

PUBLIC QUESTIONS	
COMMUNITY FORUM – LONG EATON - Chair Diane Ward 11 November 2009	
PRESENTATIONS:	
THE ROLE OF THE SNT PANEL GROUPS/COMMUNITY FORUMS & UPDATE ON WAVERLEY STREET - Insp Matt Thompson EREWASH BOROUGH COUNCIL BUDGET CONSULTATION - Ian Sankey (Director of Resources - EBC)	
OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING - 07.07.09	
Public space/open space Waverley Street, behind St Laurence Church.	Inspector Matt Thompson, Ilkeston Police Inspector, will present to this evenings meeting along with a representative from EBC.
Tamworth Road - 'ponding'	Simon Tilley - SBS 526044 This matter was referred to a local Highway Inspector who has reported that the work was carried out as part of the slurry sealing programme 12 months. No other complaints have been received. The footway is in a considerably better condition now and the minor amount of standing water would also have been experienced prior to this work taking place. No further action is considered necessary.
Leopold Street - West Park public right of way claim	Paul Jameson - SBS 520859 Derbyshire County Council's Local Area Forum Liaison Officer has contacted the legal officer, who is dealing with this particular claim. Unfortunately, the situation remains unchanged from what was stated at the previous meeting of 12.11.2008 and reiterated at the following meeting of 12.03.2009. A report is due to be submitted to the Committee for Regulatory Licenses and Appeals. The Local Area Forum Liaison Officer appreciates that residents are frustrated at the length of time this issue is taking to resolve, however, as with many legal issues, there are lengthy procedures to follow. Additionally, as stated previously, the legal section have a huge workload relating to legal claims such as this (in excess of 300), which are dealt with chronologically. The Local Area Forum Liaison Officer will continue to ask the legal officer for progress reports prior to the forums and provide an update when any developments are made.
Public conveniences are for sale. Is there really any likelihood that money from the sale could fund a	A PAMIS toilet is currently in the process of being built within the Co-Op at Ilkeston in response to lobbying by disabled groups over a number of years. This is being funded by EBC.

<p>changing places toilet in Ilkeston and Long Eaton?</p>	
<p>Twin towns – what benefit is it to Erewash residents for twinning trips to be funded from council tax?</p>	<p>During the 1950s links were established between our twin towns and these have continued for over half a century. The idea of twinning is to develop the cultural, sporting and friendship links between the towns in question and promote harmony with our European neighbours. There are two parts to the twinning programme. The first is the civic side which involves Council members and the Mayor, as first citizen of our Borough. The second involves the Twinning Associations which are made up of volunteers who fund their own trips abroad and are not reliant upon funding from the Council and hence there is no charge to the Erewash Council tax payer for these activities.</p> <p>Dealing now with the civic side, the twinning trips are on a three year cycle. When we travel to Langen and Romorantin, the only cost to the Council taxpayer is the cost of travelling for four civic representatives, the Mayor and his Consort, the Leader of the Council and the Lead Member for Culture and Leisure. All other participants are responsible for their own travel costs. Other costs are the responsibility of the host town. When Erewash hosts its twin towns, which is every third year, a small budget is provided by the Borough Council for hospitality and accommodation.</p> <p>There is a misconception that twinning is 'just a holiday'. This is untrue and the Council seeks to maximise the benefit of continuing and developing links with our twin towns. School exchanges were discontinued over 20 years ago but thanks to the recent hard work of the twinning association, school exchanges have now been re-established with Trent College in Long Eaton and the Dreieich Schule in Langen. They have now completed two years of exchanges and such has been the success that another local school is very much interested in becoming involved.</p> <p>Over a number of years there have been attempts to establish business links between the three towns and now real progress is being made. During this year's visit to Romorantin, the Chairman of the Twinning Association held detailed discussions with both the Mayor of Romorantin and the Burgermeister of Langen and his representatives. Contact details and information have been passed onto the Long Eaton Chamber of Trade and detailed discussions will be taking place shortly.</p> <p>Recently, councillor Mike Wallis, Chairman of the Long Eaton Twinning Association was asked for his views by the Ilkeston Advertiser on the benefits of twinning to the Borough and said "It is not all fun and games – there's a serious side to twinning as well. We work together as friends but as businesses too". "It's brilliant that the twinning association is able to take students from our area along on the twinning exchanges as it gives them the opportunity to get a feel for the language and culture. They learn so much in five days, just from living with host families".</p>
<p>There are over 3,000 horses in Erewash, with very few places off road to ride. Can we do anything to remedy this situation?</p>	<p>DCC have responded to the points raised with their Liaison Officer in the Citizen's Surgeries privately. The Director of Regeneration & Community at EBC advised the forum that there are a number of bridle paths around the area.</p>

<p>No bridle paths or bridle ways to link green spaces within the Green Space Strategy or the Open Space Strategy. They do not include bridle ways?</p>	<p>The Core Strategy for the borough is currently being worked on and this is a more holistic and long term strategy bringing together all the other strategies. There are opportunities to take part in the consultation process and she will ensure that this information is sent out to the questioner.</p>
<p>9. Change of use? – When the skills centre had to find new premises last year they negotiated for the Azante unoccupied opposite the Corner Pin – change of use was refused. Recently the premises has opened as a William Hill Bookmaker. Long Eaton already has 3 bookies in the town centre and this now makes a fourth. The skills centre had been in Long Eaton for many years and we have now lost an established and respected Learning Centre. Why?</p>	<p>The premises lie within an area designated as the shopping centre of Long Eaton and also in the “Primary Shopping Frontage”. Erewash Borough Council has planning policies which are designed to ensure that premises within these designated areas are retained for A1 (retail uses) in order to avoid a proliferation of non-retail uses that would undermine the key role of the town centre as a shopping centre. Application ERE/0707/0059 was submitted to use the premises as an adult education skills centre which is not a retail use but is a D1 use (non-residential institutions) in planning terms. That planning application was refused for that reason.</p> <p>A further application (ERE/0808/0032) was submitted the following year to change the use of the same premises to a betting shop (A2 use – financial and professional services which includes banks, estate agencies and betting shops etc) which was again refused permission planning permission by the Council for the same reason. However the applicant exercised their right of appeal to the Planning Inspectorate against that refusal of planning permission and the Inspector determined, based on evidence submitted by the agent, that most people visit a betting shop as part of a shopping trip which would add to the vitality and viability of the shopping centre and the provision of the betting shop would add to the range of services available. Accordingly, the appeal was allowed</p>
<p>12. Council meeting 25th June – comments from councillors regarding the motion that all members’ expenses are regularly published.</p>	<p>Members' expenses are regularly published once a year in line with the current legislation. The last financial figures are also available on Erewash Borough Council's website. When asked to consider the issues involved the Independent Remuneration Panel had no strong views on a more regular publication but will support any council decision in relation to the matter.</p>
<p>QUESTIONS RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE MEETING</p>	
<p>Wholesale dumping of free papers The subject of the wholesale dumping of the free papers around the (Long Eaton) area. Why has no action seemed to be taken against the culprits and print company? Presented pictures of papers dumped at the forum.</p>	<p>As the Company themselves are not committing an offence of littering, Erewash Borough Council has spoken to the company and agreed that any papers that are dumped will be collected by the company. This therefore does not incur a charge to the Council.</p> <p>If there are repeat problems in an area, the senior Neighbourhood Warden from Erewash Borough Council is informed that the papers are marked by the distribution company and any found dumped can be linked back to any suspects they may have. (They of course are getting paid for delivering these).</p> <p>The Warden Team Leader (Acting) will contact the resident directly about this issue.</p>
<p>Romorantin flats Why have problem families from outside the area been moved into Romorantin? Since this has</p>	<p>Erewash Community Safety Partnership’s response The flats are owned and controlled by Three Valleys Housing and the Erewash Community Safety Partnership has very little control over who gets placed in the flats. Erewash</p>

<p>happened severe anti social behaviour is occurring in the vicinity, as well as graffiti and vandalism</p>	<p>Community Safety Partnership is aware of activity in the area and is working to gather evidence to be able to act. There is very little being reported to either the Community Safety Team or the Police in terms of ASB, vandalism or graffiti - it may be that it is being reported to Three Valleys? It is crucial that residents and neighbours report any incidents and that this is passed through and shared to all partners to be able to take appropriate action. Either contact: 0345 1233333 or report to the Community Safety Partnership 0845 907 2244.</p>
<p>Romorantin flats</p> <p>The main entrance to what were the old people's flats has been boarded up. The appearance now is one of dereliction.</p> <p>Why have the flats been empty for over 6/7 years? These are perfectly good flats.</p> <p>Why were the old people moved out?</p> <p>What are the future plans for these flats?</p> <p>How much revenue has been lost from these flats not being in use for the last 6/7 years?</p>	<p>Three Valleys Housing Ltd response - We are making every effort to maintain a satisfactory appearance of the building whilst it is empty. However, we are also responsible for maintaining effective security in order to minimise vandalism to the building.</p> <p>The flats have been empty since November 2007; this decision was taken because of the undesirability of the units which do not meet modern living standards e.g. shared washing facilities.</p> <p>We are currently looking at various options to refurbish the building and return it to suitable dwellings which will meet the needs of local people. With this we have recently held a consultation day (30.09.09) to involve residents in getting their views on moving forward and we are working with EBC on future options for the land and building and will ensure that the wider community is engaged.</p> <p>These flats have been empty for 2 years and the loss of rent has been accounted for in Three Valleys Housing budget plan.</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>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.</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 been erected - why?</p> <p>Also the road is damaged by use of vehicles.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>The Technical Support Officer at EBC responded: the next step is 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.</p>

<p>The green park/open space near Barkers Pond, Meynell Road/Wyvern Road is also in need of a litter pick to clear from the canal due west - reported to a Technical Support Officer of the Green Space and Street Scene Division on 23.09.09. Nothing has happened - why?</p>	<p>A Senior Officer from the Places & Environment Directorate responded: The Technical Support officers are away until Monday and will respond on their return. 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.</p> <p>This and the previous question are being dealt with together.</p>
<p>QUESTIONS RECEIVED ON THE NIGHT - 11.11.09</p>	
<p>1. Leopold Street - as has been mentioned continuously from 11.01.06 - update on current situation.</p> <p>Also Osmaston Close to Hathersage Ave is also a footpath that keeps being closed - by whom?</p>	<p>The matter concerning Leopold Street is currently with DCC's legal department. This is a very lengthy process and will be required to go to committee. No date has been received from the legal team as yet and the DCC Liaison Officer hopes to have more information at a future forum.</p> <p>Passed to the relevant officer at DCC</p>
<p>2. Leeroy's kebabs - new shop at the corner of Beaconsfield St/Tamworth Rd recently had a large plate glass window smashed. There is a CCTV camera directly opposite on Tamworth Rd and another one half way up Beaconsfield St - Was this incident seen on either or both CCTV cameras?</p>	<p>Inspector Phil Laing has investigated CCTV and there is no footage of this incident.</p>
<p>3. Pedestrianised area outside Corner Pin, 31.10.09, 2pm to 2.30pm - Teen/Adults on bicycles. I counted 19 teens/adults on bikes and no PC's/PCSO's or Council Neighbourhood Wardens. Riding on roads without lights; two on a bike; no hand signals; using mobile phones; disregard for road signs and traffic lights; riding with no hands; riding on pavements and pedestrianised areas. The list is endless.</p> <p>According to the Highway Code the maximum fines are: Dangerous cycling - £2500 Careless cycling - £1000 Cycling on pavements - £500 STOP PERSECUTING THE MOTORIST. THE SYCLISTS WILL KEEP YOU WELL OCCUPIED!</p>	<p>Insp Matt Thompson drew the forum's attention back to his presentation and identified this type of question as being best addressed through the local SNT panel group. He will ensure that the relevant SNT officer receives this information and contacts the resident directly.</p>
<p>4. Drains alongside the bus stop outside Wilkinsons on the Green - there is an obnoxious smell coming from the drains. Does EBC still have</p>	<p>This is a function of DCC NOT EBC.</p> <p>DCC Liaison officer advised the forum that there is in place a gully cleaning programme and</p>

<p>a drain cleaning lorry and is there an organised programme to clean drains in all areas of Long Eaton?</p>	<p>he will look into this further - may be that the problem is actually a problem for the water authority.</p> <p>He reiterated that any such problems in the future should be reported to the Rapid Response Team on the Call Derbyshire number: 08456 058058 or via the website: www.derbyshire.gov.uk</p>
<p>5. 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>Reported to relevant officer at DCC</p>
<p>6. Problem recurring with taxis on taxi rank blocking St Laurence Church entrance - particularly bad on Wednesday, Friday & Saturday. Have written to the licensing authority 3 weeks ago.</p>	<p>Insp Matt Thompson/Insp Phil Laing is to get the local SNT to work with EBC to try to address this issue</p>
<p>7. Problem getting out of Midland Street/ASDA due to traffic on the Green standing and creating tail backs</p>	<p>Reported to relevant officer at DCC</p>
<p>8. Why doesn't EBC offer single occupancy rates for serving soldiers?</p>	<p>In law there is no entitlement to any relief for Single Person discount, (SPD). The Ministry of Defence, (MOD), have recognised this and have added an amount to compensate the troops serving overseas, particularly in Iraq and Afghanistan, to the operational allowance paid upon return from deployment.</p>
<p>9. Traffic congestion at Sawley station - are you doing anything to ease the problem? There are 3 sets of traffic lights around the roundabout. Could the roundabout be removed and install traffic light control?</p>	<p>Reported to relevant officer at DCC</p>
<p>10. Drains on Tamworth Road - when are they to be cleared?</p>	<p>Reported to relevant officer at DCC</p>
<p>11. Why are there so many pedestrian crossings in Long Eaton? - there are 8 of these crossings from Reedman Road to the Town Hall.</p>	<p>Reported to relevant officer at DCC</p>
<p>12. West Park Leisure Centre flumes have not worked for over 18 months due to various problems with the installation and health and safety. When is it going to be fully operational?</p>	<p>A senior officer from Erewash Borough Council responded: Some money has been found to repair the flumes and it is envisaged that a proportion of this work will be undertaken during November/December 2009 when the pool is shut for wetside refurbishment. Some of the work to be done in December and pool will close for 4 weeks and it is hoped that the flumes will open following this work. Internet access in new receptions so questions and comments can be submitted there.</p>
<p>13. Cars parked outside Trent College with no lights - why?</p>	<p>This has been passed to the Safer Neighbourhood Team.</p>
<p>14. People parking their cars outside my house, (address supplied to relevant officer), are</p>	<p>A senior officer at EBC responded: The neighbourhood Warden will visit the resident at home and make arrangements as far as possible to resolve the issues experienced by the resident.</p>

<p>throwing rubbish into my garden.</p> <p>Also, dog owners allowing their dogs to foul the pavement.</p>	
<p>OTHER ISSUES</p>	
<p>Long Eaton Townscape Heritage Initiative - have offered to do a presentation to the Long Eaton forum - would you be interested?</p>	<p>Yes - to present at the next meeting on 11 March 2010</p>
<p>Locks for the disabled toilets - this was raised at previous forum. Has anything happened?</p>	<p>Richard Ashley has an example of new lock for resident to look at this evening</p>