Holbrook Road. The costs for this option are estimated at £6,000.

We therefore ask the Area Panel to consider their preferred option. A funding application will then be submitted to the next Panel for consideration.

Note.

Further information: Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer 📞 715019

1.5 Open green area on Holloway Road - received 08.11.06

Issue: A written question was submitted by a local resident raising concern at proposed plans to change the usage of the green area on Holloway Road. The resident has requested that Councillors and residents are included in discussions on changes to the green area.

Actions: Leave issue open to report future developments.

Update: No further information available.

Note.

Further information: Mike Moore, Project Development Officer, Children and Young People Services, 📞 716859

1.6 Anti-social Behaviour by Pupils from Noel Baker School, Boulton – received 13.03.2007

Issue: A resident stated that they and their neighbours were experiencing regular anti-social behaviour from pupils of Noel Baker school as the pupils travelled to and from school using a private drive and farmers field as a short cut. All efforts to prevent the pupils using the short cut had been thwarted, with some pupils bringing tools to dismantle any barriers that the residents and farmer erected. Vandalism, criminal damage and trespass were regular occurrences. The resident went on to state that the problem had worsened since the recent closure of an alternative pathway into the school grounds.

Actions: Provide an update to the next meeting.

Update: Update to be provided by Councillors at the meeting.

Note.

Further information: Inspector Sam Slack, Cotton Lane Police Station, 📞 222103
Craig Keen, Anti-social Behaviour Team Manager, 📞 258640

1.7 Traffic issues, Chellaston – received 09.11.05

Issue: A number of issues have been raised, and petitions received over various traffic issues in Chellaston. These issues have been amalgamated into one item to be updated on.

All Chellaston traffic & highways issues are now referred to the Chellaston Highways and Transport Issues Working Group (CHTIWG) for consideration and recommendations. CHTIWG will be reporting back to Area Panel 2 on a regular basis.

Action: Leave issue open for future reports.

Update: The following issues are included in the 2007/08 Highways & Transport Work Programme.

Parkway – suitable traffic calming/monitoring traffic speed – investigation.

Derby Road/High Street – relocation of outbound bus stop High Street/Maple Drive junction. Chellaston councillors have been given two options on our proposal and we are awaiting their response. The scheme will not take long to implement once the councillors responses have been received.

Derby Road – Peak hour loading and waiting restriction – investigation.

Note.

Further information: Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer ☎ 715019

1.8 Dog bins, Chellaston – received 15.03.06 / Petition - received 06.09.06

Issue: A resident explained that he lived on an unadopted road, and David Willson homes were responsible for the upkeep of the dog waste bins. He had been informed that they would be emptied once per week. The panel were asked if this was normal, and to confirm whether the Council dog waste bins would be emptied this frequently. He also asked whether dog fouling signs could be used, as they would be more cost effective than supplying the actual bins.

A petition signed by 56 residents requested the installation of dog waste bins along the new cycle path in the vicinity of Sinfin Moor Lane was received at the meeting on 6 September 2006.

Action: The Chellaston Councillors requested that the issue is kept open to consider at a future meeting.

Update: No more information available.

Close.

Further information: Alf Bousie, Environmental Services ☎ 715778

1.9 Library building at Chellaston – received 14 06.06

Issue: A resident stated that despite the large scale growth of Chellaston in recent years, the area was still only served by a mobile library vehicle. Can Chellaston be considered for a new public library?

Action: Chellaston Councillors requested that the issue is kept open. To update at the

next meeting.

Update: A bid for funding to open three new libraries in the city, including one in Chellaston, was submitted to the Big Lottery at the end of March. We should know by the end of September if it has been successful.

Note and close.

Further information: David Potton, Head of Library Services ☎ 71 6602

1.10 Right of way, Woodminton Drive – received 06.09.06

Issue: A resident raised concern over the ongoing dispute regarding the right of way on the canal path to Woodminton Drive, as it needs resurfacing. He stated that the area has a high water table, therefore after heavy rain and during the winter, the path is very muddy and disabled people were unable to use the path on their electric buggies. Three entrances have been barred by residents and have not cleared the area to allow access. The resident considered that the entire right of way needed to be resurfaced.

Action: Chellaston Councillors requested that the issue is kept open to consider updates on progress at future meetings.

Update: No further information available at this time.

Close.

Further information: Alf Bousie, Environmental Services ☎ 715778

Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer, Regeneration and Community, ☎ 715019

1.11 Weight restriction signs, A514 – received 11.01.06

Issue: Concern was raised that there was no weight restriction signs located out of Merrill Way onto Derby Road, stating that cannot turn right. It was also suggested that a sign be installed at Spider Island There was also concern that the DET had stated that the police cannot enforce the restrictions, and the panel were asked their views, and what they were going to do to tackle the problem.

Action: Update on report to Planning and Transportation Cabinet Member meeting.

Update: A report went to the Planning & Transportation Cabinet Member meeting on 4 April 2007. In the report it stated that the Highways Agency has provided an estimate of £120,000 for the supply and construction of permanent signs on the A50 to replace these temporary signs. It is considered that the cost of providing this signing is disproportionate to the benefit that it would bring.

It was resolved to inform the Highways Agency that the City Council did not wish to proceed with the additional signing on the A50.

Note and Close.

Further information: Inspector Sam Slack, Cotton Lane Police Station ☎ 290100.

Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer ☎ 716090

1.12 Congestion Charging– received 13.03.07

Issue: A resident asked what plans there were to introduce congestion charging in Chellaston and what would it mean for residents.

Action: Provide an update to the next meeting

Update: Verbal update to be provided at the meeting.

Note.

Further information: Peter Price, Transport Policy Manager, Transportation and Special Projects. ☎ 715064

1.13 Grass Cutting on Pit Close – received 13.03.07

Issue: A resident stated that the grass cutting that occurred on Pit Close and around St Peter's Church was often insufficient with too long between cuts during peak growing periods. The area at the church needed to be cut more often because it was used for photography following marriages and other services and the long grass sometime meant that the area could not be used for this purpose when it was wet.

Action: Provide an update to the next meeting

Update: The following is taken from the Council's website.

We maintain all Council-owned green areas including parks, public open spaces, highway verges and Council housing areas. This is the equivalent of over 13% of the total area of the city and covers over 1000 hectares, or four square miles.

We aim to cut the grass on verges, open spaces and Council housing areas 15 times each year between March and October. We try to do this every two weeks, but may be delayed by bad weather. If there is little or no grass growth during spells of very dry weather we may need to postpone mowing until the grass starts to grow again.

We cut some areas less often. These include areas planted with flowering bulbs, young tree saplings and the wild flower meadows in some of the parks.

Grass cuttings

We use mowers which leave the grass cuttings in place, as this provides important nutrients which benefit the new grass. Grass cuttings may fall onto footpaths and roadways, especially when it's windy, but we only remove them from the pathways around certain sheltered housing areas. This is because grass cutting in the city costs over £975,000 each year and would cost a lot more if we collected the cuttings. The Council provides a wide range of services and has many budget pressures, and we must make priorities to minimise the burden on council tax payers.

We aim to achieve high standards in our grass cutting service and will investigate and respond to any complaints. If you have a query about grass cutting, please contact us.

Telephone 01332 715885, Fax 01332 716512, email grass.cutting@derby.gov.uk

Note and close.

Further information: Alf Bousie, Environmental Services, ☎ 715778

1.14 Petition – Installation of bins outside Shelton Infant School – received 13.03.2007

Issue: A petition was presented to the Area Panel by a group of 15 Year 1 and Year 2 pupils from Shelton Infant School, accompanied by members of staff and parents. The petition asked for the installation of two bins on the road outside the school.

Action: Provide a written report to a future meeting.

Update: Extract from: <http://www.thisisderbyshire.co.uk/>

"Kids On Song To Fix Litter Plight

By Kate Liptrout, kliptrot@derbytelegraph.co.uk 09:30 - 28 March 2007

Pupils who used banners and song to protest about their school's litter problem have persuaded local officials to help them clean-up. The children from Shelton Lock Infant School waved placards and sang about their rubbish problem at a Derby Community Safety Partnership meeting.

The group of 12 children were invited to the meeting after they wrote a letter to Derby City Council to complain about the problem.

The infants occupied the front row and spent twenty minutes demonstrating in front of residents, councillors and partnership officers at the meeting at Chellaston Secondary School, in Swarkestone Road.

Six-year-old Hope Redfern said: "We want people to put litter in the bin, we don't want our school to look like a junkyard."

The pupils drove the message home by singing their own lyrics to the tune of 'Ten Green Bottles' in front of the 80-strong group.

This included the chorus: "Let's keep our playground tidy, neat and clean - so don't drop litter, put it in the bin."

Another child to speak out at the meeting was Courtney Stevenson, aged seven.

"We're proud of our school, we don't want it to look like a pigsty," she said.

Two days later, on March 16, a pair of bins were installed outside the school gates by the partnership.

Head teacher Anthony Lee said he was very proud of the children's efforts and the confidence they showed at the meeting.

He said: "The councillors were stunned, they said it was the first time they'd been sung to at a meeting."

Shelton Lock has been named an eco-school by the environmental group Encams because pupils are tackling issues such as litter and recycling. The award programme has three stages and the school is working toward the last of these.

When they complete the final part they will be the first infant school in the city to achieve "green flag" status."

Note and close.

Further information: Nigel Chester, Asst Operations Manager, Street Cleaning, ☎ 715493

1.15 Glossop Street Redevelopment, Sinfin – received 15.03.06

Issue: The panel were asked in March 2006 if Councillors were prepared to support the development in the area, and when would it happen. They were also asked if there were any other plans going to be put forward for the future use of this land.

A petition signed by 47 residents was presented on 8 November 2006 requesting the removal of the Glossop Street travellers so that the original and fully consulted development plan can go ahead. Local residents have suffered over the last two years.

Action: To leave the issue open to enable future reports to the Area Panel

Update: Verbal update to be provided at the meeting.

Note.

Further information: Ian Fullagar, Housing Strategy and Performance Manager, Resources and Housing, telephone 255185

1.16 Petition – Installation of cycle path on Osmaston Park Road – received 06.09.06

Issue: A petition has been received from 36 residents of Osmaston Park Road requesting the installation of a separate cycle path. Concerns have been raised about the danger that cyclists using the footway here present to children and adults stepping out from their front gates. At the meeting on 8 November, Sinfin Councillors included it on their list of priorities for the 2007/08 Highways and Transportation scheme.

Action: Provide update at the next meeting

Update: The Sinfin councillors may decide to put forward this item to be considered for possible inclusion in the 2008/09 Highways and Transport Work Programme, if they feel this issue is a priority.

Note and close.

Further information: Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer ☎ 715019

1.17 Petition – Residents Parking, Nightingale Road – received 06.09.06

Issue: A petition was received from residents of Nightingale Road, requesting the installation of residents parking.

Action: To leave the issue open to receive further reports.

Update: A report went to the Planning & Transportation Cabinet Member meeting on 4 April 2007. It was resolved to confirm to the Area Panel that it was not appropriate to consider any amendments to the waiting restrictions on any part of Nightingale Road until Rolls Royce had vacated the premises.

Note and close.

Further information: Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer ☎ 716090

1.18 Grass verges on Victory Road, Sinfin - received 17.01.07

Issue: A resident complained about the state of the grass verges on Victory Road and asked what could be done to improve them because a mess is being caused by cars parking on them.

Action: To leave the issue open to receive further reports.

Update: The Osmaston & Allenton Neighbourhood Team are considering funding a scheme to protect the verges in Elton Road and Victory Road in the financial year 2007/08.

Note and refer to the Osmaston & Allenton Neighbourhood Closed Forum.

Further information: Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer ☎ 716090

1.19 Condition of Sinfin Recreation Ground- received 17.01.07

Issue: A resident commented that after Severn Trent Water reinstated the grass on the recreation ground after their pipeline work, large holes and ruts remained. They are a health and safety hazard to pedestrians especially at times like Sinfin Carnival. Can it be rectified before the Carnival.

Action: Investigate and report back.

Update: Investigations are continuing. Temporary repairs will be undertaken using sand on the worst ruts to enable the Carnival to occur. Parks will work with the Sinfin Neighbourhood team to ensure longer term repairs are completed in due course.

Note and refer to Sinfin Neighbourhood Team.

Further information: Alf Bousie, Environmental Services, telephone ☎ 715778

1.20 Alleyway Issues, all wards

Issue: A number of issues have been raised, and petitions received over the closure of various alley ways across the area. These issues have been amalgamated into one item.

A working group has been established to consider these issues and report back to the Area Panel on a regular basis.

Action: Report back to the next meeting.

Update: The Cabinet report, setting out how Gating Orders will be pursued, will now be presented on 5th June 2007.

Note

Further information: David Gartside, Head of Traffic ☎ 71 5025

Ray Brown, Senior Planning Officer, Rights of Way ☎ 25 5024

Craig Keen, Anti-Social Behaviour Team Leader ☎ 25 8640

1.21 Tree issues, all wards

Issue: A number of issues have been raised, over various tree issues across the area. These issues have been amalgamated into one item. A Tree Management Working Group has been established to consider these issues and will report back to the Area Panel on a regular basis making recommendations on actions to be taken.

Recommendations that require expenditure are included within the Area Panel Finance report for agreement.

Action: Provide a report from the Tree Management Working Group and recommendations and report within the Area Panel Finance Report

Update: No tree issues have been raised.

Note.

Further information: John Booth, Arboricultural Manager ☎ 715485

1.22 Protection of hedgerows beside the Canal – received 13.03.07

Issue: A resident raised concern about the destruction and inappropriate management of

ancient and environmentally valuable hedgerows along the canal from Wilmorton to Baltimore Bridge. The resident referred to loss of hedgerows beside the canal due to developments and to inappropriate / poor management being practised including laying and the removal of hedgerow trees for no apparent reason.

The resident went on to enquire whether the Council had a policy for the retention, conservation and appropriate management of ancient hedgerows and if not, whether there were any plans to introduce one.

Action: Report back to the next meeting.

Update: The City Council do recognise the special value of hedgerows in the City for their visual, historic and biological value.

In 2003 we commissioned a major survey of the City's non domestic hedgerow resource and identified around 1300 hedgerows, of which 43 % were biologically important and have assisted schemes across the City to plant new hedges and bring others into better management.

The City of Derby Local Plan (CDLP) contains two relevant policies regarding development and hedgerows; E5 which requires the retention, where possible, of features of nature conservation importance, including hedgerows, in new developments.

E 8 seeks schemes which enhance the natural history value of land, including those which enhance hedgerows.

These matters are further discussed in the City's Nature Conservation Strategy 2006 which explains how hedgerows should be incorporated into new developments in ways which link them to the wider network of hedgerows; how new biologically hedgerows should be created and existing ones brought into good management as part of the development process.

In relation to planning applications for the restoration of former canal, these general policies would apply and in addition CDLP policy L9 (which allows for the restoration the canal) requires proposals to "retain and enhance existing planting" (which obviously would include hedgerows) and an enhancement "of the wildlife value of the canal corridor as a whole".

We have been active in working with the Canal Restoration Society over recent years in their work to lay and gap up hedges along the canal; including by giving them free hedge plants.

Note and close.

Further information: Alf Bousie, Environmental Services, ☎ 715778

Neil Leyland, Planning Officer, ☎ 256020

John Booth, Arboricultural Manager, ☎ 715485

1.20 Outstanding issues

Issue	Outstanding action	Date to report back
None	None	N/A

PROPOSED ACTION

2.1 To consider and note the report.

For more information

contact: Colin Avison 01332 258500 e-mail [mailto: colin.avison@derby.gov.uk](mailto:colin.avison@derby.gov.uk)
Background papers: Area Panel 2 Community Issues Update Report, Background Information
14 March 2007 on Council Management Information System
List of appendices: Appendix 1: Tree Management Issues Report

Appendix 1: Tree Management Issues Report March 2007

Location	Issue	Update	Recommended actions	Funds available / Costs
Alvaston Ward				Available =£250
Swaledale Court and Whernside Close	Trees blocking light to properties.	The Assistant Arboricultural Officer and the Alvaston Housing Manager have visited the resident on 14th February 2007. Following the tree work which was completed in December 2006, this area had trees removed to address the health and safety issues around the play area and also all low branches and branches in close proximity to buildings were removed. This included work to the tree in front of the residents house. The leaf litter caused in Autumn is a matter for Derby Homes to address with their maintenance schedule.	No further action required	N/A
Arkendale Walk and Coverdale Close area	Tree has declined significantly.	While not dangerous the tree is considered an eyesore.	Removal of tree	£250
Boulton Ward				Available =£250
Coronation Avenue, Alvaston	Dangerous secondary growth at base level.	All the basal growth has been removed and the footpath and highway is clear. This work was completed on 5th February 2007.	No further action required	N/A
Sinfin Ward				Available =£250

Location	Issue	Update	Recommended actions	Funds available / Costs
Kelso Walk	Hedge need cutting down	A survey of the area has been conducted based on community safety considerations. Costed recommendations will be provided to the Sinfin Neighbourhood Team.	Include in neighbourhood programme	£0
Behind the garages in Kelso Walk	Saplings (shrubs) need removing	A survey of the area has been conducted based on community safety considerations. Costed recommendations will be provided to the Sinfin Neighbourhood Team.	Include in neighbourhood programme	£0
Deepdale Lane	Tree next to Chair Bros	A survey of the area has been conducted based on community safety considerations. Costed recommendations will be provided to the Sinfin Neighbourhood Team.	Include in neighbourhood programme	£0
Chellaston Ward				Available =£500
None	None	None	None	£0