

Calne Streetscene Enhancements

1. Purpose

- 1.1. To inform the Committee of options for expenditure of the 2005-6 Capital Budget for the continuation of Streetworks.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. **£2,500 of the Area 5 2005-6 Capital Budget for Streetworks be allocated as partnership funding towards a scheme of traditional street nameplates within central Calne.**
- 2.2. **£2,500 of the Area 5 2005-6 Capital Budget for Streetworks be allocated to professional and planning fees associated with progressing proposals for a scheme of traditional street nameplates within central Calne, and that the Design and Estates Team Leader be authorised to progress and oversee the design, applications and works.**
- 2.3. **£5,000 of the Area 5 2005-6 Capital Budget for Streetworks be allocated as partnership funding towards additional street furniture in and around the 20mph zone works in central Calne.**

3. Links to the corporate/business area objectives

- 3.1. Streetscene enhancements accord with the District Council's 2005-6 Corporate Priorities of Cleaner, Safer and Better Streets, and Partnership Working; and the Wiltshire Strategic Partnership's priority theme of *Improving Wiltshire's Streetscene*. Streetscene enhancements conserve and enhance the District's built environment and landscape setting and assets and resources, protect and promote the local distinctiveness of North Wiltshire's heritage, and are prepared in consultation with (and where possible include partnership funding from) other local organisations and Councils.
- 3.2. Business Area/Team Plan Objectives: Authorisation to expend the available budgets will maintain performance against the agreed Urban Design work programme 2005-6. Expenditure of the Streetworks capital budgets this financial year will maintain the objective to deliver 80% of projects within design brief predictability by March 2006.
- 3.3. Rationalisation and enhancement of road signage are identified as priority enhancement proposals for several key central character areas within the Calne Conservation Area Statement adopted as supplementary planning guidance to the Local Plan in February 2000.

4. Background Information

- 4.1. As with the previous two years, the 2005-6 Continuation of Streetworks capital budget totals £50,000, and has been divided for the 5 Area Committees to decide where each £10,000 is to be expended. It should be noted that for streetworks in the public realm and the need for safe working methods, various consents, licenses, notices and public consultation, the professional fee element rises as the scale of works reduces. Therefore, where possible, proposals presented include an element of partnership funding, are

appended to larger previously planned works, or are associated with works to be progressed by others, to maximise value for money. Otherwise the available balance for actual works can be reduced by up to 35%.

- 4.2. The 7th December 2004 Area 5 Committee resolved that the 2004-5 Capital Budget of up to £10,000 for the Continuation of Streetworks be contributed towards high quality streetlighting within planned 20mph zone works at Curzon Street/Wood Street area, subject to matched funding being made available by Wiltshire County Council and/or Calne Town Council. Since then, Calne Town Council allocated a sum of £10,000 towards the streetlighting and a scheme is currently almost complete.
- 4.3. The 21st October 2003 Area 5 Committee resolved that the 2003-4 Capital Budget of £10,000 for the continuation of Streetworks to contribute towards high quality and natural materials within the planned 20 mph zone works at Curzon Street (this added to the residual sum from the highway works in Calne Town Centre). Funds have been used for stone kerbing and some permeable aggregate finishes within the works, and will also be used to fund a revised planting scheme which has now been agreed with Wiltshire County Council and Calne Town Council.

5. Current Position

- 5.1. Calne Town Council currently have £5,000 allocated for a scheme of replacement traditional street name-plates in central Calne. From initial costings, an economy of scale is achieved when a number of similar signs are manufactured. There are also costs in negotiating relevant licences and consents for wall-mounted signs. It is therefore proposed that this Committee consider contributing a similar sum to allow a greater and more economic number of signs to be produced and the necessary resourcing to be provided to implement such a scheme.
- 5.2. The main surfacing works for a new 20mph zone in central Calne were completed last year. This has created some new and improved pedestrian areas and there is a need for additional high quality street furniture in these areas, to match those elsewhere in the town centre. Calne Town Council have identified an overall street furniture budget of £10,000 for the coming financial year, but this will not extend to the cost of the supply and installation of high-quality items at this location. It is therefore proposed that this Committee consider contributing £5,000 to enable Calne Town Council to purchase the relevant additional furniture.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. The 2005-6 Capital Budget for the Continuation of Streetworks of £10,000 for Area 5 is currently unexpended and uncommitted. The proposals would utilise and commit that budget during this financial year.

7. Human Resources and Equal Opportunities implications

- 7.1. Continuation of streetscene enhancements are identified in the Urban Design work programme and therefore progressing them will have no impact upon internal human resources. Partnership funding and design work will enable a higher value of works to be implemented.

8. Community and Environmental Implications

- 8.1. Streetscene enhancements within highly visible and historic town centre areas have significant community and environmental benefits. Government guidance and emerging local policies are actively promoting "*cleaner, safer and more attractive streets*".

Documents Used in Preparing this Report

Reports and Minutes of previous NWDC Committees.

REPORT FROM THE THE DESIGN AND ESTATES TEAM LEADER TO AREA 5 COMMITTEE 14TH FEBRUARY 2006

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