



# CHIPPENHAM AREA (3) COMMITTEE

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**THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE MEETING**

**Minutes of the Chippenham Area Committee (3) Meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2006 at the Council Offices, Monkton Park, Chippenham, commencing 7:00pm.**

**Present:**

Councillor D.B. Allen .....Chairman

Councillors C.R. Coleman, C. Crisp, S.K. Doubell, V.H. Greenman, R.J. Henning, R.B. MacGregor, S.D. Meadows, D.M. Moore, T.J.A. Northey, N.M. Phillips, J.H. Rooke, J.A. Scott and J.M. Wood.

**Other Councillors:**

Councillor T.R. Sturgis

**County/Town/Parish Council Representatives:**

A. Butler	Biddestone and Slaughterford Parish Council
A. Noblet	Chippenham Town Council
H. Purdon	Chippenham Town Council
J. Gill	Chippenham Without Parish Council
J. Stacey	Chippenham Without Parish Council
L. Palmer	Grittleton Parish Council
B. Pettifer	Langley Burrell Parish Council

**Officers Present:**

N. Fenwick (Strategic Manager - Customer Services), L. May (Policy and Democratic Services Assistant) and V. Welsh (Community Partnerships Officer)

**CH25. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor H.R. Barton and from Castle Combe Parish Council.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

## CH26. Public Questions/Receipt of Petitions

Two public questions were received from Lesley Palmer from Grittleton Parish Council.

1. “I am disappointed to note that any feedback or a summary of the outcomes of the future of Area Committees workshop that was facilitated at the meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2006 was not included within the Minutes of that meeting. When will we receive this information?”

The Chairman responded that this question would be answered within the Chairman’s announcements.

2. “In relation to the large document that was published on the DEFRA website (Getting to Grips with the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 - a Parish Council to environmental enforcement), is there any shorter guidance available and what are the District Council planning to do in conjunction with Parish Councils in relation to this Act?”

Nick Fenwick (Strategic Manager – Customer Services) responded that Mr P. Jeremiah (Legal Team Leader) had written to all Parish Clerks to ascertain how they intended to enforce the Act and there had been quite a slow response. He proposed to hold a forum before the November/December round of Area Committees, inviting all Parish Clerks and any of their members to come along and obtain views on how to deal with the Act, whether this would be jointly with the Council or otherwise.

### *Admin note*

*It was requested that a copy of the letter sent to Parish Councils be appended to the Minutes (**attached as Appendix 1**) and that in future the local Members are copied into any letters sent to Parish Councils.*

## CH27. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2006 (circulated with the Agenda) were considered.

**Resolved** that subject to the insertion of Councillor J.A. Scott having given her apologies for the meeting, the Minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2006 be confirmed as correct record.

## CH28. Chairman’s Announcements

The Chairman made the following announcements:

### 1. Future of Area Committees

The Review of Area Committees was considered by Council on the 5<sup>th</sup> September 2006. The findings of the Review were accepted. At our December meeting the Committee will receive a report presenting the views provided by the postal survey and participants at the July Area Committee and the decisions by Council about the agreed changes and the next steps.

## **2. Update on “Hub Club” application**

The following update on Chippenham Sports Club's application for hub club status has been provided by Edwina Lee.

A meeting with representatives of the Sports Club and Chippenham Football Club, Sport England's Partnership Development Officer and officers of NWDC was held on 22 August 2006.

Sport England was very supportive of the club's initial 'expression of interest' submission. She informed the sports club that 5 expressions of interest for hub club status in Wiltshire and Swindon had been received and that Wiltshire and Swindon Activity Sports Partnership (WASP) Executive had agreed to support all 5 clubs in their bids. She was very keen to progress with Chippenham's application, which incidentally is the first club to express an interest in moving to the next stage of the application process.

The Club has confirmed that following the meeting, it now has sufficient information to draft an application for submission to the next part of Stage 1. NWDC officers have offered support in the event that the sports club requires any assistance. The Club Chairman has indicated that he will undertake the task. I estimate that it will take probably between 4-6 weeks for the Club to be in a position to submit its application. In the event that they are successful at Stage 1, a Sport England South West project officer will then be assigned to the Club to help them develop a proposal for a Stage 2 application.

## **3. Possible Closure of Chippenham High Street**

Following the update at the last meeting, we wrote to the Lead Member for Wiltshire County Council regarding the possible closure of Chippenham High Street. Councillor de Rhe-Philippe responded saying that of course we would be consulted on any proposal to amend traffic restrictions along the High Street and referred to a letter sent to Chippenham Town Council (copy available on request) on 29<sup>th</sup> August which concludes with a view that a closure of the High Street should not be currently pursued.

## **4. Vehicular Access to the High Street**

The following update has been received from Mark Rippon:

A special multi agency interest group looking into the problems with numerous vehicles parking in the High Street, have met once so far on the 1st June 2006 and agreed to install a Metro Count in the High Street to measure the vehicle throughput. This was done but shortly after it was installed, flooding and subsequent road works by Wessex Water, meant the results could not be used for stage 2.

The road works have now been removed and the Schools have gone back so a request has gone in to re-install the Metro Count, but the equipment is fully booked at the moment and we are waiting for a slot again. Once this has been done the Police will analyse the data, and the Group will do a snap shot over a couple of days to see what type of permits are being issued and the relevance of them.

## **CH29. Declarations of Interests**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Application /item</b>	<b>Type of Interest</b>	<b>Nature of Interest</b>	<b>Action</b>
D.B. Allen	Agenda Item 8 – Application for	Personal	Member of	Remained

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	grant funding from Chippenham Town Council		Chippenham Town Council	in meeting
S.K. Doubell	Agenda Item 8 – Application for grant funding from Chippenham Town Council	Personal	Member of Chippenham Town Council	Remained in meeting
R.J. Henning	Agenda Item 8 – Application for grant funding from Chippenham Town Council	Personal	Member of Chippenham Town Council	Remained in meeting
N.M. Phillips	Agenda Item 8 – Application for grant funding from Chippenham Town Council	Personal	Member of Chippenham Town Council	Remained in meeting
J.H. Rooke	Agenda Item 8 – Application for grant funding from Chippenham Town Council	Personal	Member of Chippenham Town Council	Remained in meeting
J.M. Wood	Agenda Item 8 – Application for grant funding from Chippenham Town Council	Personal	Member of Chippenham Town Council	Remained in meeting
J.H. Rooke	Agenda Item 9 – Update on Police Community Support Officers	Personal	Member of the Police Authority	Remained in meeting

### CH30. Chippenham 2020

The Committee received a PowerPoint presentation from Mr Gareth Jones, (Chairman of the Chippenham Chamber of Commerce) on behalf of the Chippenham 2020 group which is a Chamber of Commerce initiative that is seeking to develop a vision for the future of the town, its built environment and its economy. (A copy of the presentation is available upon request).

The presentation included:

- Details of the keys sites highlighted for improvement in the town;
- What has happened since the group was formed a year ago and the aims of the group;
- Details of the workshop carried out and of the proposed masterplan for Chippenham;
- Details of the towns positives and negatives in relation to vitality, assets, accessibility and opportunities;
- The groups' initial conclusions and recommendations.

Mr Jones also responded to questions and comments from the Committee, which related to:

- The need for partnership working between the private and public sector;

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- The importance of avoiding duplication of work between the different interested bodies;
- The proposed timescales for the work involved in creating the vision;
- The need for more youth and leisure facilities for the town;
- That it was perhaps time for the project to receive an appropriate level of funding so that the group were able to employ the professional help that is required to move things forward; and
- The support that the Area 3 Committee expressed for the initiatives that were proposed by the group.

The Committee thanked Mr Jones for attending the meeting.

#### **CH31. Project Feedback – Community Funding Awards**

The Chairman welcomed representatives from two groups who had agreed to attend the meeting to discuss how the grant money received from the Committee through the Community Area Funding Awards during 2005/2006, had benefited their projects.

Mr Tom Perry – Chippenham Sailing and Canoeing Club

- The funding had enabled the Club to install toilet facilities at their premises
- This had enabled them to be able to invite more sections from the community to use and enjoy their leisure facilities, particularly more youth groups

Mr Richard Saull – Grittleton Cricket Club

- The funding was put toward the building improvements and extension of the Cricket Clubhouse
- Much better facilities were now available to the users of the Cricket Club
- Funding was obtained from a number of other local organisations and a grand opening was held in July 2006.

#### **CH32. Area 3 Community Area Funding Distribution 2006/2007**

Consideration was given to Report No. 8 (circulated with the Agenda) asking Members to consider 5 applications seeking 2006/2007 Community Area Award funding.

**Resolved** that the Committee agree funding distribution of Area 3 Community Area Awards based on the agreed criteria for 2006/2007 as detailed below:

- (1) Award £4,385 from the capital budget to Chippenham Town Council to install a Youth Shelter in Pewsham Park, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place;

- (2) Award £3,466 from the capital budget to Chippenham Highlights for the purchase and erection of a workshop/storage facility for theatrical costumes and scenery, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place;
- (3) Award £500 from the revenue budget to Kington St Michael Parish Plan Committee towards the production of a Parish plan for Kington St Michael;
- (4) Award £1,750 from the revenue budget to CLOGS towards the production of “The Merry Widow” conditional upon the balance of funding being in place; and
- (5) Make an in principle award of £5000 from the capital budget to Chippenham Without Parish Council towards the renovation of Drakes Pond, conditional upon:
  - The balance of funding being in place
  - The applicant provides 3 quotes, and identifies agreed supplier
  - The applicant receives security of tenure from the Landowner (Persimmon Homes)
  - Consultation with local people is carried out, and the results made available to Area 3 Committee.

### **CH33. Update on Police Community Support Officers**

A verbal presentation was given to the Committee from Mr Martin Abbott (Neighbourhood Policing Team Project Manager) on the position regarding Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's).

Mr Abbott informed the Committee that:

- It was planned that by April 2008 Wiltshire would have 206 PCSO's in place;
- By April 2007 the Neighbourhood Policy would be rolled out and Wiltshire would have 146 PCSO's if recruitment was successful;
- Difficulties had been experienced in some areas in attracting suitable PCSO candidates, and also there had been some retention issues as some PCSO's had made successful application into the main Police force;
- As part of the Neighbourhood Policing Team for Chippenham it was planned to have 7 Community Beat Managers for the 7 identified areas of Chippenham (**map of areas attached as Appendix 2**) and 17 PCSO's;
- There were 4 PCSO's in the Chippenham area at present with another commencing training the week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> October 2006; and
- The Police Authority will cover the 25% shortfall in funding to go with the 75% provided by the Home Office.

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Mr Abbott responded to questions and comments from the Committee which related to concerns over recruitment and retention issues, how the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme related to the Neighbourhood Policing Teams, future funding issues and the importance of local knowledge and contacts to be established.

### **CH34. Outside Bodies**

No updates on the outside bodies were reported.

The meeting finished at 8.40pm.  
There were 8 members of the public present.