

ITEM 4

Time commenced : 6.30 pm
Time finished : 9.40 pm

AREA PANEL 4 (BLAGREAVES, LITTLEOVER AND MICKLEOVER WARDS) 29 JUNE 2005

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

Derby City Council, Derbyshire Constabulary and Derbyshire Fire and Rescue
Service Officers:

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| David Dring | - | Area Co-ordination Manager, Policy Directorate |
| Ray Dring | - | Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service |
| David Gartside | - | Head of Traffic, Development and Cultural Services |
| Inspector Gary Parkin | - | Derbyshire Constabulary |
| Bill Reed | - | Area Panel Manager |
| Rizwana Shaheen | - | Development and Cultural Services |
| Richard Smail | - | Area Panel Manager |
| Sarah Turner | - | Constitutional Services Officer |

50 members of the public were in attendance.

01/05 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Allen.

02/05 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

03/05 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Care declared a personal and prejudicial interest in minute number 05/05 - Petition Requesting Privileged Parking on Heath Avenue, as her parents lived on the Street. Councillor Carr declared a personal and prejudicial interest in minute number 11/05 Area Panel Budget Proposals – application from the Residents Liaison Group, as he was a member of the group.

04/05 Minutes

Agreed that the Minutes of the Area Panel 4 meeting held on 30 March 2005 be confirmed as a correct record.

05/05 Petitions

To Consider Petitions Received Since the Last Meeting

Petition Regarding Parking on Uttoxeter New Road

The Panel noted that a petition had been received from residents of Uttoxeter New Road regarding parking issues on the south side of Uttoxeter New Road near to the Derby City General Hospital. The Lead Petitioner addressed the Panel advising that residents would like protection enabling them to park outside their property where off-road parking wasn't available.

Resolved to ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to investigate the petition and report back to a future meeting.

Responses to Petitions Received

Having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following petition Councillor Care left the meeting for its consideration.

Petition requesting privilege parking on Heath Avenue, Littleover

The Panel considered a report from the Assistant Director – Highways, Transportation and Waste Management, regarding a request from residents of Heath Avenue for the street to be restricted to residents only parking to prevent non-residents from being able to park there. The proposed action was that a residents only parking scheme could not be considered as it did not meet Derby City Council's resident privilege parking scheme criteria and that unadopting Heath Avenue was not considered to meet the legal test defined in the Highways Act.

David Gartside, Head of Transportation advised that before Officers could make a recommendation, they had to look at the advantages and disadvantages of such a scheme. He suggested that a waiting restriction would be a more appropriate option. Residents could have permits and if this was agreeable by residents this could be moved forward although there wasn't much money in the budget and a wider consultation would have to be carried out.

Resolved to note the report and to ask Officers to investigate the possibility of a resident's permits and waiting restrictions on Heath Avenue.

Petition requesting the introduction of a traffic calming scheme on Havenbault Lane, Littleover

The Panel considered a report from the Director of Development and Cultural Services in response to a petition received from members of the Havenbault Road Safety Campaign asking for a traffic calming scheme on Havenbault Lane. The proposed actions that had been agreed at a travel plan meeting were

- to run a walk to school week commencing 4 July 2005
- cycle training to be carried out for year 6 in September
- another meeting would be arranged for parents during the day to encourage more support for the travel plan
- a site meeting would to be held with the school travel plan forum so that they could identify problem areas on their school journey and possible solutions.

Further action was to consider the measures to reinforce 30 mph speed limit on Havenbault Lane and The Hollow, as resources permitted.

David Gartside, Head of Transportation showed the panel a short film from the Derbyshire Safety Camera Partnership.

David commented that the Council did recognise that there were high vehicle speeds on Havenbault Lane but due to strict criteria set by the government Havenbault Lane did not meet the criteria for safety cameras, although the Police had agreed to carry out speed checks on a regular basis on Havenbault Lane. Compared to other areas of the city, there was a low volume of incidents. The lead petitioner commented that residents wanted signs on the road stating that this was a 30 mph limit. David Gartside responded that at this moment in time the Council did not have the resources to solve this problem. The Council would be looking shortly at Rykneld Road and if more visual signs were needed on there then this might be able to be stretched to Havenbault Lane. The Council had to put resources at areas with greatest need and Havenbault Lane was not a top priority.

Resolved to note the report.

06/05 Public Question Time

The following questions were asked by members of the public:

Youth Workers for Bednall Green

A resident of Bendall Green asked who they would need to contact regarding the provision of youth workers who could work with local teenagers on Bendall Green. The member of the public was advised to contact David Finn – Head of Youth Service, to discuss this matter.

Decriminalised Parking

A member of the public advised that he had heard that traffic patrols would be replacing traffic wardens and asked for an explanation of this. David Gartside responded that decriminalised parking would give powers to the Council to police parking on double yellow lines and parking meters. Allowing the Council to do this would mean it could be more locally responsible and the money generated could be put back into local communities.

Progress of the Footway/Cycleway on Moorway Lane, Littleover

A member of the public thanked the Council for what had been done so far in creating a footway/cycleway along Moorway Lane in Littleover. He asked when this was going to be finished as the path did not lead anywhere and there were approximately 200 metres not completed. Councillor Care responded that this section would be public open space and it would be the developer's responsibility to complete the work. A design had to be agreed with the Council and the Parks department before completion. Councillor Carr added that he was aware that this was an issue and would look into the matter further.

Footpath on Bendall Green

A member of the public advised that the footpath on Bednall Green was not safe as there was no lighting and this needed to be completed before the winter.

Resolved to ask the Director of Development and Cultural Services to respond at the next meeting.

Anti-Social Behaviour near Fresco Drive, Littleover

A member of the public advised that teenagers frequently gathered near to the entrance to Littleover Community School on Fresco Drive. There were constant anti-social behaviour issues such as litter, vandalism and trespassing. Cars were driven up and down the road at speed causing a disturbance. The police had been involved on three occasions. Councillor Care advised that she had had the assurance that a litter bin would be put in this area. Most of the land

was owned by Littleover Community School and she had spoken to them about these issues. The school had advised that care taking staff regularly picked up litter from this area. The highway was the parks responsibility and they would be out litter picking on a regular basis. Councillor Care suggested that if there were other problems to ring the Council's Street Care Hotline. She also looked at the other side of the issue and asked why there were so many young people hanging around here and if there was a serious problem perhaps David Finn, Head of the Youth Service could get the youth team involved or perhaps the Anti-Social Behaviour team should be involved. A member of the public advised that he was not happy with these responses and would ring the anti-social behaviour team if he needed to and he would contact the police. Inspector Gary Parkin asked the member of the public to provide information and he would attend to the issues.

07/05 Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service

The Panel received a presentation on the activities of the Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service from Ray Dring – Station Manager. Ray gave a brief overview of the service advising of the way forward. He said that the main aim of the service was prevention, followed by protection and intervention.

Ray advised that as part of the Community Fire Safety Initiative, they were giving home risk assessment which involved free safety checks and the installation of smoke alarms. They worked closely with Derby Homes on this. The Fire Service also visited schools giving educational talks on fire prevention. They also gave talks to community groups and had monthly initiatives. There was also a Fire Safe counselling service for young offenders. The Fire Service worked heavily with partnership organisations such as other emergency services, area panels, community panels, Derby Homes and other housing providers.

A member of the public asked why the fire service only published the 999 number and no other direct contact numbers. Ray responded that there was no secondary response number as there was a concern that if a secondary telephone was left and that no-one responded, an emergency could go unattended.

A member of the public asked how the fire service dealt with hoax calls. Ray advised that they had call challenging where the control staff asked a number of questions and if they thought that the call could be a hoax a manager would respond.

08/05 Health Briefing from Primary Care Trust

A briefing paper on health services was considered.

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

09/05 Area Panel Review

The Panel considered a report from the Assistant Director – Community Policy which stated that there was to be a review of area panels. Area Panels had been meeting since January 2002 and this was the 100th meeting. There was increasing evidence that the public and Council partners were showing an interest in the development of area panels. It was good practice to review the area panels and actively seek the views of stakeholders. Details of the review were set out in the report.

Agreed to note the report.

10/05 Outturn Report

A report of the Director of Policy was considered which stated that in 2004/5 Area Panel 4 was allocated a budget of £22,000. The Panel allocated £21,997 giving a carry forward budget of £3.00 to allocate to projects in 2005/6. In 2005/6 there would be a total of £22,003 to allocate to projects. Details of the budget allocations during the year were set out in the report.

Resolved to note the report

11/05 Area Panel Budget Proposals 2005/6

Having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the application from the Residents Liaison Group Councillor Carr left the meeting during consideration of this application only.

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

1. to consider whether to support the application received from 173rd Derby Heatherton Scout Group – Littleover Ward. Funding for camping equipment. Grant requested - £3,000
2. to consider whether to support the application received from King George V Pre School Group – Blagreaves Ward, funding for the purchase of a cooker and fridge. Grant requested - £587

3. to consider whether to support the application from the Residents Liaison Group – Littleover Ward, funding for a community newsletter and running costs. Grant requested - £164
4. to consider whether to support the application received from St John's Friendship Group, Mickleover Ward, funding for a 90th birthday celebration. Grant requested - £350
5. to consider whether to support the application received from the Community Sports Development team – all wards, funding for an area panel football tournament. Grant requested - £344

Options Considered

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

Decision

To award funding to the following applications:

1. 173rd Derby Heatherton Scout Group funding for camping equipment. The Panel agreed to defer consideration on this application to a future meeting and suggested that a representative from the group attend to answer questions from the panel including whether any of the items were more needed than others and whether other fundraising events were being carried out for this equipment.
2. King George V Pre School Group for funding to purchase a cooker and fridge – grant £587.
3. Residents Liaison Group funding for a community newsletter and running costs – grant £164.
4. St John's Friendship Group, Mickleover, funding for a 90th Birthday celebration. The Panel agreed to refuse funding for this application as they did not think this was suitable for area panel funding and would be setting a precedent to other groups
5. The Community Sports Development team for funding for an area panel football tournament – Grant £344.

12/05 Update Report

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

Redevelopment of University of Derby Mickleover Campus, Mickleover

Councillor Care advised that the development was considered by the Planning Control Committee and had been approved. A road would not be built until permission was granted to build homes on the site. The inspector for the Local Plan had said they were not convinced that it was theoretical possible to put a road junction in place that would work. Highways had assessed this situation and they believed that theoretically a road junction could be put in that would work. A member of the public asked if the proposed road junction would be traffic light controlled. Councillor Care responded that it would be. The member of the public added that there were too many junctions in this area with traffic lights.

Safer Routes to School, St Georges School, Blagreaves

A member of the public advised that traffic was moving far too quickly and the new chicane was not slowing traffic down at all but forcing traffic onto the wrong side of the road and cars were performing very dangerous three point turns in the road. Cars were parking on the pavement on Ridgeway Avenue as there was nowhere else to park. Inspector Gary Parkin advised that parking in front of driveways was morally wrong but was not an offence unless a police officer deemed it was an obstruction. The lead petitioner asked that the police attend the area between 8.20 am and 9.05 am and 3.20 pm and 3.45 pm to see the extent of the problem. Inspector Parkin added that he would ensure an officer did attend and if an obstruction was deemed, then fines would be issued.

Data Protection and Information Provided to Neighbourhood Watch Groups

Councillor Troup advised that this issue had also been brought up at the Littleover and Mickleover Police Liaison Group Meetings and it would be useful if the area panel could recommend that the Police had an automated system that was able to provide neighbourhood watches with reports. Inspector Parkin responded that the Derby Division were providing more information than neighbourhood watches would normally get but there had to be a balance with data protection and with the usefulness of the provided. The current way of producing the information was the best way to do this whereby a Police Officer would analyse the trends whilst providing the information to the neighbourhood watch groups.

Parking Problems, Devonshire Drive and East Avenue, Micklover

Councillor Hird advised that there was still a parking problem in the area and would appreciate it if a police officer could visit the area again. Inspector Parkin responded that he would send an officer to see if there were any obstructions as it was hard to say whether particular incidents that had been discussed previously were an offence.

Petition – Skateboard Park Request, Littleover

A resident of Bednall Green stated that siting a skateboard park within the King George V and Clemson Park area would not be beneficial to young people living in the Bednall Green area. They suggested using the Millennium Park.

Councillor Care added that there was a group of younger people in Littleover who would also benefit from a skateboard park in the area.

Petition – Bendall Green Play Area, Blagreaves

A resident of Bendall Green thanked the Area Panel for funding they had received for goal posts. Also lighting had been installed and residents were very happy with this. They still had issues with the no dogs and no ball games signs and had tried to contact Andrew Morgan in Parks with no effect. Richard Smail advised that an order had been put in for the signs and they were waiting for them to be delivered.

Petition – Removal of Sycamore Trees on Wilson Avenue, Blagreaves

The lead petitioner asked for clarification on the progress since the last meeting. Councillor Care advised that the Council Cabinet received a report on tree management at their meeting on 14 June 2005 and had agreed a pilot for one area panel to have a budget for health and safety and cosmetic work on trees but still under the tree management policy currently. There was no budget for extra cosmetic work. Councillor Carr added that all work would have to be done in accordance with the current tree management policy. The lead petitioner advised that John Booth, Arboricultural Officer had said that any overhanging branches over your property could be cut back. Councillor Marshall responded that residents were able to cut back tree branches that were overhanging their property. Councillor Care added that any residents wishing to do this would need to check that the trees were not subject to a Tree Preservation Order.

13/05 Arrangements for Future Meetings

Resolved to appoint Chairs for future meetings of the Panel as follows:

| Date | Ward | Chair |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Wednesday 28 September 2005 | Mickleover | Councillor Jones |
| Wednesday 30 November 2005 | Blagreaves | Councillor Troup |
| Wednesday 18 January 2006 | Littleover | Councillor Carr |
| Wednesday 29 March 2006 | Mickleover | Councillor Hird |
| Wednesday 28 June 2006 | Blagreaves | Councillor Skelton |

MINUTES END