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Issue 186: January 7, 2011  
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## Brush-up for Beeston Station access

by the Editor

WORK has started this month (January 2011) on a £250,000 environmental improvement project for the area around Beeston Station.

Jointly funded by Nottinghamshire County Council and Broxtowe Borough Council, the improvements will include boosting security by introducing CCTV cameras around the station, improving the lighting and footways and resurfacing the Station Road access to the station south of Waterloo Road.

A new formal taxi rank and new pick-up and drop-off bays will be placed near to station.

Nottinghamshire County Councillor Richard Jackson, Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways said: "We recognise Beeston Station as an important part of the county's transport network. More than 400,000 commuters use the station every year and the approach to the station has become a little run down due to wear and tear, and is in need of a makeover."

The statement from Notts County Council adds: "It is hoped that a new public car park for commuters can be built nearby."

### Tidying up

Borough councillor Steve Barber commented: "Although I am pleased to see that money is being spent on the Beeston station environs as it shows a commitment to the long term future of this transport link, I am disappointed that a bit of tidying up is all we are going to get. The County Council is not addressing the main issues, which people tell me are parking, security and bus turning.

"More yellow lines will appear so there will be a net loss of parking spaces. Hopefully, this will be alleviated once Broxtowe Borough Council obtains the land under the bridge for an extra car park."

### Bike security

Lack of security for the bike stands at the station has long been an issue, as bike theft from the station is a popular pastime for some of our local thieves.

Louise O'Reilly, sales and marketing director of a Rylands company, said: "I use the station for work a lot, and am in the middle of getting an insurance claim through to replace my bike, stolen from the station in November. There is a high amount of bike theft at the station and nothing is done about it.

"Why isn't there any provision in this new funding for bike security?"

Cllr Barber also happens to be one of those unlucky enough to have had a bike taken. He said: "My bicycle was stolen from the station stands whilst I was at a meeting with rail bosses to discuss these improvements and security at Beeston Station, so I know how frustrating it is. Once Broxtowe Borough Council secures the land for the car park, we will have the money to put in four extra cameras, which will be under police control."

### Nottingham Station

Cllr Barber is also concerned about what will happen when Nottingham Midland Station closes for a few weeks in 2012 whilst refurbishment there takes place and Beeston temporarily becomes the terminal station for many services.

He said: "When Nottingham Station closes, buses will shuttle between Beeston and Nottingham and, without proper bus turning facilities, it will be chaos. A proper bus interchange at Beeston station is essential. Plans were drawn up and a sum of money was set aside. I am very disappointed to see that this is not on the agenda this time."

## Arrests made after Beeston shooting incident

SIX men aged between 24 and 56 have been arrested this week after a man suffered serious injuries in an incident on Bramcote Drive, Beeston on Tuesday, January 4.

At around 8.40pm that evening, a 26-year-old Nottingham man attended Queen's Medical Centre (QMC) with gunshot wounds to his leg and stomach.

The man underwent surgery and is today in a stable condition. It is thought that he received his injuries at the address on Bramcote Drive, and police have since conducted a search of the scene and the surrounding areas.

As a result of initial police enquiries made during Tuesday evening, five people were arrested in connection with the man's injuries.

Two were arrested in Aspley, another two at an address in

Beeston and the fifth man in the vicinity of the QMC. One of the men was released on bail pending further enquiries. A sixth person has since been arrested in connection with the same incident.

The sixth man, a 23-year-old from Broxtowe, was arrested on Wednesday, January 5, and is currently being interviewed by detectives.

Police have been given extra time to question the other four.

The police have stressed that this incident is isolated and is not believed to be linked to any other incidents that have occurred in Nottingham over the last couple of weeks.

Anyone with information should contact Nottinghamshire Police on 0300 300 99 99 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

## COMMENT

### Beeston the Unlovely by the Editor

A happy new year to one and all!

But even as I say that, I find myself overwhelmed by an excess of grouchiness. The reason? I've been wondering, as I put this issue together, if the end of the year 2011 will see Beeston looking the same as it did at the end of 2010 – still stuck in its run-down rut and precious few

signs of anything being done to climb out of it.

Setting Phase Two of the tram to one side – we now know exactly how long we've got before that particular set of cudgels is picked up again – what of the other 'issues' that have been hanging over the town, seemingly for ever?

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