

Questions from Marilyn Mackay.

To Councillor Toby Sturgis – Cabinet member for Strategic Planning, Development Management, Strategic Housing, Operational Property and Waste

and Councillor Fleur de Rhé-Philipe – Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Skills, Strategic Transport and Strategic Property

Question 1 - Funding

- (a) Will the Cabinet Capital Assets Committee (CCAC) confirm that no SWLEP money from 3 rounds of the Growth Deal, as illustrated in Table 1: Wiltshire Growth Deal Projects will provide funding for infrastructure for Rawlings Green development, within CSAP?

 I ask this, since in offering money on the last day of the EiP, Alistair Cunningham made reference to SWLEP.
- (b) Are there any other streams of funding from SWLEP being sought, or undertaken, for the Rawlings Green development?

Answer

Since the infrastructure costs have been shown to be fundable from the Rawlings Green development, no approach to the SWLEP for funding has been made.

Question 2 – Listing Assets

Can the CAC provide me a List of Community Assets, as required by Localism Act, 2011? Also, provide me with a List of Land of Community Value?

Answer

The council regularly updates the published list of assets of community value on its website at this location:

http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planninganddevelopment/planningcommunityrighttobid.ht m

The list of land in an authority's area that is land of community value is known as the list of assets of community value.

Question 3 - CPOs

Is there a reason now why this proposal regarding CPO is being presented, to speed up and 'manage' the process to the advantage of the council? To what land is this being considered at this time? Is it regarding the dispute with Wavin over land at Parsonage Way, Chippenham?

There is a stress in the report on "clear, open and transparent process". For this reason I ask CCAC to be clear and open about the intention of bringing forward this report now, and to confirm or not, that it relates to the already stated threat of CPO in relation to Wavin and Parsonage Way, Chippenham. Of course it may also apply more generally as well.

We note it is stated in the report for CCAC:

"Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risks

19. There may be reputational risk to the Council as criticism may be attracted from local people who are opposed to the use CPO powers and the wider development it may support. The recommendation within this report is part of the process of managing that risk to ensure clear, open and transparent processes are followed and that the use of CPO is genuinely one of last resort."

My question is: are the council attempting to avoid 'local people opposing their use of CPO powers and the wider development it may support', namely at Rawlings Green, Chippenham? If so, they should be transparent at this CCAC committee.funding from SWLEP being sought, or undertaken, for the Rawlings Green development?

Answer

The proposal to establish the Council's process for carrying out the compulsory purchase of land is to ensure the timely delivery of infrastructure, regeneration projects and development sites as a measure of last resort. It is not specific to any land and the actual use of CPO powers is not intended at this time.

The risk that criticism may be attracted from local people who are opposed to the use of CPO powers is a general risk associated with their use, made more likely if there is local opposition to the development a compulsory land purchase would bring about. Regulations governing CPO use require the Council to demonstrate that there is a wider public interest. A clear, open and transparent process helps to do so.