

AGENDA SUPPLEMENT (1)

Meeting: Cabinet
Place: Council Chamber - Council Offices, Browfort, Devizes
Date: Tuesday 19 October 2010
Time: 10.30 am

The Agenda for the above meeting was published on 11 October 2010. Requests for public participation have been received since, details of which are included in this supplement.

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This Agenda and all the documents referred to within it are available on the Council's website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk

5. **Public participation** *(Pages 1 - 4)*

i) Statement from Ms Leila Gunning regarding the provision of home education service for children with difficulties and disabilities

ii) Question from Mr Michael Sprules, Chairperson RADAR (Residents against Development Affecting Recreation Land) in respect of Item No. 7 – Wiltshire Housing Requirement

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Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

19 October 2010

Public Participation

Statement by Mrs Leila Gunning

The Portage Service

My Name is Leila Gunning, I am a concerned parent of a little girl who has SMS. She spent the 1st 4months of her life in hospital. Following many investigations and finally major Lung surgery we were discharged, with a 4 month old baby, who had the potential to stop breathing at any point with no support or help. After expressing repetitively concerns about her development we were finally referred to Stepping Stones our DSC and WWPs.

WWP, for those of you who do not know, is a home education service for 0-5 year olds with difficulties and disabilities, such as DS, CP and ASD. It works in partnership with local children services including the Local District Centre, but is unique as it uses an allocated home visitor, who visits the family on a weekly basis, allowing continuity and a trusting relationship to be formed.

As well as providing the educational needs of the child in a safe and familiar environment, the WWP HV addresses the needs of the whole family, giving them the confidence and tools to become the Childs teacher. HV's also act as an essential key worker who helps to co-ordinate the complex and confusing world of "Special Needs". They are always at the end of a phone or an email.

SOME PERSONAL REFERENCES...

WWP is a small charity which works under the guidelines set by the National Portage Service. There are many Portage services across the county who receive their funding in different ways, but WWP, which has been running for 30 years, is partly funded by Wiltshire Council which allows 18 families to access the service; it then raises funds to enable it to provide the service to a further 12 families.

As you may be aware, the provision for children with disabilities is subject to the procurement process. This will mean a considerable change to the way in which WWP receive local authority funding in 2011. This will result in Portage only being able to provide a service for 0-2 year olds and reducing the numbers of children visited from the current 30 to only 9. This means Portage may not remain viable and could have to cease altogether from April 2011; like its colleagues in Salisbury who

have had their funding from their NHS PCT stopped from April 2011.

This will be catastrophic! Not only is there the risk for children with ASD for example, which often does not become apparent until this age, receiving less support but a large number of families and children will be left without this unique and life changing service.

Therefore I am here to ask how the cabinet will ensure that this service will not be lost and all families who need it will still be able to receive this essential life line.

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

19 October 2010

Public Participation

**Question from Mr Michael Sprules, Chairperson RADAR
(Residents against Development Affecting Recreation Land)**

Item No. 7 – Wiltshire Housing Requirement

Question

Adopted Housing Provision for Chippenham.

Over the past few months, some Developers have been making a nuisance of themselves by putting forward speculative plans, for a forthcoming speculative planning application, on land identified under the Wiltshire Core Strategy that is not yet adopted.

From my studies of Wiltshire Council's own Website, it appears that not all Housing Provision, agreed for Chippenham, and subsequently adopted, under the "North Wilts Local Plan 2011", has been fully utilised.

As Developers appear to "Overlook", conveniently, or otherwise, the generous Housing Provision, in Chippenham, formally adopted by NWDC, in favour of making a nuisance of themselves, with forthcoming speculative planning applications, surely the message that these Developers are sending is clear.

Whilst I appreciate the hard work undertaken by, yourselves - as Cabinet Members, and your Staff, to provide the generous Housing Provision for Wiltshire, I fear that the Developers do not !

As you now begin the task of reviewing Housing Provision for Wiltshire, maybe you could also take into consideration, whether Chippenham should have any future Housing Provision deferred until such time as Developers utilise, fully, the existing, adopted Housing Provision ?

After all, as Developers are not using Housing Provision now, then they most certainly do not need more Housing Provision at this time.

Thank you to all the Cabinet Members for allowing me to put forward this question.

Response

The North Wiltshire Local Plan 2011 contains one outstanding housing allocation at Chippenham for 250 dwellings on land at Foundary Lane. In addition, there are 27 dwellings outstanding on the remainder of the Cocklebury Road allocation which have not been implemented. In addition to these allocations, the latest available figures (at 1 April 2009) indicate that Chippenham had commitments (e.g. planning permissions) for around 440 dwellings. In time this level of supply will decrease as sites are built out and new sites will need to be found in order to maintain a reasonable supply of housing land. In line with Policy H3 of the Local Plan, new windfall sites for housing can come forward within Chippenham's Framework Boundary, as defined on the Local Plan's proposals map, even though there might be outstanding allocations. However, the suitability of any site would also need to be assessed against other relevant planning policies.

It is likely that new housing sites will need to come forward at Chippenham in the future in order to meet longer term needs. However, in light of the revocation of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West 2006 - 2026, the level of growth that Chippenham needs to plan for has not been defined and it is unclear how many new allocations will be needed. The Council is aware that there are a number of developers interested in bringing forward urban extension sites for housing development at the town but considers that these should only come forward once the Wiltshire Core Strategy is adopted or has at least reached an advanced stage of preparation.