

Report to Calne Area Board

5 August 2014

Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Development Plan Document.
Settlement Boundary Revisions

A number of town and parish councillors from this and other Community Areas attended the meeting held here on Monday 28 July to consider changes to the settlement boundaries of towns and large villages to accommodate the housing allocations proposed for the Wiltshire Development Plan document, which is being prepared for submission to the Core Strategy Inspector later. This was part of the dialogue to ensure that local views are taken into account, and this was one of three meetings across the County. As far as changes to the settlement boundaries in the Calne Community Area is concerned, most of the approved development in and around Calne town (all of it granted at appeal) is actually located in Calne Without Parish, but the housing figures count towards expansion of the town and not the housing requirement for the rest of the Community Area. Attendees discussed the maps of the boundary changes proposed by Wiltshire Council officers, asked questions and put forward their views. If you wish to look at these proposals, you can see them on the website and likewise make your comments there. Evidence will be gathered up to November 2014, followed by a formal consultation next Spring 2015. Following that, between April and November the submission will be made to the Inspector and further examination take place, with a planned date for adoption of the document in December 2015.

The Calne meeting did not cover the Chippenham settlement boundary question, as this is a separate issue, but of concern to us as one of the proposals for development for Chippenham is to extend into Bremhill Parish, which is, of course, part of Calne Community Area. In Chippenham's case, unlike Calne, sufficient housing expansion sites to satisfy the Inspector have not yet been decided, so new settlement boundaries cannot be agreed until this has happened.

I am representing Calne Community Area on a Steering Group which is looking at the settlement boundary process with officers. The Area Board Chairmen for Chippenham and Corsham are also members. Corsham Community Area has the same interest as we do as one of the proposed development areas is in their Community Area. My interest here is to ensure that Calne Area gets a fair representation of the views of residents and to ensure every factor is considered. It is common knowledge that Bremhill Parish Council are very much opposed to such a development and I do, of course, support that view. I will keep the Area Board informed as the process continues.

Christine Crisp
Chairman, Calne Area Board
5 August 2015