

COUNCIL

DRAFT 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, 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

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 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 90th 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 90th 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 Manger 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-Philippe, 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-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 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.**

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 White, 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

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

36b) Appointment of Councillors to Committees

36c) Appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairman 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 (61 seats)	Liberal Democrat Group Allocation (21 seats)	Labour Group Allocation (4 seats)	Independent Group Allocation (10 seats)	UKIP (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> (Up to Five) 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:-

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

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 state 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 1st 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

Press enquiries to Communications, direct line (01225) 713114/713115