

AGENDA SUPPLEMENT (1)

Meeting: Cabinet
Place: The Kennet Room - County Hall, Trowbridge BA14 8JN
Date: Tuesday 17 May 2016
Time: 9.30 am

The Agenda for the above meeting was published on 9 May 2016. Additional documents are now available and are attached to this Agenda Supplement.

Please direct any enquiries on this Agenda to Yamina Rhouati, of Democratic Services, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, direct line 01225 718024 or email Yamina.Rhouati@wiltshire.gov.uk

Press enquiries to Communications on direct lines (01225)713114/713115.

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 and Questions from Councillors** (*Pages 3 - 6*)

- Question from Melksham Town Council and response
 - Question from Councillor Jon Hubbard and response
-

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 16 May 2016

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

17 May 2016

Question from Councillor Adrienne Westbrook, Melksham Town Council

Question

Whilst accepting that the planning process was not flawed with regards to the development of the new Multi Use Games Area in King George V Park, can Wiltshire Council explain what engagement process they went through with stakeholders and park users to be able to tell Fields in Trust that the grassed area now enclosed for Rivermead School was not used and therefore surplus to requirement? The application came to Melksham Town Council after Fields in Trust had given their consent so there was no opportunity for Melksham Town Council to raise an issue with Fields in Trust.

Response

The area of grass which has been leased to the school is a very small part of a large field (approx. 0.07Ha out of a flat area of field of approx. 2.5Ha – the whole field including sloping areas is significantly bigger). As a result the only consultation was with Fields in Trust, whose consent is required for leases. As the works were to be part of the larger project to create a multi-use games area on the former tennis court, planning permission would be needed and other stakeholders would be consulted as part of that process.

This page is intentionally left blank

Question from Councillor Jon Hubbard

Question

Can the Cabinet Member confirm that it is the Administration's policy not to offer evidence or defend its 5-year land supply strategy for speculative planning applications or at appeal hearings for large housing developments outside the Wiltshire Core Strategy?

Response

There is no policy around the provision of evidence at appeal in relation to the 5 year land supply. The Council assesses each application on its merits, in accordance with the development plan and other material considerations including the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Where appropriate to do so, the Council will provide evidence and defend its position. The Council benefits from an Officer who acts as a five year land supply expert witness within appeals.

In the light of the NPPF and subsequent case law, housing land supply in itself cannot be a reason for refusal. Where a five year land supply cannot be demonstrated, balanced considerations need to be made in decision making and judgements made as to where the planning balance lies. In these circumstances, the benefits should significantly and demonstrably outweigh the adverse impacts.

This page is intentionally left blank