

# meeting notes

<b>Title:</b>	Ilkeston and North Community Forum
<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday 21 January 2015
<b>Venue:</b>	Gladstone Lodge, Market Street, Ilkeston
<b>Apologies:</b>	Paul Brett; Eric Leverton; Rita Leverton; Wendy Prati; Councillor James Dawson.

No.	Subject	Action / Lead Officer
1	<b>Welcome from the Chair (Lew Hall)</b> Lew Hall (LH) welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2	<b>Matters arising from the previous meeting</b>	
2.1	LH confirmed that all questions raised at the previous meeting in September 2014 were answered within the minutes.	
3	<b>Questions for officers</b>	
3.1	<p><u>Council Tax Support</u></p> <p><i>Resident:</i> Local councils set the level of Council Tax Support. This is currently set at 8.5%. Will it be increasing in April to a higher rate? If the amount goes higher it will affect the most vulnerable in society.</p> <p><i>Ian Marsden, Community Engagement Officer, Erewash Borough Council:</i> I will ask the question of our Benefits team and report their answer within the meeting minutes.</p> <p><i>Ian Marsden contacted Phil Sudlow, Housing Benefits Manager, Erewash Borough Council on 22/01/15.</i></p> <p><i>Response from Phil Sudlow, Housing Benefits Manager, Erewash Borough Council on 22/01/15:</i> The level of Council Tax Support will remain the same in 2015/16 with only slight amendments based on annually updated figures. The amount of 8.5% will remain unchanged.</p>	

3.2 Cycle storage facilities within Ilkeston

*Question received in advance of the meeting from a resident:*

What cycle storage facilities are there currently available within Ilkeston town centre?

*Scott Cartledge, Neighbourhood Warden Manager, Erewash Borough Council:*

Erewash Borough Council's Land & Property team informs me that there are storage facilities available at the following locations:

- Two shelters outside Ilkeston Town Hall which are covered and cater for approximately ten bikes;
- Market Street near to Ilkeston Library;
- Pimlico Car Park;
- South Street Car Park;
- Club Row Car Park;
- Near to United Carpets, Bath Street.

*Resident:*

These facilities are too far away from the shops. I like to take my bike into Ilkeston town centre and use it whilst I'm shopping. If I do this I want to be able to frequently move my bike and secure it in places that are highly visible so as to reduce the risk of it being tampered with. I would like to see storage facilities provided adjacent to the Albion Centre and near to Specsavers on Bath Street. Long Eaton has far more cycle storage facilities than Ilkeston.

*Councillor Michelle Booth:*

I have previously met with Neil Kellogg (*Property and Estates Manager*) and Tim Spencer (*Head of Leisure*) of Erewash Borough Council to discuss the two new cycle shelters that are to be provided on Wharncliffe Road, within new bus shelters, in the coming months.

*Resident #2:*

Does Erewash Borough Council monitor the number of cyclists using the current cycle storage facilities? This would give an indication of whether they are positioned in the correct locations or not. Who looks at cycle usage in the borough?

*Scott Cartledge, Neighbourhood Warden Manager, Erewash Borough Council:*

To my knowledge the number of users is not monitored by Erewash Borough Council.

*Ian Marsden, Community Engagement Officer, Erewash Borough Council:*

Erewash Borough Council has recently appointed Fiona Coulson as our Travel Plan Officer. One of the first pieces of work for Fiona is involving looking at how people currently travel in and around Ilkeston, and any barriers that they perceive to be regarding alternative transport methods to the car. This is particularly important for Ilkeston due to the development of the new railway station and the proposed redevelopment of the land in between the new station and the town centre (the 'Ilkeston Gateway'). On attracting new businesses to this area more people will need to access this area. The road network is already under strain in Ilkeston (for example the

	<p>intersection of Chalons Way, Heanor Road and Millership Way) and part of Fiona’s work will involve liaising with public transport operators to see what services can be provided across Ilkeston to encourage a reduction in the use of cars. Fiona will also engage with employers in the town to see what facilities can be provided at their premises to encourage their employees to adopt alternative transport methods to the car.</p> <p><i>Resident#2:</i> Would Erewash Borough Council be able to encourage businesses to provide cycle storage facilities within Ilkeston?</p> <p><i>Ian Marsden, Community Engagement Officer, Erewash Borough Council:</i> This is something that I’m sure Fiona will be discussing with local employers, amongst other ideas.</p> <p><i>Tim Spencer, Head of Leisure, Erewash Borough Council e-mailed Councillor Michelle Booth on 27/01/15 as follows:</i> “In regards to the current location of the new cycle shelter on Wharncliffe Road we were of the understanding that the funding received from Derbyshire County Council could only be used to provide a cycle shelters at Ilkeston Town Hall for both visitors to the town centre and staff working at Ilkeston Town Hall. The shelter was also sited on council land so that we could take responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the shelter.</p> <p>I will speak to Derbyshire County Council in regards to the resident’s suggestion of providing a cycle shelter (or the like) on Bath Street, as this falls under the highway agency, although it maybe something we could both work together on for the benefit of cyclists in Ilkeston. If it’s possible to have the resident’s details maybe we could contact him to find more about his ideas?</p> <p>In regards to the bus shelters, I have spoken to Jon Radforth [Engineering Officer, Erewash Borough Council] who informs me that there was a meeting Tuesday last week with Derbyshire County Council’s Public Transport Unit and the Showman’s Guild to finalise the bus shelter locations and that works are planned to commence early to mid-February.”</p>	
3.3	<p><u>Pedestrian lights on Wharncliffe Road</u></p> <p><i>Resident:</i> Could something be done about the pedestrian lights located on the corner of Wharncliffe Road (adjacent to the corner entrance to the old Co-op building)? They change and ring continuously without them being activated by a pedestrian. They disturb the tranquillity and the Remembrance services.</p> <p><i>Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council:</i> The way the crossing operates will be dependent on its type. With a pelican, a timed sequence begins once the button is pushed. This means if a pedestrian crosses in a gap in traffic, without waiting for a green, traffic will be held until the sequence completes. Puffin crossings can detect pedestrians waiting or on the crossing. If pedestrians move away without waiting for the green, the green is cancelled and traffic is allowed to continue. The crossing you mention is probably a ‘puffin’ crossing as these are more common to town centres.</p>	Paul Jameson to arrange for the crossing to be checked.

	<p>Light-controlled crossings are expensive and are only introduced where strict criteria is met in regard to the level of pedestrian activity, to ensure they meet a need and will be well used.</p> <p>There could be a fault with the sensors. I will arrange for this issue to be investigated.</p> <p><i>Councillor David Stephenson:</i> It could be that someone is activating the 'wait' button and then crossing before the pedestrian light turns green.</p> <p><i>Response from Ian Marsden on 22/01/15:</i> A five minute observation of the crossing made it clear what is happening at the location. If a pedestrian presses the 'wait' button the lights for vehicles turn red, as one would expect. However, if no vehicles or pedestrians are positioned near the crossing it defers to red for vehicles, green for pedestrians. If a vehicle approaches, and no pedestrian is present, the lights change to green for vehicles and red for pedestrians. When the vehicle has passed they change back again.</p> <p><i>Response from Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council on 27/01/15:</i> This crossing is set to be showing a green man the majority of the time, only changing to a vehicle green when a vehicle approaches the signals. As such, this operates with the opposite priority to a normal signalised pedestrian crossing.</p>	
3.4	<p><u>Pedestrian lights on Millership Way</u></p> <p><i>Resident:</i> Could there be an increase in the number of pedestrian crossings located on Millership Way, near to the new KFC? It can be difficult to cross at this location.</p> <p><i>Sergeant John Troup, Derbyshire Constabulary:</i> This issue has been raised previously by other residents and was looked in to. There are already two pedestrian crossings located on Millership Way in relatively close proximity to each other, so a third crossing at this location would not be considered.</p>	
3.5	<p><u>Pedestrian lights with island at intersection of South Street and Derby Road</u></p> <p><i>Resident:</i> When crossing from the Toll Bar House side of the road to the centre island the crossing is activated quickly from a pedestrian pressing the 'wait' button. However, this is not the case for the second section from the island to the South Street side of the road. It can take a long time for the pedestrian green light to be activated and this leads to some pedestrians walking the red light.</p> <p>It seems to be the case that pedestrians do not wait for the green man signal as much when using the new design of crossing. When the green man light was positioned on the opposite side of the carriageway it was easy for pedestrians to see. On the newer design of crossing it is located</p>	

	<p>at waist height and seems to be ignored. This is dangerous, especially if cars jump the red light, as can happen at this location.</p> <p><i>Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council:</i> The new crossings have been designed in such a way as to encourage pedestrians to look in the direction of oncoming traffic.</p>	
3.6	<p><u>Pedestrian / traffic lights at intersection of Heanor Road and Kedleston Drive</u></p> <p><i>Councillor Val Custance:</i> I witnessed an accident nearly occur at this location just this morning. The traffic lights at the intersection of Heanor Road and Kedleston Drive are not coordinated with the pedestrian lights positioned outside Granby School, i.e. the former can be on green whilst the latter are on red. This morning I witnessed a car exit on green from Kedleston Drive and turn right down Heanor Road. It then drove through the red light of the pedestrian crossing outside Granby School. Drivers seem to be confused by the uncoordinated two sets of lights.</p> <p><i>Resident:</i> It may be better if the pedestrian lights were relocated another twenty yards further down the hill, i.e. further away from the Kedleston Drive junction.</p> <p><i>Councillor John Frudd:</i> Do we have traffic light cameras at either of these locations to check for drivers running red lights?</p> <p><i>Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council:</i> The criteria for including traffic light cameras are based on the collision history at the location.</p> <p><i>Sergeant John Troup, Derbyshire Constabulary:</i> Speed enforcement work focuses mostly on locations where killed or seriously injured collisions have occurred. I am not aware of any specific problem at this location and seeing a vehicle jump the lights would not in itself warrant any specific police action being taken at this time.</p> <p><i>An e-mail from Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council on 27/01/15 confirmed that he has approached Derbyshire County Council's Traffic Signals department to assess the Heanor Road / Kedleston Drive signals. Paul will report back to the Forum meeting once he receives an update from that department following their investigations.</i></p> <p><i>Response from Paul Jameson, Local Area Forum Liaison Officer, Derbyshire County Council on 09/02/15:</i> The junction signals and the pedestrian crossing are linked, and have been for some years, in an effort to reduce delays to all types of road users.</p> <p>Historically, Derbyshire County Council's Traffic Signals Team has investigated the possibility of removing the stand-alone crossing facility outside the school, to address situations such as those described at the</p>	

	Forum. However, this suggestion has always been met with a negative response and therefore not pursued further.	
3.7	<p><u>Contacting Derbyshire County Council</u></p> <p><i>Resident:</i> It is getting more difficult to get in touch with Derbyshire County Council for those who do not have computer experience. Could a note / message system be provided at the town hall so that those experienced in the new systems could transfer the message or put it into the internal mail system to Derbyshire County Council?</p> <p><i>Scott Cartledge, Neighbourhood Warden Manager, Erewash Borough Council:</i> There is a regular postal courier service between Derbyshire County Council and Erewash Borough Council. The town hall has public access computers. If anyone requires assistance in using the computers to send a message to Derbyshire County Council, for example, then please ask the Customer Service Assistants who will be happy to help you. There is also a telephone at the town hall available to residents to contact the county council.</p> <p><i>Councillor David Stephenson:</i> I had cause to telephone Derbyshire County Council last week and found their telephone routing system (i.e. press '1' for ...) to be very effective. My enquiry was resolved within a couple of minutes.</p>	
3.8	The Chair closed the meeting at 7:40pm.	
	<p><b>Date and time of next meeting</b> Tuesday 7 July 2015, 7:00pm. Venue likely to be Gladstone Lodge.</p>	