
REPORT TO:	HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 8
DATE OF MEETING:	21 st NOVEMBER 2019	CATEGORY:
REPORT FROM:	MARY BAGLEY, HEAD OF CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	CLAIRE RAWLINS, ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR OFFICER, COMMUNITIES TEAM	DOC:
SUBJECT:	PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER CONSULTATION - MAURICE LEA PARK AND MARKET STREET	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	CHURCH GRESLEY, WARD	TERMS OF REFERENCE:

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Committee accepts the recommendation to undertake the formal consultation process for a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) to be made on Maurice Lea Park and Market Street, Church Gresley.

3.0 Purpose of Report

- 3.1 To inform the Committee of how a PSPO at Maurice Lea Park and Market Street would be beneficial in assisting the Police and Council in tackling Anti-social Behaviour (ASB), and statutory consultation required.

4.0 Detail

- 4.1 The Council is considering implementing a PSPO for Maurice Lea Memorial Park and Market Street, Church Gresley, under section 59 of the ASB, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ("the Act").
- 4.2 PSPOs are intended to deal with a particular nuisance or problem in a defined area that is detrimental to the local community's quality of life, by imposing conditions on the use of that area which apply to everyone. They are designed to ensure the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces, safe from anti-social behaviour.
- 4.3 Maurice Lea Park and Market Street have been affected by a peak in incidents of anti-social behaviour over the last 12 months. ASB has been caused by large groups of youths congregating at the Park and causing harassment, alarm and distress. Incidents have included intimidation and verbal abuse to members of the public, public order incidents, underage drinking, drug use and the smashing of glass across

the park. The residents on Market Street which runs along the East side of the Park have complained about stones being thrown at their properties and cars and threats of violence from groups of young people who travelling to or from the Park. There have been 60 police calls for service made from the Maurice Lea Park /Common Road Super Output Area during the 12 month period between October 2018 and September 2019. There have also been a number of incidents not reported directly to the Council of glass being smashed on the Park, verbal abuse to people on the Park and minor damage caused to plants, the bowls green and band stand.

- 4.4 The incidents have attracted a number of complaints to Derbyshire Police, the Council and to Elected Members. A variety of interventions have already been implemented both in terms of the individuals involved and the location itself. These include additional Police and Community Safety Enforcement Officer (CSEO) patrols, leaflet drops to residents on Market Street to encourage reporting, engagement with and input given at schools, Community Protection Warnings issued to identified young people, and multi-agency referrals for problematic individuals.
- 4.5 Additionally in September 2019, a number of Travellers arrived on the Park and set up an encampment for several days. This encampment required a large amount of resources from both the Police and the District Council in order for procedures to be put in place for their eviction from the area.
- 4.6 On 24 September 2019 a multi-agency meeting took place between the Communities Team, Police, Cultural Services Team, Direct Services Team, and Environmental Health to discuss the problems and to develop actions to tackle the issues. As well as exploring the option of adding CCTV cameras to the main building in the Park, it was agreed that the introduction of a PSPO, within the area identified, will provide a valuable additional tool to enable enforcement measures to be taken for those occasions where the criminal threshold has not been met.
- 4.7 If obtained, the effect of the Order will be to impose the following prohibitions on the use of the land for a period of three years:
 - No person shall loiter as an individual or in a group if in the opinion of an authorised officer they are causing or likely to cause anti-social behaviour. If asked to leave on instruction of a PC, Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) or authorised officer individuals must not return to the area for a period of 24 hours.
 - No person shall dispose of litter other than in the bins provided.
 - In the area covered by the Order any person who continues drinking intoxicating liquor when asked to desist by a Police Officer, PCSO or authorised officer from the Council or fails to surrender any intoxicating liquor when asked to do so by a Police Officer, PCSO or authorised officer from the Council commits an offence under section 63 of the Act.
- 4.8 The Home Office Statutory Guidance Document on Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 states that before making a PSPO, the Council must consult with the Police and with whatever community representatives they think appropriate. The Council should also ensure that specific groups likely to have a particular interest are consulted, such as a local residents association, or regular users of Park.

- 4.9 Before the PSPO is made, the Council must publish the draft order in accordance with regulations published by the Secretary of State and ensure that the draft order is available on its website.
- 4.10 The close or direct involvement of elected members will help to ensure openness and accountability. This will be achieved, for example, where the decision is put to the full Council.

5.0 Financial Implications

- 5.1 Existing staff resources will be used to enforce the PSPO and therefore it is not anticipated that there will be any additional staff revenue costs. There will be small additional costs associated with signage, but there may be additional income associated with revenue from penalty notices.

6.0 Corporate Implications

- 6.1 The PSPO will impact on the Corporate Plan key aim to 'Use existing tools and powers to take appropriate crime enforcement action'.

7.0 Community Implications

- 7.1 The order will help protect the local community and ensure members of the public can enjoy the Park without being subjected to nuisance or anti-social behaviour.

8.0 Conclusions

- 8.1 The PSPO, should it be approved, will enable the Police and Authorised Council employees to have additional powers including asking individuals to leave the Park for a 24 hour period or to hand over alcohol when requested.

9.0 Background Papers

- 9.1 Evidence of Need Document