



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

AREA PANEL 4

29 MARCH 2006

Report of Area Panel Manager

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	Housing developments	Note and close
	1.4	Bendall Green developments	Note and close
	1.5	Bendall Green lighting	Note and close
	1.6	Trees on Blagreaves Lane	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 – Car parking on Uttoxeter Road	Note and decide
	1.10	Royal British Legion – Mickleover development	Note and close
	1.11	Mickleover Section 30 dispersal order	Note
All wards			
	1.12	Planning Application at East Midlands Airport	Note
	1.13	Grass verge damage	Note and close
	1.14	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: Invite Andrew Morgan to attend a future meeting.
Request the additional access points are included in the Right of Way Improvement Plan.

Update:

The City's Rights of Way Officer has confirmed that these suggestions for access points to Millennium Wood - from Oaklands Avenue, Blagreaves Lane, Tiller Close and from the south - will be considered for inclusion in the draft Right of Way Improvement Plan.

It will be published in November 2006 prior to consultation up to March 2007.
Andrew Morgan from Derby Parks will be invited to attend the next area panel meeting in Blagreaves ward on 28 June 2006.

Further information:

Ken Richardson, Parks Officer, Environmental Services, telephone 716646
Ray Brown, Senior Planning Officer, Regeneration and Community, telephone 255024

1.3 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 major traffic problems in the area, what is being done to address the impact?

Action: Confirm that a request is made to South Derbyshire to consider the impact of additional traffic from their developments on Stenson Road.

Update:

It should be noted that the Council will be consulted formally by South Derbyshire Council on these planning applications. The Council is likely to be involved in assessing and approving any transport assessment from these developments. It is also worth noting that Highways Departments of the City and County Councils work together closely on developments close to the Derby boundary to make sure that cross boundary issues such as this are dealt with in an appropriate manner. A planning application has not been received, but we are aware of interest in the site. Propose to close.

Further information: Paul Clarke, Group Leader, Regeneration and Community, telephone 255935
Peter Price, Transport Policy Manager, Regeneration and Community, telephone 715034

1.4 Ref: 406003 – Bendall Green Developments, Blagreaves - received 18.01.06

Issue: Residents complained that the contractor improving the housing for Derby Homes, were causing disturbances to all the residents in the area. This includes litter, dust and mud on the roads and residents cars, noise from 7.30am, indiscriminate parking, driving construction vehicles while drinking and using phones and damaging the grass with vehicles and skips. What is being done to stop this and will the damage be repaired.

Action: Update on completion of work.

Update: The completion of the work is now likely to run into April. All damaged grassed areas will be repaired then.

We have requested that if there are any complaints or issues regarding the workmen to provide details of the vehicle concerned, dates, times and any additional information which may be of use to the Littleover Housing office.

Andy Higginbottom from Derby Homes has spoken personally to the resident who raised the issues at the meeting.

The containers on Bendall Green have now been removed. Propose to close.

Further information: Pam Stretton, Derby Homes, telephone 716578

1.5 Ref: 406004 – Bendall Green Lighting, Blagreaves - received 18.01.06

Issue: Residents complained about the poor standard of lighting around Bendall Green. There are incidents of anti social behaviour in the area and improved lighting is needed to make residents feel more secure. The panel were asked if white lighting could be installed.

Action: Update on the PFI scheme programme for updating and providing new lighting

Update: We are currently at the Best and Final Offer stage of the Private Finance Initiative - PFI procurement, we are anticipating that the 25 year contract will commence during July 2006. The first 5 years of the contract will involve the replacement of 66% of the current lighting stock, this will be brought up to modern standards and include the installation of additional columns if required.

It is too early to give an indication of when the lighting in Bendall Green will be replaced. However due to the type of equipment used in the area currently, it is anticipated that Bendall Green would be included in the first five-year programme. This issue has been placed on file, and when a more accurate forecast is available, the panel will be informed.

Propose to close.

Further information: Alan Jaques, Street Lighting Manager, Regeneration and Community, telephone 715014

1.6 Ref: 406008 –Trees on Blagreaves Lane, Blagreaves - received 18.01.06

Issue: A resident was concerned that the Council had cut down many mature trees on Blagreaves Lane unnecessarily. There had been no consultation and local residents were very unhappy.

Action: To provide an update on replacing the trees.

Update: Replacement trees will be planted, we aim to complete the planting this year by April 2006. Propose to close.

Further information: John Booth, Arboricultural Manager, Environmental Services, telephone 715537

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: Provide an update on recent actions and progress for the travel plan.

Update: Police beat officers continue to monitor the area. They visited the area during the week after half term and handed out fixed penalty notices.

We remain on track to sign off the travel plan at Ravensdale Junior and Infants Schools

in April 2006. This will secure a small amount of reward funding for each school from the Department for Transport and Department for Education and Skills. In future years the schools will be eligible for capital funding from the Local Transport Plan.

Further information:

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

Michelle Spamer, Area and Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Regeneration and Community, 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.

Action: Respond directly to the lead petitioner regarding the issues raised in her response.

That Onslow Road crossing is reviewed in the autumn of 2006 .

Consider using funding from possible cycling improvements along the cycle way

Identify if any section 106 funding from Amber valley developments is available for improvements on Station Road.

Update: We have responded directly to the issues raised by the lead petitioner.

We have reviewed the Onslow Road site on several occasions in the last two years.

The last surveys continued to show that the level of pedestrian conflict fell well short of the Council's minimum threshold. In these circumstances we would not review the situation for at least a further two years.

Murray Park does not have a Travel Plan at the moment and currently they are not working towards one.

There is no funding earmarked for cycling improvements in this area at the present time and therefore there is no funding from this source to support installing a pedestrian crossing at Onslow Road.

It is too early yet to confirm whether a crossing at Onslow Road could be considered as part of any future Section 106 funding. The developments have not yet been confirmed in the local plan and we anticipate that it will be at least 12 months before any planning application is made. At this stage, a full traffic assessment will be carried out. A crossing could be considered as part of this assessment as long as the forecasted traffic numbers justified a crossing in this location. We will consider this suggestion as and when a planning application is received.

Funding has been confirmed for the East Avenue crossing and this work will be done during the financial year 2006/07.

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

- 1.9 Ref: 406001 – Petition, Car parking on Uttoxeter Road, Mickleover, - received 18.01.06**
- Issue:** A petition had been received in December 2005 about the difficulty of getting out of driveways along Uttoxeter Road near to the City Hospital. This is because of cars parked by hospital workers, visitors and contractors between 8am and 5pm. There is very little space to manoeuvre and it is difficult to see oncoming traffic travelling at 40mph. Can the Council install double yellow lines as part of the list of improvements already proposed for the next few weeks.
- Action:** Investigate and report back
- Update:** A report is included in Item 5 on the agenda for 29 March.
- Further information:** Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer, Regeneration and Community, telephone 716090
- 1.10 Ref: 406002 - Royal British Legion Mickleover Development, Mickleover - received 18.01.06**
- Issue:** The local scout leader noted that the recent planning application was withdrawn. He asked that if the Council approves planning permission would the area panel agree to support the inclusion of a section 106 agreement to provide suitable facilities for the scouts, guides, playgroups and army cadets that use the existing buildings on the site?
- Action:** Update on outcome of section 106 agreement to support local groups
- Update:** The planning application was granted planning permission at Planning Control Committee on 26 January subject to the completion of a Section 106 Agreement. The S106 agreement was completed on 6 February and covers public open space, mobility housing, highways, replacement pitches and community use. In terms of the community use element, the clubhouse cannot be opened until a programme for community use of all the facilities has been submitted and agreed by the Council. It also states that the houses cannot be developed until the football pitch, bowling green and multi use games area are completed and ready for use. Propose to close.
- Further information:** Rosie Heath, Senior Planning Officer, Regeneration and Community, telephone 255073
- 1.11 Ref: 406005 – Mickleover Section 30 Dispersal Order, Mickleover - received 18.01.06**
- Issue:** A resident asked if the Council could support the reapplication for the section 30 dispersal order for Mickleover. He was concerned about the increase in anti social behaviour. He also thanked the panel for the recent funding allocated to Mickleover Pavilion Association to help fit it out with chairs and tables which will allow the venue to be used by local clubs.
- Action:** Update on the section 30 dispersal order for Mickleover.
- Update:** The Mickleover Section 30 order ran for 6 months and other than the city

centre order ran for the longest time. The order stopped in January 2006. Since January the Police have been working to assess the impact of not having the section 30 order. When the investigations are completed and the findings analysed the need for a section 30 order will be reassessed. The police and partners need to check that the section 30 order is making a difference on anti social behaviour. It should be noted that these orders are just one method of tackling issues and need to be used in conjunction with other tactics including Anti Social Behaviour Orders and Acceptable Behaviour Contracts.

Further information: Inspector Gary Parkin, Derbyshire Police, telephone 222184

1.12 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: None.

Update: Progress on the planning application is reported to be slow. A decision is not expected before April 2006.

Further information: Rob Salmon, Head of Plans and Policies, Regeneration and Community, telephone 255020

1.13 Ref: 406006 – Grass verge damage, all wards - received 18.01.06

Issue: A resident expressed concern about grass verges that were being damaged by vehicles and wanted to know why the Council do not ask those who damage them to pay for the repairs.

Action: Confirm when action can be taken.

Update: The problem of damage to grass verges caused by vehicles is common across the city, and is always worse in the winter months. We are very limited in what action we can take because it is not an offence under the Highways Act to park on a grass verge. We can take legal action to recover the costs of repairing damage to the verge, but this is very difficult to actually achieve. It is an easy defence for motorists to claim that the damage already existed and was caused by others. To take legal action it would be necessary for an independent witness to confirm that they saw the damage being caused and no prior damage existed.

Funding for repair to damaged verges is very limited. In most cases also, it can be pointless carrying out repairs without taking measures to prevent further damage. This can be costly as it usually involves installing bollards, which makes mowing operations difficult and can become a maintenance liability. In some cases, we send letters to residents asking them to stop parking on verges outside their homes, but this has only limited success with the problem re-appearing after a short time.

If anyone has concerns regarding a particular location, please contact the Streetcare hotline on 01332 715000 and let us know the details. We will investigate and see what

we can do to improve the situation.
Propose to close.

Further information: John Edgar, Maintenance Manager, Regeneration and Community, telephone 715067

1.14 Ref: 406007 – Recycling, all wards - received 18.01.06

Issue: Residents were interested in how much the Council makes from recycling and how is the income used. In addition, while residents now have many kerbside recycling options there appear to be fewer options for businesses to recycle. Another resident commented that the blue boxes are often blown or left across gardens and new ones have to be requested, which is an extra cost.

Action: Update on recycling developments.

Update: The Council pays for waste disposed of to landfill by the tonne. Thus any material diverted for recycling also saves on landfill costs as well as on environmental grounds. Overall recycling costs the Council rather than generating a net income however as recycling increases due to the co-operation of the public and the cost of landfill or treatment increases it is likely that the Council will show a net saving. This is a long-term projection.

It is suspected that many businesses do not pay for their trade waste to be collected and dispose of it through their domestic bin, which is illegal and places costs on the ordinary council tax payers of Derby. The Council will be checking on businesses in the future to make sure they have proper disposal procedures in place and are paying for the service. The Council wants to increase the amount of recycling carried out by businesses and will be promoting this service in the future.

We are now in the process of switching from blue boxes to blue bins. One of the reasons behind this decision is because of the issue raised by the resident. Due to the costs of converting to the blue bins we are unable to do them all at once. We will replace as many as funds will allow each financial year.
Propose to close.

Further information: Richard Winter, Assistant Waste Management Officer, Regeneration and Community, telephone 715108

1.15 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

Ref: 405019 – Petition – Residents only parking, Warner Street, Mickleover	Report back when two priority areas are identified	September 2006
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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
Background papers:	Area Panel 4 community issues update report, background information – available on CMIS
List of appendices:	None.