



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

AREA PANEL 4 18 JANUARY 2006

Report of Assistant Director - Community Policy

Area Panel 4 Community Issues Update Report

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.1	Item No	Issue title	Recommended panel action
	Blagreaves ward		
	1.2	Millennium Wood	Note
	1.3	Bendall Green path, dog sign and overgrown land	Note and close
	1.4	Housing developments	Note
	1.5	St. Georges travel plan	Note and close
	Littleover ward		
	1.6	King George V playing field	Note and close
	Mickleover ward		
	1.7	Parking problems, Devonshire Drive and East Avenue	Note
	1.8	Petition - Request for pedestrian crossings, Station Road	Note
	1.9	Petition - Residents only parking, Warner Street	Note
	1.10	Housing development on Station Road	Note
	All wards		
	1.11	Planning Application at East Midlands Airport	Note
	1.12	Recycling	Note and close

1.2 Ref: 405015 – Millennium Wood, Blagreaves – raised 28.06.05

Issue: A written question asked about the lack of access to the Millennium Wood site now that the access from Oaklands Avenue has been fenced off by the owners after 20 years of public access. Now that the wood has been there for ten years when will the area be developed to its full potential.

Action: To confirm whether a second access point could be provided

Update: The Council has a duty to produce a Right of Way Improvement Plan – ROWIP, for Derby under Section 60 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. A progress report will be included within the second Derby Joint Local Transport Plan - LTP2. The final ROWIP will be published in late summer 2006 and will form a strand of the final LTP2.

We are required to assess within the ROWIP:

- the extent to which local rights of way meet the present and likely future needs of the public;
- the opportunities provided by local rights of way (and in particular by footpaths, cycle tracks, bridleways and restricted byways) for exercise and other forms of open-air recreation and the enjoyment of their area;
- the accessibility of local rights of way to blind or partially sighted persons and others with mobility problems;
- and such other matters relating to local rights of way as the Secretary of State may direct.

Further information: Ken Richardson, Parks Officer, Commercial Services, telephone 716646

1.3 **Ref: 405026 – Bendall Green path, dog sign and overgrown land, Blagreaves– raised 28.09.05**

Issue: A resident from Bendall Green Neighbourhood Watch, asked the panel for an update regarding cutting back the hedges and undergrowth at the bottom of Bendall Green. Also he asked what was happening about the holes in the new pathway and when the new no dogs sign was to be installed.

Action: The resident offered to send a photograph to officers in Parks for their comment.

Update: Officers will be visiting the site in the next few weeks as part of the end of defects period inspection for the whole contract. The repair of the hole will then be carried out once it has been established whether the hole is a defect under the contract or due to other reasons. Propose to close.

Further information: Ken Richardson, Parks Officer, Commercial Services, telephone 716646

1.4 **Ref: 405031 – Housing developments in Blagreaves – raised 30.11.05**

Issue: A resident was concerned about the impact on traffic in the area because of the proposed 200 houses to be built around Stenson Road and Blagreaves Lane junction. There are already major traffic problems in the area. What is being done to address the impact?

Action: To invite an officer to attend a future meeting to outline how residents can influence planning applications and how the Council addresses the impact on the environment including traffic.

Update: An application for about 20 properties was approved on 8 December 2005 to the south of Blagreaves Lane. However, no planning application has yet been made for any development involving 200 properties. As and when an application is submitted a transport assessment of the resulting impact of any development will be made. An officer has been invited to attend a future meeting.

Further information: Paul Clarke, Group Leader, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 255935

Peter Price, Transport Policy Manager, Development and Cultural Services, telephone

1.5 Ref: 405033 – St George’s Travel Plan, Blagreaves – raised 30.11.05

Issue: A resident commented that the substantial amount of money spent on the major physical improvements had not made a difference to the traffic problems both before and after school. The changes mean that access roads are now cut off, cars park on pavements, block drives and drivers cannot see at junctions. She was concerned that during the consultation stage it was parents rather than residents that were consulted and involved. She asked what the Councillors plan to do to resolve the problems.

Action: To confirm details of the monitoring process.

Update: All local residents were invited to a consultation day at St. Georges on 6 July 2004. A colourful newsletter was hand delivered to all the residents in the area with a plan on the back. We split the day into three sessions so all residents had an opportunity to attend.

We monitored the situation when the bus turning circle was opened in May 2005. The School Travel Plan forum are going to monitor the area again in February 2006. The travel plan forum have set up three walking buses and have just started to liaise with the local beat police to help with patrolling the area outside the school. The next School travel plan meeting is 3 February 2006. If any of the residents would like to attend they are welcome to join us at the meeting. Further details of the meeting are available from Andy Culshaw, Safer Routes to School Officer, telephone either 01332 715146 or e-mail andy.culshaw@derby.gov.uk. Propose to close.

Further information: Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715019.

1.6 Ref: 405034 – King George V playing field, Littleover – raised 30.11.05

Issue: A resident was concerned that the sign by the path across King George V playing fields said cycling is allowed and as a result pedestrians find it difficult to use the path. He was also concerned that the flowerbeds have been grassed over because he had been told there was no funding, but money is available to plant up other flower beds in the city.

Action: None

Update: As stated at the last meeting, the main cost of flower beds is the ongoing maintenance costs rather than the initial cost of the plants. The priority has been given to city centre locations rather than parks in the suburbs.

Further information: Ken Richardson, Parks Officer, Commercial Services, telephone 716646

1.7 Ref: 405007 – Parking problems, Devonshire Drive and East Avenue, Mickleover – raised 30.03.05

Issue: A resident asked what could be done to tackle the problems caused by parents parking on the shop frontages, on private property on Devonshire Drive and East Avenue during school pick up times. Parents are ignoring the double yellow lines. He asked if the police could take action because they are causing a hazard by creating a blind spot on the road. He asked the police to visit the area during school pickup time.

Action: Update on Council proposals to enforce parking.
Update progress to develop Ravensdale School Travel Plan

Update: The Police have confirmed that the local beat officers will visit the area during school pickup time.

It is intended that the Council will take over responsibility from the Police for the enforcement of parking restrictions in July 2006. However, issues such as obstruction of the highway or hazardous parking will continue to be the responsibility of the Police.

Unfortunately, congestion caused by parking outside schools is a common problem. The only long-term solution is to assist schools develop their own travel plan. We are currently working towards signing off the Ravensdale Schools Travel Plans by April 2006. School Travel Plans encourage parents, pupils, teachers and local residents and agencies to work together in partnership with the Council. The main aims of a travel plan are to :

- reduce congestion by promoting alternatives to the car for school journeys
- improve the safety of pupils and parents when travelling to school, especially those walking and cycling
- strengthen links between the school and local community.

The Ravensdale Travel Plans will then be developed over the coming years and we will monitor their progress. We will also continue to encourage parents and children to choose sustainable travel options to reduce car use.

Further information:

Inspector Gary Parkin, Pear Tree Police Station, telephone 222184.

Michelle Spamer, Area and Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715064

1.8 Ref: 404045 – Petition - Request for pedestrian crossings, Station Road, Mickleover – raised 29.09.04

Issue: A petition was received requesting two pedestrian crossings on Station Road. The lead petitioner, who was the parent of a child who was injured on this road, raised a concern that Miller Homes intend to build another 500 homes, which will ultimately result in more children using the road. Correspondence from Ian Wallis from Traffic Management, stated that the counts had shown that there was insufficient use.

Action: Update on travel plan progress with Ravensdale, Silverhill and Murray Park schools.

Report back on result of survey and outcome

Update: A report responding to the petition can be found in Item 6 on the agenda.

Further information: Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 715019.

1.9 Ref: 405019 – Petition - Residents only parking, Warner Street, Mickleover – received 28.09.05

Issue: A petition was handed in at the meeting, requesting residents only parking on Warner Street in Mickleover. Individuals using local shops, businesses and the community centre use Warner Street as a place to park. It causes congestion, difficulty for residents wishing to park and danger to pedestrians and car users.

Action: Report back on result of investigation

Update: A report responding to the petition can be found in Item 6 on the agenda

Further information: Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 716090

1.10 Ref: 405030 – Housing development on Station Road, Mickleover – raised 30.11.05

Issue: Residents raised concern over the proposed development on Station Road, where two bungalows were to be demolished and replaced with flats. The panel were asked what they were doing to prevent the over development and destruction of Station Road. The Mickleover Councillors were asked to attend a residents meeting on 5 December 2005.

Action: Respond to the request to outline the way the Council assesses the impact on an area caused by a variety of housing developments.

Update: The application was withdrawn, although it is expected that another application will be submitted.

Further information: Paul Clarke, Group Leader, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 255935

1.11 Ref: 404025 – Planning Application at East Midlands Airport, all wards – received 19.05.04

Issue: A resident asked if the Council would be responding to the East Midlands Airport runway expansion planning application and whether the Council will have a permanent watching brief over future developments. He stated that the airport have said the extension would not make any difference to the volume of air traffic.

Action: Invite East Midlands Airport to attend the meeting on 29 March 2006.

Update: East Midlands Airport have been invited to attend but they have declined the invite because their strategy to promote the Masterplan is based around arranging 10 exhibitions across the East Midlands. The Derby exhibition is on Tuesday 14 February from 9am to 5.30pm in the Eagle Centre. Details of other exhibitions are available on their website www.nottinghamema.com

Further information: Rob Salmon, Head of Plans and Policies, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 255020
Julian DeMowbray, Group Leader, Environmental Health, telephone 715228

1.12 Ref: 405027 – Recycling, all wards – raised 28.09.05

Issue: A Littleover resident asked if there were any studies being undertaken to extend what can be included in the recycling scheme, with particular reference to cardboard, rechargeable batteries and hazardous items such as florescent lights and batteries.

Action: Investigate and respond with how the issue is being tackled.

Update: This site is checked and litter picked every week. We are aware that approximately one month ago some black bags were dumped. Removing the recycling banks would mean that the site would be taken off the regular cleansing schedule and so could make the problem worse.

This site is well used by the public and we collect around half a tonne of recycling per week. We will continue to monitor the site. Propose to close.

Further information: Richard Winter, Assistant Waste Management Officer, Street Care, Development and Cultural Services, telephone 716352

1.13 Outstanding issues

Issue	Outstanding action	Date to report back
Ref: 405016 – Cycleway on Moorway Lane, Blagreaves	Confirm path completed.	June 2006
Ref: 404028 – Petition – Skateboard Park Request, Littleover	Update on progress to produce a wheeled sports strategy.	June 2006
Ref: 402030 - Redevelopment of University of Derby Mickleover campus	Confirm progress with planning application	June 2006

PROPOSED ACTION

2.1 To consider and note the report.

**For more information
contact:**

Richard Smail 01332 258505 e-mail richard.smail@derby.gov.uk
None.

Background papers:

Appendix 1 - Area Panel 4 community issues update report,

List of appendices:

background information