

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL CALNE AREA BOARD

8th April, 2014

Sandpit Road s106 Working Group – report to Calne Area Board

1. Purpose of the Report

To update members on the outcome of the latest Calne Area Board Sandpit Road s106 Working Group meeting and to consider a recommendation arising from it to approve £6,000 of the s106 budget to implement a sign placement study for Calne.

2. Background

The Calne Area Board Sandpit Road s106 Working Group was established to ensure that the Section 106 agreement relative to the Sandpit Road development takes into account the views of the local community with respect to the following focus points:

1. Oxford Road Pedestrian/cyclist improvements and reduction of through traffic. *(relating to paragraph 4. Schedule 5 – Summary of Unilateral Undertaking).*
2. Footway and or cycleway links to Calne town centre, school and employment sites. *(relating to paragraph 5. Schedule 5 – Summary of Unilateral Undertaking).*
3. Signage to enhance footway and cycle way usage. *(relating to paragraph 6. Schedule 5 – Summary of Unilateral Undertaking).*
4. Enhancing bus stops. *(relating to paragraph 12. Schedule 5 – Summary of Unilateral Undertaking).*

(schedule 5 attached as appendix 1).

3. Update from the Working group meeting:

3.1. Review of Original Focus Points:

The Calne Area Board Sandpit Road s106 Working Group held a meeting on 26th March 2014 which reviewed the original focus points related to the terms of reference, discussed progress on schemes already underway and reviewed the budget attached to the s106 agreement.

It was felt that, while work is underway with respect to points 1 & 2 through specific schemes outlined below, points 3 & 4 needed further discussion

and the identification of more relevant schemes to deliver against the s106 agreement.

Points discussed included:

- How funds are drawn down and how long the group had to spend those funds. It was explained that funds are drawn down as and when schemes require payment and that the agreement allows 11 years from the commencement of development.
- Concerns about linking rather than duplicating current schemes and focus points with ones that may arise as a result of future developments further up the Oxford Road. Especially with regards to bus stops.

It was decided that the group should try to establish further information about s106 agreements linked to other developments in the locality.

- A breach of fences from the development into Abberd Lane suggested that this route was a preferred through way either to Priestly School or the open countryside paths. Officers were asked to investigate whether this link could be formalised through the group and/or with possible money from the PIG (Paths Improvement Grant Scheme).
- The group discussed signage relating to the Sandpit Road Area. It was felt important that it should somehow be linked to a broader plan for signage in the town to maximise its effectiveness. Officers explained a new Way finding Strategy that had been developed in another Community Area. It was felt that this initiative could be beneficial in identifying appropriate signage in the Sandpit Road Area and also negating any isolatory effect by also informing the Community Partnership Transport Strategy and Master planning work about appropriate signage beyond the bounds of the immediate area.

The group felt that the development of this piece of work would be beneficial for the Calne Community Area as a whole and for the specific area identified in the s106 agreement.

To do this it should be possible to use £6,000 from the £150,000 allocation, related to Schedule 5 Paragraph 5, to commission a sign placement study for Calne.

Officers were asked to check details on this and it was decided that the Area Board should be asked to approve spending if it is shown to be appropriate.

3.2. Progress of specific themes

- Woodhill Rise/Oxford Road link for dual use pedestrian/cycleway.

Officers have consulted with local residents and Wiltshire Council's legal department to establish right of way/access over the unmade footpath.

Officers will now write to residents to inform them that a s.662/3 order will be progressed to stop motor traffic from using the route as an access to Woodhill Rise and then physical barriers will be implemented in the form of bollards.

At a later date the footpath will be upgraded to allow it to form a cycle route.

- Safer Routes to School from Sandpit Road through Abberd Way including a safer crossing point for pedestrians at the junction with Honey mead.

During the last phase of consultation with local residents 1 objection had been received. This meant that a report had to be submitted to the appropriate Cabinet Member for a final decision. This would be completed in the next few weeks.

It was hoped that this work would be implemented before the end of this year and it was suggested that if possible this should coincide with school holidays in order to minimise disruption.

Once the crossing point is completed the group will start to look at the continuation of a cycle path alongside the Abberd Brook.

- Traffic calming measures at the Sandpit Road/Oxford Road junction.

Officers reported that results from a further metrocount are awaited

Anecdotal evidence suggested that pedestrian volumes around the new development at Sandpit Lane had increased 'up to 500 fold'. Several members of the group volunteered to man an informal pedestrian count and Cllr Trotman would arrange this.

It was decided that, if informal counts carried out during term time and during holiday time proved that large volumes of pedestrians are now exiting the estate on to Oxford Road, the Area Board would be asked to approve formal traffic/speed/volume and pedestrian counts as an initial move towards developing a pedestrian crossing.

4. **Recommendations**

- That the Area Board notes this update from the Sandpit Road s106 working group.
- That the Area Board approves spending of £6000 from the Sandpit Road s106 budget for the implementation of a sign placement study for Calne.

Report Author: Jane Vaughan, Calne Community Area Manager
Tel No: 01249 706447
E-Mail: jane.vaughan@wiltshire.gov.uk