

**AREA PANEL 3 COMMUNITY ISSUES – UPDATE REPORT  
BACKGROUND INFORMATION  
21 MARCH 2007**

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**1. Ref: 306020 – Petition – St Albans Road, junction of Manor Road – received 20.09.06**

**Responsible officer(s) for more information:**

Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer, Regeneration and Community, telephone 716090

**Issue:**

A petition submitted by 150 residents living along St Albans Road was submitted requesting the Council consider options to address the volume and speed of traffic on the road. The residents put forward a number of proposals to address the issues raised which include traffic calming measures, speed cameras and the option of making some roads one-way or no entry.

**Previous key points / action taken:**

**September 2006** - We are investigating the concerns raised in this petition and hope to be able to respond to the Area Panel 3 meeting on 17 January 2007.

**Response on 17 January 2007**

We are still investigating this issue and hope to be able to report back to the Area Panel meeting on 21 March 2007. This was highlighted at the last Area Panel 3 meeting as one of their priorities for possible inclusion in the 2007/8 Highways and Transport programme. Officers are currently working to finalise this programme, which will be considered by Cabinet in February 2007. The final programme will be presented to all area panels in the March round.

**Actions:**

To provide a report to the next meeting.

**Update:**

A report in response to the petition is an item on the agenda. Decisions regarding the 2007/08 Highways and Transport programme are reported back to this meeting. St Alban's Road has been prioritised as part of the 2007/08 highways and Transportation scheme.

**2. Ref: 306030 – Highways – between the Spot and Bradshaw Way, Arboretum - received 15.11.06**

**Responsible officer(s) for more information:**

Nigel Brien, Traffic Manager, Regeneration and Community, telephone 715106

**Issue:**

A resident raised a number of issues relating to the condition of highways and pavements in the area.

1. London Road – the surface is dangerous and heavily soiled every day.
2. Osmaston Road – the road is heavily soiled
3. The Spot: Red brick surfacing was installed in 1992/3 for Promenade and was supposed to be permanent as were the trees in the area. All have been removed and the surfacing has been replaced with Yorkshire Stone which is extravagant and

a waste of mineral resources – why?

4. At the Area Panel 3 in January 2005, residents were assured that the public would be fully informed of current local development issues in the area but have not been.

The resident has requested that there be an explanation of these persistent failures and has requested costings and an estimated time for a remedy.

**Previous key points / action taken:**

New item.

**Response on 17 January 2007**

The surface of London Road is due for reconstruction early in 2007. The road surface was due for renewal before the construction of the Westfield Shopping centre began. The council decided to carry out minor temporary works and then reconstruct following completion of the building project. This has avoided having a new road surface damaged and excavated as a result of the building works.

There have been occasions when there has been soiled debris on the London Road and Osmaston Road, however the building contractor has maintained a mechanical sweeper and washer vehicle to continually clean the roads in the area. This has been at the expense of the developer. Occasionally, usually during very poor weather conditions the sweeper vehicle has not been able to carry out effective cleaning. During these periods we have instructed the developer to carry out additional cleaning at nights. The developer has again covered all costs.

Architects working for Westfield have made the design and material choice. All of the new materials and the cost of laying the materials have been met by Westfield. The blocks that have been removed have been taken to the council depot for re-use to maintain the other pedestrian areas. The blocks are no longer manufactured, so we rely on having a recycled supply.

The development of the Eagle Centre and the reconstruction of Bradshaw Way, Traffic Street and the junction improvements have been public knowledge for many years. The development of the centre has also been widely known and discussed for several years.

If the question relates to more specific issues, this probably needs to be addressed directly to the City Council Planning Team.

The resident who originally raised the query was not satisfied with the response and specifically requested a report back to the meeting and not a letter in response.

**Actions agreed:**

To provide a further response to the next meeting.

**Update:**

Further information is required from the resident outlining the full nature of their query and their dissatisfaction with the previous response. In the absence of this information, the department is unable to provide further information. **Propose to note.**

**3. Ref: 306012 – Land – Sackville Street / Kenilworth Avenue, Normanton - received 22.03.06**

**Responsible officer(s) for more information:**

Pop Gill, Neighbourhood Manager, Community Safety Partnership, telephone 258538

**Issue:**

There is a piece of land on the corner of Sackville Street/Village Street and Kenilworth Avenue that is currently creating an eyesore. A local resident asked the panel for clarification on who owns the land, and what it was going to be its intended use.

**Previous key points / action taken:**

**June 2006** - The land is currently owned by the Highways Agency, which is a government agency responsible for Trunk roads. It is a small area of land, which was originally owned by them when Kenilworth Avenue was a Trunk Road. They have recently agreed to sell the land although we are not aware of the identity of the prospective owner. Concerns about its condition have been passed to the agents acting for the agency. Environmental health have inspected the area and reported that there is evidence of fly tipping and vermin and recommended that the area be cleared. A resident reported that some work had been done to clear some of the nettles along the pathway, however, the whole area needs to be clear and it is started to spread over the pathways again.

The resident was informed that as there will be new owners which means it is optimistic that the new owners would address the problem. The identity of the new owners is unknown at present, which will delay action. The possibility of the NEAT team clearing the area will be looked into. However, this may not be possible as it is private land.

**November 2006** - The new landowners have been identified and are being contacted. The landowners will be asked to clear the land or the NEAT team will do so and charge the landowners for the work.

**Response on 17 January 2007**

The Neighbourhood Team has contacted the landowners and is still awaiting a response.

**Actions agreed:**

To provide an update at the next meeting.

**Update:**

A response has yet to be received from the landowner. The Neighbourhood Team are pursuing as part of their weekly tasking and co-ordination meetings. **Propose to note.**

**4. Ref: 305040 – Petition – Removal of road humps, Browning Street, Upperdale Road and Stanhope Street, Normanton - received 16.11.05**

**Responsible officer(s) for more information:**

Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer, Regeneration and Community, telephone 716090

**Issue:**

A petition was received at the meeting requesting the removal on the traffic humps on Browning Street, Upperdale Road and Stanhope Street in Normanton. It stated that the

road humps on the roads were very intrusive and damage cars and other vehicles. They are also having a negative impact on the elderly, infirm – particularly those with back problems, and the general public who travel in vehicles over them. It was noted in the petition that these types of humps had been removed from various roads in Sinfin and Boulton.

**Previous key points / action taken:**

**November 2006** - It was reported that people are now travelling the longer way round into town, so they can avoid these roads, due to the humps. Another resident asked the panel why the humps were installed on Upperdale Road, as the housing is set back from the road, yet on other roads, where homes are close to the road, no traffic measures have been installed. He confirmed that he uses alternative routes, to avoid the humps.

**March 2006** – Report not complete. Will be available at the meeting in June 2006.

**June 2006** - A copy of the report as presented under item 5 of the agenda. The Panel agreed that they were not satisfied with the response and agreed that the matter should be referred back to officers and the Cabinet. A further report to be presented to the next meeting and a report back to Councillor Dhindsa prior to the next meeting.

**September 2006** - We have been asked to seek further information and report our findings to Cabinet. We plan to report to Cabinet in early October following which we will update the Panel at the next meeting in November.

**November 2006** - With the introduction of the new petitions procedure, responses are no longer referred back to Cabinet; they are referred to the Cabinet member with lead responsibility to make the final decision. As a result, the report is to be discussed at the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation - Executive Member briefing meeting to be held in November for decision. Following which an update will be provided to area panel in January 2007. The scheme has been included in the list of priorities for the 2007/08 Highways and Transportation schemes.

**Response on 17 January 2007**

A report went to the Individual Cabinet Member meeting on 13 December. It was recommended that:

1. The request for the removal of traffic calming is refused.
2. The speed cushions on Upperdale Road and Stanhope Street are reshaped to lessen their impact on vehicles while retaining the road safety benefits that they bring.

No funding is available in the current financial year to undertake this reshaping. This was highlighted at the last Area Panel 3 meeting as one of their priorities for possible inclusion in the 2007/8 Highways and Transport programme. Officers are currently working to finalise this programme, which will be considered by Cabinet in February 2007. The final programme will be presented to all area panels in the March round.

The lead petitioner, Cllr Dhindsa responded that the petition had requested alternative traffic calming measures. The report suggests an adaptation of the existing traffic calming measure. The lead petitioner requested that the matter be referred back to the Cabinet Member, as the response does not address the original actions requested by the lead petitioner and residents. This is a priority issue for local residents.

**Actions:**

To refer back to the Cabinet Member and to provide an update to a future meeting on the prioritised 2007/08 Highways and Transportation schemes for area panel 3.

**Update:**

In line with the new petitions procedure, Area Panels can refer a matter to the Cabinet member for a decision. Once it has been referred, the decision made by the Cabinet Member is final. This matter has been referred to the Cabinet Member and as reported at the last Area Panel meeting, the Cabinet Member decision was as follows:

1. The request for the removal of traffic calming is refused.
2. The speed cushions on Upperdale Road and Stanhope Street are reshaped to lessen their impact on vehicles while retaining the road safety benefits that they bring.

Area Panels put the scheme forward as a priority for the 2007/08 Highways and Transportation programme. The report approved by the Cabinet Member recommended that an alternative traffic-calming scheme be introduced for Upperdale Road only. This work forms part of the 2007/08 programme of Highways and Transportation schemes.

**Propose to note and close.**

**5. Ref: 306012 – Land – Sackville Street / Kenilworth Avenue, Normanton - received 22.03.06**

**Responsible officer(s) for more information:**

Pop Gill, Neighbourhood Manager, Community Safety Partnership, telephone 258538

**Issue:**

There is a piece of land on the corner of Sackville Street/Village Street and Kenilworth Avenue that is currently creating an eyesore. A local resident asked the panel for clarification on who owns the land, and what it was going to be its intended use.

**Previous key points / action taken:**

**June 2006** - The land is currently owned by the Highways Agency, which is a government agency responsible for Trunk roads. It is a small area of land, which was originally owned by them when Kenilworth Avenue was a Trunk Road. They have recently agreed to sell the land although we are not aware of the identity of the prospective owner. Concerns about its condition have been passed to the agents acting for the agency. Environmental health have inspected the area and reported that there is evidence of fly tipping and vermin and recommended that the area be cleared. A resident reported that some work had been done to clear some of the nettles along the pathway, however, the whole area needs to be clear and it is started to spread over the pathways again.

The resident was informed that as there will be new owners which means it is optimistic that the new owners would address the problem. The identity of the new owners is unknown at present, which will delay action. The possibility of the NEAT team clearing the area will be looked into. However, this may not be possible as it is private land.

**November 2006** - The new landowners have been identified and are being contacted. The landowners will be asked to clear the land or the NEAT team will do so and charge the landowners for the work.

**Response on 17 January 2007**

The Neighbourhood Team has contacted the landowners and is still awaiting a response.

**Actions agreed:**

To provide an update at the next meeting.

**Update:**

A response has yet to be received from the landowner. The Neighbourhood Team are pursuing as part of their weekly tasking and co-ordination meetings. **Propose to note.**

**6. Ref: 306030 – Highways – between the Spot and Bradshaw Way, Arboretum - received 15.11.06**

**Responsible officer(s) for more information:**

Nigel Brien, Traffic Manager, Regeneration and Community, telephone 715106

**Issue:**

A resident raised a number of issues relating to the condition of highways and pavements in the area.

5. London Road – the surface is dangerous and heavily soiled every day.
6. Osmaston Road – the road is heavily soiled
7. The Spot: Red brick surfacing was installed in 1992/3 for Promenade and was supposed to be permanent as were the trees in the area. All have been removed and the surfacing has been replaced with Yorkshire Stone which is extravagant and a waste of mineral resources – why?
8. At the Area Panel 3 in January 2005, residents were assured that the public would be fully informed of current local development issues in the area but have not been.

The resident has requested that there be an explanation of these persistent failures and has requested costings and an estimated time for a remedy.

**Previous key points / action taken:**

New item.



**Response on 17 January 2007**

The surface of London Road is due for reconstruction early in 2007. The road surface was due for renewal before the construction of the Westfield Shopping centre began. The council decided to carry out minor temporary works and then reconstruct following completion of the building project. This has avoided having a new road surface damaged and excavated as a result of the building works.

There have been occasions when there has been soiled debris on the London Road and Osmaston Road, however the building contractor has maintained a mechanical sweeper and washer vehicle to continually clean the roads in the area. This has been at the expense of the developer. Occasionally, usually during very poor weather conditions the sweeper vehicle has not been able to carry out effective cleaning. During these periods we have instructed the developer to carry out additional cleaning at nights. The developer has again covered all costs.

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The development of the Eagle Centre and the reconstruction of Bradshaw Way, Traffic Street and the junction improvements have been public knowledge for many years. The development of the centre has also been widely known and discussed for several years.

If the question relates to more specific issues, this probably needs to be addressed directly to the City Council Planning Team.

The resident who originally raised the query was not satisfied with the response and specifically requested a report back to the meeting and not a letter in response.

**Actions agreed:**

To provide a further response to the next meeting.

**Update:**

Further information is required from the resident outlining the full nature of their query and their dissatisfaction with the previous response. In the absence of this information, the department is unable to provide further information. **Propose to note.**

**7. Ref: 305006 – Cameron Road Homezone improvements and wheelie bins, Normanton – received 17.01.07**

**Responsible officer(s) for more information:**

Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer, Regeneration and Community, telephone 716090

**Issue:**

A resident reported that Morrisons had sent a letter to all residents on Cameron Road giving advance notice about works relating to painting of lines. Residents were asked to move their cars, however, on the day in question Morrisons did not actually carry out the work. When queried, Morrisons replied that they had not undertaken the work as cars had

been parked on the road however; the resident stated that this was not the case. He stated that he was appalled by the level and quality of the workmanship of Morrisons. The resident also raised the issue about being invited to complete a survey. Finally the resident requested further information on Atkins Consultants who are carrying out the survey work and he wanted to know why the City Council could not undertake the work rather than the Consultants.

**Previous key points / action taken:**

**June 2005** - reported that improvements to street lighting had increased the illumination of Cameron Road enormously. Considered that the trees and tree protectors were highly visible and did not require further illumination. Changes in the road layout had been designed to ensure Home Zone was self-enforcing and vehicles were driven at appropriate speeds.

It was accepted that road users would need to alter their behaviour when using streets within the Home Zone and it was reported that it was noticeable that all those using the Home Zone were accepting the change.

Lack of parking on Cameron Road had been queried and the layout of the parking within the Home Zone had been altered as part of the design of the street layout. Although the number of parking spaces had decreased, the final design provided spaces that exceeded the measured demand. It was reported that officers had agreed to monitor the situation on a regular basis and would take action where it might be considered necessary in order to maintain or improve safety.

**September 2005** - Consultation has been carried out with local residents about the reflective strips to the existing tree guards. Reflective strips used on other street furniture in the area were subject to vandalism and removed. In view of this we are looking for alternative reflective strips to lessen the risk of vandalism.

**November 2005** - investigated various types of reflector and reflective paint, and has decided to trial high-tack reflective tape and is expecting samples within the next couple of weeks. Subject to the trial being successful, we then hope to have the reflective strips in place by Christmas.

**January 2006** - We have installed reflective strips and are monitoring their effectiveness to all of the tree guards. Work began on 28 November to complete the Home Zone works in and around Cameron Road and all works should be complete by the end of March 2006.

**March 2006** - Residents of the Abbey ward in area panel 3 were issued with parking ticket-style stickers on their wheeled bins from Tuesday 21 February to remind them not to leave them on the pavement. Derby City Council is hoping the stickers will get the message across that they obstruct pavements, particularly for disabled people and parents with pushchairs, and can be used by criminals. Currently, there is no planned programme to rollout the scheme across the whole of Area Panel 3 or the City. The decision is dependent on whether the scheme is successful in the Abbey ward. If the programme is rolled out there is likely to be a focus on Normanton covering the Lowerdale Road, Burton Road and Normanton Road area. However, this is not proposed for some months.

A local resident handed in some photographs showing the problems with parking on Cameron Road, stating that there were only 14 spaces, and yet 25 houses. He also raised concern that fire engines could not access the street in an emergency. Councillor Dhindsa agreed that this does need to be looked at, and suggestions made on how this can be improved.

**June 2006** - As you are probably aware the Home Zone designs were finalised following extensive consultation and liaison with local residents. The proposals for both, a shared pedestrian/vehicle surface and angled parking were raised at an early stage of the design process and acknowledged as acceptable by the majority of the local community. The parking provision created is for a similar amount of spaces as were available before the Home Zone scheme. Parking surveys completed before the commencement of construction works, confirmed that the amount of spaces created, would exceed the maximum number of vehicles recorded in these counts.

The Council continue to monitor the amount, type and location of parking throughout the Home Zone and although some business parking has been noticed, all vehicles appear to display valid road tax and are therefore entitled to park on street. The City Council are also aware of vehicles being parked outside of the marked bays and are currently investigating methods of controlling parking within these areas.

Due to the layout of the Derby Lane – Cameron Road junction, the priority system can at times be difficult to distinguish. However, due to the presence of vertical deflections, vehicle speeds in this location are already at a minimum. It is my intention to have a Give Way Triangle marking laid on Derby Lane to identify the priority to drivers of vehicles on both roads.

**Response on 17 January 2007**

Cllr Nath responded that the survey is now being widened out to all residents on Cameron Road rather than a sample of residents. He confirmed that the outcomes of the survey would be reported back to a future meeting of the Area Panel. He stated that he would be happy to meet with the resident personally to record the resident's concerns with the Homezone.

**Actions agreed:**

To provide an update on the survey and outcomes to a future meeting of the Area Panel and write a response to the resident.

**Update:**

W.S. Atkins were invited, following the receipt of competitive quotes, to undertake the after study of the Home Zone because it was considered most appropriate to use an independent organisation. Their final report is scheduled to be delivered by the end of March and the outcomes will be reported to a future meeting of the Area Panel. A report is expected outlining responses to the survey at the 20 June 2007 Area Panel meeting.

**Propose to note.**

**8. Ref: 306051 – Balaclava Road parking, Normanton – received 17.01.07**

**Responsible officer(s) for more information:**

Neil Palfreyman, Traffic Management Engineer, Regeneration and Community, telephone 716090

**Issue:**

A resident requested that double yellow lines be installed at the traffic lights on Balaclava Road as there are problems with congestion and inconsiderate parking.

**Previous key points / action taken:**

None

**Response on 17 January 2007**

Cllr Williamson confirmed that a response would come back to the meeting.

**Actions agreed:**

Provide a response to the next meeting and directly to the resident.

**Update:**

Balaclava Road has double yellow lines on both sides for its entire length. This 'No waiting at any time' restriction already covers the traffic lights at its junction with the Ring Road.

The presence of some local shops in this vicinity can lead to indiscriminate parking close to the lights. We are aware of this and the Parking Attendants carry out regular enforcement patrols in this area. Since August 2006, 49 separate visits have been made to this location with 53 vehicles observed to be parked in contravention of the restrictions. 46 of these vehicles were moved on and 7 received Penalty Charge Notices.

These enforcement patrols will continue in order to ensure that the existing parking restrictions are observed. **Proposed to note and close.**

**9. Ref: 306051 – Fear of Crime for Older People, all wards – received 17.01.07**

**Responsible officer(s) for more information:**

Andy Thomas, Head of Stronger and Safer Communities unit

**Issue:**

What has been done to address the national target of deprived areas dealing with the fear of crime and burglary in Normanton. What services are available for older people: security measures, warden patrols, advocacy and police measures.

**Previous key points / action taken:**

None

**Response on 17 January 2007**

Cllr Williamson confirmed that a response would come back to the meeting.

**Actions agreed:**

Provide a response to the next meeting and directly to the resident.

**Update:**

A letter has gone out to the resident providing advice on services available to older people. The resident has also been made aware of the Neighbourhood Forums in the area.

**Propose to note and close.**

**10. Ref: 305012 – Street lighting in Derby City Centre, Arboretum – received 30.03.05**

**Responsible officer(s) for more information:**

Alan Jaques, Street Lighting Manager, Regeneration and Community, telephone 715014

**Issue:**

A member of the public asked about progress relating to street lighting and the monitoring of repairs.

**Previous key points / action taken:**

**June 2005** - We are aware of an ongoing problem with some of the lighting on Uttoxeter New Road, our clerk of works is currently trying to resolve the situation, and we will endeavour to get them working as soon as possible. The Street lighting Engineer has surveyed the Wardwick area. All of the lights on Wardwick were lit, however a couple of the new lighting units on the Strand were out. Since these roads join together, these may be the lights referred to by the resident. These will now have been replaced. However, these new lights were installed as part of Connecting Derby, and the main contractor who did the works has become bankrupt. Unfortunately, this will continue to cause some delays in getting faulty lights working. It is understood that the lights will be 'handed over' to Streetcare in the next few weeks.

**September 2005** - The Uttoxeter Road lights have been repaired. The handover of the new city centre lighting is expected to take place by October 2005.

**November 2005** - Our Clerk of Works has now carried out a survey of the City Centre Connecting Derby scheme. There are many issues, which require resolving before we are able to take these streetlights over for maintenance. We are meeting with the Special Projects Team responsible for Connecting Derby to resolve this as soon as possible. We have given details of the defective lamps, as picked up by our Night Patroller, to the Special Projects Team in order for them to have the lamps repaired. A resident commented on the big improvement with the lights in the centre of Derby, but reported that there are still five main lights that are out.

**January 2006** - We believe the lights referred to by the resident are at the Cathedral Row junction with Walker Lane. There is a problem with gaining access to the electricity supply, which we are working to resolve. A resident complained to the panel that there were now eight lights which have been out for a long time at the following locations:

- Field Sports
- News Kiosk
- Corals Bookmakers
- Charlie Browns Menswear
- Evans
- Debenhams - low level
- Boots
- Revolution.

**March 2006** - Street Lighting Section has surveyed the lights at night and details of the ones that were found to be unlit have been passed to Special Projects. Prices have been obtained to rectify all faults and the work is likely to be carried out before next Area Panel 3 meeting on 21 June.

A local resident reported that four of the lights were still not working, and that on Uttoxeter Road / Kings Drive, there were some 18 lights not working. He reported that he had not seen anyone patrolling the area at night. It was agreed to provide details of the frequency of inspections and timeframe for the completion of remedial works in a letter to the resident.

**June 2006** - We can confirm that the lights mentioned at the meeting on 22 March are faulty at present. There are approximately nine lights out on Uttoxeter Road near to Kings Drive, two of these are out because of a fault on the cable that supplies the electricity to them, and the remaining seven have all been issued to the contractor for repair. It is difficult to arrange the repair of lights as they are on major traffic routes because of the traffic management implications resulting in road closures; this is the reason that lighting on major roads requires a longer period to undertake repairs. They have been out longer than usual.

The Street Lighting Night Patroller checks every street light within the city during the hours of darkness on a fortnightly basis. This patrol is done by a vehicle at any point during the night so it is highly unlikely residents would witness inspections.

There is planned programme of renewal and improvement to all street lighting in Derby under the Street Lighting PFI. Further information is available within the Area Panel bulletin. Area Panel may wish to receive a presentation on the Street Lighting PFI at their next meeting.

The Council appreciates the support of residents in the reporting of faults and advises residents where possible to note the number of the lighting column or the exact location of the lighting column and call the hotline number, which is 715000.

A patrol was carried out on Sunday night - 18 June - of the Victoria Street, Albert Street, Wardwick and Strand area of the city centre and on Uttoxeter New and Old Road.

Only two lights were found to be out in the city centre, one outside Boots and the second was outside the entrance to the Markets off Albert Street. The one outside Boots still belongs to Special Projects however we will be adopting these for maintenance shortly. The one outside of the Markets is a decorative unit that is not maintained by us.

12 lights were found to be out on Uttoxeter New Road. In addition, there are three other lights out these are 36376, 36360 and 36269 all of these had previously been picked up and were issued for repair to Commercial Services on 25th May.

All of the lights were working on Uttoxeter Old Road.

#### **Response on 17 January 2007**

Cllr. Williamson responded that there had been delays to the Street Lighting PFI and when implemented there will be a much improved service and provision. It is hoped that the Streetlighting PFI will be in place in the new financial year. Jonathan Guest responded that there had been a delay due to having to find additional funding. It was hoped that the contract for the works would be signed by the end of the financial year or at the start of 2007/08.

#### **Actions agreed:**

None

#### **Update:**

**CLOSED ITEM.**

**11.Ref: 306051 – Green Lane, Arboretum – received 17.01.07**

**Responsible officer(s) for more information:**

**Issue:**

A resident asked for advice from Cllr Hussain regarding the unfriendly atmosphere and negative effect at the top of Green Lane. The resident stated that they travel to Derby city centre on this route, sometimes in the evening. It used to be a bright and cheerful with people using the metro Cinema, lit bright and cheerful. Now it is empty. Next to it is the derelict building awaiting demolition and soon to be an assessment centre. The resident wanted to know if we can expect any positives at all.

**Previous key points / action taken:**

None

**Response on 17 January 2007**

Cllr Hussain responded that this is a priority for him and the Council is looking to address the issues. Cllr Hussain has stated that this will be addressed as part of the development of the City Centre.

**Actions agreed:**

Response provided at the meeting. **Item closed.**

**Update:**

A response to the issue was provided at the meeting. Further updates should be provided on local developments at future meetings. **CLOSED ITEM.**

**12.Ref: 306051 – Times of Area Panel meetings, all wards – received 17.01.07**

**Responsible officer(s) for more information:**

Sarah Dosunmu, Stronger and Safer Communities Unit, telephone 258501

**Issue:**

A resident requested that the Panel considering changing the time of the meetings to 6.30 p.m. or later as it is difficult for those who work and if you are travelling across the ward to attend meetings as it is difficult for non car users.

**Previous key points / action taken:**

None

**Response on 17 January 2007**

Cllr Nath explained that the times of meetings are agreed a year in advance so it would not be possible to move the times at this stage. It is something the panel would consider as it is important to make meetings as accessible as possible for all residents and he cited as an example, residents with a disability who may have difficulty attending meetings and making arrangements with insufficient time if the meetings are early evening.

**Actions agreed:**

Response provided at the meeting. Area Panel to consider change of times. **Item closed.**

**Update:**

Timings of Area Panel Three meetings will be considered at the Council's AGM. Area Panel recognises the issues raised by the resident. Where possible, all Neighbourhood Forum meetings held in the area commence at 6.30 p.m. **CLOSED ITEM**