

LONG EATON COMMUNITY FORUM

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

DATE - 11 March 2010
VENUE - Long Eaton Town Hall, Derby Road, Long Eaton
CHAIR - Keith Hickton

PRESENTATION

LONG EATON TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE INITIATIVE - Yvonne Wright & Francesca Machin - EBC Planning Dept

Questions arising out of the presentation

What has been the take up?	Currently have 2 projects online - York Chambers, Long Eaton & Rutland Mill, Chapel Street in Long Eaton. 4 new applications in this month. 15 projects in development. In total have received 36 expressions of interest.
What is the limit of assistance available?	67% max. Any bids over £97k have to be referred to the Lottery Fund.
Market Place, Long Eaton - historically there have with accidents around this area so the market was moved to safer area. The permanent market stalls were installed at a great cost, although, EBC received an income from them from charges to market stallholders. Why is it being moved back to this dangerous area? And what about the loss of income?	<p>Not aware of the accident history. Previously, there were 2 unsurfaced roads, High Street and Tamworth Road, but now High Street is pedestrianised so reducing the risk of potential accidents.</p> <p>Market stallholders felt that being tucked away had a detrimental effect and by being visible their passing trade would increase. Bearing all this in mind we still need to be mindful to the potential dangers from the road and this will be looked at in detail.</p> <p>The market stalls will not back right up to the edge of the road as they used to be and it is envisaged that the stalls will spread down the full length of the High Street so encouraging increased footfall through the town centre.</p>
How strict are the rules with regard to geographical boundaries?	The rules are very strict and include conservation areas only. Anything outside the conservation areas is ineligible.

<p>The access to West Park from the end of Leopold Street is shown on your plans as being an open right of way. This has been an ongoing issue for the Long Eaton Community Forum.</p>	<p>Unsure about the details or history of this access.</p> <p>DCC Liaison Officer responded - DCC are fully aware of the issues around this access and he continues to request regular updates from the legal officer dealing with the claim. It is still due to be dealt with and investigations will be carried out, and report prepared for committee, in due course. He assured the forum that this has not been forgotten and any updates will be provided at future forums, when available.</p>
<p>Will the mature Plane trees on the Market Place be removed?</p>	<p>The scheme is the historic reinstatement of the market place and we have photographs which show that no trees ever existed. The trees were only put in 20 years ago. The 4 along Tamworth Road will stay but the other 3 are too large and will be removed. This will open up the market place whilst keeping 4 of the trees.</p>
<p>What about the problems with loading and unloading of vehicles associated with the market stalls?</p>	<p>Off loading etc is to be managed by the Market Officer and he will work closely with the market traders.</p>
<p>There is an ongoing problem with the number of drivers who not only park within the disabled restrictions on the High Street but who use the High Street as a cut through. There are also continuing problems of cyclists not dismounting on the High Street. Both of these pose a risk to elderly and disabled pedestrians.</p>	<p>The THI scheme does not cover traffic issues, these are dealt with by the Traffic Enforcement Officers.</p> <p>A senior Officer from EBC responded: we have spoken to DCC about these issues and they are looking at the pedestrianisation order currently in place on the High Street. There are a lot of parking areas very close to the town centre and they may consider removing the disabled parking on the High Street.</p>
<p>Why do you want to put the market back 150 years?</p>	<p>Although the evidence we have covers 150 years we are not reinstating it to that standard but trying to reintroduce the spirit of how it used to be using appropriate materials. We are not returning to mud and cobbles.</p>
<p>With so many modern buildings in and around the market Place will it not be difficult to recreate the historic feel?</p>	<p>The majority of the buildings are turn of the 20th century apart from the building which houses Subway which was constructed in the 1960's. Although the shop fronts are modernised the higher floors are still original.</p>
<p>How far down High Street do you intend to go?</p>	<p>We are currently working with the Market Officer and in talks with the traders. We are putting in new electricity supply so they will have power and it hoped to have market through the town centre.</p>
<p>Any plans to regenerate the old speedway track?</p>	<p>This does not fall under the THI but planning permission has already been granted for housing on the land.</p>
<p>What is to happen to the raised flower beds around the Market Place?</p>	<p>One will be removed as part of phase 1.</p>
<p>You are doing a very good job</p>	<p>Thanked the resident for the positive comment.</p>
<p>OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING - 11.11.09</p>	
<p>Osmaston Close to Hathersage Ave - this is another footpath that keeps being</p>	<p>A DCC Legal Officer is currently preparing documents to send to</p>

<p>closed - by whom?</p>	<p>the Planning Inspectorate where the way forward will be determined (information received 2.2.10).</p>
<p>Safety for pedestrians crossing in Regent Street near the Post Office - this was on the minutes & action points from the November 2008 meeting which stated that Pete Leigh had been contacted on 21.01.08. What is the present situation?</p>	<p>SBS 521241 Investigations have concluded that the installation of a barrier, at the location requested, would not be possible due to the presence of a post in the footway here. Any installation of railings here would therefore present an obstruction in themselves to anyone with mobility issues.</p> <p>The only position at which railings could be sited is in the arch of the junction, although it is felt that railings at this location would not resolve the local resident's concerns.</p>
<p>Problem getting out of Midland Street/ASDA due to traffic on the Green standing and creating tail backs</p>	<p>SBS 529419 There are no proposed works here. The volume of traffic on Nottingham Road causes the junction to operate at capacity. Any measures to assist drivers emerging from Midland Street would have a detrimental impact on the remaining, busier, routes.</p>
<p>Traffic congestion at Sawley station</p> <p>i. Are DCC doing anything to ease the problem at the Sawley Station roundabout (Tamworth Road/Fields Farm Road)? There are three sets of traffic lights near to the roundabout. Could the roundabout be removed and traffic light control installed?</p> <p>ii. It was believed that the number of pedestrian crossings contributes to the congestion problems – there are eight on Tamworth Road between Reedman Road to the Town Hall. Why are there so many?</p>	<p>DCC Liaison Officer suggested that the introduction of traffic lights on the roundabout would not necessarily alleviate congestion and could, potentially, make the situation worse. There is little DCC can do to alleviate the volume of traffic on our roads; increasing traffic levels is a trend being experienced by society as a whole and is not unique to Derbyshire.</p> <p>SBS 529420 Officers have advised that the position of the stop lines associated with any traffic signals would need to be considerably far back from the roundabout to cater for the low bridge. This in turn would increase the length of the inter-green phase of the signals and, in conjunction with the need for pedestrian phasing, would generate more congestion than the current arrangements.</p> <p>DCC Liaison Officer advised that there are criteria which are used to assess whether pedestrian crossings are suitable – i.e. a certain level of vehicular traffic in comparison to footfall. They also need to be at 'desire points' – i.e. pedestrians want to cross the road at this point – and there needs to be a certain level of difficulty in getting across.</p> <p>These criteria would have been taken into consideration when introducing the crossings on Tamworth Road. It has already been acknowledged that this is a busy route with a couple of schools and several shops.</p>

	<p>SBS 529421 Traffic & Safety officers have confirmed that the crossings have been installed on an individual basis following surveys which confirmed a desire line (i.e. pedestrians naturally want/need to cross at that location).</p> <p>The main cause of congestion on Tamworth Road is at its junction with Nottingham Road; the crossings have little impact.</p> <p>DCC remain committed to ensuring the safety of vulnerable road users and, as such, it is not proposed to remove any crossings in the foreseeable future. We will however consider any specific individual crossing that may be under used as a result of any local changes to pedestrian flows.</p>
<p>Drains on Tamworth Road - when are they to be cleared?</p>	<p>SBS 529418</p> <p>DCC Liaison Officer advised the forum that there was a gully cleansing programme and that gullies are normally emptied once a year (sometimes more in problem areas – i.e. near quarries). Blocked gullies can become a particular problem at this time of year due to falling leaves. Incidents of blocked gullies can be reported to DCC via Call Derbyshire on 08456 058 058 or, alternatively, by completing the online fault report form at www.derbyshire.gov.uk.</p> <p>A Highways Inspector has inspected the gullies at this location and no smell was identified. Enquiries were also made with staff at Wilkinson’s and they were not aware of any problems either.</p>
<p>Litter on & around the twitchell to Collingwood recreation playground - the build up of litter around this area requires urgent attention. When was the last time a litter picking gang cleared this area?</p> <p>This is still a major problem. The resident walked around the area on 12 November 2009 with the local neighbourhood Warden but can see no improvements coming out of this inspection - Why?</p>	<p><i>A Senior Officer from the Places & Environment Directorate responded: A warden will investigate and speak with the Supervisor for Green Space and Street Scene to arrange appropriate work. Green Space and Street Scene already litter pick the open space monthly and the play area weekly.</i></p> <p>A senior officer at EBC responded: this area is part of the street cleansing round and when inspected again, 11.03.10, it was in a reasonable condition. It will continue to be monitored.</p>
<p>The green park/open space near Barkers Pond, Meynell Road/Wyvern Road has a problem of the fishermen parking and damaging this area. I have written & spoken to a senior officer at EBC on 25.04.09. I have spoken to a neighbourhood Warden several times since April 2009 - I have given him several registration numbers. The last call I had was from a Technical Support Officer of the Green Space and Street Scene Division on 23.09.09 and still the promised barrier has not</p>	<p><i>A Senior Officer from the Places & Environment Directorate responded: The neighbourhood Warden will meet with the resident and walk the area with him to identify concerns on site. Action will then be arranged accordingly.</i></p> <p><i>The Technical Support Officer at EBC responded: the next step is</i></p>

<p>been erected - why?</p> <p>Also the road is damaged by use of vehicles.</p> <p>The resident was assured at the inspection that a barrier would be installed in 4-6 weeks. We are now 17 weeks and <u>nothing</u> has been done - Why?</p>	<p><i>to meet with a fabricator and organise the installation of a lockable barrier. This will take place within the next two weeks. The barriers should be installed in 4-6 weeks time depending on lead times with the fabricators. In addition, we have telephoned the Soldiers and Sailors Club some time ago and reported the problem with parking but this does not seem to have alleviated the problem.</i></p> <p>A senior officer at EBC responded: the barrier taking longer to implement that first thought. The Neighbourhood Warden is currently following this up to get it installed at the earliest opportunity.</p>
<p>CITIZENS' SURGERIES questions</p> <p><u>GLADSTONE STREET, LONG EATON: DROPPED KERBS.</u></p> <p>A resident reported that dropped kerbs had recently been introduced on Gladstone Street (off Tamworth Road). There were concerns, however, that the 'drop' from the pavement onto the road was too steep for people with mobility issues (her daughter is a wheelchair user).</p> <p>The resident queried whether there was any way in which to decrease the drop from kerb to carriageway to make it easier for wheelchair users to cross here?</p> <p><u>FIELDS FARM ROAD/BOSWORTH WAY, LONG EATON</u></p> <p>A local district councillor reported two issues which had recently been raised at one of her surgeries:</p> <p>a. Fields Farm Road/Bosworth Way junction: Egress problems. Residents have reported difficulties in exiting Bosworth Way onto Fields Farm Road. Are there any ways in which the junction(s) can be improved? A mini-roundabout was suggested.</p> <p>b. Bosworth Way: Access to Sheets Stores Industrial Estate. Residents have complained about HGV's missing the turning into the industrial estate (off Bosworth Way) and continuing along Bosworth Way. Could DCC consider introducing bigger/additional signage to highlight the turning? It was noted that a sign is already in situ.</p>	<p>SBS 265032</p> <p>The dropped kerb budget for this financial year (2009/10) has already been allocated.</p> <p>However, a DCC Maintenance officer has assessed the dropped kerbs on Gladstone Street (at the junction with Tamworth Road) and confirmed that additional dropped kerbing works here has been classed as Priority A (high). As such, a request to extend the kerbs has been added to the 2010/11 financial year's rolling programme for dropped kerb works.</p> <p>DCC Liaison Officer advised that mini-roundabouts were generally only used where there was a high level of difficulty experienced (from a high level of traffic) when accessing a busy road. The Liaison Officer wasn't sure whether the amount of traffic trying to exit Bosworth Way, and the level of difficulty exiting the junctions, would be high enough to justify the cost of installing a mini roundabout</p> <p>SBS 529415</p> <p>This industrial estate is well signed on both Fields Farm Road and by a large sign on Bosworth Way (opposite the estate entrance). As such, it is not envisaged that any further signing would prove beneficial.</p>

QUESTIONS RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE 11.02.10	RESPONSE
<p>Bollards on bridge over railway Nottingham Road, Long Eaton - Can you please explain the reason for the newly installed bollards on the railway bridge on Nottingham Road in Long Eaton</p>	<p>DCC response - The centre three spans which cross the railway are the responsibility of Network Rail. The load carrying capacity of these spans was assessed by DCC's Structures Section as part of the Bridgeguard 3 Assessment Programme, a Joint Venture Agreement between Railtrack (as was – now Network Rail) and the Council.</p> <p>The section of bridge deck carrying the traffic lanes was found to be capable of carrying current highway loading. However, the sections of bridge deck supporting the footways were found to be understrength if loaded with heavy goods vehicles.</p> <p>Obviously both rail and road users require to be protected from the consequences of the footways being overloaded.</p> <p>As an alternative to spending considerable sums of money strengthening the sections of bridge deck that support the footways, it was agreed with Network Rail to install bollards to prevent any heavy goods vehicles parking on the footway and overloading the bridge deck.</p>
<p>Bridge at Trent Meadows - After over two years the bridge has now been installed at Trent meadows but you have to scale a ten foot wall to reach the bridge. Can DCC give a date when you can access it without going on a mountain climbing course?</p> <p>The footpaths and the car park surfaces have been destroyed by the heavy vehicles that have been used, are they going to be reinstated and when?</p>	<p>Response from DCC - The bridge and associated works have cost in excess of £170,000 and securing this funding – through partner organisations and our own Local Transport Plan – has been done rapidly, with budgets usually committed 12 months in advance.</p> <p>The formal condemning of the old footbridge through to the new installation of a full multi-user bridge has taken just over 18 months. Now that the bridge has been installed the approaches are being worked on; this work should be completed in 3 weeks time when a formal opening will be carried out.</p> <p>Response from DCC - The main damage to routes in the area has been a result of works by the Environment Agency on the left bank flood alleviation scheme. All the damage over these routes will be reinstated. Furthermore, any approach routes to the DCC work site will be reinstated to a better standard than previous.</p>
<p>Future forums - Could not the Forum be on a fixed day of the week in future</p>	<p>All Community Forums for 2010-2011 will be on Thursday evenings: 15 July 2010; 18 November 2010; 17 March 2011</p>
<p>Presentations/Subjects for Future Forums - Could not the question be posed at</p>	<p>The Consultation Officer is currently undertaking a review of our</p>

<p>the end of the meeting what the residents would like to discuss at the next meeting?</p>	<p>Community Forums to assess what is currently working well and not so well at present. He is in the process of examining feedback forms from residents to see what ideas they have come forward with regarding the future organisation of the Forums. The views recorded will be taken into account within his report.</p>
<p>QUESTIONS RAISED ON THE NIGHT</p>	
<p>Re: Traffic congestion around Long Eaton Railway Station at Sawley - the resident is to have a meeting with Pete Leigh at DCC about this issue and will be starting a petition.</p> <p>Cllr Hickton added - previously there were traffic signals here, and there was also talk of a double roundabout.</p> <p>Mr Hallam will report back to the next forum</p>	
<p>Future forums - they are currently too far apart and should happen more often. This is especially important following the demise of the Long Eaton Advertiser.</p>	<p>The Consultation Officer at EBC responded: previously we had 8 or 9 forums and it was found to be very difficult to resource. We work in partnership and it would be difficult to have any more at the current time. There are a number of other community meetings across the borough including meetings in the community by the local Police SNTs and 50+ forums.</p>
<p>Taxi overcrowding in the Market Place - we are still having problems with taxi overcrowding in the Market Place and clocking the entrance to St Laurence Church. This is particularly a problem when there is a funeral and often have to ask the taxi drivers to move to allow the hearse access.</p> <p>The taxis not only park within the taxi rank but across the gates and on the raised paved area between the taxi rank and the road.</p> <p>Last year it was stated that the THI would involve the removal of the taxi rank. Is this still the idea?</p> <p>Maybe the answer is to have designated bays for taxis so restricting the number at any one time to a specific number.</p>	<p>A senior officer from EBC responded - the licensing office needs to be approached again in light of these further comments and ideas of how to deal with these problems needs considering. There is a taxi drivers' forum and we will raise this point with them at the next meeting in June when the Neighbourhood Warden (NW)/Parking Enforcement Officer (PEO will be asked to attend.</p> <p>CEO's are able to issue penalty charge and we will liaise with them through the NW to add this to their hot spot list. Mr Moreton has been advised to ring the EBC contact number 0115 9072244 and ask to speak to the Senior Neighbourhood Warden who will get the relevant NW to respond.</p> <p>Cllr Hickton suggested that a letter be written to the taxi drivers asking for their assistance in this.</p> <p>Cllr White suggested that the Church Warden gets some cones and uses them.</p>
<p>Skate Park on West Park - is there any progress with this?</p>	<p>The SNT and Neighbourhood Warden need to be told again about</p>

<p>The problems of young people riding their skate boards in the Waverley Street area continues.</p>	<p>the problems if they are starting again.</p> <p>A senior officer from EBC responded: the wheeled area on West Park - a round of consultation is still required to ensure that the right sort of equipment is installed and it's positioning. It is vital that we consult with the users to ensure that EBC put in place the right sort of equipment to encourage them to use it.</p> <p>Cllr C Corbett also added that he had been told by Cllr Wallis that we have the money for the skate park and about to go out to consult with the young people to seek their ideas for what they want.</p>
<p>Multi user routes for horse riders - are there any moves being made re multi use routes for horse riders. It is estimated that an annual spend of £2,166 per annum per privately owned horse. Multiply this by 3,000 horses and it amounts to £6,498,000 per year for the local economy.</p> <p>Trent Meadows - problems of horses riding through this area and if have a proper pathway this would not be problem</p>	<p>DCC Liaison Officer responded: John Holmes is the Countryside Manager. There is a plan for multi use pathway. He apologised for not writing to resident again as promised following the last forum and will get an update and respond to resident directly. Update to be reported back to the forum.</p>
<p>West Park access from end of Leopold Street</p>	<p>Answer provided during the presentation questions - see above.</p>
<p>Police and Anti Social Behaviour - after tonight's TV news, are all incidents recorded and dealt with?</p>	<p>Inspector Phil Laing responded: all calls of ASB are handled by the local SNT and are all dealt with either in person or by telephone and recorded. It is then prioritised. If anyone wants a visit they will always get a visit. The statistics can be skewed by things such as when several reports of the same incident received, although all are recorded, only 1 will be followed through and the others closed off so may give the appearance that the others are not being followed up.</p> <p>A senior officer from EBC also added that it is not just the police who deal with ASB but that other agencies are also involved eg the Community Safety Partnership are a partnership team who deal with ASB by using tactics such as diversionary activities.</p>
<p>Mercian regiment - Mr Hallam wanted to thank EBC for hosting the march through</p>	
<p>Number of police on beat in Sawley - Mr Hallam wanted to thank the police for high level of police visible in and around the Sawley area.</p>	
<p>Inspector Phil Laing informed the forum members of the changes effective from 6 April 2010 affecting the Police - 'A' Division is being split and Erewash will be joining Derby City 'D' Division.</p>	

<p>CITIZENS SURGERIES:</p> <p>1. <u>NEW STREET, LONG EATON: UNEVEN PAVEMENT</u></p> <p>A resident raised concerns regarding the unevenness of the pavement on New Street (Salvation Army side). The resident himself is visually impaired and pushes a friend in a wheelchair. It was stated that the pavement here had a camber – of approx 45° - towards the carriageway and there had been occasions where the resident’s friend had almost been tipped from the wheelchair. There is a Shop Mobility next to the Salvation Army and the resident assumed that this must be a concern for them also.</p> <p>Could DCC please inspect the footway and advise whether any remedial work is needed?</p>	<p>SBS 532817</p> <p>Awaiting response from relevant officer at DCC</p>
<p>2. <u>UNION STREET, LONG EATON: PAVEMENT OBSTRUCTION</u></p> <p>The same resident also reported concerns on Union Street, at the Tesco petrol filling station. On the pavement – near to the pull-ins for the filling station – there is a lamp post in the pavement; it was stated that this leaves insufficient pavement width to get a mobility scooter past. There is also a drain in the carriageway – directly opposite the lamp post – and the resident feared that, if a scooter/wheelchair went over the kerb, a wheel could get stuck in the drain.</p> <p>The resident queried whether the lamp post could be repositioned?</p>	<p>SBS 532818</p> <p>Awaiting response from relevant officer at DCC</p>
<p>3. <u>NOTTINGHAM ROAD, LONG EATON: PONDING WATER</u></p> <p>It was reported that water was ‘ponding’ in the bus lay-by on The Green (o/s Wilko’s) following recent resurfacing. It would appear that rain water is not running off into the drains.</p> <p>Could this matter be inspected please?</p>	<p>SBS 532820</p> <p>Awaiting response from relevant officer at DCC</p>