



**Glossopdale Area Forum**  
**Glossopdale Community College, Talbot Road Site**  
**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

## **Topic: 'Healthy Glossopdale'**

### **Questions and Answers**

Panel:

Councillor George Wharmby

Councillor Peter Kay

Dai Lerner

Lisa Jowitt

Dr Anne Rothery

Trevor Gunner

Chair Glossopdale Area Forum

Vice Chair Glossopdale Area Forum

Strategic Director: High Peak Borough Council

Glossopdale Locality Health Improvement Team, NHS

Tameside and Glossop

NHS Tameside and Glossop

Derbyshire Library Service

### **Questions from the floor:**

**Question 1:** Do you have any contact with Patient Participation groups in the area? I belong to one and have not heard of you.

**Answer: Lisa Jowitt (LJ).** Yes, we do work with them through Tracy Turley in NHS Tameside and Glossop.

**Question 2:** Hadfield North is often the poor relation of Gamesley in terms of access to facilities. Are you intending to do health outreach work there? We have a recreation ground in Chapel lane that could be used for sports activities.

**Answer: LJ.** Yes we are. High Peak Community Housing have links with physical activity programmes for young people. We work across the whole of Glossopdale but tend to focus on signposting and health advice rather than running physical activity programmes.

**Question 3:** Do you work with High Peak Borough Council to offer discounts for access to leisure facilities?

**Answer: LJ.** Yes we do. Eg Free swims. The Primary Care Trust also makes a large financial contribution to the outreach team based in Gamesley. The funding the Community Centre receives from the PCT is for a Development Worker who co-ordinates health outreach sessions across the whole of Glossopdale area. This post is currently vacant.

**Question 4 :** Do you run any exercise on prescription schemes?

**Answer: LJ.** Not at present. We used to. We focus on signposting and lifestyle interventions now.

**Question 5.** Some residents have been concerned about the out of hours service provided to cover GP's and its responsiveness. The service seems to have improved lately. Have there been any changes?

**Answer: Dr Anne Rothery (Dr R)** The service is still provided by Go to Doc, and is a not for profit organisation. We have had it reviewed against national standards eg response to phone calls. If people still have problems then we would like to know

**Question 6:** When I went to the last meeting about the new health centre planned for George St, the PCT seemed unaware of the issues around poor access due to the construction and size of the road and possible parking problems. Has anything been done?

**Answer: Dr R.** We have made some progress on this including looking at patient flows and HPBC have also helped with adoption of the road.

**Question 7:** There have been good comments on the paramedic service in Glossop. What is the future?

**Answer: Dr R.** We are pleased with the pilot and we do anticipate that it will carry on. It means that the response time when an ambulance is called is much quicker.

**Question 8:** I have a query over Ambulance waiting times. A resident was picked up by ambulance and taken to hospital but because there was no bed they had to wait with her for over two hours. This is inefficient.

**Answer: Dr R.** We have had extended turnaround times over the winter but we have been able to improve these.

**Question 9:** Will trees be incorporated onto the new health centre site?  
Will there be herbal plants available for teaching etc?

**Answer: Dr R.** It will be a very 'green' building, incorporating energy saving and environmentally friendly building methods.

**Question 10:** What is the overlap between East Midlands ambulance service and Tameside ambulance service?

**Answer: Dr R.** I will find out.

**Question 11:** What is the local alcohol reduction strategy?

**Answer: Dr R.** It starts with the police, supermarkets, public houses. It includes brief intervention training to ask questions early so that people can be helped.

**Question 12:** I live 10 mins driving time from Glossop towards Sheffield. If we have to wait for an ambulance from Sheffield or Bakewell then it can take an hour. It doesn't usually come from Glossop. Why not?

**Answer Dr R.** I can't really answer without knowing the location of your home. The paramedic was intended to improve access to rural areas for the reasons you state.

## **Library Service Questions:**

**Question 13:** What happens to old stock, library books etc?

**Answer: Trevor Gunner (TG)** We sell it off. There is one happening in Chesterfield soon.

**Question 14:** Is it possible to have libraries in the centre of town. Glossop library is up a hill? Better toilet facilities would help as well?

**Answer :TG.** Most librarians would agree with you about location and facilities. Buxton library was situated in the Crescent but had to move due to structural issues with it.

**Question 15:** There was something in the press a while back concerning a possible move of the library in Glossop from Victoria Hall to Howard Town mill. Are there any plans?

**Answer: TG.** I know there are plans to renovate Glossop library but I am not aware of any proposals to move it.

**Question 16:** I have been converted to the new style of libraries and use Glossop. We have heard many different stories about Victoria Hall. An informal car park opposite has been used in the past but is now to be developed. There is some secrecy over this. What is happening?

**Answer: Dai Larnar (DL).** There are no proposals for the land opposite at present and not for social housing either. We are working closely with the council over the possible plans for Victoria Hall

**Question 17:** There are lots of public buildings in the library area. DCC could do with the vacant land to use for parking. Could there be a swap done linked to the Hall?

**Answer : DL.** My answer is as before. I will take on board comments made when looking at the future of the hall.

**Comment 18:** Meet the author sessions in the library are good but don't happen often enough. There are also budding authors locally who would appreciate support from the libraries.

**Question 19:** Could literacy classes be run in Hadfield library during quiet periods?

**Answer: TG.** I will take that idea back.

**Question 19:** Hadfield library has 3 floors, only one is used and this is not that often. Some libraries have become centres of the community. Have DCC considered this?

**Answer: TG.** Hadfield library building is owned by HPBC. I will take this back but it will need to be done in partnership.

## **General Questions:**

**Question 20:** There are three issues on Gamesley recently relating to HPBC

1. Service from Apollo heating, elderly people waiting too long for repairs
2. Carelink not operating for some days. This leaves people vulnerable
3. Lady phoned emergency number but it was out of order. I tried it and it was not operating properly.

**Answer : DL.** High Peak Community Housing are responsible for heating issues and I will report this to them. Carelink is looking at a new system. I will report the issue of the number not working.

**High Peak Community Hosing have subsequently responded as follows:**

The alarm system to 8 properties on the scheme at Hucklow Bank / Longnor Green was off from 21.29 on Friday 20th February until 14.24 Wednesday 25th Feb.

The fault was reported to the contractor and the engineer attended and advised that the fault was at property where access was not available.

The contractor was unable to gain access to the property for reasons outside their control until the following Wednesday when the fault was found to be due to equipment being damaged and repairs were undertaken.

Control centre staff called out to the tenants affected by the fault on a daily basis to make sure they are well and to update them on what is happening. Visits were arranged for anyone HPCH were unable to contact or if they had any concerns.

**Question 21:** I feel we need to have jobs fair in Glossop and benefits advice in the current economic climate. Perhaps linked to an area forum?

**Answer : DL.** This may be better delivered by job centre plus.

**Resident Comment:** We need people together in one place.

**Answer: DL.** We work with business link to hold events to help people. We are also making connections with job centre plus.

**Post Script since the Area Forum:  
Establishment of Unemployment task force.**

High Peak Borough Council is bringing local organisations and agencies together whose roles are to support people and create employment opportunities. Together, they will create a task force, which will ensure that those neighbourhoods most affected by rising unemployment have access to support.

The process will start next month, when the Council will review current support to see if it is reaching the people and communities where it is needed. An action plan will follow to address gaps in provision.

**Resident Comment:** From my experience of teaching people with literacy difficulties there can be great health benefits. This would link libraries and health. Don't forget chapel library that has good local records as well.

**Resident Comment:** Volunteering can help people with finding jobs and also well being.

**Question 22:** Walking is good for your health. Older people can be terrified of walking due to the condition of pavements. There does not seem to be anyone who checks on the condition of repairs undertaken.

**Answer: James Adams DCC.** We inspect every time a contractor does work on the highway. There is a balance between expectations of repairs sometime. Please call the call centre ( Call Derbyshire) if you have any specific instances and it will be fixed.

**Question 23:** Is there any progress on the funding application for Harehills Park?

**Answer:DL.** We will update Glossop Vision Board in March.

**Resident Comment:** The library would be the best place to hold a jobs fair due to the facilities available.

**Question 24:** What was the outcome of the meeting concerning the car park at Howard town Mill?

**Answer: DL.** There was a meeting with traders. There is a planning application with permission for the area. Due to recession this has been delayed. Traders issues will be considered. DCC are still to decide on the status of the footpath to the carpark. James Adams will get back to Meeting with answer.

**Question 25:** On street parking is still a problem due to he lack of parking facilities. Dinting park and ride is still available. Could HPBC or Northern rail take it on for low rate parking?

**Answer: DL.** One of the problems is lack of demand in that area. Civil parking enforcement is now in operation and should help the problem of illegal on street parking.

**Question 26:** There is a demand for parking at Dinting but people don't want to pay. It makes no sense to have that land not being used.

**Answer:DL.** I believe that the parking issues are not just related to train users.

**Question 27:** One possible reason for poor pavements is due to focus on the town centre. Can you clarify where the stone for the new pavements came from. DCC should know where stone comes from.

**Answer:DL** HPBC take responsibility for the stone specification. It is fit for purpose according to Building Research Establishment. The colour will match as far as is possible. The origin of the stone is not a secret and we have made efforts to try and find the exact location. It has come from the Yorkshire area.

**Resident Comment:** I understand that the pavement Yorkshire stone was shipped to India for cutting and shipped back again.

**Question 28:** Could Princess Street be included in gritting?

**Answer: James Adams DCC.** If it's a bus route then it should be on the gritting plan.

**Question 29:** We need a policy on roadside memorials as it seems to be a free for all. Until a policy is in place the answer should be that permanent memorials should not be allowed.

**Answer: DL.** This is currently under discussion in DCC.

**Resident Comment:** We have had a good panel of speakers tonight but not too many members of the public. Could advertising be improved.

**Response post forum.**

We are always keen to hear of more ways to advertise the forum. At present we put adverts in both local papers and advertise on High peak Radio. We send personal

invitations to around 80 residents and voluntary organisations in addition to advertising on our website. We have previously written to a random sample of 500 residents on the electoral role but this did not increase attendance by more than a few residents.