

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE**

14 September 2017

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Communities

**PETITION - DIMPLE LANE, CRICH – REQUEST FOR THE ELECTRICITY
SUB-STATION TO BE RE-SITED**

- (1) **Purpose of Report** To consider a petition requesting the re-siting of an electricity sub-station on Dimple Lane, Crich and to approve no further action.
- (2) **Information and Analysis** At the meeting on 29 June 2017, the Cabinet Member acknowledged receipt of a petition requesting the re-siting of an electricity sub-station on Dimple Lane, Crich. (Minute No. 66/17 refers). The covering letter is as follows:

“Enclosed copies of the petition signed by the residents of Dimple lane opposing the erection of “The Shed” on the grass verge of Dimple Lane. The opinion of the residents is total disbelief that a structure of this size can be erected on the grass verge without proper notification to the people living here. No notification from the Council and a brief letter from Western Power saying the substation was going to be moved to the bottom of Springfield Close. That was incorrect as it has been erected on Dimple Lane.

The grass verge has been desecrated and the site line for vehicles coming out of Springfield Close has been vastly reduced. In winter conditions it is not unknown for vehicles to skid and mount the curb [sic] and run on to the grass verge. The sighting of the substation in it’s present position is an accident waiting to happen.

Obviously people who instigated this monstrosity couldn’t care less and have no consideration whatsoever for the people living here.

As residents we would like to see it moved to a more suitable place and will not rest until this is done.

Shortly we will have a web site up and running with photographs showing Dimple Lane and the substation in all it’s glory.”

Background

The petitioners' area of concern is located in the junction of Springfield close and Dimple Lane, Crich, in a residential mix of modern and old houses and narrow lanes.

A check of the collision history database, which records all collisions resulting in personal injury, reveals that there have been no reported personal injury collisions for the last three years at the specified location, nor in fact along the entire length of Dimple Lane.

Officer Comment

Western Power Distribution (WPD) has established this sub-station to support increase in development in the area. The issue of where WPD said it was going to be sited and where it is sited seems erroneous as it is on the junction of Springfield Close and Dimple Lane. It could be argued that the sub-station is on either street. WPD has powers as a statutory undertaker to install over-ground apparatus in the highway. The correct procedure as far as notification for carrying out works in the highway has been followed.

The creation of the sub-station is permitted development and does not need planning permission.

The site has been inspected. The Manual for Streets design specification indicates that for the 30mph speed limit on Dimple Road, visibility should be 40m both left and right from a point 2.4m from the 'give way' line.

At this specific site, the visibility sight lines based on a 2.4m distance back from the 'give way' markings of Springfield Close allows an un-restricted visibility sight line of 76m within the nearside of the carriageway. From the same datum point, the visibility to the off-side of the carriageway on Dimple Lane is 118m. Therefore, these measurements exceed the 40m distances specified in the Manual for Streets.

The area is just outside the Conservation Area within Crich.

Local Member Comment

Councillor Taylor is concerned with the sub-station's siting and the possibility of accidents. He has visited the site and confirms that the sub station is not within the site lines and is aware that there is little the County Council can do.

(3) **Financial Considerations** There are no financial considerations associated with this report.

Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property, social value and transport considerations.

(4) **Key Decision** No.

(5) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(6) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Communities. Officer contact details – James Adams, extension 38628.

(7) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS** That the Cabinet Member rejects the petition as the County Council has no powers to require the re-siting of this electricity substation as it allows more than the minimum required visibility at the junction.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Communities