

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

Item 12

PEWSEY AREA BOARD
22 November 2010

COMMUNITY AREA TRANSPORT GROUP – LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN WORKSHOP

1. Purpose of the Report

To provide recommendations from the meeting held on Wednesday 13 October 2010 which was to look at scheme requests in the Pewsey Community Area and to prioritise and select schemes to be taken forward.

The attendees were as follows:-

Jerry Kunkler – Pewsey Area Board – Pewsey Division (Chair)
Robert Hall – Pewsey Area Board – Pewsey Vale Division
Peter Deck – Pewsey Parish Council
Terry Eyles – Pewsey Parish Council
Stanley Bagwell – Pewsey Community Area Partnership
Colin Gale – Rushall Parish Council
Patrick Wilson – Pewsey Chamber of Commerce
Spencer Drinkwater – Wiltshire Council
Mark Stansby – Wiltshire Council
Bill Parks – Wiltshire Council
Caroline Brailey – Wiltshire Council

2. Background

The Wiltshire Local Transport Plan 2006/07 – 2010/11 sets out a scheme assessment framework to prioritise requests from the public for integrated transport schemes. In November 2009 a report was taken to the Pewsey Area Board giving details about the Plan and the Scheme Assessment Framework was explained. This framework is used to score schemes and depending on the results of that exercise, they are put forward for further investigation.

Since then, the cabinet member for Highways together with Officers have been working to develop a process in which Area Boards can be more involved in the prioritisation of the schemes that have been submitted to the Highways Department over the last five or so years.

The two schemes raised with the Area Board last year and agreed to be put forward at that time are now included on a list which also contains a number of other schemes that have been put forward over the last five years. These have all now

been scored by Highway Officers using the assessment framework mentioned above.

Pewsey Area Board now needs to agree which areas to take forward to the next stage, which will involve a Highways Officer visiting the site(s) which have been prioritised by the Area Board to provide an informal professional assessment to determine which ones are worthy of a feasibility study attracting professional fees.

3. Main Considerations

Highways Officers have assessed issues/transport scheme ideas which have been submitted to them using the framework contained with the Local Transport Plan. The results are attached. The Community Area Transport Group agreed that the top five highest scoring schemes should be taken further which will involve an informal professional assessment to be undertaken by a highways officer to determine which of the five schemes are worthy of a feasibility study attracting professional fees.

The five highest scoring schemes are:

- Pewsey Station (North Street) – provision of a footway/crossing to Station
- High Street, Great Bedwyn – Pedestrian/footway improvement at the junction of Church Street/High Street
- A342 Rushall – Provision of footways/traffic calming
- Upavon A342 – Pedestrian crossing linking Watson Close, Avon Square and the School with Downsview.
- Swan Road Pewsey – Pedestrian access to and from Manor Court to include safe access to garage and village centre

Whilst there was considerable debate and challenge by the members of the Community Area Transport Group on the Council's scoring matrix, eventually there was the general acceptance that there was nothing better and the group elected to be guided by it. However it is not bound to follow it explicitly; the ultimate decision on schemes progression is taken solely by the Members.

It is proposed that all of the highways issues which are on this list will be closed on the Area Board issues system. This list will then be owned by the Pewsey Area Board and published on the Pewsey Area Board web page. All schemes will stay on the list and be considered if funding is available in the future.

The list will be called the Pewsey Area Board LTP scheme prioritisation list.

4. Environmental Impact of the Proposals

There is no Environmental Impact at this time as there will only be initial assessments and feasibility studies.

5. Financial Implications

The Area Board has an allocation of £12,377. If the view of the assessment is that one or more schemes are progressed to a full feasibility study, the costs may well be large enough to absorb the total allocation. The consequence of this would be that costs for implementation would need to come from funds allocated to the Area Board in subsequent years (if any).

6. Legal Implications

There are no legal implications.

7. HR Implications

There are no HR implications.

8. Equality and Diversity Implications

Some of the schemes, if they get to implementation, will support people with mobility impairment.

9. Recommendation

It is recommended that::

Pewsey Area Board agree to an informal professional assessment to be undertaken by a highways officer to determine which of the five schemes are worthy of a feasibility study attracting professional fees, and that the funding allocation of £12,377 be used to carry out further feasibility studies. It should be noted that all five will have an initial highways officer assessment but not all will have feasibility work as there isn't enough funding available.

Pewsey Area Board agree to adopt the attached Pewsey Area Board LTP scheme prioritisation list and close those that are currently included on the Area Board Issues System.

Report Author: Caroline Brailey, Pewsey Community Area Manager
Tel No: 01225 718609
E-Mail: caroline.brailey@wiltshire.gov.uk

No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report