

Recommended Item from Scrutiny Committee held on 17th March 2009.

816. POLICY AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT GROUPS

- (1) Progress on Reviews

PPMG3

- (iv) Improving Streets and Villages

The Scrutiny and Policy Officer reported that PPMG3 had looked at Streets and Villages, but found that any issues were being addressed and there was nothing that PPMG3 could influence.

The Chair of PPMG3 thanked the Scrutiny and Policy Officer and Members for their work.

Moved by Councillor H. Ward and seconded by Councillor A. Waring.

RESOLVED that (1) the review be closed.

RECOMMENDED that (2) the report be forwarded to the Executive.

(Head of Democratic Services)

Committee:	Scrutiny	Agenda Item No.:	10 (1) (ii)
Date:	17th March 2009	Category	
Subject:	Improving streets and villages review	Status	Open
Report by:	PPMG3		
Other Officers involved:	Scrutiny and Policy Officer		
Director	Chief Executive Officer		
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Environment		

RELEVANT CORPORATE AIMS

ENVIRONMENT – Promoting and enhancing a clean and sustainable environment

The review will support the priority to enhance and improve the natural and built environment of the District.

TARGETS

There are no specific targets in the Corporate Plan for this review.

VALUE FOR MONEY

The review has no financial impacts.

THE REPORT

The report for the improving streets and villages review in the District is attached.

ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

The contents of the review

IMPLICATIONS

Financial : None
Legal : None
Human Resources :None

RECOMMENDATION(S) that;

1. the review is closed
2. the report is forwarded to the Executive

ATTACHMENT: **Y**
FILE REFERENCE: Improving streets and villages report for scrutiny
 170209 final.doc
SOURCE DOCUMENT:

Improving Streets and Villages
Scrutiny Review

January 2009

By PPMG3

Cllr Bowler
Cllr Cook
Cllr Gray
Cllr Holmes
Cllr Morley
Cllr Phelan
Cllr Ward

My thanks go to all members of PPMG3 for their co-operation on this review especially those who gave up their time to take part in the visit to the areas highlighted by our residents.

My thanks also go to Bernie our Scrutiny Officer for her support during the review.

I feel that we have investigated the issues raised by our residents and the review has given us the opportunity to get out in the district to understand their concerns. Although the outcome did not highlight any issue it was beneficial for the group.

Hazel Ward
Chair of PPMG3

Introduction

The purpose of the review was to identify the issues that residents feel need to be improved in their streets and villages and recommend how they can be improved.

The review covered streets and villages in the District focusing on fly tipping, litter and dog fouling issues.

Reason for the review

The Community and Voluntary Partners (CVP) conducted a survey with 1438 residents of the District in September 2007. The results of the survey highlighted that 54% of people interviewed said that their high street or village centres could be improved

The group also looked at the issues highlighted by the residents at the Community forums held between October 2007 and January 2008.

The issues were:

- Improving parks and open spaces (x4)
- Making good derelict property (shops, houses, whatever) (x3)
- Fly tipping /Litter (x22)

There was some evidence in the complaints received by the Council from April 2007 and December 2007.

They were:

- Weeds/tree roots on footpath (x3)
- State of garage sites
- Parking (x2)
- Litter/dog fouling
- Lack of litter bins

The group felt that there was enough evidence to support the fact that this may be a concern for the residents and justify the review.

The review

The group considered how they could involve the community in the review and felt that they could contact individuals who have complained in the last 12 months on these issues to provide input to the group.

The group considered the evidence which surprisingly did not support parking being a key issue for the majority of the residents. They agreed to concentrate on litter, fly tipping and dog fouling. The group visited the top three areas that had indicated the greatest issue with the appearance of their street/village from the CVP survey (Appendix A) and speak to the community. These were Langwith and Whaley Thorns, Shirebrook and Clowne.

The group wanted to ensure that they were not duplicating the estate audits, however, it was confirmed that they are based on Council estates and

therefore do not cover high streets and village centres. The group considered the list of estates that are covered by the District. It was confirmed that the audits are on hold until the policy is agreed and not expected to resume before the autumn.

The group identified many issues in Shirebrook but they found no issues in the other areas. The findings are detailed in Appendix B. The group were made aware of the clean up operation planned in Shirebrook on 28 October with the probation service as part of the Shirebrook Masterplan. The operation was funded by LEGI and further clean ups were planned for October, January and February.

Funding was also being sought to enable a similar exercise to take place in New Houghton. This will also involve working with the National Trust who work with the local schools in delivering sessions on the environment and recycling

The group had considered a site visit to Tibshelf however they did not feel that it would benefit the review or change the outcome.

Conclusion

The group discussed the findings of the review and felt that there were no significant issues in the areas highlighted and visited that were not being addressed.

Recommendation(s)

- 1) the review is closed.**
- 2) the report is forwarded to the Executive.**

CVP local voices report September 2007**Are you happy with the appearance of your high street or village centre?**

Area	Total responses	Satisfied		Could be		Not satisfied		Comments/issues stated
		Volume	%	Volume	%	Volume	%	
Langwith & Whaley thorns	54	12	22.22	24	44.44	18	33.33	Illegal motorbikes in the village. Lack of facilities for the young
Shirebrook	139	22	15.82	74	53.23	43	30.93	Derelict and poorly maintained housing encouraging vandalism.
Clowne	62	10	16.12	33	53.22	19	30.64	More cycle paths and safe walking. Some footpaths are overgrown and neglected.
Tibshelf	42	9	21.42	21	50.00	12	28.57	More activities for young people
Castle estates	30	8	26.66	15	50.00	7	23.33	
Carr Vale & New Bolsover	61	6	9.83	41	67.21	14	22.95	
South Normanton	114	25	21.92	64	56.14	25	21.92	Reopen and improve play area. Improve shops and boarded up houses.
Hilcote	28	9	32.14	13	46.42	6	21.42	
Whitwell	69	20	28.98	36	52.17	13	18.84	Safety, noise and pollution from large lorries. Noise from people leaving pubs at weekends. Recreation ground needs improving. Need more litter picks
New Houghton	67	30	44.77	25	37.31	12	17.91	
Hillstown	64	13	20.31	40	62.50	11	17.18	Dog fouling. Lack of youth facilities.
Bramley Vale & Doe Lea	18	7	38.88	8	44.44	3	16.66	Lack of play facilities

Area	Total responses	Satisfied		Could be		Not satisfied		Comments/issues stated
		Volume	%	Volume	%	Volume	%	
Westhouses	37	10	27.02	21	56.75	6	16.21	Speeding traffic. Provision for young children in the park.
Hodthorpe	45	12	26.66	27	60.00	6	13.33	Dog fouling. Lack of children and youth facilities.
Bolsover central	64	10	16.39	46	71.87	8	12.50	Better public toilets
Shuttlewood Stanfree	10	1	10.00	8	80.00	1	10.00	Fly tipping. Road calming measure required. Young people hanging around bus shelter
Pinxton Broadmeadows	41	7	17.07	30	73.17	4	9.75	Improve waste ground and children's play areas. Need a skate park. Need noise reduction scheme on A38.
Newton	67	29	43.28	32	47.76	6	8.95	Dog fouling. Speeding traffic.
Glapwell Rowthorne	49	20	40.81	25	51.02	4	8.16	Dog fouling. Lack of youth facilities.
Elmton & Creswell	110	33	30.00	69	62.72	8	7.27	Dog fouling. Improve high street and children's equipment
Blackwell	29	12	41.37	15	51.72	2	6.89	
Pleasley	34	18	52.94	15	44.11	1	2.94	Dog fouling.
Barlborough	49	34	69.38	14	28.57	1	2.94	Industrial development has reduced walks and there is a lack of play areas
Total	1283	357	27.82	696	54.24	230	17.92	

Site Visit feedback by PPMG3

Councillors attending:	Cllr Bowler, Holmes and Ward
Officer attending:	Bernadette O'Donnell
Other attendees:	n/a
Date :	16/10/08
Area:	<u>Shirebrook</u>
Known issues	Derelict and poorly maintained housing encouraging vandalism (from CVP survey) Clean up operation happening on 28 th Oct being co-ordinated by Julie Lewis (Cllr Murray-Carr 15/10)
Area inspected:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Market Place 2. Rear of Patchwork Row 3. Pear Tree Estate / Park Road 4. Model / Rainbow Park 	
Issues identified:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Market Place - no major concerns apart from The Drum being derelict 2. Rear of Patchwork Row - generally good <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broken glass in the alley from the Market Square at the side of the Nat West bank • At the next alley behind 'Framing Difference' shop (64a Victoria St/King Edward St?) a large amount of litter under the stairs to the flat and blue box overflowing preventing the door opening fully. This is a fire hazard and could be an environmental health issue. This may be included in the planned 'clean up' • There was litter behind AMS • There was illegal parking i.e. on double yellow lines • There was graffiti on the wall of a property 3. Pear Tree Estate – estate very good 4. Park Road – very good 5. Model / Rainbow Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste land – grass needs cutting • Garages in disrepair – are the safe? Can they be removed? • Gardens need tidying • Remove bushes at the edge of the park (not the trees) where the gangs hang out. 6. The Vic - can recommend the tea and biscuits 	

Councillors attending:	Cllr Bowler, Holmes and Ward
Officer attending:	Bernadette O'Donnell
Other attendees:	n/a
Date :	16/10/08
Area:	<u>Langwith and Whaley Thorns</u>
Known issues	Illegal motorbikes in the village. Lack of facilities for the young (from CVP survey)
Area inspected:	
Pitt Hill and Whaley Thorns	
Issues identified:	
None – generally clean and tidy	

Councillors attending:	Cllr Bowler, Holmes and Ward
Officer attending:	Bernadette O'Donnell
Other attendees:	n/a
Date :	16/10/08
Area:	<u>Clowne</u>
Known issues	More cycle paths and safe walking. Some footpaths are overgrown and neglected (from CVP survey)
Area inspected:	
Town centre, High Street and main thoroughfare	
Issues identified:	
None – generally clean and tidy	