

ITEM 4

Time commenced : 6.30 pm
Time finished : 9.10 pm

AREA PANEL 4 (BLAGREAVES, LITTLEOVER AND MICKLEOVER WARDS)

28 September 2005

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

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

Ellen Bird	-	Constitutional Services Officer
Phil O'Brian	-	Civic and Members' Services Manager
Vickie Butler	-	Area Panel Support Officer
Ray Dring	-	Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service
Acting Inspector Picken	-	Derbyshire Constabulary
Richard Smail	-	Area Panel Manager
Deb Smith	-	Children's Strategic Partnership Manager
Lisa Waters	-	Estate Manager Derby Homes

32 members of the public were in attendance.

01/05 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jones and Marshall.

02/05 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

03/05 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Hird and Winter declared a personal and prejudicial interest in minute number 10/05 – in relation to the Mickleover Community Pavilion, as they were both Members of the Mickleover Community Pavilion Association.

04/05 Minutes

Agreed that the Minutes of the Area Panel 4 meeting held on 29 June 2005 be confirmed as a correct record subject to the inclusion of the following amendments:

- Top of Page 5 Anti-Social Behaviour near Fresco Drive, Littleover.
It was noted that the sentence 'The highway was the parks responsibility...' needed correcting to read 'The road was the Highway section's responsibility...'
- Top of page 8 Redevelopment of University of Derby Mickleover Campus, Mickleover
It was noted that the minute needed to include 'Approval demonstrated that the site can be properly accessed and satisfies the recommendations from the Inquiry Inspector.'

05/05 Petitions

To Consider Petitions Received Since the Last Meeting

Petition Regarding Residents Only Parking on Warner Street, Mickleover

The Panel noted that a petition had been received from residents of Mickleover regarding parking issues on Warner Street. The lead petitioner presented the the petition and reported that she would return with the other residents to discuss the response to the petition at a future meeting.

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

Petition regarding parking on Uttoxeter New Road

The Panel considered a report from the Assistant Director – Highways, Transportation and Waste Management, regarding a request from residents living on the south side of Uttoxeter Road between the traffic signals on the ring road and the roundabout at City Hospital for residents parking permits. The report explained the lack of existing available parking spaces means there would be insufficient spaces for all residents if there was a scheme and they purchased a permit.

Resolved to:

1. **Note that there was facility for residents to create their own individual access from the highway to their home and that further information on how this could be done was available from the Council's Streetcare Section.**
2. **Note that detailed investigation of the construction of further lay-bys could be undertaken once appropriate funds were available and;**

3. **Note that the parking situation in the lay-bys would continue to be monitored particularly in respect to parking associated with the hospital development.**

Petition regarding Concerns Over Traffic Volumes on Church Street, Thornhill Road and Old Hall Road, Littleover

The Panel considered a report from the Assistant Director - Highways, Transportation and Waste Management, regarding concerns raised by residents of Church Street Littleover; over the volume of traffic on Church Street and that it was congested and dangerous at school arrival and dispersal times. In addition, the residents from Thornhill Road, raised concerns at the Area Panel Meeting on 17 November 2004 regarding the amount of traffic using the Hollow, Old Hall Road and Thornhill Road and the extent of pavement parking taking place.

A resident suggested introducing a plateau on Thornhill Road outside the school as part of the improvements.

Resolved to

1. **Refuse the request for a one-way street and associated banned turns;**
2. **Note further action to develop a school travel plan and pedestrian improvements at St Peter's School**
3. **Include in future work programmes (subject to funding being available) the suggested Old Hall Road Footway and Thornhill Junction improvements.**
4. **Issue orders to carry out the necessary sign maintenance work in the area.**

06/05 Public Question Time Bendall Green Development

A Member of the public queried who was monitoring the renovation work being done on houses near Bendall Green by Derby Homes and its contractors. He was concerned the concrete is being retained inside the brickwork and the work is taking longer than the 10 weeks. Vehicles connected with the work have caused problems on the pavements making them dangerous. He asked whether the standard of work was also being assessed.

Lisa Waters, Estate Manager from Derby Homes reported that the work was being done by Bramalls. The manager for the site was present in the housing office every Wednesday between 10am and 12 noon. She reported that the area manager also visited the site regularly and could be contacted through the site office.

Resolved to ask the Assistant Director - Highways, Transportation and Waste Management to investigate the condition of the pavements.

Resolved to ask Derby Homes to investigate and report back

Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime in Heatherton Village.

A resident of Heatherton Village asked the Police Representative the following questions:

- Do the Police Patrol 24 Hours a day in the village?

Acting Inspector Picken confirmed that Police did patrol the area over a 24 Hour period unless the patrol is called to assist with a 999 call.

- Are Police Patrols increased when crime levels increase?

It was noted that a Criminal Analyst would plot all crimes across the city and would target resources to the area of greatest need. The Analyst would be able to pinpoint any patterns in the crimes like times and days where crime levels increased.

Play Area Heatherton Village

A resident from Heatherton Village raised her concerns about the play area as she felt the area was poorly lit, had become run down and was attracting youths who were behaving in an anti-social manner. In addition she felt that the bridge access to the playground gave the youths an easy escape route if they had caused trouble in the area.

Other residents supported the concerns raised on this issue.

Acting Inspector Picken stated that he believed closing the bridge would exacerbate the problem as preventing access to a site would encourage people to linger longer and isolates an area. He felt that casual over sight of an area by passers by improved security.

Donna Chambers from Bendall Green Neighbourhood Watch reported that they had resolved similar problems in their area through consistent contact with the local beat officer and a well organised approach to recording and reporting incidents of anti-social behaviour.

The Acting Inspector agreed to meet with Heatherton residents after the meeting to discuss their concerns about security and levels of anti social behaviour in the area.

Pledge to give money to Area Panels

A resident asked whether money pledged by Councillor Williamson in an article in the Derby Evening Telegraph had now been received by the Area Panels. Councillor Carr reported that he hadn't seen any budget proposals on this issue. Councillor Care reported that there had been some proposals to redistribute some Highways budgets but no recommendations had been made.

Road Side Memorials

A resident asked what the Council's policy was regarding Road Side Memorials. The Panel felt that this issue required sensitivity and compassion. The approach currently was to remove the memorials when flowers had died or if they were creating a dangerous situation or causing significant obstruction on the highway. It was noted that if the policy was strictly applied, those laying flowers and leaving tributes would be littering, however, it was felt that this was generally not appropriate in these circumstances.

Recycling Schemes

A resident reported that he was pleased recycling schemes in the area were working well. He asked whether there were monitoring systems in place to ensure that the widest possible range of products were being recycled.

The Panel reported that the Council's current priority was to ensure that recycling schemes had been rolled out across the City so that all residents had access to the same services. It was noted however that further products, for example cardboard, would gradually be introduced into the scheme.

07/05 Integrating Children's Services

The Children's Strategic Partnership Manager gave a presentation on the Integration of Children's Services at Derby City Council.

Resolved to

- 1. Note the presentation and the forthcoming changes to Children's Services at Derby City Council.**
- 2. Invite the Children's Strategic Partnership Manager to return at some time in the future to report on progress.**

08/05 Promotion of Local Democracy Week

The Civic and Members' Services Manager reported that a Local Democracy Week had been organised to advise people who were interested in becoming a Councillor at Derby City Council about the process and about what was involved.

Resolved to note the details of Local Democracy Week and the open invitation to attend the event on 20 October.

09/05 Health Briefing from Primary Care Trusts

A briefing from the Primary Care Trusts was considered.

Resolved to note the Health Briefing from the Primary Care Trust

10/05 Area Panel Budget Proposals

A report of the Assistant Director Community Policy was considered which set out details of three 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 £2,800

The Panel commended the Group on its fundraising activities and welcomed the fact that the group had considered how they would replace the equipment without assistance from the Area Panel in future.

Resolved to approve the application for £2,800.

2. To consider whether to support the application received from Intercultural Social Group – Mickleover, Littleover and Blagreaves Wards. Funding for Luncheon Club. Grant requested £5,347.

The Panel raised concerns regarding the large proportion of the residents who attended the group but who did not live in any of the Wards covered by Area Panel 4. They were also concerned that the Group had not identified any future sources of funding and that the application was for £3,347 more than the guideline for applications which is set at £2,000.

The Panel discussed ways in which they could assist the Group and felt that a contribution towards the rent would enable the Group to continue to meet whilst exploring future sources of funding.

Resolved to approve a grant of £336 towards 40% of the rent costs for the Group.

3. To consider whether to support the application received from Mickleover Community Pavilion Association – Mickleover Ward. Funding for furniture for Mickleover pavilion. Grant requested £2,920.

Councillors Winter and Hird left the room for this application as they had declared a prejudicial interest and Councillor Mike Carr took the Chair for this item.

A representative from the Association outlined the proposals for the application.

Resolved to approve the application for £2,920.

11/05 Update Report

The Panel considered an update report on the progress of community issues raised at previous meetings. The report included details of the issues raised, the proposed actions and the progress to date. The following issues in the report were discussed in detail:

Fence Repairs by Trent Drive/Maple Drive.

It was noted that this should read Maple Avenue not Maple Drive.

Stenson Road, Road Works, Blagreaves.

A local resident reported that further works had been carried out on the road. It was noted that Utility Companies were only permitted to carry out emergency works on roads which had just been re-laid and that they were not permitted to carry out scheduled work for 2 years after road works had been completed.

Parking Problems Devonshire Drive and East Street, Mickleover.

Acting Inspector Picken reported that Police were aware of the problems and officers were monitoring the situation. Residents felt that this issue needed to be consistently monitored and that Police Notices should be consistently issued when cars crossed double yellow lines as they felt children leaving the school were in danger of being knocked down.

Millennium Wood

A local resident asked what could happen to progress this issue further. She was disappointed that there had been no further progress on this issue since she attended a meeting that was held to establish a residents group. She believed that the land was still for sale.

It was reported that the Wood had previously been used by children to get to school from the Bendall Green area, but that access was now prevented due to the installation of barbed wire.

It was reported that there was nowhere to sit in the wood and there is no lighting.

Councillor Care reported that there were funding issues as the Parks department had no funds to purchase the land. She believed that exploring funding from other external sources and the creation of a 'Friends of Millennium Wood' group would be the best way forward.

Anti-Social Behaviour Fresco Drive

Acting Inspector Picken reported that the Anti-Social Behaviour Team had been involved in improving the situation. Alcohol had been seized and people had been cautioned who were behaving in an anti-social manner. Residents in the area had commented that the issues had now improved.

The Panel thanked Police for their work on this issue.

Council Tax Revaluation

The Panel noted that the Government had delayed indefinitely their plans to revalue properties for the calculation of Council Tax.

11/05 Arrangements for the Next Meeting

The Panel noted that the next meeting would be held at Derby Moor Community Sports College in Blagreaves Ward on the 30 November 2005 at 6.30pm.

MINUTES END