

## Area Panel 4 Community Issues Update Report

### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Item No	Issue title	Recommended panel action
<b>Mickleover ward</b>		
1.1	Redevelopment of University of Derby Mickleover campus	Note and refer to Board
1.2	Petition - Lighting around Vicarage Road Park	Note and close
<b>Littleover ward</b>		
1.3	Petition – Car parking on Uttoxeter Road	Note and refer to Board
1.4	Maintenance on Pastures Hill	Note and refer to Board
1.5	Road surface Corden Avenue Uttoxeter Road junction	Note and close
<b>Blagreaves ward</b>		
1.6	Petition – Parking time limit sign in Sunny Hill post office car park	Note and close
1.7	Closure of Gayton Swimming Pool	Note and refer to Board
<b>All wards</b>		
1.8	Planning Application at East Midlands Airport	Note and close
1.9	Planning Applications and developments	Note and close

#### 1.1 Ref: 402030 - Redevelopment of University of Derby Mickleover campus, Mickleover – raised 27.11.02

**Issue:** This issue was raised in November 2002 asking for assurances from the Council that the quality of life for local residents would be taken into account during the future redevelopment. A resident asked if the Council can provide an indication of the anticipated timing of transfer to the swimming pool's long term owners.

He also supported the idea of a Steering Committee for Pool users as a place for discussions to be held about its future.

**Action:**

Update on conditions included within section 106 agreement relating to pool and playing fields.

**Update:** The Section 106 Agreement was signed on 8 August 2007. There were no

substantive changes made to the agreement in the months running up to the signing. Regarding the pool - the developers will carry out life cycle works and undertake the management of the swimming pool for the first 3 years. Reasonable endeavours to be used to put in place an Alternative Management Vehicle (AMV) to secure the future of the swimming pool. If at the end of the 3 year period an AMV has been established then a Swimming Pool Commuted sum is to be paid into a stakeholder account. If at any time the swimming pool objectives are not met the Council can serve notice to have swimming pool transferred, together with monies held in stakeholder account. Regarding the football pitches - Major Open Space will be provided on site, prior to legal completion of more than 30% of the dwellings, to specification agreed with the Council and including replacement playing fields and changing rooms. **Note and refer to Mickleover Neighbourhood Board.**  
**Further information:** John Brown, Head of Sport and Leisure, Environmental Services, telephone 715513

1.2 **Ref: 407006 – Petition - Lighting around Vicarage Road Park, Mickleover - received 28.03.07**

**Issue:** A petition was presented to the meeting expressing concern regarding the lack of lighting around Vicarage Road Park in Mickleover. The petition referred to a Police Liaison meeting that took place on 14 February at the pavilion on the park. There was no lighting on any pathway from any direction to the pavilion, including the Vicarage Road entrance which has car access. People had difficulty walking to and from the meeting due to the lack of lighting and rough terrain and felt vulnerable from attack as there are lots of hedges around the path where people could hide. The petitioners asked that the matter is dealt with urgently to avoid injury or incident.

**Action:** To investigate the request for additional lighting along the paths and report back

**Update.** Officers from Street Lighting, Balfour Beatty, Anti Social Behaviour Team, Police and Parks have been involved in investigating the extent of the problem of walking across the park and lighting across the park and possible solutions to provide more lighting to walkways.

Investigations have been completed into the extent of reported crimes on Vicarage Park. Park rangers have received no reports of incidents in the last five years and the local Anti Social Behaviour officer is not aware of specific problems across the park. The Police report that there has been only one reported crime and 14 incidents relating to Vicarage Park from February to July 2007. About half were at night and a number were reports of nuisance/disorder/shouting by people gathering on the childrens play area.

Officers then considered the option of providing one lit route across the park. The most suitable route was considered to be the path from the pavilion car park to Wendover Close.

However, for the work to be included in the Street lighting Private Finance Initiative - PFI, which would allow the area panel to contribute to funding the work, the new lighting columns would need to go in on Highways adopted land - but none of the land on the park or between Vicarage Road footway and the pavilion is Highways adopted.

Therefore the work cannot be done as part of the Street lighting PFI. The only other option was for Environmental Services (Parks) to commission the work and pay for the future maintenance costs of any columns on their maintained land, in this case the park and the access road. However, this is not an option because Parks have no budget for

the future maintenance costs. There are many competing demands of requests for lighting of paths in parks and there is no money in the revenue budgets to take on additional commitments such as these.

Therefore, the suggestion to submit a funding application has not been acted on because the funding could not be used to provide any lighting. As a result, officers do not propose to install any additional lighting across the park. **Note and close.**

**Further information:** Ken Richardson, Parks Manager, Environmental Services, telephone 716646

1.3 **Ref: 406001 - Petition, Car parking on Uttoxeter Road, Littleover received 18.01.06 and 27.09.06**

**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.

A second petition signed by 87 residents was received in September 2006 requesting car parking restrictions on Uttoxeter Road between Corden Avenue and the City Hospital roundabout on the left hand side as you travel into the city.

Action was being taken to introduce a Residents Parking scheme around Kings Drive and investigations were ongoing for parking restrictions on Uttoxeter Road.

**Action:** Update on progress with introduction of Kings Drive Residents Parking Scheme  
Update on progress with Uttoxeter Road waiting restrictions

**Update:** The introduction of the Residents Only Parking restrictions around Kings Drive is continuing and should be implemented before the end of 2007. Officers are in direct contact with the residents.

The Uttoxeter Road waiting restrictions are now in operation and have been since July.

**Note and refer to Littleover Neighbourhood Board.**

**Further information:** Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer, Regeneration and Community, telephone 716090

Shaun Skelton, Derbyshire Police, telephone 222184

1.4 **Ref: 406019 – Maintenance on Pastures Hill, Littleover - received 27.09.06**

**Issue:** Concern was raised over two maintenance issues on Pastures Hill. The drains are all blocked, resulting in water swilling down the road and because they are positioned below the road surface they are a hazard to cyclists. Also, during a recent repair the new tarmac has been laid incorrectly and it is now in a poor condition. Some jetting work has been completed, but further works are required.

**Action:** To receive an update on the condition of the drains.

**Update:** Most of the drain system has been cleaned out and the system is working more efficiently. There are some repairs to do, but we need to complete the cleaning out operations first, to determine the full extent of the necessary repairs. We hope to be able to finish off the cleaning out during the next two weeks, and will then arrange for the repairs to be carried out. **Note and refer to Littleover Neighbourhood Board**

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

1.5 **Ref: 407009 – Road surface Corden Avenue Uttoxeter Road junction, Littleover - received 27.06.07**

**Issue:** A resident complained about the poor road surface at the Corden Avenue junction with Uttoxeter Road. He asked when it would be repaired. Councillor Care reported that it has been an issue for some time and that work around the junction is dependent on funding from a section 106 agreement and traffic light improvements.

**Action:** Councillor Care to report back to the resident

**Update:** The Uttoxeter Road/Corden Avenue junction is included as part of a resurfacing scheme for Uttoxeter Road included in this financial year's programme. Works are unlikely until March 2008. **Note and close.**

**Further information:** Michelle Spamer, Area Coordination Officer, Regeneration and Community, telephone 715064

1.6 **Ref: 407001 – Petition – Parking time limit sign in Sunny Hill post office car park, Blagreaves - received 31.01.07**

**Issue:** A petition had been submitted on 4 January 2007. The petitioners are supporting the introduction of a parking time limit in the Sunny Hill post office car park to stop the parking of vehicles in the car park for over two hour periods.

A report of the Cabinet member was presented in March recommending that waiting restrictions are not necessary and that the parking markings have been relined.

Agreed to amend recommendation saying restrictions are not necessary and that additional monitoring will continue for a month and a further update will be provided.

**Action:** Report back on outcome of additional monitoring

**Update:** An additional survey was undertaken as agreed. The survey took place on six days from Tuesday 8 May to Monday 14 May 2007 – excluding Sunday 13 May. All surveys took place between 8am and 6pm.

On the few occasions that all 7 parking bays were occupied, up to 2 vehicles were able to park adjacent to them. Of the 5 occasions when the parking bays were oversubscribed for up to 5 minutes – shown in the last column - no long term parking, greater than one hour , was taking place.

The demand for parking was mostly generated by short term visitors which demonstrates a healthy turnover of parking opportunities for the local amenities.

Day	Vehicles in bays	Parked less than 5 minutes	Parked more than 1 hour	Visiting post office	Times when bays full
Tuesday	232	94%	2%	94%	Twice for 5 minutes
Wednesday	159	92%	0.5%	91%	Once for 5 minutes
Thursday	206	92%	1%	88%	0
Friday	199	94%	3%	85%	Twice for 5 minutes
Saturday	153	97%	2.5%	84%	0
Monday	264	95%	0%	91%	0

**Note and close.**

**Further information:** Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer, Regeneration and Community, telephone 716090

1.7

**Ref: 407008 – Closure of Gayton Swimming Pool, Blagreaves and Littleover - received 27.06.07**

**Issue:** Many residents asked a variety of questions about the decision to close Gayton Swimming pool. The initial questions asked if the Council had considered asking the private sector to manage the pool? It could be repaired in stages with health and safety as the priority. Has the Council completed risk assessments? Does the pool operate at a profit or loss and what is the budget for decommissioning the pool? Also, what is being done to stop the pool being drained?

**Action:** The Liberal Democrat group to put forward a motion at the next Council meeting requesting that the Council does not proceed with the plans to close and demolish the pool.

Gayton Community Association, the Action Group and residents to investigate the possibility of the community managing the pool, draw up a business plan and submit questions to Council.

**Update:** On Friday 7 September the High Court in Birmingham granted Gayton Community Association an interim injunction to stop the Council demolishing the pool building and changing rooms until the full trial of the matter which the court directed must take place some time in December. It's been listed for 5 days but which 5 days has yet to be fixed.

As legal proceedings are ongoing, officers have been advised not to provide any further information. **Note and refer to Board.**

**Further information:** Keith Forrest, Assistant Director Strategic Support, Children and Young People Services, Telephone 716891

1.8

**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:** Update on planning application

**Update:** The North West Leicestershire's online planning applications database for details of the application continues to list the application as 'pending consideration'

**Note and close.**

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

1.9

**Ref: 407002 – Planning Applications and developments, all wards - received 31.01.07**

**Issue:** A resident asked if the panel was aware of the large number of planning developments in the area and the impact it was having. He referred to one example

where an application on Blagreaves Lane was requesting that an individual house is demolished to be replaced by a care home. He was concerned about the scale, size and density of the developments. He has held one local public meeting to object to the development and asked if the panel supported the residents.

Councillor Troup reported that he had received a response from Margaret Beckett MP to his letter about brownfield sites.

**Action:** Provide an update on the content of the letter from Margaret Beckett MP

**Update:** A response was received from Margaret Beckett MP dated 14 June which included a copy of a reply received from the then Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government Ruth Kelly MP. The reply from Ruth Kelly MP stated that "...there is considerable need for new housing... the housing market has not responded sufficiently to housing demand. Over the last thirty years there has been a 30% increase in number of households but a 50% drop in house building.

However, it is important to ensure development is in the right place and that includes preventing inappropriate development in residential areas or on garden land where it is not sustainable and other sites are available. Planning guidance gives local authorities flexibility to shape development in their areas. For many years local authorities have been able to set out particular policies to manage infill development and a small number have done so.

Planning Policy Statement 3(PPS3) goes further and gives local authorities more flexibility to shape new development according to the needs of their area, and allows them to make the decisions on where new housing should be located. It makes clear local authorities can put strong emphasis on protecting urban green spaces, parks, and play areas within their plans.

They could also specify for different kinds of brownfield land, which distinguish between residential sites and other kinds of brownfield land. The new policy statement gives them greater powers to restrict garden development within residential areas if they have alternative viable land available and the level of development in residential areas is much higher than their plan. So long as they are delivering the level of new homes the area needs, they will have more flexibility on how and where homes should be built.

(The Government) is also keen to ensure appropriate protection of the countryside. Our planning policies for housing support this aspiration through promoting the re-use of suitable previously developed land in preference to the development of Greenfield land. As a result the proportion of homes built on Greenfield land has fallen from 44% in 1997 to 26% today.

New housing needs to be planned and delivered in a strategic and sustainable way.

(The Government) are determined to raise environmental standards of homes and the sustainability of their location..." **Note and close.**

**Further information** Paul Clarke, Head of Development Control & Land Searches, Regeneration and Community, telephone 255942

## PROPOSED ACTION

2.1 To consider and note the report.

**For more information contact:**

**Background papers:**

**List of appendices:**

Richard Smail, 01332 258505 e-mail [richard.smail@derby.gov.uk](mailto:richard.smail@derby.gov.uk)

Area Panel 4 community issues update report, background information – available on CMIS

None.