

MINUTES

Meeting: CHIPPENHAM AREA BOARD
Place: Need Hall - Chippenham Town Council, The Town Hall, High Street,
Chippenham, SN15 3ER
Date: 18 January 2016
Start Time: 7.00 pm
Finish Time: 9.03 pm

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In Attendance:

Wiltshire Councillors

Cllr Linda Packard (Chairman), Cllr Desna Allen, Cllr Chris Caswill, Cllr Bill Douglas,
Cllr Peter Hutton, Cllr Mark Packard, Cllr Nina Phillips,
Cllr Baroness Scott of Bybrook O.B.E and Cllr Melody Thompson

Town and Parish Councillors

Chippenham Town Council – Cllr Andy Phillips and Sue Wilthew
Bremhill Parish Council – Cllr Ian James
Kington Langley Parish Council – Cllr Maurice Dixon

Partners

Chippenham and Villages Area Partnership – Julia Stacey and Alison Butler

Total in attendance: 46

<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>
1	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>The Chairman, Councillor Linda Packard, welcomed all to meeting, particularly in the newly refurbished Neeld Community and Arts Centre.</p> <p>The Chairman went on to state that, as there were a large number of members of the public present for it, she would bring the item on the Chippenham Site Allocations Plan forward.</p>
2	<p><u>Chippenham Site Allocations Plan</u></p> <p>Alistair Cunningham, Associate Director for Economic Development and Planning, gave a verbal presentation to the meeting, providing an update on the ongoing process for the Chippenham Site Allocation Plan. In giving his presentation, Mr Cunningham, started by apologising for the length of time that the process was taking, and for the uncertainty this may have caused Councillors and the wider Community.</p> <p>Issues highlighted in the course of the presentation and discussion included: That the examination of the plan by the Planning Inspector was ongoing; that about 60% of local authorities had a Local Plan in place, of which Wiltshire was one; that Chippenham required an additional site plan to help plan for development at the town; that the Chippenham plan was submitted in July 2015 to a new Inspector, who gave an initial appraisal of the plan, and decided to proceed to a hearing; At the hearing the new Inspector expressed concerns about the merits of the 2 stage approach to site assessment, and raised issues regarding the deliverability of the plans; subsequently, the Inspector suspended hearings and asked for more evidence to be submitted; he advised that if this new evidence ended in significant changes to the plan then the Council may have to consider withdrawal of the plan; further discussion will take place with the Inspector on 21 January, where the timescale for this additional work will be discussed.</p> <p>Alistair Cunningham went on to give a brief outline of the agenda for this meeting as set out by the Inspector. This included: purpose and expected outcomes of the suspension including additional matters to be addressed; position on current applications and permissions; how the Planning Advisory Service could be used to provide critical friend support; progress with the Council's schedule of work. It was noted that the Council's schedule of work was available on the Council's website; that the Council would be looking at sites in</p>

more detail, before identifying the best sites, testing a number of reasonable alternative development strategies ; and that this should determine if the current plan can proceed as drafted.

It was acknowledged that there had been a number of applications registered in the area, and that these would be dealt with in the context of local and national policies on their own merits.

The Chairman thanked Mr Cunningham for his update, and invited questions from Members of the Public and Councillors present.

Alistair Cunningham stated, in response to a question by Marilyn MacKay, that the plan would be defined by the evidence; and that if the review of the evidence led to different proposals this may mean changes to the plan. He went on to note that Chippenham differed from other areas, as there were a number of possible sites, rather than one clear leading site, which made the judgement more finely balanced. He also restated his commitment to work to deliver the best outcome for the area.

Alistair Cunningham stated, in response to a question from Isabell McCord, that the Council was looking to review the evidence and update existing evidence where appropriate. The previous method identified the best potential areas and then undertook detailed work on sites within the areas. Now, though, the Council would be looking at sites in more detail within all areas.

Alistair Cunningham stated, in response to a question from Mel Moden, that when the figures for Wiltshire were considered, the sustainability of jobs was important. The Core Strategy Inspector rejected the Council's original figure of 37,000 houses in Wiltshire, and suggested a figure of 42,000. The plan has to show that it can deliver jobs and infrastructure that can support this growth. He also noted that as people live longer, on their own, then that drives house growth; and that the National Policy guidance is, on balance, pro-development. Furthermore, the A350 is considered as a boundary for housing growth within the Plan; that no building would take place in the flood plain as part of the plan, and the policies in the plan would make sure that there would be equivalent or less water run-off than from the current greenfield sites proposed to be developed.

Alistair Cunningham stated, in response to a question from Tim Church, that all Councils need to demonstrate a five year supply of deliverable housing land at any point in time (5.25 years including contingency) within the housing market area. If the Chippenham DPD doesn't move forward, it could make towns in the whole housing market area vulnerable to speculative development.

Alistair Cunningham stated, in response to a question from Andrew Stevenson, that the Council did review the position with regard to sites beyond the A350, and satisfied itself that it should not go west of that point for the purpose of the Plan. It was noted that the Inspector had not challenged this position.

Alistair Cunningham stated, in response to a question from Malcolm Toogood, that he would respond directly to the concerns raised about the data used to assess air quality and requested Mr Toogood put his question in writing.

Alistair Cunningham stated, in response to a question from Cllr Bill Douglas, as the plan was investigating a range of sites in more detail, then there was no presumed solution to transport infrastructure. With regard to the Eastern Link Road, if different sites are put forward then an alternative infrastructure strategy would be proposed as appropriate

Alistair Cunningham stated, in response to a question from Ian James, that in relation to the views of a drainage specialist emailed to the Council that it would be for the Inspector to agree who participates in any reopened hearing sessions.

Alistair Cunningham stated, in response to a question from Cllr Peter Hutton, that there had been a number of briefing notes for Wiltshire Councillors, and that he would be willing to attend future meetings where relevant.

Alistair Cunningham stated, in response to a question from Cllr Chris Caswill regarding the experience of SUDs and attenuation pond performance under pressure given recent floods in the North of England, that the Council would look at the evidence provided as to what plans would deliver, and that the Council had a good track record in ensuring this. Furthermore, with regard to the potential revision of EA models, that if each development is delivering equivalent or less run-off than the land it was built on, then there would not be an impact, irrespective of the models.

Alistair Cunningham stated, in response to a question from Cllr Chris Caswill regarding transport strategies, that modelling would be undertaken to consider the impact of alternative development strategies.

Alistair Cunningham stated, in response to a question from Cllr Chris Caswill, that it can be difficult to assess the cumulative impact of separate applications submitted, which is why the Council is working hard to progress the DPD to give it greater weight. Modelling information can help the Council determine the infrastructure requirements and the sustainability of individual major applications.

The Chair thanked the officer for attending, and encouraged people to attend the

next meeting to receive a further update.

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Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Howard Greenman.

4

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The meeting considered the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 9 November 2016.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 9 November be agreed a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

6

Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman drew the meeting's attention to the following announcements printed in the agenda:

- a) Wiltshire Passenger Transport Review
- b) New Health and Social Care Information Website for Wiltshire

The Chairman made the following additional announcements:

- c) Chippenham Campus Delivery Group (CPDG)

A CPDG has been formed to progress the project to deliver a building, or buildings, in the Chippenham Community Area where people can access local services more easily and in ways that better suit their needs with a focus on health and wellbeing.

The members of the CPDG are:

Councillor Linda Packard (Chairman)
Councillor Desna Allen
Councillor Mark Packard
Ian Bridges (Chippenham Campus Development Team)
Pauline Monaghan (Chippenham Campus Development Team)
Sue Wilthew (Chief Executive Chippenham Town Council)
Phil Tansley (Chippenham Borough Lands Charity)

The group will be supported by Victoria Welsh, Community Engagement Manager for Chippenham Area.

	<p>The CPDG had met with Cabinet Member John Thomson last week to explore opportunities to collaborate regarding the project and proposals from the group will be brought to the Area Board.</p> <p>d) Budget Consultation:</p> <p>It was announced that Wiltshire Council would be holding a series of public meetings to outline setting the budget for 2016/17. Details of how to get involved were shared at the meeting.</p> <p>7 <u>Legacy for Wiltshire - What's Happening in 2016</u></p> <p>Victoria Welsh, Community Engagement Manager, gave a short presentation regarding the activities planned for, and how people can get involved in, the Legacy for Wiltshire programme.</p> <p>Issues highlighted in the course of the presentation and discussion included: how legacy events, arising from the Olympics, can be used to bring people together; the specific events that will be undertaken and the specific celebrations to coincide with the Queen's 90th birthday; how people can get involved and what guidance has been produced; how people can get involved in supporting the Rio Olympics, and how some local talent is being support at the Olympics and Paralympics; the links to current public health strategies such as the Big Pledge.</p> <p>Details of how can you get involved can be found on line http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/comm-living-big-pledge-guide.pdf http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/comm-living-clean-for-the-queen-guide.pdf http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/comm-living-organise-street-party-guide.pdf http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/comm-living-cycling-walking-guide.pdf</p> <p>In response to a question from Cllr Ian James, Victoria Welsh stated that guidance on street parties included advice on applying to close roads.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked the officer for the presentation.</p> <p>8 <u>Local Youth Network (LYN)</u></p> <p>Richard Williams, the Community Youth Officer, presented the reports which provided an update on the activities of the LYN and recommended that certain schemes be supported by the Board.</p> <p>9 <u>LYN Update Report</u></p> <p>Issues highlighted in the course of the presentation and discussion included: That the LYN management group consisted of a range of partners, who are represented on the board, including young people; that a larger number of</p>
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	<p>groups were involved in the wider LYN network; that a needs analysis had been undertaken, to guide what work would be developed.; that, so far, £55,647 had been provided to a range of groups and services providing a range of activities; how current performance, including the Summer Offer, would be reviewed; the number of younger people reached so far; the future priorities for the projects, and how the model will be reviewed County-wide; that the steering group was always looking to see how best to involve young people in the decision making; the links with the Skatepark project; the challenges for getting host organisations to support the young persons' projects; and how safeguarding risks are taken into account.</p> <p>In response to a question, Cllr Hutton (Chair of the LYN Steering Group), stated that the LYN was seeking to engage with rural community and was working with the Parish Forum in an effort to provide evidence of needs analysis.</p> <p>In response to a question from Cllr Caswill, Richard Williams stated that young people were supported to co-chair the LYN meetings, but were seeking to encourage more young people to get involved. Furthermore, the issue of outreach work had not arisen from the needs analysis, but that he was willing to talk to partners if there was feeling that further targeted work was required.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked the officer for the update.</p>
10	<p><u>LYN Funding Report</u></p> <p>The meeting considered the applications recommended for funding by the LYN Group, as listed in the report.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the following awards be made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Nature of It - Urban Horticulture Project - £4975 b) The Nature of It - Growing Futures - £4950 c) The Nature of It - Great Urban Adventure Group - £5000
11	<p><u>Police & Crime Commissioner - Precept Consultation</u></p> <p>Kieran Kilgallen, Chief Executive of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Staff, gave a presentation on the policing and crime element of council tax consultation.</p> <p>It was noted that Angus MacPherson, the Police and Crime Commissioner, was attending an Area Board meeting elsewhere and had given his apologies. Issues highlighted in the course of the presentation and discussion included: 38% of police income was based on council tax with the bulk of funding coming from grants; that the current Band D council tax for policing of £163.98 per</p>

household was the lowest in the region and the proposed increase of £3.12 per household per year would provide an additional funding of £760,000 in 2016-17; that even with this increase, the revised tax of £167.10 remained well below the 2015-16 national average of £174.81; the current performance of the police , the relatively low level of crime and high public confidence in the service.

Mr Kilgallen, in response to a question from Cllr Ian James, stated that regional police forces were a possibility, but that the current Home Secretary had indicated that they did not support this. PCCs were working together to share efficiencies and work effectively across borders where possible. It was the case that most PCCs want to increase joint working, but don't want to diminish local accountability.

Mr Kilgallen, in response to a question from Cllr Mark Packard, stated that the increase in recorded crime was largely down to way police authorities were asked to change how they recorded crimes. This change occurred after it was shown that there were inconsistencies nationally as to how crimes were recorded.

Mr Kilgallen, in response to a question from Gareth Malone, stated that he did not have a breakdown of the relative figures for crime in the Swindon and Wiltshire areas, but that they could be made available on request.

It was noted that the public consultation process was taking place from Wednesday 16 December through to Wednesday 3 February 2016 and more information could be obtained from the Commissioner's website:

www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk

The Chairman thanked the officer for their presentation.

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Carer's and Older People's Champion

Victoria Welsh, Community Engagement Manager, presented the report, which asked the Area Board to appoint Carer's Champion and an Older People's Champion.

Councillor Bill Douglas proposed, subsequently seconded by Cllr Mark Packard , that Mike -Oakes be appointed as Carers Champion.

Baroness Scott raised concerns that the Area Board was being asked to make an appointment without more details of the applicants, and assurances that DBS checks had been undertaken. Furthermore, she asked if the village and parish communities had been contacted to put names forward.

Cllr Peter Hutton proposed, subsequently accepted as a friendly amendment by Cllr Douglas, that the appointment be conditional on a successful DBS check, and that further information be sent to the next meeting.

	<p>Following a debate, the meeting:</p> <p>Resolved</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To appoint Mike Oakes as Carers Champion, subject to passing a DBS check; and 2. That further information be presented to the next meeting to address the issues raised by the Area Board.
13	<p><u>Town, Parish and Partner Updates</u></p> <p>The written updates from community partners were noted.</p>
14	<p><u>Local Priorities 2014/15</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Road Safety <p>Councillor Bill Douglas reported that the CATG was discussing 20mph proposals</p> ii. Crime & Community Safety <p>Councillor Desna Allen stated that had not been a meeting recently, so there was nothing to report.</p> iii. Child Poverty <p>Councillor Chris Caswill reported that he had hoped to bring an item to the next meeting.</p> iv. Better Use of Outdoor Spaces <p>Councillor Linda Packard confirmed that The Nature of It will be leading 3 projects using outdoor spaces - see earlier funding award</p>
15	<p><u>Community Area Grants</u></p> <p>The Area Board considered the applications to the Community Area Grant Scheme 2015/16, as outlined in the report.</p> <p>Resolved to make the following awards:</p> <p>The Beacon Centre Upstairs Water Supply - £600</p>
16	<p><u>Community Area Transport Group (CATG)</u></p> <p>The Area Board considered the report arising from the last meeting of the CATG</p>

and the recommendations within.

It was noted that the Community Engagement Manager would be supporting the CATG in the interim.

Resolved

- 1. to note the Financial summary**
- 2. In relation to the Highways Contract, note the moratorium on new orders until 1-Apr-15 to enable backlog to be addressed**
- 3. Issue No, 3866 – Woodlands Road - allocate £600 towards the cost of this scheme conditional upon 25% contribution from Town Council**
- 4. Issue No: 3868 Woodlands Road, Chippenham - allocate £600 towards the cost of this scheme conditional upon 25% contribution from Town Council MR to contact Ann Chard regarding**
- 5. Issue No: 3885 Plough Lane, Kington Langley – to class this a Priority 1 scheme**
- 6. Issue 4027 Long Ridings, Chippenham; Issue 4234 Chamberlain Road junction with Frogwell; Issue 4235 Picketleaze Junction with Frogwell; Issue 4327 Hill Corner**
- 7. Road, Chippenham – to deal with all dropped kerb requests together as a special exercise as in previous years**
- 8. Issue 4172 The Hamlet, Chippenham; Issue 4326 The Hamlet, Chippenham - to class this a Priority 1 scheme**
- 9. Issue 4322 Bumpers Farm, Chippenham – to refer this matter to Head of Sustainable Transport**
- 10. To note other issues and actions identified in the CATG notes.**

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Urgent items

There were no urgent items.

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Evaluation and Close

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting, and drew their attention to the future meeting dates.