

## COUNCIL

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### MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10 MAY 2016 AT COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, TROWBRIDGE BA14 8JN.

#### Present:

Cllr Desna Allen, Cllr Glenis Ansell, Cllr Pat Aves, Cllr Chuck Berry, Cllr Nick Blakemore, Cllr Richard Britton (Chairman), Cllr Rosemary Brown, Cllr Allison Bucknell (Vice-Chair), Cllr Capp, Cllr Trevor Carbin, Cllr Chris Caswill, Cllr Terry Chivers, Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Mark Connolly, Cllr Christine Crisp, Cllr Anna Cuthbert, Cllr Brian Dalton, Cllr Andrew Davis, Cllr Tony Deane, Cllr Christopher Devine, Cllr Stewart Dobson, Cllr Bill Douglas, Cllr Mary Douglas, Cllr Dennis Drewett, Cllr Peter Edge, Cllr Peter Evans, Cllr Sue Evans, Cllr Richard Gamble, Cllr Jose Green, Cllr Mollie Groom, Cllr Russell Hawker, Cllr Mike Hewitt, Cllr Alan Hill, Cllr Charles Howard, Cllr Jon Hubbard, Cllr Keith Humphries, Cllr Chris Hurst, Cllr Peter Hutton, Cllr Simon Jacobs, Cllr David Jenkins, Cllr Julian Johnson, Cllr Bob Jones MBE, Cllr Simon Killane, Cllr Gordon King, Cllr John Knight, Cllr Jerry Kunkler, Cllr Jacqui Lay, Cllr Magnus Macdonald, Cllr Alan MacRae, Cllr Howard Marshall, Cllr Laura Mayes, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Jemima Milton, Cllr Bill Moss, Cllr Christopher Newbury, Cllr Paul Oatway QPM, Cllr Stephen Oldrieve, Cllr Linda Packard, Cllr Mark Packard, Cllr Sheila Parker, Cllr Graham Payne, Cllr Nina Phillips, Cllr David Pollitt, Cllr Horace Prickett, Cllr Leo Randall, Cllr Fleur de Rhé-Philippe, Cllr Pip Ridout, Cllr Ricky Rogers, Cllr Baroness Scott of Bybrook OBE, Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cllr James Sheppard, Cllr John Smale, Cllr Toby Sturgis, Cllr Melody Thompson, Cllr John Thomson, Cllr Ian Thorn, Cllr Ian Tomes, Cllr Dick Tonge, Cllr Tony Trotman, Cllr John Walsh, Cllr Bridget Wayman, Cllr Ian West, Cllr Philip Whalley, Cllr Stuart Wheeler, Cllr Roy While, Cllr Philip Whitehead, Cllr Jerry Wickham and Cllr Christopher Williams

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#### 24 Election of Chairman 2016/17

The Chairman, Councillor Richard Britton, welcomed all those present to the meeting. The Chairman sought nominations for the position of Chairman of Council for 2016/17. Councillor Richard Britton was proposed by Councillor Alan Macrae and seconded by Councillor Mary Douglas. Given that a member could not preside over their own election, Councillor Britton left the chamber.

#### **Vice-Chairman, Councillor Alison Bucknell, in the Chair**

The Vice-Chairman, Councillor Allison Bucknell called for any other nominations for the position of Chairman of Council for 2016/17.

There being no nominations it was

#### **Resolved:**

**That Councillor Richard Britton be elected Chairman of Wiltshire Council for the municipal year 2016/17.**

The Chairman subsequently read out and signed the declaration of acceptance of office of Chairman of the Council witnessed by the Monitoring Officer.

**Councillor Richard Britton in the Chair**

**25 Election of Vice-Chairman 2016/17**

The Chairman called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairman of Council for 2016/17.

Councillor Allison Bucknell was proposed by Councillor Dick Tonge and seconded by Councillor John Smale. There being no other nominations, it was

**Resolved:**

**That Councillor Alison Bucknell be elected Vice-Chairman of Wiltshire Council for the municipal year 2016/17.**

The Vice-Chairman subsequently read out and signed the declaration of acceptance of office of Vice-Chairman of the Council witnessed by the Monitoring Officer.

**26 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Helen Osborn, Howard Greenman, Mary Champion, Graham Wright, Fred Westmoreland and George Jeans.

**27 Declarations of Interest**

The Chairman asked if there were any declarations of interest to be made, drawing the meeting's attention to the previously circulated advice of the Monitoring Officer in relation to consideration of the Draft Chippenham Site Allocations Plan.

The following members declared that whilst they had personally signed the Bus Petition subject to debate at the meeting, they did not feel that it prejudiced them: Trevor Carbin, Jamie Capp, Brian Dalton, Peter Edge and Ian West.

Councillor Jon Hubbard stated that he had received a communication from Town and County Planners, for whom his brother-in-law worked. The communication was in relation to the Draft Chippenham Site Allocations Plan. To the best of his knowledge his brother-in-law had not worked directly on that matter and he did not feel this would prejudice him and he stated that he would consider the matter with an open mind.

## 28 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the Meeting held on 23 February 2016 were presented.

### **Resolved:**

**That the minutes of the last Council meeting held on 23 February 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

## 29 **Announcements by the Chairman**

The Chairman drew the meetings attention to the arrangements for the day's meeting, specifically referencing fire safety and that the meeting was being recorded for live webcast.

The Chairman stated that details of his, and the Vice-Chairman's activities since the last meeting would be available via his blog:

<http://wiltshirecouncilchair.blogspot.co.uk/>

These, in summary, included:

- The Young Voice of Trowbridge public speaking competition
- Agaes Salisbury Arts Festival launch
- Opening of children's play area, Landford and the Service for the Rule of Law, Salisbury Cathedral
- The Bem Ceremony, Bowood House
- The declaration of the New High Sheriff
- Warminster Civic Service
- Visit of HRH the Earl of Wessex to Sea Cadets as part of the Diamond Tour, Duke Of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Visit of HRH Princess Alexandra to officially open Avonbourne Care Centre, Old Sarum
- Celebration of the conservation of the Stonehenge Landscape and the awarding of an EU Prize for Cultural Heritage/Europa Nostra Award 2015
- Cycle Wiltshire Event, Salisbury

The Chairman did make the following detailed announcements at the meeting:

### **New Wiltshire Councillor**

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Jamie Capp to this, his first meeting of Council following his election as Councillor for the Amesbury East Division following a by-election held on 5 May 2016.

### **HM Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

The Chairman announced that he had written, on behalf of the Councillors and Officers of Wiltshire Council, to extend congratulations and best wishes to Her Majesty the Queen on her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and thanking her for her dedication and commitment to the nation.

### **Death of Councillor Jeff Osborn**

This being the first meeting of full Council since Councillor Jeff Osborn had sadly died on 1 April, the Chairman took the opportunity to pay tribute to Councillor Osborn's vast contribution to the Council since his election in 2001. The Chairman referred to Councillor Osborn's various roles and activities on the Council including his work on scrutiny, having at one stage, chaired the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, his leading role on health matters including more recently, the Hopper campaign, his role as a hard working back bench member who worked tirelessly for his Division. The Chairman also referred to Councillor Osborn's interests outside of the Council which reflected the great man he was.

At the Chairman's invitation, Mrs Rachael Fletcher, one of Councillor Jeff Osborn's daughters and her son, Barnabus attended the meeting to hear first-hand the tributes made by members.

The Leader, Group Leaders and several other members paid tribute to Councillor Osborn, sharing their experiences of working with him over the years with some having served alongside him at the former West Wiltshire District Council. The key theme was how hard Councillor Osborn had worked, how passionately he fought for what he believed in, that he was a hard act to follow and that he would be greatly missed.

The Chairman asked the meeting to join him in a moment of quiet reflection and thanksgiving. He then presented Mrs Fletcher with a Book of Condolence and asked her to pass on the Council's best wishes and condolences to her mother, Councillor Helen Osborn who was recovering from surgery.

Mrs Fletcher gave a very moving speech in which she explained how very important being a Councillor and working for his local community were to her father. She thanked members for their condolences and the moving tributes given.

## 30 **Public Participation**

The Chairman drew the meeting's attention to the question received from Councillor Glyn Bridges of Trowbridge Town Council, and answers circulated in the agenda supplement. The Chairman gave Councillor Bridges an opportunity to ask a supplementary question.

Councillor Bridges reiterated his concerns that historic street furniture was not being adequately protected, and asked that the Council give due consideration to a recent audit of historic street furniture in the town.

The Cabinet Member for Highways, Councillor Philip Whitehead, stated that he did not have anything further to add to his written reply.

The Chairman explained that questions and statement made in relation to the Draft Chippenham Site Allocations Plan would be taken immediately prior to the consideration of that item.

## 31 **Petitions Received**

The Chairman reported receipt of a petition for presentation to the meeting, details of which were presented. The petition called on this Council to 'end its plans to axe dozens of bus services...' The Chairman announced that, as the petition had passed the threshold number of signatories for a council debate, he intended to hold the debate on the petition at this meeting.

Prior to the debate, The Chairman invited Mr Bill Brown of the Salisbury Journal to present the petition. In his presentation Mr Brown emphasised the concern amongst the residents of the Salisbury and surrounding areas about the potential threat to bus services, and gave examples of how vital services were to vulnerable residents.

In his response to the petition, the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, Councillor Philip Whitehead expressed his disappointment at the approach taken by the Salisbury Journal which he considered had created unnecessary anxiety amongst residents. He reiterated that there would be no cuts to the subsidised services in 2016/17; that the purpose of the consultation was to better understand the impact of any proposals, and that he wanted to use this evidence to plan a sustainable service.

The Leader of the Council, Baroness Scott of Bybrook OBE added that the misreporting of the consultation had increased anxiety unduly.

The Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, Councillor Glenis Ansell, considered that the administration should do all it could to encourage people to respond to the formal consultation.

The Leader of the Independent Group, Councillor Ernie Clark, stated that questions should be framed carefully to ensure proper consultation.

The Leader of the Labour Group, Councillor Ricky Rogers implored the administration to take note of the widely held concerns of the public.

The Chairman then opened up the matter for debate in which a number of Councillors spoke in relation to the petition. Issues raised included how the consultation had been represented in the press; that local groups, such as the 24-7 group, should be engaged with; that some unsubsidised services had already been stopped by commercial companies; urging the Cabinet to consider the economic impact of potential changes; the impact of the ageing population on demand; the relative number of services that were subsidised by the council compared to other comparable councils; and how the consultation was being undertaken, including surveys and roadshows.

The Chairman proposed, subsequently seconded by the Vice-Chairman, that the petition be received; that Council note the contents of the petition; and that Council note the ongoing work of the Cabinet in this matter

Upon being put to the vote, it was,

#### **Resolved**

- 1. that the petition be received;**
- 2. that Council notes the comments of the petition; and**
- 3. that Council note the ongoing work of the Cabinet in this matter.**

## **32 Petitions Update**

A report by the Democratic Governance Manager was presented which gave Council details of the three petitions received for the period since the last Council meeting.

#### **Resolved:**

**That Council note the report, the petitions received and the actions being taken in relation to them, as set out in the Appendix to the report.**

## **33 Annual Report of the Corporate Parenting Panel 2015/16**

At the Chairman's invitation, Councillor Laura Mayes, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, introduced this item. She explained that the role of the Corporate Parenting Panel was to secure Councillor involvement and commitment throughout the Council to deliver better outcomes for children and young people who were looked after. All Councillors were reminded of their responsibilities as a "corporate parent" for children and young people who were looked after in Wiltshire. She also emphasised the clear set of strategic priorities which had been agreed following a recent Ofsted inspection, targeting the key areas in which improvements were required; these included ambitious targets to recruit additional foster carers and return children to Wiltshire placements, achieving legal permanence more quickly for children in long-term care and ensuring our Care Leavers had better access to appropriate housing, education and employment opportunities.

A presentation was made by Mrs Ali Forbes-Keith regarding her work as a foster carer. She encouraged Councillors to promote fostering within the county and to encourage people to consider becoming foster parents emphasising how rewarding an experience it was to make such a positive difference to a young person's life

The Chair added his thanks for the excellent presentation.

**Resolved:**

**To receive and note the Annual Report of the Corporate Parenting Panel and ratify the improvements required to strengthen Corporate Parenting in Wiltshire.**

**34 Draft Chippenham Site Allocations Plan: Update**

Before calling on the Cabinet Member for Planning, Councillor Toby Sturgis, to present the item, the Chairman drew the meeting's attention to the questions received from members of the public and Councillor Caswill and gave questioners an opportunity to ask supplementary questions.

Councillor Sturgis stated, in response to a question from Marilyn Mackay, that should the recommendations in the report be approved he would consider her proposals to make minor amendments to the text to bring clarity about the country parks.

Councillor Sturgis stated, in response to a question from Helen Stuckey, that he noted the issues raised in relation to traffic and transport; and stated that the contribution expected towards transport infrastructure identified was reasonable.

Mr Ian James made a statement relating to the item, welcoming the modified plan, and asked that brownfield development be prioritised.

Mr Malcolm Toogood stated that he had not had a reply to a previously submitted question to Cabinet and made reference to other questions on air quality recently submitted and need to challenge evidence from developers.

Councillor Toby Sturgis, Cabinet member for Planning proposed, subsequently seconded by Councillor Fleur De Rhé-Philipe, the recommendations as set out in Report presented, incorporating amendments set out in the Addendum to Appendix 3 circulated in Agenda Supplement Two. In presenting his proposal, Councillor Sturgis highlighted the Proposed Modifications to the Plan following further assessment of evidence.

The Chairman then invited comments from Group Leaders before opening up the item to wider debate.

The Baroness Scott of Bybrook, OBE, stated that she recognised the differences in public opinion on the matter, but hoped that now a pragmatic solution had been reached it could be implemented promptly to provide new jobs and housing.

Councillor Glenis Ansell expressed continuing concern regarding the impact of the proposals on air quality and that she would be seeking further reassurances on the matter. She stated that she hoped the Inspector would approve the plan as the absence of a five year land supply had had a negative impact on other towns within the housing market area.

Councillor Ernie Clark emphasised concerns regarding the five year land supply.

Councillor Ricky Rogers stated he would be interested to hear the views of the local members.

Councillor Christine Crisp stated that she was happy to see some of the revisions to the plan and thanked those involved for their hardwork in providing evidence to the review.

Councillor Jon Hubbard emphasised the impact of the delay on the increase in speculative developments in other areas, owing to the absence of a five year land supply. Reflecting his concerns over the handling of the Plan, Councillor Hubbard moved an amendment, duly seconded by Councillor Ian West as follows:

To insert a new paragraph (i) to read as follows

‘Following the repeated failures of the Cabinet member responsible for Strategic Planning, Development Management, Strategic Housing, Operational Property



and Waste to deliver on this Plan and to protect the five year supply of housing for the County, this Council passes a motion of no confidence in him.

To include and renumber the subsequent paragraphs of the recommendations'.

A proposal was moved and seconded to move to the vote and on being put to the vote, this was CARRIED.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was LOST and a recorded vote having been requested by the requisite number of members, the voting was recorded as follows:

For the amendment (28)

Cllr Desna Allen, Cllr Glenis Ansell, Cllr Pat Aves, Cllr Nick Blakemore, Cllr Rosemary Brown, Cllr Jamie Capp, Cllr Chris Caswill, Cllr Terry Chivers, Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Brian Dalton, Cllr Bill Douglas, Cllr Dennis Drewett, Cllr Peter Edge, Cllr Jon Hubbard, Cllr Chris Hurst, Cllr David Jenkins, Cllr Bob Jones MBE, Cllr Gordon King, Cllr Magnus Macdonald, Cllr Ian McLenna, Cllr Stephen Oldrieve, Cllr Linda Packard, Cllr Mark Packard, Cllr David Pollitt, Cllr Ricky Rogers, Cllr Ian Tomes, Cllr John Walsh and Cllr Ian West.

Against the amendment (53)

Cllr Chuck Berry, Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Allison Bucknell, Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Mark Connolly, Cllr Christine Crisp, Cllr Anna Cuthbert, Cllr Andrew Davis, Cllr Fleur de Rhe-Philipe, Cllr Christopher Devine, Cllr Stewart Dobson, Cllr Mary Douglas, Cllr Peter Evans, Cllr Sue Evans, Cllr Richard Gamble, Cllr Jose Green, Cllr Mollie Groom, Cllr Mike Hewitt, Cllr Alan Hill, Cllr Atiqul Hoque, Cllr Keith Humphries, Cllr Peter Hutton, Cllr Simon Jacobs, Cllr Julian Johnson, Cllr Simon Killane, Cllr Jerry Kunkler, Cllr Jacqui Lay, Cllr Alan MacRae, Cllr Howard Marshall, Cllr Laura Mayes, Cllr Jemima Milton, Cllr Bill Moss, Cllr Christopher Newbury, Cllr Paul Oatway QPM, Cllr Sheila Parker, Cllr Graham Payne, Cllr Leo Randall, Cllr Baroness Scott of Bybrook OBE, Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cllr James Sheppard, Cllr John Smale, Cllr Toby Sturgis, Cllr Melody Thompson, Cllr John Thomson, Cllr Richard Tonge, Cllr Tony Trotman, Cllr Bridget Wayman, Cllr Philip Whalley, Cllr Stuart Wheeler, Cllr Roy While, Cllr Philip Whitehead, Cllr Jerry Wickham and Cllr Christopher Williams.

Abstentions (5)

Cllr Tony Deane, Cllr Russell Hawker, Cllr Nina Phillips, Cllr Horace Prickett and Cllr Pip Ridout.

Councillor Chris Caswill gave notice of amendments as displayed to the meeting he would be moving on this item in relation to Appendix 3, which set out the proposed modifications. He thanked officers who he considered had approached the revisions with an open mind and carried out a considerable

amount of work to come up with their proposals. He reminded members that the submitted Plan had been approved by the full Council and therefore all members shared a collective responsibility for the present situation. Councillor Caswill explained the rationale behind his amendments which he so moved in turn and duly seconded by Councillor Bill Douglas.

*Councillor Caswill - Amendment*

*(1) Add after '(Appendix4)' the following additional change, to Appendix 3, page 6, S9:*

*ADD after '...1780 homes' "but after taking reasonable account of other brownfield sites in the town, that number is adjusted downwards to at least **1600** homes."*

Councillor Toby Sturgis responded to the amendment. He emphasised that the Council must have certainty of delivery and that the residual requirement took into account committed windfall and already made an allowance for 250 homes at Langley Park. There would be no certainty about how much and when additional windfall sites could come forward. Therefore they could not be regarded in the Plan at this stage. To rely on uncertain windfalls would put the Plan at risk and undermine the 5 year land supply.

Following debate and on being put to the vote, the amendment was LOST.

Councillor Chris Caswill then withdrew amendment (ii) as shown below, noting that the points raised within it were already addressed in the Amendments to Appendix 3 (Agenda Supplement Two).

*(2) Add after '(Appendix4)' the following additional change, to Appendix 3, page 7, S11*

*Replace the current text with "This site will deliver:  
A link road between Malmesbury Road (A350) and Maud Heath Causeway".*

*Delete "will become the first section of an eastern link road through to the A4"*

*Councillor Caswill – Amendment*

Councillor Caswill considered this was an unnecessary part of the Plan and its deletion would not damage the overall Plan.

*(3) Add after '(Appendix4)' the following additional change, to Appendix 3, page 11, S15, 4.18 :*

*Delete all after "...wider role in the network."*

Councillor Toby Sturgis did not support the amendment explaining that it related to permitted development and that the section in question had not changed from the pre-submission draft Plan. Councillor Sturgis was asked to clarify whether or not this had in fact changed from the pre-submission Plan. In the meantime, Councillor Caswill was asked to present his fourth amendment.

Amendment – Councillor Caswill

*(4) Add after '(Appendix4)' the following additional change, to Appendix 3, page 11, S15, 4.20 and onwards :*

*Delete paragraph 4.20, and all subsequent references to the inclusion of the Rawlings Green site in the revised CSAP.*

*Add a new para.4.20, headed Forest Farm: "Forest Farm (D1) is a site which can deliver up to 480 houses without requiring any additional infrastructure, 200 houses in a first phase, without any major environmental detriment. It is deliverable without major infrastructure development and does not suffer the several deliverability risks which surround the alternative Rawlings Green site. The Site Selection evidence paper (pages 101-110 of the CSAP Sustainability Appraisal Report makes clear the merits of the site, while at the same time several of the few less favourable comments are clearly open to challenge).*

*Make changes to the subsequent sections of Appendix 3 to reflect these amendments.*

Councillor Caswill explained the purpose of his amendment. He considered there was a degree of risk attached to the Rawlings Green site which was still in the Plan and in his opinion, had a number of serious defects compared to the Forest Farm site. The Council should be putting forward proposals which were designed to succeed before an Inspector and not a site which he considered would be heavily challenged.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for lunch at this point which would also enable Councillor Toby Sturgis, to consider his response to amendments iii) and iv) proposed by Councillor Caswill.

### **Meeting adjourned from 13:00 and reconvened at 13:45**

Councillor Sturgis reiterated that he did not see the need for amendment iii) and could not support it. He did undertake however to clarify the position for the purpose of consultation on the Plan, to only show the section which had been altered highlighted as an alteration rather than the whole paragraph.

Amendment (iii) was not accepted.

Councillor Sturgis explained that he could not support amendment iv) as the Forest Green site had, following a balanced assessment, not scored as highly as other preferred sites. Additionally, he considered that having undertaken detailed evidenced based work on the site selection process and to then at this stage substitute one site for another, would undermine the site selection process and therefore put at risk the soundness of the Plan. He also responded to points raised by Councillor Caswill

A debate ensued on the amendment.

On being put to the vote, amendment (iv) was LOST and a recorded vote having been requested by the requisite number of members, the voting was recorded as follows:

For the amendment (16)

Cllr Glenis Ansell, Cllr Nick Blakemore, Cllr Chris Caswill, Cllr Terry Chivers, Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Bill Douglas, Cllr Peter Edge, Cllr Jon Hubbard, Cllr Chris Hurst, Cllr Bob Jones MBE, Cllr Gordon King, Cllr Magnus Macdonald, Cllr Stephen Oldrieve, Cllr Nina Phillips, Cllr David Pollitt and Cllr Ian West.

Against the amendment (59)

Cllr Desna Allen, Cllr Pat Aves, Cllr Chuck Berry, Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Allison Bucknell, Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Mark Connolly, Cllr Christine Crisp, Cllr Anna Cuthbert, Cllr Andrew Davis, Cllr Fleur de Rhe-Philippe, Cllr Christopher Devine, Cllr Stewart Dobson, Cllr Mary Douglas, Cllr Peter Evans, Cllr Sue Evans, Cllr Richard Gamble, Cllr Jose Green, Cllr Mollie Groom, Cllr Mike Hewitt, Cllr Alan Hill, Cllr Atiquel Hoque, Cllr Charles Howard, Cllr Keith Humphries, Cllr Peter Hutton, Cllr Simon Jacobs, Cllr David Jenkins, Cllr Julian Johnson, Cllr John Knight, Cllr Jerry Kunkler, Cllr Jacqui Lay, Cllr Alan MacRae, Cllr Howard Marshall, Cllr Paul Oatway QPM, Cllr Jemima Milton, Cllr Bill Moss, Cllr Christopher Newbury, Cllr Paul Oatway QPM, Cllr Linda Packard, Cllr Mark Packard, Cllr Sheila Parker, Cllr Graham Payne, Cllr Horace Prickett, Cllr Leo Randall, Cllr Pip Ridout, Cllr Baroness Scott of Bybrook OBE, Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cllr John Smale, Cllr Toby Sturgis, Cllr Melody Thompson, Cllr John Thomson, Cllr Tony Trotman, Cllr Bridget Wayman, Cllr Philip Whalley, Cllr Stuart Wheeler, Cllr Roy While, Cllr Philip Whitehead, Cllr Jerry Wickham and Cllr Christopher Williams.

Abstentions (6)

Cllr Jamie Capp, Cllr Brian Dalton, Cllr Tony Deane, Cllr Dennis Drewett, Cllr Simon Killane and Cllr James Sheppard.

The meeting then returned to the debate on the substantive motion. For the avoidance of doubt, Councillor Toby Sturgis clarified that the recommendations before Council included the Addendum to Appendix 3 as circulated under cover of Agenda Supplement No. 2.

A number of comments were made including concerns over air quality and traffic issues, the need to cater for the continuing increasing demand for housing, the need to agree a Plan for the benefit of the Town, the negative impact on the town and surrounding areas arising from a further delay in its implementation, preferences over a link road scheme, concerns over continued speculative applications in the absence of a 5 year land supply.

Councillor Chris Caswill emphasised his desire to get the right plan for the community.

In closing, Councillor Toby Sturgis stated that modifications had been proposed to the plan to reflect the most appropriate strategy following the Inspector's request for additional information and reiterated the plan did protect the potential for a southern and an eastern link road if they were required in the future. He guided members through the key documentation, the site selection process and conclusions reached on this.

Having been put to the vote, the meeting;

### **Resolved**

**That, having considered the outcome of the Schedule of Work and accompanying evidence:**

- (i) To approve the Proposed Modifications to the Plan as set out in Appendix 3 of the report presented incorporating the amendments set out in the Addendum to Appendix 3 as circulated in Agenda Supplement 2 subject to amendment in (iii) and the Equalities Impact Assessment (Appendix 4);**
- (ii) To note that consultation will be undertaken on the Proposed Modifications and revisions to the evidence base through implementing the Schedule of Work and the results of the consultation sent to the Inspector;**
- (iii) To authorise the Associate Director for Economic Development and Planning in consultation with the Associate Director for Legal and Governance and the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Development Management, Strategic Housing, Operational Property and Waste be delegated authority to:
  - a) Finalise the accompanying evidence documents which comprise the outcomes of the Schedule of Work and make any necessary****

minor changes to the Proposed Modifications in the interests of clarity and accuracy before they are submitted to the Inspector and published for consultation;

- b) Make arrangements for the above consultation and any subsequent consultations that may be requested by the Inspector;
- c) Respond to the consultation(s) and recommend any further modifications to the Inspector that may arise in response to the consultation or as part of the Examination; and
- d) Implement any consequential actions in relation to the Examination process.

## 35 Notices of Motion

The meeting considered the following motions:

### 35a) **Notice of Motion No. 31 - The Forced Academisation of Wiltshire Schools - Councillors Jon Hubbard and Glenis Ansell**

The Chairman reported receipt of the following motion from Councillors Jon Hubbard and Glenis Ansell. The Chairman referred members to the officer response to assist Council in its consideration of the motion.

*“Central Government have announced plans to force every school in Wiltshire to be forced to convert to an Academy, even if the headteacher, governors and parents would prefer the school to remain within the Local Authority Family.*

*These forced changes to how schools are run have been condemned by teachers, parents and politicians alike – the Conservative chair of the influential 1922 committee in Parliament recently commented that the plans could lead to the creation of “new and distant bureaucracies” rather than delivering greater freedom and autonomy for schools.*

*Wiltshire Council has estimated that the average cost for converting each school in the County to an academy is £10,500. These costs include legal fees, accountancy, staffing issues and other costs such as changes to estate management.*

*Figures recently released by the Department for Education also confirmed that the average cost per school to central government for the conversion of*

*a school from Local Authority control to being an Academy was just under £66,000.*

*The Secretary for State for Education has also confirmed that it is her intention to scrap the position of 'Parent Governors'\*\*\* as part of her reforms to England's schools.*

*Council Notes:*

*So far in Wiltshire 71 schools have converted to academies; indicating that an estimated £4,815,000 has been spent by central government on converting the schools and potentially a cost of £766,500 to Wiltshire Council.*

*With 165 schools still to convert this would mean an additional cost to Central Government of almost £11m and a bill for Wiltshire Council of over £1.7m.*

*Council Believes:*

*The estimated £12.5m that will be spent forcing the remaining schools in Wiltshire to convert to academies would be better invested in delivering local services for residents in the county and providing additional resources for schools in our communities.*

*That Schools in Wiltshire would be worse off without the insight and local knowledge brought to the County's Schools Boards of Governors by parents and local residents.*

*Council Calls On:*

*Wiltshire's MPs and Peers to actively lobby in Parliament to protect Wiltshire's schools from unnecessary and unwanted reform being forced on them and for Wiltshire to instead be given the estimated remaining £12.5m of funding for a fairer funding for Wiltshire Schools or for investment in our communities.*

*Officers at all levels to ensure that this Councils opposition to forced academisation to be reflected in any consultation responses submitted by the council".*

, Councillor Jon Hubbard acknowledged that, since the submission of his motion there had been a change in government policy on this issue. The programme of immediately forcing schools to convert to academies had been withdrawn, although the Government would continue to encourage the academisation of schools. This would still have an impact on Wiltshire schools including a cost of approximately £76,500 per school conversion.

Councillor Hubbard suggested that the detail of the proposal could in fact end up forcing most schools down the academisation route. He considered that the risks to the Council should be investigated and proposed with the consent of his seconder, Councillor Ansell that the matter be referred to scrutiny.

The Baroness Scott of Bybrook, OBE, stated that whilst she was content with the referral, Cabinet members were already discussing the implications of the change in Government policy with a view to setting up a group to look at the detail as it emerged. Consideration would need to be given as to how this would be undertaken by the Executive and Scrutiny.

Councillor Laura Mayes, Cabinet member for Children Services explained that the Council had responded to the White Paper highlighting its concerns.

Councillor Simon Killane was supportive of the referral to Scrutiny, most appropriately by the Children's Select Committee and also considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee in the context of its overall workplan. He added that there could be a role for the Schools Improvement Task Group in this

Having been put to the vote, the meeting;

**Resolved:**

**To refer the matter to Scrutiny and to suggest that Scrutiny set up a working group to work with the Executive to investigate options for Wiltshire Council to be able to explore what routes are available for it to support Wiltshire Schools perhaps with a county-wide multi academy trust.**

35b) **Notice of Motion No. 32 - Community Youth Officers - Councillors Glenis Ansell and Gordon King**

The Chairman reported receipt of the above mentioned motion from Councillors Glenis Ansell and Gordon King. Accordingly, Councillor Glenis Ansell moved the following motion which was duly seconded by Councillor Gordon King:

*"This council regrets that the decision to abolish the Community Youth Officer post was made outside the normal decision making process thereby denying elected representatives their usual opportunity of scrutinising an executive decision".*

In moving her motion, Councillor Glenis Ansell explained that she did not



consider that due process had been followed, and that it should have been debated by Councillors or engaged Scrutiny. She expressed concern that the decision to reduce the number of Community Youth Officer (CYO) posts would impact on the ability of the youth service to meet the needs of those that needed help the most. She considered that the application of the new model was different from that which was promised. She referred to the separate petitions lodged with the Council which in themselves should have triggered the decision being taken with full due process. She considered that the number of young people per CYO was at unmanageable ratios to be able to offer the assistance and support required.

The Chairman invited Councillor Laura Mayes, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, to respond to the motion. Councillor Mayes explained that the decision had been taken correctly as an operational decision at officer level having regard to the financial pressures on the Council as part of the day to day management of the Council. Councillor Mayes confirmed that the new model service was reaching far more young people than it would have been possible with the old service. She confirmed that the Council was preserving support for the most vulnerable and in early help work.

The Chairman then proposed, subsequently seconded by Councillor Bucknell that the motion be debated and on being put to the vote, it was;

**Resolved:**

**That the motion be debated.**

The Chairman invited Group Leaders to comment before opening the matter up for wider debate.

Councillor Ricky Rogers expressed sympathy for the motion. Whilst he understood the financial pressures facing the service, he expressed concern that the reduction in officers would render the new model for youth services inoperable and would not allow capacity to work with voluntary groups.

Councillor Simon Killane stated that he had written to the Cabinet Member with his concerns and accepted that it was a service decision but that it was one that could impact on the deliverability of the policy.

Councillor Jon Hubbard expressed surprise that the decision, given its impact, had not been subject to consultation with Councillors and affected parties such as service users, staff, Area Boards and found it abhorrent that they had not been consulted. He considered that the change was badly timed given that the Children's Select Committee task group had not yet completed the review of the new model.

Councillor Chris Devine considered that the service model appeared to be working well in his division. The Council had to accept that it needed to

make savings and to seek solutions from the wider community.

Councillor Gordon King emphasised the importance of mental health issues amongst young people, and expressed concern that new model had not had a chance to be fully implemented before further cuts were implemented.

Councillor Magnus MacDonald expressed concern that the reductions in new staff would make it harder to reach the most vulnerable children.

Councillor Jamie Capp considered that the officer decision to reduce the number of staff clearly had a material impact on the efficacy of the policy, leading him to conclude that it was, in effect, a policy decision that should have been taken by Councillors.

Councillor Richard Gamble stated that there were still a good number of officers targeting support to the most vulnerable, and that the community led model was reaching a large number of groups undertaking a range of activities.

Councillor Richard Clewer stated that services to the most vulnerable were being maintained.

Councillor Chris Caswill stated that the role of the CYO had significantly changed and Councillors should have had an opportunity to debate this.

Councillor Peter Edge stated that whilst he agreed that not all community areas required their own officer, he believed that the decision should have been discussed by Councillors first.

Councillor Laura Mayes stated that in any event it would not have been possible to consult more widely due to the timescales involved. She emphasised that support for the most vulnerable had been maintained.

Councillor Glenis Ansell, in summing up, stated that the reductions in the service would lead to more children falling between the cracks of service provision.

**On being put to the vote, the motion was LOST and it was therefore;**

**Resolved:**

**That motion no. 32 be not adopted.**

At the request of the requisite number of members, the above decision was the subject of a recorded vote, recorded as follows:

For the motion (27)

Cllr Desna Allen, Cllr Glenis Ansell, Cllr Pat Aves, Cllr Nick Blakemore, Cllr Jamie Capp, Cllr Trevor Carbin, Cllr Chris Caswill, Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Brian Dalton, Cllr Dennis Drewett, Cllr Peter Edge, Cllr Jon Hubbard, Cllr Chris Hurst, Cllr David Jenkins, Cllr Bob Jones MBE, Cllr Simon Killane, Cllr Gordon King, Cllr Magnus Macdonald, Cllr Howard Marshal, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Stephen Oldrieve, Cllr Linda Packard, Cllr Mark Packard, Cllr David Pollitt, Cllr Ricky Rogers, Cllr Bridget Wayman and Cllr Ian West.

Against the motion (50)

Cllr Chuck Berry, Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Allison Bucknell, Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Mark Connolly, Cllr Christine Crisp, Cllr Anna Cuthbert, Cllr Andrew Davis, Cllr Fleur de Rhe-Philipe, Cllr Tony Deane, Cllr Christopher Devine, Cllr Stewart Dobson, Cllr Mary Douglas, Cllr Peter Evans, Cllr Sue Evans, Cllr Richard Gamble, Cllr Jose Green, Cllr Mollie Groom, Cllr Mike Hewitt, Cllr Alan Hill, Cllr Charles Howard, Cllr Keith Humphries, Cllr Peter Hutton, Cllr Simon Jacobs, Cllr Julian Johnson, Cllr John Knight, Cllr Jerry Kunkler, Cllr Jacqui Lay, Cllr Alan MacRae, Cllr Laura Mayes, Cllr Jemima Milton, Cllr Bill Moss, Cllr Paul Oatway QPM, Cllr Sheila Parker, Cllr Graham Payne, Cllr Horace Prickett, Cllr Leo Randall, Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cllr James Sheppard, Cllr John Smale, Cllr Toby Sturgis, Cllr Melody Thompson, Cllr John Thomson, Cllr Richard Tonge, Cllr Tony Trotman, Cllr Baroness Scott of Bybrook OBE, Cllr Stuart Wheeler, Cllr Roy While, Cllr Philip Whitehead and Cllr Christopher Williams.

Abstentions (1)

Cllr Jerry Wickham

**36 Review of Allocation of Seats on Committees to Political Groups and Appointment of Committees**

**37 Appointments to the Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority and Dorset and Wiltshire Fire Authority**

The Chairman referred Council to the various items on the agenda on appointments – numbered 12 (a), (b) and (c), and 13, reports on which were presented. He explained that unless anyone had any comments to make on the individual items, he intended to take them together. The Chairman noted that Group Leaders had been consulted on the principles of what was being proposed.

In relation to item 12 (a) – Appointment of Committees, the Chairman reminded Councillors on the Pewsey and Tidworth Area Committee that they had been convened to meet on the rising of this meeting in order to elect its chairman and vice-chairman and establish the Pewsey Area Board and Tidworth Area Board. It was noted that all Area Boards would be asked to elect their respective chairmen and vice-chairmen at their first meeting in accordance with the arrangements set out in the constitution.

The Deputy Leader moved a composite motion as circulated in respect of the appointments noting a correction in the member proposed as vice-chairman of Standards Committee being Councillor Paul Oatway and this was duly seconded.

On being put to the vote, the Deputy Leader's motion was CARRIED and it was;

**Resolved:**

- (a) To note this report and the legal requirements.**
- (b) To re-appoint the following committees with the terms of reference as set out in the Constitution:-**
  - **Appeals Committee**
  - **Area Planning Committees: Eastern, Northern, Southern and Western**
  - **Audit Committee**
  - **Children's Select Committee**
  - **Environment Select Committee**
  - **Health Select Committee**
  - **Health and Wellbeing Board**
  - **Licensing Committee**
  - **Officer Appointments**
  - **Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee**
  - **Pension Fund Committee**
  - **Police and Crime Panel**
  - **Staffing Policy Committee**
  - **Standards Committee**
  - **Strategic Planning Committee**
- (c) To appoint those Area Boards, constituted as area committees as set out in paragraphs 12 to 14 and Appendix 1 of the report presented and within the Constitution, to comprise the Unitary Councillors for that area (updated to include newly elected members).**

- (d) To approve the aggregate number of committee places available to members of the Council being 174 and the number on each committee as follows:-**

| Committee                        | Total Number of Places for Elected Members | Conservative Group Allocation<br>( 61 seats) | Liberal Democrat Group Allocation<br>(21 seats) | Labour Group Allocation<br>( 4 seats) | Independent Group Allocation<br>(10 seats) | UKIP<br>( 1 seat) |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Strategic Planning               | 11   | 7  | 3   | -                                     | 1  | -                 |
| Area Planning Committees         |  |  |   |                                       |  |                   |
| North                            | 11   | 8  | 2   | -                                     | 1  | -                 |
| South                            | 11   | 6  | 2   | 2                                     | 1  | -                 |
| East                             | 8  | 7  | -   | -                                     | 1  | -                 |
| West                             | 11   | 7  | 2   | -                                     | 2  | -                 |
| Licensing                        | 12   | 8  | 2   | -                                     | 2  | -                 |
| Overview and Scrutiny Management | 15   | 8  | 4   | 1                                     | 2  | -                 |
| Children's Select                | 13   | 8  | 3   | 1                                     | 1  | -                 |
| Environment Select               | 13   | 7  | 4   | 1                                     | 1  | -                 |
| Health Select                    | 13   | 7  | 3   | 1                                     | 2  | -                 |
| Standards                        | 11   | 7  | 3   | -                                     | 1  | -                 |
| Police and Crime Panel           | 7  | 4  | 2   | -                                     | 1  | -                 |
| Audit                            | 11   | 7  | 2   | -                                     | 1  | 1                 |
| Appeals                          | 8  | 5  | 1   | 1                                     | 1  | -                 |
| Staffing Policy                  | 9  | 5  | 2   | -                                     | 1  | 1                 |
| Officer Appointments             | 5  | 3  | 1   | -                                     | 1  | -                 |
| Pension Fund                     | 5  | 4  | 1   | -                                     | -  | -                 |

|         |     |     |    |   |    |   |
|---------|-----|-----|----|---|----|---|
| TOTALS: | 174 | 108 | 37 | 7 | 18 | 2 |
| Vacancy | 1   |     |    |   |    |   |

- e) To appoint councillors to serve on those committees in accordance with the agreed scheme of committee places, until the next occasion membership is reviewed under the provisions of the Local Government & Housing Act 1989.
- f) To appoint substitute members (to a maximum of four per group) to the committees referred to in (e) above.
- g) To appoint those councillors representing electoral divisions to their respective area boards as set out in Appendix 2 to this report.
- h) To reappoint the following co-opted non-voting members to the Standards Committee for their remaining term of office until the unitary and parish elections in May 2017:
- Mr John Scragg
  - Miss Pam Turner
  - Mr Paul Neale
  - Mr Philip Gill MBE, JP
- i) To extend the term of appointment of following the three current Independent Persons for a further year until the Annual Meeting of the new Council in May 2017 and to note that a recruitment process would be undertaken in advance of that date to recommend appointments to these positions:
- Mr Stuart Middleton
  - Mrs Caroline Baynes
  - Mr Colin Malcolm
- j) To appoint the following non-elected members to the Children's Select Committee:-

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <u>Non-Elected Voting Members</u>                                      | <u>Representing</u>                               |
| Mrs L Swainston  | Church of England                                 |
| Dr M Thompson  | Clifton Diocese Roman Catholic Church             |
| Vacancy  | Parent Governor (Secondary- maintained)           |
| Vacancy  | Parent Governor (Secondary – academy)             |
| Mrs A Kemp   | Parent Governor (Special Educational Needs)       |
| Mr K Brough  | Parent Governor (Primary)                         |
| <u>Non-Elected Non-Voting Members</u><br>(Up to Five)<br>James Wilkins | School, Children and Young People representatives |
| Ms Cathy Shahrokni   | Further Education Representative                  |
| Miss S Busby   | Secondary Schools Headteacher Representative      |
| Miss T Cornelius   | Primary School Headteachers Representative        |
| Mr J Hawkins   | School Teacher Representative                     |

**k) To appoint the following Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen:-**

| <b>Committee</b>                          | <b>Chairman</b>       | <b>Vice Chairman</b>          |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Strategic Planning Committee</b>       | <b>A Davis</b>        | <b>T Trotman</b>              |
| <b>Area Planning Committee – Eastern</b>  | <b>C Howard</b>       | <b>M Connolly</b>             |
| <b>Area Planning Committee – Northern</b> | <b>T Trotman</b>      | <b>P Hutton</b>               |
| <b>Area Planning Committee – Southern</b> | <b>F Westmoreland</b> | <b>C Devine</b>               |
| <b>Area Planning Committee – Western</b>  | <b>C Newbury</b>      | <b>J Knight</b>               |
| <b>Licensing Committee</b>                | <b>P Ridout</b>       | <b>D Allen</b>                |
| <b>Standards Committee</b>                | <b>J Johnson</b>      | <b>P Oatway</b>               |
| <b>Audit Committee</b>                    | <b>T Deane</b>        | <b>R Britton</b>              |
| <b>Staffing Policy Committee</b>          | <b>A Bucknell</b>     | <b>J Smale</b>                |
| <b>Officer Appointments Committee</b>     | <b>J Scott</b>        | <b>J Thomson</b>              |
| <b>Pension Fund Committee</b>             | <b>T Deane</b>        | <b>C Howard</b>               |
| <b>Health and Wellbeing Board</b>         | <b>J Scott</b>        | <b>delegated to the Board</b> |



- l) To note that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, the Select Committees, Area Boards and the Police and Crime Panel will be asked to elect their respective Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen at their first meeting following the annual meeting of council.**
- m) To appoint 10 members to serve as Council representatives on the Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority as detailed below:**

|                         |                    |                        |                   |
|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Conservative (6)</b> | <b>Lib Dem (2)</b> | <b>Independent (1)</b> | <b>Labour (1)</b> |
| <b>C Devine</b>         | <b>P Edge</b>      | <b>E Clark</b>         | <b>R Rogers</b>   |
| <b>G Payne</b>          | <b>B Jones</b>     |                        |                   |
| <b>M Groom</b>          |                    |                        |                   |
| <b>C Newbury</b>        |                    |                        |                   |
| <b>B Wayman</b>         |                    |                        |                   |
| <b>J Knight</b>         |                    |                        |                   |

## **38 Proposed Changes to the Constitution**

The Chairman invited Councillor Julian Johnson, Chairman of the Standards Committee, to present the report which asked Council to consider recommendations of the Standards Committee on Changes to the Constitution on the following matters:

- a) Part 13: Members Code of Conduct (Appendix 2)
- b) Part 12: Roles and Responsibility for Councillors (Appendix 3)
- c) Part 4: Council Rules of Procedure (Appendix 4)

Councillor Johnson then proposed, subsequently seconded by Councillor Paul Oatway, the following resolution:

*That Council approves changes to the Code of Conduct in Part 13 of the Constitution, as shown in the tracked change document at Appendix 2a.*

In relation to a) Part 13: Members Code of Conduct (Appendix 2), the Cabinet Member for Legal Services, Councillor Stuart Wheeler, proposed the following amendment:

That Council defers consideration of the proposed changes to the Constitution as set out in Paragraph 12 relating to the Code of Conduct for Members and asks the Standards Committee to consider a possible alternative to the amendments proposed being a full guidance prepared by the Monitoring Officer for Councillors to assist them in meeting their obligations under the Council's Code of Conduct. That Standards Committee be requested to bring back to the next meeting of this Council their full recommendations on this issue.

Councillor Wheeler made it clear that the Standards Committee would be free to recommend to Council whatever it considered appropriate.

Councillor Johnson, and Councillor Oatway, indicated that they accepted the amendment.

The Chairman then invited the Group Leaders to address the matter. Following this, Councillor Simon Killane stated that he would be seeking to submit evidence to the Standards Committee in relation to his concerns over the code of conduct complaints process.

There being no further debate, the meeting;

### **Resolved**

#### **To accept the amendment**

Councillor Johnson then proposed, subsequently the remaining recommendations from the report.

There being no further debate, the meeting;

### **Resolved**

- (a) That in relation to Part 13: Members Code of Conduct (Appendix 2) - that Council defers consideration of the proposed changes to the Constitution as set out in Paragraph 12 relating to the Code of Conduct for Members and asks the Standards Committee to consider a possible alternative to the amendments proposed being a full guidance prepared by the Monitoring Officer for Councillors to assist them in meeting their obligations under the Council's Code of Conduct. That Standards Committee be requested to bring back to the next meeting of this Council their full recommendations on this issue.**
- (b) That Council approve changes to Part 12 of the Constitution, as shown in the tracked change document at Appendix 3a.**
- (c) That Council approve changes to Part 4 of the Constitution, as shown in the tracked change document at Appendix 4a.**

## **39 Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee 2015/16**

Councillor Simon Killane, Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee presented the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2015/16.

Cllr Killane highlighted the work carried out during the year and particularly the work undertaken to positively challenge the work of Cabinet and how the Select Committee's workplan was prioritised to ensure consistency with the Council's Business Plan. He thanked the officers and members involved in Scrutiny for their commitment and singled out the Financial Planning Task Group for praise for their hard work.

Cllr Killane then gave the opportunity to the chairmen of the Select Committees to comment on relevant key activities during the year for their respective committees.

**Resolved:**

**To receive and note the Annual Report of Overview and Scrutiny for 2015/16.**

**40 Annual Report on Executive Decisions Taken Under Special Urgency Provision**

Council received an annual report as required by the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) Regulations 2012 concerning decisions taken by Cabinet under the Special Urgency procedure. The report related to the period since the last annual report to Council in May 2015.

The Deputy Leader confirmed that one decision had been taken by Cabinet using the Special Urgency procedure during this period. A report on the Expansion of St Leonards CE VA Primary School, details contained in the report. He confirmed that the relevant Regulations had been complied with and that this was a procedure only used in exceptional and urgent circumstances.

**Resolved:**

**That Council notes this report, and that one decision had been taken under the special urgency provision in the period since the last report on the 12 May 2015.**

**41 Councillor Request for Extended Leave of Absence - Councillor Helen Osborn**

The Chairman referred members to the report presented which proposed to accept a request for an extended leave of absence for Councillor Helen Osborn.

Councillor Ernie Clark wished to record his and his group's thanks to Councillor John Knight for looking after Councillor Helen Osborn's division and to the Baroness Scott as Conservative group leader for allowing this and to Councillor Christopher Newbury, Chairman of the Western Area Planning Committee for agreeing to Cllr Knight exercising the powers of planning call-in in Councillor Helen Osborn's absence.

On being put to the vote, it was

**Resolved**

- 1. To approve the request from Councillor Helen Osborn for an extension beyond the six month period of non-attendance on the grounds of ill health.**
- 2. That the extension be granted until the end of October 2016 which would allow for any request for a further extension being considered by Council at its meeting on 18 October 2016, and that In the event of that meeting either being cancelled or postponed, such an extension to remain in place until after the next available meeting of the Council.**

**42 Dates of Council meetings 2016/17**

On report by the Chairman, it was

**Resolved:**

**To approve the Council meetings for the remainder of 2016/17 as follows:**

**Resolved**

**2016**

**12 July  
28 October**

**2017**

**31 January (if required)  
21 February (budget meeting)**

**43 Minutes of Cabinet and Committees**

The Chairman moved that Council receive and note the following minutes as listed in the separate Minutes Book and this was duly seconded by the Vice-Chairman:

Cabinet: 15 March, 19 April 2016  
Cabinet Capital Assets Committee: 5 March 2016  
Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee: 1 March 2016  
Children's Select Committee: 22 March 2016  
Environment Select Committee: 12 January, 12 April 2016  
Health Select Committee: 12 January, 8 March 2016  
Strategic Planning Committee: 10 February 2016  
Northern Area Planning Committee: 17 February, 9 March, 30 March, 20 April 2016  
Eastern Area Planning Committee: 10 March, 21 April 2016  
Southern Area Planning Committee: 25 February, 7 April 2016  
Western Area Planning Committee: 16 March, 6 April 2016  
Audit Committee: 26 January 2016  
Local Pension Board: 7 April 2016  
Police and Crime Panel: 4 February, 3 March 2016  
Standards Committee: 16 September, 27 April 2016  
Staffing Policy Committee: 2 March 2016

The Chairman then invited questions from members on points of information or clarification on the above minutes and gave the Chairmen of those meetings the opportunity to make any important announcements on the work of their respective Committees.

**Councillor Ian McLennan – Cabinet – 19 April 2016 – Minute No. 53 -  
Salisbury City Council Asset Transfer – Cabinet Approval of Transfer from  
Wiltshire Council**

Councillor Dick Tonge, in response to a question from Councillor Ian McLennan, explained that he remained open to all offers to maintain assets, but that the maintenance of the five park and ride sites, including those outside of the City Council area but serving it, were included in the proposed agreement with Salisbury City Council. He reminded Councillor McLennan that he had had the opportunity to challenge it at the time.

**Resolved:**

**That the above mentioned minutes be received and noted.**

**44 Councillors' Questions**

The Chairman reported receipt of questions from Councillors Terry Chivers, Ernie Clark, Mary Douglas, Chris Hurst and Chris Caswill details of which were circulated in Agenda Supplement No. 1 together with responses where

available from the relevant Cabinet member. Details of questions and written responses provided are attached as Appendix 3 Verbal responses were also provided as indicated.

Questioners were permitted to each ask one relevant supplementary question per question submitted and where they did so, the relevant Cabinet member responded as summarised below:

1. Councillor Ernie Clark to Councillor Fleur de Rhé-Philippe (16/17)

In response to a supplementary question, Councillor Fleur de Rhé-Philippe stated that the grant would be awarded to the Transforming Trowbridge group once an agreement had been reached, and that such a grant would be to support the groups activities in promoting inward investment to Trowbridge, not for activities in relation to boundary changes.

2. Councillor Mary Douglas to Councillor Baroness Scott of Bybrook OBE (16/18)

In response to a supplementary question, Councillor John Thomson stated that recent refugees had settled in well, and that the Council had written to the Government to outline further capacity taking into account the offers of support from various agencies including church groups.

3. Councillor Chris Hurst to Councillor Philip Whitehead (16/18)

Councillor Philip Whitehead responded verbally that discussion had been ongoing with various parish and town council with the majority of facilities transferring on the 1<sup>st</sup> April. However, this had not been completed in Royal Wotton Bassett and the facilities had closed until such time as the agreement between the Town Council and Wiltshire Council had been reached.

In response to a supplementary question from Councillor Hurst, Councillor Whitehead pointed out that whilst he sympathised with their position, it had been possible to reach agreement with every other town council. He also referred to the successful launch of the community toilet scheme, He confirmed that the toilets in Royal Wootton Bassett could be transferred and therefore reopened just as soon as the town council reached agreement with this Council.

It was noted that Councillor Caswill's questions were taken under the item to which they related, the Draft Chippenham Site Allocations Plan: Update.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – membership of Area Boards

Appendix 2 – membership of Committees  
Appendix 3 - Councillors' questions

(Duration of meeting: 10.30 am - 3.47 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Yamina Rhouati, of Democratic & Members' Services, direct line 01225 718024, e-mail [Yamina.Rhouati@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Yamina.Rhouati@wiltshire.gov.uk)

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**Area Boards: Electoral Divisions****Amesbury Area Board****Electoral Divisions 6**

Amesbury East  
 Amesbury West  
 Till & Wylde Valley  
 Durrington & Larkhill  
 Bulford, Allington & Figheldean  
 Bourne & Woodford Valley

**Members**

John Noeken  
 Fred Westmoreland  
 Ian West  
 Graham Wright  
 John Smale  
 Mike Hewitt

**Bradford on Avon Area Board****Electoral Divisions 4**

Holt & Staverton  
 Winsley & Westwood  
 Bradford on Avon North  
 Bradford on Avon South

**Members**

Trevor Carbin  
 Magnus Macdonald  
 Rosemary Brown  
 Ian Thorn

**Calne Area Board****Electoral Divisions 5**

Calne Rural  
 Calne North  
 Calne Chilvester & Abberd  
 Calne Central  
 Calne South & Cherhill

**Members**

Christine Crisp  
 Glenis Ansell  
 Tony Trotman  
 Howard Marshall  
 Alan Hill

**Chippenham Area Board****Electoral Divisions 10**

By Brook  
 Chippenham Cepen Park & Derriads  
 Chippenham Cepen Park & Redlands  
 Chippenham Hardenhuish  
 Chippenham Monkton  
 Chippenham Queens and Sheldon  
 Chippenham Hardens and England  
 Chippenham Lowdon and Rowden  
 Chippenham Pewsham  
 Kington

**Members**

Jane Scott  
 Peter Hutton  
 Nina Phillips  
 Nick Watts  
 Chris Caswill  
 Desna Allen  
 Bill Douglas  
 Linda Packard  
 Mark Packard  
 Howard Greenman

### **Corsham Area Board**

#### **Electoral Divisions 4**

Box and Colerne  
Corsham Pickwick  
Corsham Without & Box Hill  
Corsham Town

#### **Members**

Sheila Parker  
Alan Macrae  
Dick Tonge  
Philip Whalley

### **Devizes Area Board**

#### **Electoral Divisions 7**

Bromham, Rowde and Potterne  
Devizes & Roundway South  
Devizes East  
Devizes North  
Roundway  
The Lavingtons & Erlestoke  
Urchfont & The Cannings

#### **Members**

Liz Bryant  
Simon Jacobs  
Peter Evans  
Sue Evans  
Laura Mayes  
Richard Gamble  
Philip Whitehead

### **Malmesbury Area Board**

#### **Electoral Divisions 4**

Brinkworth  
Malmesbury  
Minety  
Sherston

#### **Members**

Toby Sturgis  
Simon Killane  
Chuck Berry  
John Thomson

### **Marlborough Area Board**

#### **Electoral Divisions 4**

Aldbourne & Ramsbury  
Marlborough East  
Marlborough West  
West Selkley

#### **Members**

James Sheppard  
Stewart Dobson  
Nick Fogg  
Jemima Milton

### **Melksham Area Board**

#### **Electoral Divisions 6**

Melksham Central  
Melksham North  
Melksham South  
Melksham Without North  
Melksham Without South  
Summerham and Seend

#### **Members**

David Pollitt  
Pat Aves  
Jon Hubbard  
Terry Chivers  
Roy While  
Jonathon Seed

### **Pewsey and Tidworth Area Committee**

#### **Electoral Divisions 6**

Pewsey Vale  
Pewsey  
Burbage & The Bedwyns  
The Collingbournes & Netheravon  
Ludgershall & Perham Down  
Tidworth

#### **Members**

Paul Oatway  
Jerry Kunkler  
Stuart Wheeler  
Charles Howard  
Chris Williams  
Mark Connolly

### **Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board**

#### **Electoral Divisions 6**

Cricklade and Latton  
Lyneham  
Purton  
Royal Wootton Bassett East  
Royal Wootton Bassett North  
Royal Wootton Bassett South

#### **Members**

Bob Jones  
Allison Bucknell  
Jacqui Lay  
Mollie Groom  
Mary Champion  
Chris Hurst

### **Salisbury Area Board**

#### **Electoral Divisions 8**

Salisbury Fisherton & Bemerton  
Village  
Salisbury Bemerton  
Salisbury Harnham  
Salisbury St Edmund & Milford  
Salisbury St Francis & Stratford  
Salisbury St Mark's & Bishopdown  
Salisbury St Martin's & Cathedral  
Salisbury St Paul's

#### **Members**

John Walsh  
  
Ricky Rogers  
Brian Dalton  
Helena McKeown  
Mary Douglas  
Bill Moss  
Ian Tomes  
Richard Clewer

### **South West Wiltshire Area Board**

#### **Electoral Divisions 5**

Fovant & Chalke Valley  
Mere  
Nadder & East Knoyle  
Tisbury  
Wilton & Lower Wylde Valley

#### **Members**

Jose Green  
George Jeans  
Bridget Wayman  
Tony Deane  
Peter Edge

### **Southern Wiltshire Area Board**

#### **Electoral Divisions 5**

Alderbury & Whiteparish  
Downton & Ebbles Valley  
Laverstock, Ford and Old Sarum  
Redlynch & Landford  
Winterslow

#### **Members**

Richard Britton  
Julian Johnson  
Ian McLennan  
Leo Randall  
Christopher Devine

### **Trowbridge Area Board**

#### **Electoral Divisions 9**

Hilperton  
Southwick  
Trowbridge Adcroft  
Trowbridge Central  
Trowbridge Drynam  
Trowbridge Grove  
Trowbridge Lambrok  
Trowbridge Park  
Trowbridge Paxcroft

#### **Members**

Ernie Clark  
Horace Prickett  
Nick Blakemore  
John Knight  
Graham Payne  
Jeff Osborn  
Helen Osborn  
Dennis Drewett  
Steve Oldrieve

### **Warminster Area Board**

#### **Electoral Divisions 5**

Warminster Without  
Warminster Broadway  
Warminster Copheap and Wylde  
Warminster East  
Warminster West

#### **Members**

Fleur de Rhe- Philippe  
Keith Humphries  
Christopher Newbury  
Andrew Davis  
Pip Ridout

### **Westbury Area Board**

#### **Electoral Divisions 4**

Ethandune  
Westbury East  
Westbury North  
Westbury West

#### **Members**

Jerry Wickham  
Gordon King  
David Jenkins  
Russell Hawker

**Appointment of Committee Members  
Agreed by Annual Council 13 May 2014**

**Strategic Planning Committee (11)**

| Conservative Group (7) | Liberal Democrat Group (3) | Labour Group (0) | Independent (1) | UKIP (0) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| A Davis                | G Ansell                   | -                | T. Chivers      | -        |
| S Dobson               | D Jenkins                  |                  |                 |          |
| C Howard               | G Wright                   |                  |                 |          |
| W Moss                 |                            |                  |                 |          |
| C Newbury              |                            |                  |                 |          |
| A Trotman              |                            |                  |                 |          |
| F Westmoreland         |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
| Substitutes:           |                            |                  |                 |          |
| J Shepherd             | B Douglas                  |                  | E Clark         |          |
| M Douglas              | H Marshall                 |                  | D Drewett       |          |
| P Oatway               | N Watts                    |                  | G Jeans         |          |
| J Wickham              | I West                     |                  |                 |          |

**Area Planning Committee – East (8)**

| Conservative Group (7) | Liberal Democrat Group (0) | Labour Group (0) | Independent (1) | UKIP (0) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| M Connolly             | -                          | -                | N Fogg          |          |
| S Dobson               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| P Evans                |                            |                  |                 |          |
| R Gamble               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| J Kunkler              |                            |                  |                 |          |
| P Oatway               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| C Howard               |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
| Substitutes:           |                            |                  |                 |          |
| E Bryant               |                            |                  | T Chivers       |          |
| J Sheppard             |                            |                  | E Clark         |          |
| P Whitehead            |                            |                  | D Drewett       |          |
| C Williams             |                            |                  | J Osborn        |          |

**Area Planning Committee – North (11)**

| Conservative Group (7) | Liberal Democrat Group (3) | Labour Group (0) | Independent (1) | UKIP (0) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| C Crisp                | H Marshall                 | -                | S Killane       | -        |
| M Groom                | C Hurst                    |                  |                 |          |
| P Hutton               | M Packard                  |                  |                 |          |
| S Parker               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| T Sturgis              |                            |                  |                 |          |
| A Trotman              |                            |                  |                 |          |
| P Whalley              |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
| Substitutes:           |                            |                  |                 |          |
| C Berry                | D Allen                    |                  | E Clark         |          |
| M Champion             | G Ansell                   |                  | T Chivers       |          |
| H Greenman             | B Douglas                  |                  | D Drewett       |          |
| J Lay                  | N Watts                    |                  |                 |          |

**Area Planning Committee – South (11)**

| Conservative Group (6) | Liberal Democrat Group (2) | Labour Group (2) | Independent (1) | UKIP (0) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| R Britton              | B Dalton                   | I McLennan       | G Jeans         | -        |
| R Clewer               | I West                     | I Tomes          |                 |          |
| C Devine               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| J Green                |                            |                  |                 |          |
| M Hewitt               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| F Westmoreland         |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
| Substitutes:           |                            |                  |                 |          |
| A Deane                | P Edge                     | J Walsh          | T Chivers       |          |
| L Randall              | H McKeown                  | R Rogers         | E Clark         |          |
| J Smale                | G Wright                   |                  | D Drewett       |          |
| B Wayman               | M Macdonald                |                  |                 |          |

**Area Planning Committee – West (11)**

| Conservative Group (7) | Liberal Democrat Group (2) | Labour Group (0) | Independent (2) | UKIP (0) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| A Davis                | T Carbin                   | -                | E Clark         | -        |
| J Knight               | M Macdonald                |                  | D Drewett       |          |
| C Newbury              |                            |                  |                 |          |
| H Prickett             |                            |                  |                 |          |
| P Ridout               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| J Seed                 |                            |                  |                 |          |
| R While                |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
| Substitutes:           |                            |                  |                 |          |
| J Wickham              | N Blakemore                |                  | T Chivers       |          |
| F de Rhé<br>Philippe   | R Brown                    |                  | J Osborn        |          |
| K Humphries            | S Oldrieve                 |                  | R Hawker        |          |
| G Payne                | G King                     |                  |                 |          |

**Licensing Committee (12)**

| Conservative Group (7) | Liberal Democrat Group (3) | Labour Group (0) | Independent (2) | UKIP (0) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| A Bucknell             | D Allen                    | -                | G Jeans         | -        |
| S Evans                | N Blakemore                |                  | D Drewett       |          |
| J Green                | N Watts                    |                  |                 |          |
| M Hewitt               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| S Jacobs               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| L Randall              |                            |                  |                 |          |
| P Ridout               |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
| Substitutes:           |                            |                  |                 |          |
| E Bryant               | G Ansell                   |                  | N Fogg          |          |
| A Davis                | B Douglas                  |                  | E Clark         |          |
| H Greenman             | T Carbin                   |                  | J Osborn        |          |
| W Moss                 | H Marshall                 |                  |                 |          |

### **Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (15)**

| Conservative Group (8) | Liberal Democrat Group (4) | Labour Group (1) | Independent (2) | UKIP (0) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| C Crisp                | J Hubbard                  | J Walsh          | J Osborn        | -        |
| S Dobson               | G King                     |                  | S Killane       |          |
| A Hill                 | M Packard                  |                  |                 |          |
| J Lay                  | Ian Thorn                  |                  |                 |          |
| P Ridout               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| B Wayman               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| P Whalley              |                            |                  |                 |          |
| J Noeken               |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
| Substitutes:           |                            |                  |                 |          |
| M Douglas              | G Ansell                   | R Rogers         |                 |          |
| H Greenman             | T Carbin                   |                  | G Jeans         |          |
| P Oatway               | D Jenkins                  |                  | H Osborn        |          |
| C Berry                | N Watts                    |                  | E Clark         |          |

### **Children's Select Committee (13)**

| Conservative Group (8) | Liberal Democrat Group (3) | Labour Group (1) | Independent (1) | UKIP (0) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| M Champion             | P Aves                     | R Rogers         | H Osborn        | -        |
| M Douglas              | J Hubbard                  |                  |                 |          |
| S Evans                | C Hurst                    |                  |                 |          |
| J Lay                  |                            |                  |                 |          |
| S Jacobs               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| W Moss                 |                            |                  |                 |          |
| C Crisp                |                            |                  |                 |          |
| P Whalley              |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
| Substitutes:           |                            |                  |                 |          |
| C Berry                | T Carbin                   | J Walsh          | T Chivers       |          |
| J Shepherd             | P Edge                     |                  | D Drewett       |          |
| A Davis                | I Thorn                    |                  | J Osborn        |          |
| S Dobson               | H Mckeown                  |                  |                 |          |



**Environment Select Committee (13)**

| Conservative Group (7) | Liberal Democrat Group (4) | Labour Group (1) | Independent (1) | UKIP (0) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| P Evans                | L Packard                  | I McLennan       | D Drewett       |          |
| J Green                | B Dalton                   |                  |                 |          |
| M Groom                | P Edge                     |                  |                 |          |
| J Lay                  | M Macdonald                |                  |                 |          |
| C Newbury              |                            |                  |                 |          |
| J Sheppard             |                            |                  |                 |          |
| B Wayman               |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
| Substitutes:           |                            |                  |                 |          |
| A Deane                | B Jones                    | I Tomes          | T Chivers       |          |
| M Hewitt               | T Carbin                   | R Rogers         | N Fogg          |          |
| E Bryant               | R Brown                    |                  | G Jeans         |          |
| P Whalley              | I West                     |                  | J Osborn        |          |

**Health Select Committee (13)**

| Conservative Group (7) | Liberal Democrat Group (3) | Labour Group (1) | Independent (2) | UKIP (0) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| M Champion             | B Jones                    |                  | J Osborn        |          |
| C Crisp                | G King                     | J Walsh          | C Caswill       |          |
| M Douglas              | H Mckeown                  |                  |                 |          |
| J Noeken               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| J Knight               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| N Philips              |                            |                  |                 |          |
| P Ridout               |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
| Substitutes:           |                            |                  |                 |          |
| C Berry                | T Carbin                   | I McLennan       | D Drewett       |          |
| S Evans                | D Jenkins                  | R Rogers         |                 |          |
| J Johnson              | N Watts                    |                  | H Osborn        |          |
| P Evans                | P Aves                     |                  | T Chivers       |          |

**Standards Committee ( 11)**

| Conservative Group (7) | Liberal Democrat Group (3) | Labour Group (0) | Independent (1) | UKIP (0) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| A Bucknell             | D Allen                    |                  | T Chivers       |          |
| H Greenman             | T Carbin                   |                  |                 |          |
| J Johnson              | R Brown                    |                  |                 |          |
| J Noeken               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| P Oatway               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| H Prickett             |                            |                  |                 |          |
| S Parker               |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
| Substitutes:           |                            |                  |                 |          |
| M Douglas              | G Ansell                   |                  | E Clark         |          |
| J Wickham              | M Macdonald                |                  | D Drewett       |          |
| P Ridout               | H Marshall                 |                  |                 |          |
| J Smale                | B Jones                    |                  | G Jeans         |          |

**Police and Crime Panel (7)**

| Conservative Group (4) | Liberal Democrat Group (2) | Labour Group (0) | Independent (1) | UKIP (0) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| R Britton              | G Ansell                   | -                |                 |          |
| C Howard               | T Carbin                   |                  | C Caswill       |          |
| P Hutton               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| J Johnson              |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
| Substitutes:           | B Dalton                   |                  | E Clark         |          |
| C Berry                | L Packard                  |                  |                 |          |
| S Evans                | I Thorn                    |                  | N Fogg          |          |
| T Trotman              | H McKeown                  |                  | J Osborn        |          |

### **Audit Committee (11)**

| Conservative Group (6) | Liberal Democrat Group (3) | Labour Group (0) | Independent (1) | UKIP (1)  |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| R Britton              | R Brown                    | -                | H Osborn        | D Pollitt |
| A Deane                | S Oldrieve                 |                  |                 |           |
| S Dobson               | L Packard                  |                  |                 |           |
| J Johnson              |                            |                  |                 |           |
| S Parker               |                            |                  |                 |           |
| J Sheppard             |                            |                  |                 |           |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |           |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |           |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |           |
| Substitutes:           |                            |                  |                 |           |
| P Evans                | H McKeown                  |                  | T Chivers       |           |
| M Hewitt               | I West                     |                  | N Fogg          |           |
| J Lay                  | M Packard                  |                  | G Jeans         |           |
| J Noeken               | D Jenkins                  |                  | J Osborn        |           |

### **Appeals Committee (8)**

| Conservative Group (5) | Liberal Democrat Group (2) | Labour Group (1) | Independent (0) | UKIP (0) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| C Berry                | H Marshall                 | I Tomes          | -               | -        |
| A Bucknell             | B Douglas                  |                  |                 |          |
| A Davis                |                            |                  |                 |          |
| A Deane                |                            |                  |                 |          |
| S Parker               |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
| Substitutes:           |                            |                  |                 |          |
| M Hewitt               | P Aves                     |                  |                 |          |
| J Knight               | P Edge                     |                  |                 |          |
| P Oatway               | G Wright                   |                  |                 |          |
| F Westmoreland         | D Allen                    |                  |                 |          |

### **Staffing Policy Committee (9)**

| Conservative Group (5) | Liberal Democrat Group (3) | Labour Group (0) | Independent (0) | UKIP (1)   |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------|
| A Bucknell             | B Jones                    | -                | -               | D. Pollitt |
| M Hewitt               | D Jenkins                  |                  |                 |            |
| J Scott                | G Wright                   |                  |                 |            |
| J Smale                |                            |                  |                 |            |
| S Wheeler              |                            |                  |                 |            |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |            |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |            |
| Substitutes:           |                            |                  |                 |            |
| F de Rhé Philipe       | D Allen                    |                  |                 |            |
| P Evans                | M Packard                  |                  |                 |            |
| W Moss                 | N Blakemore                |                  |                 |            |
| A Trotman              | S Oldrieve                 |                  |                 |            |

**Officer Appointments Committee (5)**

| Conservative Group (3) | Liberal Democrat Group (1) | Labour Group (0) | Independent (1) | UKIP (0) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| F de Rhe Philipe       | J Hubbard                  | -                | N Fogg          | -        |
| J Scott                |                            |                  |                 |          |
| J Thomson              |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
| Substitutes:           |                            |                  |                 |          |
| K Humphries            | P Edge                     |                  | T Chivers       |          |
| L Mayes                | B Jones                    |                  | D Drewett       |          |
| J Seed                 | G King                     |                  | G Jeans         |          |
| S Wheeler              | H McKeown                  |                  | J Osborn        |          |

**Pension Fund Committee (5)**

| Conservative Group (4) | Liberal Democrat Group (1) | Labour Group (0) | Independent (0) | UKIP (0) |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|
| A Deane                | M Packard                  | -                | -               | -        |
| C Howard               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| S Parker               |                            |                  |                 |          |
| R While                |                            |                  |                 |          |
|                        |                            |                  |                 |          |
| Substitutes:           |                            |                  |                 |          |
| F de Rhe<br>Philippe   | C Hurst                    |                  |                 |          |
| C Newbury              | I Thorn                    |                  |                 |          |
| P Whitehead            | B Jones                    |                  |                 |          |
|                        | G King                     |                  |                 |          |

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**Wiltshire Council**

**Council**

**12 May 2015**

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**Item 17 - Councillors' Questions**

**From Councillor Terry Chivers, Melksham Without South Division**

**To Councillor Toby Sturgis, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning,  
Development Management, Strategic Housing, Property and Waste**

**Question 1**

Residents a of Wiltshire who have signed up for the green waste collection tax. Have been issued with a sticker to place on their bin to identify they have paid the green tax. If a bin has been stolen, or damaged by the Councils contractor will there be a £25 charge for a replacement bin.

**Response**

**Verbal Response:** The £25 delivery charge will apply to residents who ask the council to retrieve their garden waste bin, but who then decide to opt-in to the new chargeable collection scheme within a year. Bins that are lost or damaged would not be subject to a delivery fee. From 15 June 2015 only garden waste bins with a council-issued label will be emptied.

**Question 2**

**Question withdrawn by member**



**Wiltshire Council**

**Council**

**12 May 2015**

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**Item 17 - Councillors' Questions**

**From Councillor Terry Chivers, Melksham Without South Division**

**To Councillor Stuart Wheeler, Cabinet Member for Hubs, Heritage & Arts, Governance (including information management), Support Services (HR, Legal, ICT, Business Services, Democratic Services)**

**Question 3**

How many local Parish and town Councils have been forced to increase council tax to provide services that should be provided by Wiltshire council?

**Response**

**Verbal Response:** I take the word 'should' to be determinative - in other words they are services the council *has* to provide under its statutory duty, and the answer is no parish or town council is required to raise funds to pay for any activities that the council has to provide.

If you extend that to say activities that a local council might think the council *ought* to provide, which could be many and varied, then it's up to that parish or town council to increase their precept accordingly in order to provide services that their residents want.

But the short answer to your question is none.

**Wiltshire Council**

**Council**

**12 May 2015**

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**Item 17 - Councillors' Questions**

**From Councillor Terry Chivers, Melksham Without South Division**

**To Councillor Richard Tonge, Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Risk**

**Question 4**

As from April 1st all residents of Wiltshire are being charged £40 in the form of a green bin tax. Payment can be made by credit or debit card, by cheque or by phone.

What arrangements are being made for residents without bank accounts that wish to pay by cash.

**Response**

At 6th May 30676 payments had been made of which 105 were cash. Cash payments can be made at the three hubs and Snuff Street in Devizes. Like all payments to the council we promote methods that are the most cost effective and secure for the customer and the council.

**Item 17 - Councillors' Questions**

**From Councillor Helen Osborn, Trowbridge Lambrok Division**

**To Councillor John Thomson, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Communities, Campuses, Area Boards and Broadband**

**Question 5**

May the Council please me informed of the extent of the current overspend on the Corsham campus and the reasons for this?

**Response**

**Verbal Response:** Springfield Community Campus in Corsham is nearing completion. The first phase opened last August, providing a new and expanded library, café, climbing wall, exhibition space and a variety of multi-purpose community rooms for hire. The final phase includes a complete refurbishment of the former leisure centre including swimming pool, wet changing rooms, a new health suite, extended fitness suite and a spin studio. The refurbishment incurred an additional cost due to the need to replace the plumbing and electrics, as well as moving asbestos. The sports hall, two squash courts and the movement studio also required unexpected refurbishment following flooding last December.

These factors combined and a change in contractor led to an increase cost of around £3.4million, which will be met from the Campus budget.

**Question 6**

What is the estimated completion date for the Melksham campus and is it likely to come in on budget?

**Response**

**Verbal Response:** Work to delivery new football and rugby pitches and facilities at Woolmore farm in Melksham will commence in the next few weeks. New facilities will be the first phase of the new Campus and will see new clubs playing from the new venue for the 2016/17 season.

Clearance of protected newts on the site has meant a delay in the building programme and this means both clubs will contain to play at their existing premises for the 2015/16 season.

Woolmore farm is a significant investment of around £6million; the Campus site at Melksham House will commence following relocation of the clubs in May 2016. The Area Board is working with the COB [and] will review the design plans to ensure they are within the approved budget. This works commences in the next few weeks to consider revisions and external funding contributions.

The campus is scheduled to open early 2018. We've actually also invested £21,000 to enable the football and rugby clubs to continue the use of their facilities, as there was some work which had been delayed because they were expected to move. We felt it was only fair to do that work for them.

### **Question 7**

Is the NHS still committed to involvement with the campus programme?

### **Response**

**Verbal Response:** The NHS is committed to being part of the campus programmes and we're in negotiations with them on various campuses on the space and involvement they wish to pursue.

### **Question 8**

What is the capital borrowing requirement for completion of the first seven campuses?

### **Response**

**Verbal Response:** *It is estimated to be in the region of £50m as was set out in previous reports to members.*

**Wiltshire Council**

**Council**

**12 May 2015**

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**Item 17 - Councillors' Questions**

**From Councillor Terry Chivers, Melksham Without South Division**

**To Councillor John Thomson, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Communities, Campuses, Area Boards and Broadband**

**Question 9**

Wiltshire Council has known about the presence of newts on the new site for Melksham Town FC and Melksham Ruby for some time.

Why was it left so late before these two clubs were told that they would be remaining at their present grounds for another season?

Is it really the newts holding the move up or just a red herring as suggested in the Editorial of The Wiltshire Times?

[http://www.wiltshiretimes.co.uk/news/12882708.Newts\\_delay\\_Melksham\\_developments\\_by\\_a\\_year/](http://www.wiltshiretimes.co.uk/news/12882708.Newts_delay_Melksham_developments_by_a_year/)

**Response**

**Verbal Response:**

Wiltshire Council has known about the presence of newts on the new site for Melksham Town Football and Melksham Town Rugby for some time, and your question was 'Why was it left so late before these two clubs were told?'

The site was identified for the proposed rugby and football club at Woolmore farm as previously dedicated under licence by Natural England as a habitat mitigation in conjunction with the development at Melksham Oak Community School. As such Wiltshire Council has always been aware of the presence of reptiles on this site, and the necessity to secure further licence from Natural England to disturb] the inhabitants of great crested newts.

It should be noted that great crested newts are afforded full protection under the wildlife and countryside protection act 1981, as amended [by the] The conservation of habitats and species regulation (2010).

It is illegal to capture, injure or kill any wild animal protected under this legislation. It is also illegal to damage or destroy any aspect of their habitat without licensed consent from Natural England. Failure to comply with the requirement of this legislation can result in a custodial sentence up to 6 months.

The project team worked with their appointed specialist and Natural England to demonstrate an effective level of migration associated with the development . Also to secure sufficient habitat areas and connectivity between breeding ponds across the site. In order to make the licence acceptable to Natural England it was first necessary to secure the planning permission for the site. Planning was finally received on 16 July 2014, later than anticipated due to the sensitive nature of the site and necessary highway information.

On receipt of planning permission the licence application was made to Natural England, including a detailed reason statement to justify the council's case for further distributing protected species on this site. The licence from Natural England was received on the 28<sup>th</sup> October 2014 approximately 6 weeks later than their original target date, processing the application and listing the licence.

The licence requires an area in question be suitable fenced to enable the effective trapping and removal of the protected species outside of the development area. The licence also states the trapping period must take place over a minimum of 30 days, and the area can only be deemed clear following a period of 5 consecutive days where no reptiles are identified in the traps.

Also, most importantly, the licence precludes any trapping taking place where any night time temperatures fall below 5 degrees. On receipt of the licence and preparations of the reptile fencing it became apparent temperatures had fallen below the required level. As such the operation was postponed pending increased temperatures.

The trapping process has now commenced and it is anticipated that the work will commence on site shortly . Work to deliver the new football and rugby pitches and facilities at Woolmore farm in Melksham will commence in the next few weeks. New facilities [will be]for the first phase of the new campus, and will see the clubs playing from the new venue for the 2016-17 season.

The clearance of protected newts on the site has meant a delay in the build programme and this means that both clubs will continue to play at their existing premises for the 2015-16 season.

Woolmore farm is a significant investment of around £6million. The campus site at Melksham House will commence following the relocation of the clubs in 2016. The Area Board is working with the COB and review the design plans to ensure they are within the approved budget. This work will commence in the next few weeks to consider revisions and external funding contributions and the campus is scheduled to open early 2018.

**Wiltshire Council**

**Council**

**12 May 2015**

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**Item 17 - Councillors' Questions**

**From Councillor Chris Caswill, Chippenham Monkton Division**

**To Councillor Toby Sturgis, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning,  
Development Management, Strategic Housing, Property and Waste**

**Question 10**

How many responses were received to the Draft Chippenham Site Allocation Plan? What number and percentage of the total said that they found the Plan to be unsound?

**Response**

**Verbal Response:** We have received 570 representations from 332 contributors of whom 270 contributors stated that they thought the draft Chippenham Site Allocations Plan unsound.

**Question 11**

When will all the public responses to the Draft Chippenham Site Allocation Plan be loaded onto the Council web site? As of 5th May, nearly one month after consultation closed, no responses from the CAUSE 2015 residents group have appeared there, when will they be available?

**Response**

**Verbal Response:** All of the responses are now available on the Council's consultation portal, including the representations from CAUSE 2015.

**Question 12**

How many hectares of land does Wiltshire Council own in each of the Areas C, D and E respectively of the Draft Chippenham Site Allocation Plan?

**Response**

**Verbal Response:** Wiltshire Council owns 77 hectares in Area C, 194 hectares in Area D, and 2.8 hectares in Area E.

### **Question 13**

The official 2011-2016 Wiltshire Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2, Appendix 1 Chippenham Community Area, includes a southern link road and costs for the river crossing. Why is this now being airbrushed out of the Council's plans?

### **Response**

**Verbal Response:** Proposals for development south west of Chippenham contained within the draft Chippenham Site Allocations Plan (proposal CH1) include the requirement that the "Design and layout of development must not prohibit a potential future road connection to land to the east", so not prejudicing the scope for a southern link road in future development plans for the town that look beyond 2026. A southern link road is not being 'airbrushed' out of Council plans. However, it is not needed in the period to 2026.

### **Question 14**

What is the revised timetable for the preparation of the Chippenham DPD? Does this now include reconsideration by the Cabinet?

### **Response**

**Verbal Response:** Officers are currently considering all comments received to determine whether issues of soundness have been raised requiring further consideration by Cabinet, as set out in the resolution of Cabinet on 10 February 2015. If issues of soundness requiring further consideration by Cabinet have been raised, then this will be put on the Forward Work Plan.



**Item 17 - Councillors' Questions**

**From Councillor Chris Caswill, Chippenham Monkton Division**

**To Councillor Keith Humphries, Cabinet Member for Public Health, Protection Services, Adult Care and Housing (exc strategic housing)**

**Question 15**

How much additional funding has been provided to the Council by Central Government to assist with the implementation of the Care Act 2014, which came into effect on April 1<sup>st</sup>?

**Response**

The Council will receive £2.7m of direct grant, plus £2.5m from the Better Care Fund.

**Question 16**

At 2015 prices, what do you estimate the additional annual cost to the Council of implementing the Care Act will be, after any Government additional funding has been taken into account?

**Response**

The most recent national model used to gauge the impact of the Care Act on the council suggests a total financial impact for carers and support of £5 million. Assessment accounts for £0.5m and support £4.5m. The details are in a paper presented to cabinet on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

**Question 17**

How many additional assessments for carers do you expect the Council will need to carry out in Wiltshire? Are the staff in post to do this work?

**Response**

This is a very difficult question to answer. The Census tells us there are 48,000 carers in Wiltshire. Carers Support Wiltshire, who do all the work for us on our behalf, have identified only 8,000 carers registered with them.

Of the others there'll be lots of people who don't want to be identified as carers for one reason or another and haven't come forward.

What we can say is that last year we carried out assessments on 1200 carers and our modelling is based on 100% increase in that to 2400. But the truth is, in reality, we have no way of knowing how many of those extra 40000 people are going to come forward.

as the Care Act came into force and that hasn't happened. So whether they'll be another one later when the winter period comes on we just don't know.

But we are monitoring the situation as carefully as we possibly can, and if we need extra staff, we will work with Clearance Support Wiltshire to take them on and I also refer you to the Cabinet report in January 2015 in which we spelt out our new model of support for Carers - a new model of assessment and support - which will reduce the number of assessments we actually need to do.

When questioned at the last Council, meeting about the Help to Live at Home Service, your response included the statement that *"At the moment things are going well, and we need to keep them that way."* Since then the Care Quality Commission has found that a second of the four Council HTLH providers, MiHomeCare, is now falling seriously short of the required standards. They 'require improvement' in three out of five inspection categories and are found to be Inadequate in terms of safety. The report states bluntly "The service is not safe." More than one breach of the Health and Social Care Act Regulations is recorded.

At the same time, the CQC web site continues to rate the Mears HTLH service as 'Requires Improvement'. This comes after three inspections in less than a year and (we are told) many hours of work by Council officers to help improve the service. The latest inspection was announced to Mears in advance and does thankfully report some improvements, as one would expect after the amount of attention that has been given over the last 11 months. However the service still 'requires improvement' in four out of five inspection categories and the situation is far less satisfactory than suggested in your upbeat response at the February Council meeting. For example, the CQC found in December that "whilst improvements had been made to the (Mears) service, the administration of people's medicines was not safe".

### **Question 18**

I appreciate that Cabinet administrations, relying on their political majorities, often find it awkward to admit to getting things wrong. But isn't it time in this case to say sorry to those vulnerable Wiltshire people who have relied on the Council's contractors, but have been let down by them, and even sometimes been put at risk?

### **Response**

The CQC report on Mears was published on February 27th 2015 and refers to an inspection that took place in December 2014 at the time restrictions on the company were lifted. The problem is that assessment will stay on the CQC website saying Mears are in need of improvement even though all those improvements have been put in place, and it will stay there until the next CQC inspection which could be 12-18 months time. I think that's grossly unfair, there's a lot of lobbying - not just from us - from across the country to have that system changed but that's the way it is. It does not mean that Mears, at the moment, are in need of improvement.

I'm sorry you think our contractors have let people down but I would like to point out that our customers don't think that is the case.

A recent survey of customers supported at home has shown that the proportion who say that our services have made them feel safe and secure has risen over three years from 83% to 88%.

In addition the official statistics - in the 6 months up to March 2015 our Help to Live at Home (HTLAH) providers carried out 300,000 visits across all four HTLAH providers to customers. The total number of complaints across all the companies concerning standards in care, late visits and missed calls amounted to just 54 which is about 0.18%.

H2LAH is a complex and innovative service. It involves over 600 staff and several thousand customers with 600,000 visits made annually. Everybody in the system strives to give the best service possible but as in any complex human system situations arise and occasionally things dip.

It is important we learn from such events – safeguarding is paramount. It's something we all care about in our world of adult care, and when we need to, we work to support our providers, to get things back on track as quickly as we can.

Nobody who works with adult care is complacent. We work with the CQC. We have a quality assurance inspection routine in place and are looking to enhance this by working with Health Watch to design an even more robust system.

Therefore, although we have had problems to overcome, and I don't doubt there will be other problems in the future, overall I stand by what I said before, this is a complex system and generally it is working well and we will strive to keep it like that.

### **Question 19**

The whole Better Care Strategy and the widely shared ambition to keep people out of hospital depends on good quality care at home. Isn't it time also to recognise that the commissioning of private, for-profit HLTH services in Wiltshire has not adequately met the needs of Wiltshire residents, and to put in place some urgent actions that build on that recognition?

### **Response**

Nationally over 40% of care providers are requiring improvement under CQC inspections and they are a mixture of charities, not for profit and private companies. Of the 4 HTLAH providers, one is a charity, one is a not for profit company and two are "for profit". Nationally there are some well-known national charities and non-profit organisations which have fallen foul of new CQC inspection regime.

During the next 12 months the Council will begin the process to consider a strategy for the re commissioning of the HTLAH / outcome focused commissioned contracts as they become due.

We will be working with all aspects of the Council including Scrutiny, its customers and partners to determine the most appropriate commissioning strategy and will take into account all the learning gathered in the first years of operation.

### **Question 20**

And should there not be a plan B, for example changing contractors, or considering bringing these services back into the public sector?

## **Response**

As part of Q19

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**Wiltshire Council**

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### **Item 17 - Councillors' Questions**

**From Councillor Chris Caswill, Chippenham Monkton Division**

**To Councillor Philip Whitehead, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport**

#### **Question 21**

Will you make clear your reasons for refusing to replace any damaged or destroyed litter bins throughout the County? When will you be reviewing this antisocial policy?

#### **Response**

It must be noted that it is not the lack of a litter bin that is antisocial but the dropping of litter.

It is vital that dropping litter is not given an excuse. There can never be a reason for dropping litter, it is vital the message is given that litter must be disposed of in the correct manner.

If a litter bin is not available take the waste home and put it in your bin.

Whilst the council has a statutory duty to collect litter, it also has a moral duty to avoid unnecessary costs. Collecting litter is one such avoidable cost.

Town and parish councils can provide litter bins and empty them if it is a local priority on their land or Wiltshire Council's land at an appropriate location.

Town and parish councils can relocate the council's current litter bins if they feel this will help address a litter issue and the location is appropriate.

Certain businesses can be requested to remove their litter or their customers litter from up to 100m from their shop frontage. Many businesses provide litter bins themselves to control this litter. For example many local village shops.

A number of organisations provide sponsorship for the direct provision of litter bins, for example McDonalds.

The council is endeavouring to highlight to everyone that collecting litter is an easily avoidable cost. By a small number of irresponsible people not dropping litter the council would save considerable sums. It must be recognised that the vast majority of people are responsible and dispose of their waste correctly. Regrettably it is the

council's experience that it still has to litter pick areas even though there are litter bins present.

When looking at service prioritises the council must undertake the service which meets the demand. Litter is dropped in the town centres even though there are numerous bins, or dropped on the rural highways even though there are litter bins in lay byes.

The council when prioritising its services must fund reactive litter picking, which is proven to remove litter, over litter bins which it has experience of not preventing litter deposits. Education and enforcement are also important and this work must also be continued. However, the council will be pleased to support local communities who may wish to provide litter bins themselves, or undertake community litter picking initiatives or relocate existing litter bins.

**Item 17 - Councillors' Questions**

**From Councillor Chris Caswill, Chippenham Monkton Division**

**To Councillor John Thomson, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Communities, Campuses, Area Boards and Broadband**

A policy has been imposed on Area Boards which requires any issue or proposal coming to a Community Area Transport Group (CATG) to have the support of the relevant Town or Parish Council. It does not allow a CATG to proceed with any solution without that support. This effectively gives Town and Parish Councils a veto, even if the elected Wiltshire Councillor supports action being taken.

**Question 22**

Given that Wiltshire Councillors are encouraged to be 'community leaders', would you not agree that this policy diminishes the role of all Wiltshire Councillors in the areas they represent?

**Response**

**Verbal Response:** It does depend to some extent on the nature of the project. If it is a straight forward project we're actually in the process of producing a pricing list and a set of documentation for parish councils and town councils.

What we want to happen is that Ideas are passed to parish and town councils much much earlier to get their approval because that actually wastes less of our officer time. Because if our officers spend time on producing plans and they do not get through the parish council that is costing us a huge amount of money and slows down other projects going forward.

So we are producing this to go through. If it is a more complicated project then it may well be that we do an initial summary of it, it goes to the parish and town council. If we then have to do more work, they may want to revisit it at some stage but that will only be on complicated systems. So the parish or town council will have access to the requisite amount of expert support.

**Question 23**

CATGs benefit from the professional high quality advice of Council officers when they make their decisions. What steps will you take to make sure that advice is available to Town and parish Councils when they consider whether they are going to support or veto proposals put forward by members of the local public?

## **Response**

**Draft Verbal Response:** All CATG proposals are forwarded to the local town or parish council for consideration, together with a request for financial support. Highways officers are only requested to investigate and report on a proposal where there is support from the town or parish council.

## **Question 24**

Given these difficulties, will you consider revising the Area Board CATG Terms of Reference so that they only require Town and Parish Councils to give an opinion, without the power of veto?

## **Response**

**Verbal Response:** *No*

**Item 17 - Councillors' Questions**

**From Councillor Chris Caswill, Chippenham Monkton Division**

**To Councillor Jane Scott OBE, Leader of the Council**

According to the papers of the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting on 25 March, the Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group is now engaged in re-commissioning 'Adult Community Services' for Wiltshire residents. This rather dry term doesn't fully convey the large range of what is involved, which is the provision of (to quote the HWB paper):

*Community Beds (inc Step up), Community Geriatrician/Frail Elderly Service,*

*Stroke Therapies Neurology Stroke, Speech and Language Therapy (SALT),*

*MIU, Continence, CTPLD, Hearing Therapies, Tissue Viability Lymphedema,*

*Diabetes, Dietetics, Podiatry, Community Outpatient Musculoskeletal (MSK)*

*Physiotherapy & Extended Scope Physiotherapy (ESP), Orthotics, Wheelchairs, Cardiac (PACE) & Respiratory Services (COPD), Core Community Teams (inc Care Co-ordinators) Outpatient Department services, and Fracture Clinic*

**Question 25**

In the HWB papers it was reported that four organisations had been chosen to go forward to the next stage in the selection process, but these four were not named. As Chair of the HWB, you presumably know who these four are. Will you take this opportunity to make their names public?

**Response**

Wiltshire CCG is leading the re-commissioning process for adult community services. As part of this, the CCG invited the four organisations that have been chosen to go forward to the next stage in the selection process to make their names public. However, not all have chosen to do so, which means these cannot yet be announced publicly in this part of the procurement process.

**Question 26**

What part is Wiltshire Council playing in this commissioning process?

**Response**

As per the paper which went to the Health and Wellbeing Board, Wiltshire Council has been invited to nominate two representatives to the procurement panel.



**Question 27**

The HWB paper referred to in the previous question states that the aim is “to secure the most advantageous (Adult Community) services for the people of Wiltshire”. In your view, as Leader of this Council, could the award of this service contract to a private sector for-profit company be advantageous for the people of Wiltshire?

**Response**

Wiltshire Council will be placing an emphasis on ensuring that, whichever organisation is selected, there will be close working between adult community services, social care teams, GP practices and the acute hospitals. This is crucial for delivering the vision of care outlined in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Better Care Plan – with care at or closer to home and local services clustered around GP surgeries. The final decision on which organisation is best placed to deliver this rests with the CCG, however Wiltshire Council will do all it can and will work with partner organisations to ensure high quality services, free at the point of delivery, are made available to Wiltshire residents - with a strong emphasis on sustained investment in integration of services.

**Wiltshire Council**

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**Item 17 - Councillors' Questions**

**From Councillor Ernie Clark, Hilperton Division**

**To Councillor Philip Whitehead, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport**

**Question 28**

I am advised that this council no longer has enough money to replace broken equipment in the play areas it is responsible for. Is this true? If it is, how does this equate with the WC wish to get our children fitter?

**Response**

A considerable number of play areas across the county are provided and funded by the town and parish councils. To ensure a harmonised policy across the county, with all town and parish councils being treated the same, the council continues to seek to asset transfer these facilities to the local community. The council has a budget of circa £145k for the inspection and maintenance of its 184 facilities. The council's priority is to fund the inspection of these facilities to ensure they are safe. When major repairs are required the relevant town or parish council will be contacted to confirm if they wish to fund the repair or take on the facility. If this is not an option the council will prioritise its funding to ensure the safety of the facility.