

## **Survey seeks views on future Gypsy and Traveller sites**

Wiltshire Council is asking residents for their views on the future of two Gypsy and Traveller sites in the county.

The council has to decide on the best way to improve conditions at Dairy House Bridge and Oak Tree Field in Salisbury.

Central Government had pledged £4.4m for badly-needed redevelopment, but the proposed grant fell £3m short of the cash needed.

Work is required on the sites to renovate old buildings and amenities at the site.

The council is considering an option followed by other councils including Somerset, Bucks and Hampshire – selling the sites to new owners who will invest to improve conditions.

Toby Sturgis, cabinet officer for planning, said: ‘We want to hear residents’ views regarding our proposal. Our Gypsy and Traveller communities deserve good services and living conditions. Our priority is finding a solution that offers families a pleasant environment as well as a good deal for council tax payers.

“One of the options we are considering is transfer of ownership of these sites and before any decision is made we want to hear residents’ views.”

The council is inviting site residents to share their views in a survey and meetings will also be arranged with residents at the sites.