

**Draft Minutes of the Calne Area (5) Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> May 2008 at 7.00pm in the Town Hall, Calne**

**Present:**

Councillor A.J. Trotman (Chairman)

Councillors C.M.R. Boase, S. Bodman, A.M. Bucknell, C. Crisp, A.K. Hill, H.R. Plenty, C.V. Ramsey, and D.L. Tonge

**Others Present:**

P. Dolman (Calne Leisure Action Group), J. Martin (Calne Community Area Partnership), and D. Phipps (Calne First Responders)

**County/Parish/Town Council Representatives:**

Councillors R. Aylen and E. Jones – Calne Without Parish Council  
Councillor D. Evans – Cherhill Parish Council

**Officers Present:** H. Powell (Policy & Democratic Services Assistant) and L. Robertson (Head of Policy & Performance)

**CA74. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A. Pier and R. Henning (North Wiltshire District Council), from Councillor N. Bryant (Wiltshire County Council), Councillor M. Baggs (Calne Town Council, Heddington Parish Council and from J. Vaughan (Community Partnership Officer, North Wilts District Council).

**CA75. Public Question/Receipt of Petitions**

Mr D. Phipps of Calne First Responders spoke in support of their application for a Community Award.

**CA76. Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2008, circulated with the Agenda, were considered.

**Resolved** that Minutes of the meeting of Calne Area (5) Committee, held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2008, be approved and signed as a correct record.

**CA77. Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman made the following announcements:



Gypsy Site Consultation

At the last meeting of the Executive it was decided that a public consultation should take place regarding the provision of gypsy sites in North Wiltshire. As part of the consultation process an Extraordinary meeting of this Committee will be arranged to discuss and put forward views on the proposed sites. The meeting is likely to take place in early to mid June and members will be informed as soon as a date has been confirmed. Town and Parish Councils will also be informed of the date.

*Admin Note – The Extraordinary meeting of the Calne Area (5) Committee has been arranged for Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2008 at 7pm at Calne Town Hall.*

**CA78. Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made.

**CA79. Calne Community Area (5) Funding Distribution 2007/2008**

L. Robertson gave a verbal briefing on changes to rules surrounding Community Area Awards, which have been developed in conjunction with Members. A reminder was also given that awards must be collected before the end of the financial year if they are to remain valid.

It was announced that having undertaken a routine evaluation of committed capital grants unpaid, officers identified a number of awards in Area 5 which had not been drawn down. Two of these projects had exceeded or were about to exceed the 2 year cut off point for claiming awards.

Officers have contacted all of the outstanding projects and as a result two awards have been withdrawn.

1. Calne Without Parish Council – October 2003 - £500

Officers initially contacted the Clerk to the Parish Council in February 2006, to advise that this award was about to exceed its expiry date. Communication at that time suggested that the award might be claimed imminently and so it was carried forward. Officers sent a further letter in February 2008 to advise that the award had been withdrawn.

2. Friends of St. Mary's Church – February 2005 - £10,000

Officers initially contacted this group in April 2007 to advise that this award was about to exceed its expiry date. At that time it was suggested that a forthcoming lottery application might enable the project to progress imminently and the award was therefore carried forward. Officers sent a further letter in February 2008 to which, to date, they have received no reply. Therefore the award has been withdrawn.

Officers from the Finance section have advised that the total sum of these 2 awards may be returned to the Calne Area 5 Community Capital Budget. Therefore the total Community Area Awards Budget allocated to the Calne Community Area (5) Committee prior to awards made at the funding round to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2008 will be £50,500 capital and £12,000 revenue. If Members make awards in line with officer recommendations, there will be a capital balance of £41,986 and a revenue balance of £6,720.

Consideration was given to Report No. 6, (circulated with the Agenda), which presented four funding applications for the Community Area Awards scheme.

Calne Community Area Partnership

**Resolved** to agree funding distribution of the Area (5) Community Area Awards budget, based on the agreed criteria for 2008/09:

- 1) Calne Community Area Partnership – Award £2,500 from the revenue budget, towards running a series of Carnival Workshops for local people across the Community Area, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

Calne First Responders

Issues discussed during the consideration of this item included:

- Whilst the group are filling a gap in a public service that should not exist, they are doing an excellent job and the award is fully justified.

**Resolved** to agree funding distribution of the Area (5) Community Area Awards budget, based on the agreed criteria for 2008/09:

- 1) Calne First Responders – Award £8,514 from the capital budget, towards the purchase of life-saving equipment, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

Rotary Club of Calne

Issues discussed during the consideration of this item included:

- Members felt the proposed award under-estimated the importance of this event to Calne;
- The event brings many community groups together and is Calne's only truly international event; and
- The event attracts a large number of people from far and wide who stay and spend money in the town.

**Resolved** to agree funding distribution of the Area (5) Community Area Awards budget, based on the agreed criteria for 2008/09:

- 1) Calne Rotary Club – Award £1,200 from the revenue budget, towards a motorcycle meet on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2008, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

Summer Fun Calne Playscheme

Issues discussed during the consideration of this item included:

- This is a valuable and long-standing scheme that fills a gap for parents and children in the summer holidays.

**Resolved** to agree funding distribution of the Area (5) Community Area Awards budget, based on the agreed criteria for 2008/09:

- 1) Summer Fun in Calne Playscheme– Award £2,280 from the revenue budget towards a summer playscheme for children and young people living in socially deprived areas of Calne, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

Concern was expressed that the Community Area Awards had initially been used to 'pump start' schemes, but now appear to act as annual grants for established projects. It was re-emphasised that only £40k (approx.) is likely to be available for these kind of schemes next year and that groups should prepare to find funding elsewhere.

#### **CA80. Unitary Status Update**

A verbal update on the Unitary Status was given by L. Robertson.

A summary of the update is detailed below:

- The various work streams are progressing their individual projects;
- A top-level management structure has now been agreed by Implementation Executive;
- We await guidelines on staffing procedures from Central Government. Once these are received senior posts can be filled (likely Summer 2008) and progress towards One Council will quicken;
- Various work streams, including planning, are immersing as priorities. The districts' Development Control teams have been meeting to organise their future structure;
- Other 'virtual' teams are also immersing, including Electoral Services, who are working together already to ensure arrangements are in place for the 2009 elections;
- All five of NWDC's Area Committees have been selected as pilot Community Area Boards. Each Committee will pilot certain aspects of the Area Boards, rather than shifting to the new format entirely.

**Resolved** that the Committee note the update.

#### **CA81. Update from Calne Leisure Action Group**

A verbal update on Calne Leisure Centre was given by Mr P. Dolman.

## Calne Area (5) Committee Minutes – 6<sup>th</sup> May 2008

- Sales of Advanced Booking Cards have now exceeded 1,000;
- When the Centre closed in March 2006 it had 3,020 members. It has already recruited 724 since its re-opening;
- The first 3 months have produced an income (from product sales) of £144,000;
- The is off-set somewhat by a heating bill of £33,000 for the same period;
- The Centre is awaiting the return of VAT from the Inland Revenue;
- The Centre is awaiting quotes for a disabled lift to the social area and a disabled hoist for the pool;
- A climbing wall should be installed by the end of July. This was chosen in preference to a squash court because of the greater income generated and the appeal to a wider section of the community;
- The Centre is currently in discussion with John Bentley School regarding sharing parking spaces;
- The Centre is looking at its options regarding the use of its recently awarded fuel-saving grant from NWDC. Of the various options a heat pump is generally considered the most likely. Members reminded Mr Dolman that the grant must be spent this financial year;
- Members congratulated Calne Leisure Action Group and Calne Leisure Centre on their outstanding work and on exceeding all financial expectations.

**Resolved** that the Committee note the update.

### **CA82. Community Partnership Update**

The Chairman of the Calne Community Partnership, J. Martin, gave a verbal update regarding the work of the partnership.

A summary of the update is detailed below:

- The Partnership were recently involved with a Community Showcase and were able to provide insurance for smaller community groups where Calne TC could not;
- Mr Jim Lynch has recently examined the Partnership's management structure and this had proved very beneficial;
- The Community Area Award will be used for year-round projects as well as the Carnival workshops;
- The Committee were reminded that the date of the Carnival is 28<sup>th</sup> June.

**Resolved** that the Committee note the update.

**CA83. Ward/Parish/Town Council Update**

Bremhill Ward – Councillor C. Crisp reported that a meeting of Bremhill Parish Council had diffused much of the hysteria that followed the meeting of the NWDC Executive, where possible locations for gypsy sites were announced. Attendees left more considerate of the future and clearer on how they can contribute to the consultation.

Calne Lickhill Ward – Councillor C.V. Ramsey reported that she has been active in a local resident's group looking at both of the proposed gypsy sites in the area, and that the group is keen to contribute to the consultation. After the meetings with the Environment Agency and Environmental Health Officers reported at the last meeting, Portemars Industrial Estate have now submitted a planning application to implement noise reduction measures. Councillor Ramsey is also working with several other sites to help reduce their noise pollution.

Calne Priestley Ward – Councillor C.M.R. Boase reported he had received a complaint from a resident of Cotswold View regarding gas and noise emanating from the nearby waste dump. The resident complains that the excavation of the dump is moving closer to his house, that the noise of the lorries is increasing, and that an odour of gas is sometimes noticeable. Councillor S. Bodman reported that she has been informed by County representatives that Environment Services have so far received no complaints about the site.

Calne Quemerford Ward – Councillor H.R. Plenty reported that there are still issues surrounding the development of Marden Farm, and its access route through Rookery Park.

Calne Without Ward – Councillor S. Bodman reported that the Parish Council have a meeting and visit planned to discuss the Marden Farm issue further.

Calne Without Parish Council - Councillor R. Ayles expressed thanks for the Landsdown Derry Hill meeting room grant awarded, and reported that it will have its official opening soon. The Parish Council have agreed to the implementation of traffic-calming measures on Church Road, and await the results.

Cherhill Parish Council - Councillor D. Evans reported that the Parish Council are still working on their Parish Plan, and that they will hold their AGM on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

**CA84. Outside Bodies**

No updates from Outside Bodies were received.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.

There were 2 members of the public present.