



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 4th December 2006 at the Council Offices, Monkton Park, Chippenham, commencing at 7:00pm.

Present:

Councillor D.B. AllenChairman

Councillors P.G. Allnatt, H.R. Barton, C.R. Coleman, C. Crisp, S.K. Doubell, P.G. Green, V.H. Greenman, R.J. Henning, R.B. MacGregor, S.D. Meadows, D.M. Moore, N.M. Phillips, J.H. Rooke and J.A. Scott

County/Town/Parish Council Representatives:

A. Butler	Biddestone and Slaughterford Parish Council
A. Noblet	Chippenham Town Council
H. Purdon	Chippenham Town Council
J. Stacey	Chippenham Without Parish Council
L. Palmer	Grittleton Parish Council
J. Clark	Seagry Parish Council
L. Workman	Sutton Benger Parish Council

Officers Present:

N. Fenwick (Strategic Manager - Customer Services), J. Kashdan-Brown (Principal Urban Designer), L. May (Policy and Democratic Services Assistant), S. Parker (Community Partnerships Officer), V. Welsh (Community Partnerships Officer)

Others Present:

S. Foster (Community Consultant)

CH35. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T.J. A. Northey and J.M. Wood and from Castle Combe Parish Council.



CH36. Public Questions/Receipt of Petitions

There were no public questions nor Petitions received.

CH37. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th October 2006 (circulated with the Agenda) were considered.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th October 2006 be confirmed as correct record.

CH38. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman made the following announcements:

1. Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

The briefing for Town and Parish Councils on the implications of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 will be held here prior to the next Area Committee at 6.00pm on 5th February 2007.

The briefing will comprise of a 15-minute presentation by Council Officers followed by a question and answer session. The briefing will focus on offences regarding litter, refuse, graffiti and fly posting.

The views of Town & Parish Councils will be fed into an Officer Group looking at implementation of the Act with a view to making recommendations to the District Council.

2. Thank you from CLOGS (Chippenham Light Opera Group)

A letter of thanks has been received from CLOGS for the grant of £1,750 that was awarded at the last meeting towards their production of "The Merry Widow".

3. North Wiltshire Local Plan 2011- Update

The North Wiltshire Local Plan 2011 is now available for viewing on the Council website. The Plan can be accessed from the Council 'Home Page' under the 'Useful Links' section or alternatively from the following quick link.

<http://www.northwilts.gov.uk/localplan2011>

The Plan gives the general public, developers and other interested organisations an idea about what will and what will not be acceptable kinds of development in particular locations and is used to make decisions on planning applications and appeals.

4. Update on works at Chippenham Bus Station

The works at Chippenham Bus Station are coming to an end shortly. Timber Street was resurfaced on Sunday 3rd December and other works are expected to be completed during this week with resurfacing to Lords Lane programmed for Sunday 10th December as the final item.

5. Chippenham Festival

Congratulations to Jane Clark and the Committee on the success of the Chippenham Festival. Thanks for a wonderful fortnight of events.

CH39. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interest made in respect of any item of the Agenda.

CH40. Community Area Funding Awards Funding Criteria 2007/2008

The Committee was asked to nominate two Councillors who would represent the Area Committee on a Joint Community Area Funding Advisory Body (Task Group). The group would review the effectiveness of the 2006/2007 funding criteria and set common funding criteria for distribution of Community Area Awards (capital and revenue), by Area Committees in 2007/2008.

Resolved that Councillors D.B. Allen and J.H. Rooke are nominated to represent the Chippenham Area (3) Committee on the Joint Community Area Funding Task Group.

CH41. Area Committee Review Feedback

Consideration was given to Report No. 7 (circulated with the Agenda) which provided a summary of the results from the review of Area Committees, confirmed the Council's resolutions and timetables for implementation, and asked the Committee to consider methods for implementing the short term recommendations.

The Committee also received a PowerPoint presentation from V. Welsh (Community Partnership Officer).

Suggestions from those in attendance included:

Publicity

- Posters welcomed;
- Suggestion that village pictures could be used or a montage; and
- Publicity to include advertising in local town and parish magazines - e.g. Talk of the Town, Town Crier, The Honeycomb, and Take Five.

Area Bulletin

- A good add-on benefit;
- Budget dependant although costs should not be high; and
- Needs to of higher quality.

Room Layout

- Café-style not appropriate for Area 3 – difficult to see and hear speakers;
- A 'V' style to be tried at a future meeting; and
- Next meeting - a return to the Council Chamber with Councillors sitting alongside other meeting participants.

Agenda Setting – Forward Plan

- Agreed that this should be used for planning meetings over a 12 month period;
- Forms should also be sent to Parish Councils; and
- Important to ensure that relevant service providers are invited to attend meetings where issues are discussed.

Voice and Influence

- Revised guide welcomed;
- Once fully amended, guide to be circulated to Parish Clerks for feedback; and
- Suggestion that wording changed to read 'Newcomers' rather than 'Visitors'.

Community Update

- Agreed that updates from the Community Partnership and Town and Parish Councils should be standing items on future agendas; and
- Encourage Town and Parish Councils to discuss common themes.

Partner Involvement

- Agreed that wider range of service providers should be invited to participate at Area 3; and
- Encourage greater participation from hard to reach groups (including young people, elderly and disabled) and that this sometimes may mean a change of meeting venue or style.

Style of Meetings

- Agreed that future meetings should be multi-agenda.

Medium-Long term Recommendations

- The recommendations agreed by Full Council on 5th September 2006 need to reflect the outcome of recently published White Paper;
- Agreed that White Paper offers opportunity to take the initiative on better community and neighbourhood working; and
- Any agreed changes (depending on the outcome of the Budget) should be implemented as soon as possible.

Resolved that

- (1) Members note the findings of the Chippenham Area (3) Community survey and workshop and use this evidence to inform debate under Option 3;
- (2) Note the resolutions from Council, together with the timetable for implementation; and

- (3) Work co-operatively with partners and the wider community to make specific and appropriate suggestions to develop the Short Term Recommendations for the Chippenham Area (3) Committee, for the mutual benefit of the community; and thereafter participate in their effective implementation.

Admin Note – Councillor P.G. Allnatt requested that his vote against the resolution be recorded

CH42. Budget Consultation

N. Fenwick (Strategic Manager – Customer Services) led an interactive exercise to gather views to help inform the budget setting process for 2007/08.

Those present at the meeting were asked to consider potential areas for a budget saving or creating additional income from the list of 14 suggestions given which should total a saving/additional income of £500,000.

The results would be fed back to those involved in the budget setting process.

Admin Note - 'During the budget consultation exercise, several Parish Councils raised concerns about mobile hot food takeaway vehicles located in lay-bys and the problems they were experiencing in getting action to remove them. N. Fenwick (Strategic Manager - Customer Services) was asked to write to the County Council on behalf of the Committee to establish whether the lay-bys were in fact highway and what powers the County had to seek their prompt removal.'

CH43. Chippenham Streetscene Enhancements

Consideration was given to Report No. 9 (circulated with the Agenda) which informed the Committee of options for expenditure of the 2006/07 Capital Budget for the continuation of Streetworks.

Issues discussed included:

- The need for streetscene enhancements in the short pedestrian section of River Street, Chippenham by way of replacement of the poor visual quality concrete pavers;
- That the works could be carried out at the same time as the already planned improvement works at the Borough Parade Car Park; and
- If the works were completed under budget the funding would remain and could be rolled over to next year.

Resolved that

- (i) The Chippenham Area (3) 2006/07 Capital Budget for Streetworks be allocated to streetscene enhancements within River Street, Chippenham at the Area outlined on the Appendix attached to the Report; and
- (ii) Authority be given to the Assets, Design and Regeneration Team Leader to implement the works in conjunction with planned safety and accessibility works to Borough Parade car park, subject to not exceeding available budgets.

CH44. Langley Park, Chippenham

Sarah Foster, Community Consultant, presented a verbal update on the development of Langley Park, Chippenham. There were displays of the current layout of the site and possible future development and details of the context of the proposals at Langley Park were also circulated at the meeting.

Issues discussed included:

- That Ashtenne, the owners of the land had employed S. Foster as a Community Liaison contact and she was the point of contact for the community and would welcome any views, questions and queries;
- The background to the site and the previous planning application that had been submitted;
- In the North Wiltshire Local Plan 2011, Policy H2 allocated the site for 250 dwellings as part of a mixed use scheme;
- The view that there was a need for community facilities on the site;
- Concerns on the impact of existing traffic problems that this proposal might add to;
- How everyone's views could be passed on to those involved with the development of the site; and
- That although the views of the Town, District and County Councils on the development brief for Langley Park had been communicated to Ashtenne, it was felt that these views had not been acknowledged by them. The Council was urged to communicate the development brief to the public.

CH45. Community Planning Update

The Chairman of the Chippenham Community Area Partnership, J. Clark, gave a verbal update to the Committee on Community Planning issues.

CH46. Parish Council Update

A. Butler of Biddestone and Slaughterford Parish Council drew the Committee's attention to a forthcoming event which related to speed limits in rural areas and helped drivers to understand vehicle and pedestrian behaviours. It was to be held on 27th January 2007 at the Corn Exchange, Devizes.

CH47. Outside Bodies

No updates on the outside bodies were reported.

The meeting finished at 9.35pm
There were 3 members of the public present.