

HUMBERSTONE, HAMILTON & THURNCOURT AREA COMMITTEE

16th JANUARY 2008

RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS RAISED AT THE MEETING ON 14th NOVEMBER 2007

At the last meeting of the Area Committee the following questions were raised.

70) Raven Centre - Funding

I would like to ask why the Raven Centre gets money to open when there are no people there, but the Thurnby Lodge Youth Club (Boyzee) gets little money to open and is always full.

Corporate Director of
Children and Young
People's Services

Response

The Raven Centre Leicester City Youth Service provides activities at Thurnby Lodge Raven Centre on Mondays 6.30-8.30pm 11-16 (Youth Club) Tuesdays 6.30-8.30pm 11-16 (Drama) 6.30-8.30pm (Motor Project). A partnership project with the Children Centre, (Young Parents Group) on Wednesdays 1-3pm at the Children Centre. Development work is being undertaken by the Detached Youth Work Team in the area with young people from the Willowbrook Centre to ensure young people have access to a range of activities that meets their needs in the Thurnby Lodge Area. The Raven Centre has experienced some difficulties over the last few months, in terms of young people attending, primarily due to an ASBO in and around the shopping area and the Centre not having its full complement of Part Time Staff, which we are in the process of interviewing. This will enable us to open an additional evening in the New Year. Some of the young people attending the sessions come from local foster homes and some young people have special needs so careful consideration needs to be taken when working with these priority groups and as a result the groupss will not necessarily attract large numbers of young people. On average 10 young people have attended each session Sep-Dec 07, participating in social, recreational and educational activities. 18 young people recently received a local certificate at the end of year performance, held on the 11th December 2007, in which over 30 parents attended. Every effort is being made to develop a partnership approach to work with young people in the area in

Gerry Burke
Children and Young
People's Services

order to maximise resources to meet the increasing needs of young people, and the youth work strategy outlines clear targets for the Statutory and Voluntary sector to meet. To this end we are focusing on a partnership approach to ensure young people get the best value from the youth providers in the Thurnby Lodge Area of the City.

71) Raven Centre – Opening Times

We want the Raven Centre to open more times, for longer and for all girls and boys 10-16 years old, as well as more clubs, football clubs and dance clubs.

Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services

Response

A response will be provided at the meeting.

72) 'No Through Road' Signs

Would the Council consider putting up 'No Through Road' signs on Upperhall Close, Upperhall Green and Armadale Green as local tenants are complaining of too many vehicles using these roads as a turning point.

Corporate Director of Regeneration and Culture

Response

Officers have visited the site and confirmed that Armadale Green, Upper Hall Green and Upper Hall Close form a single large cul-de-sac with the only vehicle access being from Armadale Drive into Upper Hall Close. There are no signs in place at the moment to warn drivers that they are entering a cul-de-sac.

Paul Commons, Regeneration and Culture

An order has been placed with the Signing Contractor for two cul-de-sac (no through road) signs to be installed on Upper Hall Close near to its junction with Armadale Drive. It is anticipated that the work will be completed by the end of January 2008.

73) Skate Park off Thurncourt Road

I want a skate park on the big field opposite the Raven Centre because there are problems on Humberstone Park with no safety.

Corporate Director of Regeneration and Culture

Response

A response will be provided at the meeting.

74) Hamilton Way

There are two rights of way crossing this road, yet it is very difficult to cross the road at either location. Could at least one pedestrian refuge be installed.

Corporate Director of Regeneration and Culture

Response

The current situation is that it is planned to build two crossing

David Poxon,

places on Hamilton Way.

Both of these rely on funding from new developments in the area. At the north-west end of the road near to the roundabout that leads to Sandhills Avenue, where one of the old rights of way crosses the road, it is proposed to build a "Pegasus Crossing" which is designed for horses and riders as well as cyclists and pedestrians.

At the south-east end of the road where the new Gateway 6th Form College is being built, there is a proposed footbridge link across to the Tesco store.

75) Maidenwell Avenue/Sandwell Avenue – 20mph area

The end of Maidenwell Avenue and most of Sandhills Avenue have now been designated a 20mph area, however this is being ignored by most motorists. What is being done to enforce this limit.

Response

"20 mph Zones" have to be self-enforcing, by means of traffic calming. The Police will not enforce in these "Zones". This is by insistence of the Association of Chief Police Officers, nationally.

At the moment Sandhills Avenue is not strictly enforceable by the police for traffic offences anyway, because it is not yet "adopted highway". The road is still technically owned by the developers and will not be adopted by the Council, until it is brought up to the required standards for "adopted highway", which could include changing the current traffic calming.

Speed tests have been carried out along there in recent weeks and have shown over several days that very few drivers go over 30mph, although generally the speeds are slightly higher than we would expect for a "20 mph zone", with effective traffic calming for reducing speeds to that level.

76) Columbine Road

How does stopping a frequent and much used bus service be classed as 'Improving the amenities in the area' as the stated reason for applying to the Council for this change.

Response

A petition was received from residents of Columbine Road that, following the opening of Columbine Road, the road posed a danger and would become a "Rat run" for through traffic.

In response to a survey of residents a number stated they

Regeneration and Culture

Corporate Director of Regeneration and Culture

David Poxon, Regeneration and Culture

Corporate Director of Regeneration and Culture

Andrew Thomas, Regeneration and Culture

had loss of amenity by the opening of both halves of the road (the cul-de-sacs) and the bus route that followed.

The Council has decided to propose a Traffic Regulation Order which will in effect re-create the cul-de-sacs, if made.

Under the procedure for the making of a TRO, the Council has a duty to consider objections to the proposal. A number of objections have been received including one asking the above question .

A report containing these objections, together with details of objectors' meetings, will be sent to Cabinet who will determine, after considering the evidence, whether or not the Order will be made.